



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 2012 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.

COBRA or Bankruptcy COBRA benefits...if you have questions concerning these 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.

VEBA... if you have not already filed, there is still time to secure your maximum benefit of \$2,100 for 2011 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 will expire and be forfeit. The expiration dates for the 2011 disbursement and 2012 disbursement, assuming you have previously enrolled in the VEBA, are December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2013 respectively. Take advantage of what you have coming back to you! Please note

VEBA's current contact information: Delta Fund Administrators, LLC, P.O. Box 2308, Stockton, CA 95201-2308. Telephone: (888) 344-8322(toll free) Email:VEBA@deltafund.com.

And finally, thank you to all who returned their "What's Going On" forms. Contact us if you have any 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

CALLING ALL MEMBERS

We would love to know about your most memorable experience as a Kaiser employee. Your answers will be in our November 2012 issue of the KASRA Newsletter. Please send your responses to Sally Hogarty at sallyhogarty@gmail.com or mail them to Sally at P.O. Box 84, Canyon, CA 94516. Please also include a photo of yourself either from your time at Kaiser or now, or both. Thank you so much!

WHAT'S GOING ON



Paul and Marilyn Schmeil at Tacoma's June luncheon.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

...

Jim Comer (Ravenswood, WV) and his wife Sue celebrated their 50th anniversary last year. Jim enjoys fishing and golf and is active with the Lions Club.

Veronica "Roni" Adkins (Erie, PA) from Erie Forgings will celebrate 57 years of

marriage with husband Ed by replicating their honeymoon trip to the New England states in the fall. Roni, who spends winters in Kissimmee, Florida, enjoys reading, walking and spending time with her seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Charles F. Williams (Newark, OH) celebrated his 68th wedding anniversary in April with wife Dorothy. **Bill**

McWhinney (Santa Rosa, CA) from the Refractories Division in Oakland, CA, and his wife Jeanne, attended the wedding of one of their grandchildren in San Diego, a wedding coinciding with the couple's 60th wedding anniversary.

Stuart "Bud" Rother (Lake Wylie, SC) from the Refractories Division, and his wife Ann, celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary at South Carolina's Litchfield Beach Resort this past January. Bud, who continues working on fund raisers for the Lake Wylie Lions and volunteering with the local Chamber of Commerce, says they're making plans for their 60th in Hawaii.

Two great stories, taking place thousands of miles apart, share similarities. **David Saunders** (Baker, LA) from Chalmette Works, LA, saw Katie, his wife of 68 years pass away after a long illness. The Saunders had been displaced by Hurricane Katrina. **Elsie Messina** (also

a Kaiser retiree) served as a caregiver for Katie. Just recently, David and Elsie married. **Frank Fenney** (Ravenswood, WV), who worked at Ravenswood Fabrication, also had his life change dramatically when he lost his wife of 51 years in 2009. "I felt my life was over, then I met Barbara last year. We fell in love and got married this past January. Barbara is the widow of **James O. Shannon**, also a former employee at Ravenswood, WV. Barbara is on the board for the Jackson County Habitat for Humanity and also works at the local No Hunger Food Pantry. I am working part-time for Enterprise Rent-a-Car. Life is good!"

Accomplishment . . .

Sidney Breaux, Jr. (Plaquemine, LA) from Kaiser Chemicals in Baton Rouge, LA, was selected to be the Grand Marshal for the 4th of July parade in his hometown. Breaux traveled to San Francisco, CA, in July and has plans to spend Christmas in New York. While enjoying cooking and taking care of the yard, ushering at St. John the Evangelist's Catholic Church, and watching L.S.U. football, Sidney also enjoys trips to his son's house in Florida. **Bill** and **Julie Vagliente** (Hilton Head Island, SC) are still gushing about Julie's hole-in-one on hole number eight at Long Cove Club golf course.

William Weyer (Richmond, TX), who worked in the Packaging Division, enjoys writing poetry and collecting stamps and coins. In fact, Weyer earned a World Poetry Movement certificate of publication for his poem "An Enchanted Area." **Eugene Diana** (San Leandro, CA), who last worked at CFT in Pleasanton, CA, enjoys gardening, winemaking, stamp collecting and

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traveling to Palm Springs. His greatest accomplishment, however, is in golf: "I shot my age in 2008 and 2012."

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

Though on different sides of the continent, **Joe Darling** (summers in Bristol, RI, and winters in Beaufort, SC), who worked at Portsmouth, RI, and **William "Bill" Nadwornick** (Greenacres, WA), who worked at Trentwood, WA, share an interest in ham/amateur radio. Darling, who still pilots his boat around Mt. Hope Bay during summer, enjoys spending time with his daughter during the winter. Nadwornick loves to visit his grandkids and great-grandkids and still works on his motor home which he took to Canada for a month.

Charles W. Porter (Newark, OH) loves woodworking, fishing and camping. He volunteers as president of his retirement group. **Rodney D. McMillan** (Mount Vernon, OH) enjoys restoring old flat and dome top trucks. Rodney, who attended his 30th Army reunion in August, lost his wife of 56 years this past February.

Bruce N. Wilson (Moraga, CA) who worked in distributor sales in Oakland, CA, enjoys tennis and hiking. He hiked Death Valley and Big Sur during the past year and plans a visit to Florida National Parks at the end of this year. He is a staff of one for a semi-retired pioneer who assembles electronic music synthesizers. The two ship their products to Los Angeles, France and Germany.

E. Brent Harrah (Sylvania, OH) from the Toledo, OH, plant says, "Our younger offspring have gone international. Of the 13 grand and great-grandchildren in our family, three live in New Zealand, one in Australia, one in England, and two in

South Korea."

E. Whitford (Otis Orchards, WA) finds volunteering at the local school very rewarding: "My children attended the school in the '50s and '60s when I was working in Kaiser's Research Lab at Trentwood, WA, before moving to Pleasanton, CA, in 1968. I told the kids about my great grandfather's experience as a Union soldier when they studied the Civil War. When they studied Native Americans, I showed them about two dozen arrowheads I had picked up as a boy on my farm. When they studied the fur trade, I told stories about my father's trap line as he tried to supplement his meager farm income during the Great Depression." The 90 year old is looking forward to the start of this new school year.

Hazel Parsons (Ripley, WV) from the Ravenswood, WV, plant, enjoyed the company of five other Kaiser Ravenswood retiree ladies for their 10th Anniversary Luncheon in May. Hazel estimates that the lunch group totaled over 185 years working at Ravenswood, WV.

Eva N. Torrice (Paradise, CA) who worked at Kaiser in Salinas, CA, attends Ladies Bible classes and enjoys the company of her daughter Lynda Knotts. Eva, who volunteers at Pineview Care Center, has a son living in Tennessee and another daughter in Reno, NV. Another



Several retirees from Ravenswood, WV, got together recently for lunch. (L-R) Mary Basham (Personnel), Mara Lee Roush (Traffic), Ingrid Lee (Engineering), Hazel Parsons (Purchasing), and Donna Keller (Traffic).

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Californian, **Doris Madden** (Mill Valley, CA), formerly of Kaiser Aluminum in Oakland, CA, loves writing and attending theaters and concerts. Doris, who took an Alaska cruise last year, has ushered at the San Francisco Opera, S.F. Jazz, Marin Center and Marin Theater. Fittingly, she's on the Events Committee at the Redwoods Retirement Community where she has lived for the last eight years. Madden also became a grandmother this past February when Alexis Abigail Craig enjoyed her first appearance on stage.

Alan Morasch (Spokane Valley, WA), who also worked at Trentwood, WA, enjoys traveling, spending time with kids, fishing, boating and snowmobiling. **James R. Deehr** (Spokane, WA) who worked at the Mead Reduction facility in Washington, loves golfing, backpacking and biking, while still engaged as a software development manager. **William Salassi** (Ponchatoula, LA), who worked in the Aluminum Reduction Division at Chalmette, LA, is active with the Rhodes Scholar Programs and gardening. **Robert N. McKechnie** (Highland, IN) who last worked at Kaiser Aluminum in Dolton, Illinois, keeps busy watching his grandkids' baseball games, doing yard

work and traveling. A volunteer at his local United Methodist Church, Robert also participates in his Masonic Lodge.

Bill Jordan (Canton, GA) from Atlanta Fabricated Products moved to an Active Senior Community four years ago and loves it. He is President of the Men's Golf Association

there, and both he and his wife Peggy deliver for Meals on Wheels and lead Bible studies in the community. **Peter A. Miranda** (Plaquemine, LA) has a small 40-acre farm on which he raises 22 Black Angus heifers. He volunteers with the 4-H Club and, in his spare time, works with a farmer who has 1500 head of cattle. Ninety-one-year-old **Lilly J. Mitchell** (Deer Park, WA), the surviving widow of **Jim Mitchell**, enjoyed a family reunion with seven relatives this past Mother's Day.

Traveling Near and Far . . .

Barbara Zaffran (Homedale, ID), a KASRA spouse, loves visiting family in Louisiana and children in California and Arizona. Zaffran, who enjoys hand crafts, painting and "canning beautiful produce," celebrated the 50th birthday of her child this summer with family in Kauai, HI. **Gerry Carothers** (Danville, CA), surviving spouse of **Theron Carothers**, volunteers at Kaiser Hospital Walnut Creek. Gerry sings with the Blackhawk Chorus and performed with them on a tour of England, Wales and Ireland. Gerry also proctors the California State Bar Exam twice a year and is active at the San Ramon Valley Methodist Church.

Lee Corder (Ravenswood, WV) from Ravenswood Works and his wife Sue Ann visited granddaughters Molly and Sally in Silverdale, WA, this past February. **Elaine Belshay** (Grapeview, WA), widow of **Dick Belshay** from the Tacoma, WA, plant, cruised to Hawaii this year before traveling to Sweden in May. **Howard Nelson** (Alamo, CA), who last worked in Cleveland, OH, in the Chemicals Division, returned to Australia for the first time since retiring in 1988: "We lived there during the formative years for Comalco, 1961-64. We had a nice dinner



Former employees at Ravenswood, WV, enjoyed the weather and each other at a June picnic. (L-R) Charles Morris, Wanda Marple, Gayle Hall, Barbara Shannon-Fenney and in the background Judy Butcher and Earl Palmer were among those attending.

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MEMBER PROFILE: Ron C. Schutz

Ron C. Schutz attended Colorado School of Mines, graduating with a degree in Metallurgical Engineering in 1959. He went on to a highly varied career with Kaiser Aluminum, working at Kaiser facilities throughout the United States, Africa and Europe. He currently lives in Colorado Springs, CO, with his wife Beth. In June of 2012, Ron and Beth were evacuated for two nights because of the Waldo Canyon fire. His daughter and her family, who live right across from the area that lost 346 homes, were evacuated for five nights. Fortunately, neither home suffered any permanent damage. "It was very un-nerving and sad to watch the fire roar down the hills and into residential areas at 65 miles per hour. It would be unbelievable if I hadn't been an eye witness," Ron recalls.

Tell us a little about your family?

Well, I met my wife Beth in high school in Buena Vista, Colorado. We're still "a pair" after more than 53 years! We have a daughter, Debbie, who is an RN and presently Manager of Nursing Services for Pikes Peak Hospice in Colorado Springs. She has three children and our only granddaughter. Our son, Bradley, is a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army currently stationed at Ft. Shafter, HI, where he serves with the Transportation Corps tasked with the logistics for the U.S. Army Pacific. He and his wife have two sons.

What was your first job after graduating from college?

My first "job" was with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers in 1959. I was a helicopter pilot for both light and cargo helicopters including the Huey. I spent 13 months in Korea with the Far East En-

gineer District and helped in the development of armed helicopter tactics, which were later used in Vietnam. I resigned my commission (as a Captain) in October 1963 and went to work for Kaiser at the Mead Works in Spokane, WA.

You've worked in so many places and capacities for Kaiser Aluminum. Tell us about them.

There has certainly been lots of variety in my career with Kaiser. I started as a development engineer on smelter projects at Mead Works in Spokane, WA, and then moved to the casting area before being transferred to Ghana, West Africa, in 1969. I was the assistant potline superintendent there until 1972 when I was sent to Manama, Bahrain, in the Persian Gulf to help get that plant completely started and stabilized. I remember staff meetings could be a bit of a challenge in Bahrain. I had personnel from 12 different countries and after I'd give instructions, I'd have to be sure and ask them to repeat what they heard. It wasn't always what I had said.

Then we came back to the United States in 1973 and I worked at Ravenswood, WV, as a potline supervisor before going back to Europe in 1975. This time it was to Portoscuso, Sardinia, Italy, to help turn around a smelter that was losing significant money due to design and operational problems.

From 1976 to 1987, I worked in the United States, first in Oakland, CA, working on developing newer, more efficient reduction technology and then in Tacoma, WA, building a prototype "mini" potline. In 1987, I headed off to Holyhead on the



Ron and Beth Schutz on their 50th anniversary

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 encouraged.

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island of Anglesey in North Wales, for a four-year assignment. That was quite an experience. I was managing director of an aluminium (British spelling) smelter jointly owned by Kaiser and RTZ and powered by the Wilfa Nuclear Power Station. I returned to the U.S. in early 1991 to become the plant manager for the Tacoma, WA, smelter.

In Sept. 1994, I transferred to Pleasanton, CA, as Director of Technical Services, Primary Products. There, I dealt with projects in Siberia, and north of St. Petersburg in Russia, and in the town of Korba, India, as well as a number of technical support projects in the U.S. I made many trips to Russia, India, China, and various U.S. locations. I worked in this capacity until I retired in November of 1997.



Enjoying themselves at Chalmette's December lunch are (R) Pat Mistrot, (L-R) Claude Baker, John and JoAnn D'Antonio, and John and Jean Metzler.

What were some memorable experiences during your time with Kaiser?

Well, I'll always be very proud of the \$20 million modernization project in the early '80s in Tacoma, WA. We built a partial potline on what were old tide flats and installed six high amperage prototype cells with innovative electrical bus configuration. Included in the project were prototype cranes and prototype air control systems. We managed to come in ahead of schedule and on budget.

Beth and I also really enjoyed traveling when I was at various locations around the world. During the time I was assigned to Anglesey in North Wales, the two of us visited every county and region in England, Scotland, Wales and most of

Southern Ireland. The differences in age and history between the United States and other countries really hit us at a cocktail party when people were talking about the age of their houses. One woman mentioned her house was over 800 years old!

Where are you living now?

We moved back to Colorado from California in 1998 and built a home in northwest Colorado Springs. The home was on a full acre and overlooked the southern portion of the U.S. Air Force Academy. By late 2005, this home seemed too big, and the full acre of ponderosas etc. became more than we wanted to cope with, so we moved to a "patio home." It's part of a gated community known as Kissing Camels Estates. It's much more enjoyable having our outside maintenance and upkeep taken care of by our homeowners association!

What are your favorite activities now that you're retired?

Beth and I still enjoy alpine skiing during the snow months and biking, walking and fishing in the warmer months. I also enjoy woodworking in my shop.

For several years (2000 – 2006), I volunteered with SCORE. The Service Corps of Retired Executives is sponsored by the Small Business Administration and provides free counseling and guidance for individuals already in business or those wanting to go into business. For two years, I was chairman of the Colorado Springs chapter of SCORE. I finally tired of the nearly constant demand for my time, but I remain on an inactive status with the organization. Recently, I volunteered with an organization called Silver Key (SK). This is a privately held

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non-profit in Colorado Springs dedicated to providing services to senior citizens 60 yrs or more old. SK provides 200 to 300 rides each day in a fleet of either lift-equipped buses (which I drive), or six passenger vans (which I also some-

times drive). SK provides several hundred “meals on wheels” each week to shut in seniors as well as an extensive food bank for those seniors, who are capable of limited travel. It is a fun organization to be part of!

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in Melbourne, AUS, with retired Comalco executive Brian Davey and his wife Loris, with whom we were neighbors as well as co-workers and friends.”

Dale Doerr (Oroville, CA), who last worked in Product Development in Pleasanton, California, is still glowing about his Honor Flight trip to Washington, DC, this past May. Of the 32 veterans who accompanied him (including three women), “the oldest veteran in our group was 98 ³/₄ years old, and I came in third at 91 ³/₄. Also, one was a gunner on an aircraft that was shot down, and he spent 16 months in a POW camp.” Dale enthusiastically enjoyed the well-orchestrated visits to various veterans-specific sites and the warmth of the greetings he received even in the two airports. It’s a trip I’ll always remember,”



Dale Doerr accompanied 32 other veterans on last year's Honor Flight to Washington, DC.

Dale says.

Frank M. Gerlach (Harborcreek, PA), who last worked at Erie, PA, after stints in other Kaiser locations, provides his travel experiences as a hunter, which he claims are “not too bad for a 72 year old with four bypasses, nine stents, and two arthritic knees.” He says, “It has been a great 15 months of traveling to hunt: Newfoundland for moose and caribou, Idaho for mountain lion, New Mexico for elk, Pennsylvania, Ohio and New York for Whitetail, while fishing all over the U.S. including Key West, FL.” **William (Bill) Boyd** (Moraga, CA) from the Refractories Division in Oakland, CA, loves traveling to reunions of his 305th Bomb Group of the 8th Air Force, as well as making family visits. Bill also relishes his time on the golf course and in his garden.

Best Wishes . . .

Jeannette Guillaume (Gonzales, LA), surviving widow of 31 year Kaiser worker Alvin, isn’t able to get out much any more and thanks everyone for their contributions to the newsletter, which lets her know what former friends are doing. **Betty Lou Koska** (Winnemucca, NV) has been having quite a time with shingles and warns everyone “to be sure to get their shots and avoid all the trouble.” **Gedale “Dale” Davis** (Spokane Valley, WA), who worked at Tech Division, says he’s been spending too much time in the hospital and hopes for a better year ahead.

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See us at:
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September 5 Chalmette
Lunch – 11:30 a.m. at Todd Shaffer's Original Family Restaurant, 348 Robert Blvd., Slidell. Cost \$23. per person. Contact Chuck Schimmel (985) 643-0437 or schimcol@aol.com or Sherman Faught (985) 690-4924.

September 10 Los Angeles
Lunch – 12:00 noon at new location. Contact Bob O'Leary (714) 898-7463 for new address and directions.

September 13 Mead
Lunch – 11:30 a.m. at Cathay Inn, North Division St. Contact Danny Petrus (509) 483-2171 or dpjr70@comcast.net.

October 9 Newark
Lunch – 11:00 a.m. at Stacy's Home-town Buffet, Heath. Contact Bill Snider at (740) 403-8328 or Jim Bope at (740) 601-7034 or jbopeky@yahoo.com. Meal tab picked up by the plant.

October 11 Mead
Lunch - 11:30 a.m. at Cathay Inn, North Division St. Contact Danny Petrus (509) 483-2171 or dpjr70@comcast.net

October 16 Trentwood
Lunch - 11:00 a.m. at The Valley Eagles, 16801 E. Sprague Ave. Hot lunch served. Cost for meal and dues is \$11.00. Mead retirees are always welcome! Con-



Sharing old times at Tacoma's June luncheon are (L-R Sitting) Gene and Sonja Whitcombe and Bob Mohr (L-R Standing) Art Wilson and Les Foster.

tact Steve Harvey at (509) 924-1132 or slharv3y@comcast.net.

In Memoriam

Berton G. Altmann - Los Gatos, CA
James O. Bondurant - Gainesville, FL
Edward L. Brady - Elkin, NC
Clodus B. Buck - Leon, WV
Leo C. Cassina - Salinas, CA*
Ambrose J. (A.J.)Chiniche - Denham Springs, LA
Charles E. Decker - Mount Airy, GA
Ronald E. Deschamps - Spokane Valley, WA
Robert L. Gordon - Centralia, MO
Charles J. Graf, Jr. - Metairie, LA
Ernst N. Hochberger - Montgomery, TX
Robert L. Jeansonne - Baton Rouge, LA
JoAnne W. Kearns - Walnut Creek, CA*
Peter J. Lucido - Prairie Village, KS
Ida R. McMenemy - San Lorenzo, CA
Roger L. Muller - Wilton, CT
Joseph Y. Naylor - Lafayette, CA
J.V.L. Phillips - Accra, Ghana
Grace H. Pratt - Conroe, TX
Sullivan J. Prine - Ponchatoula, LA
Donald L. (Scotty) Scott - Rathdrum, ID
Sam E. Shelby - Nashville, TN
William Taylor - La Grange, CA
B. Jay Vineyard - San Antonio, TX
Paul W. Ward - Pleasanton, CA

** Died more than a year ago*

Please inform us of a retiree or spouse passing. Include date of death, city and state, and first name of surviving spouse. If possible, a copy or link to the obituary or name of the newspaper would be helpful. Contact Klaus Adler, 1127 Rachele Rd., Walnut Creek, CA 94597 or (925) 935-2938 or kcharlie34@comcast.net.

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