



Chris Laszcz-Davis
KASRA President

Visit website at
www.e-kasra.com



Ed Coyne

Do you know a retiree who has not signed up for the VEBA? Suggest they call the Delta Fund Administrators toll-free at (888) 344-8322 or email VEBA@deltafund.com.

Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees Association

A MESSAGE FROM THE KASRA PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Retirees/Surviving Spouses:

Spring means new growth as the cold of winter gives way to a warmer climate and greener landscape. While spring hasn't reached all parts of our country yet, it is certainly here for the KASRA Board of Directors.

We are happy to introduce you to our "new growth" as five retirees from across the United States join the KASRA Board.

Meet Our Newest Board Members:

Joining existing Board members **Steve Ping, Erach Tarapore, Klaus Adler** and myself (until someone steps in to assume my role) are our newest Board members.

Ed Coyne, raised in the cotton mill village of Bemis, TN, began working for Kaiser at Baton Rouge, LA. Before retiring in 1990, he had worked at Kaiser's plants in Chalmette, Gramercy, Ravenswood, Comalco in Australia, Trentwood, Kaiser Bauxite in Jamaica, and Newark. Following his retirement from Kaiser, Ed taught international business at Nova Southern University, American College in Dublin, Ireland, Samford University and Huntington College. He now lives in Plantation, a retirement community of Leesburg, FL, where his retirement activities include lots of travel!

Tim Parker joined Kaiser in 1969 in Oakland, CA. He also held supervisory/managerial positions in Trading, Aluminum International and Planning at Trentwood Works in Spokane. After leaving Kaiser in 1983, Tim worked with Martin

Marietta Aluminum in Carson, CA, Metropolitan Stevedore Company and Pacific Maritime Association. Before retiring in 2012, he was maritime consultant to the international shipping industry. He now lives with his wife Linda in Laguna Hills, CA, where he volunteers with the Los Angeles Philanthropic Foundation. He and Linda make frequent trips to Walnut Creek, CA, to visit his daughter and grandchildren.

Charles Schimmel, a retired colonel in the USAF, worked for Kaiser from 1963 – 1988. He began at Chalmette Works, LA, as a production trainee and ended his career as the Plant Closure Manager. He also worked at Tacoma, WA, and Valco in Ghana, West Africa. After retiring from Kaiser, Chuck became the Manager of the Sciences Laboratory at Stennis Space Center, followed by Technical Manager of the Alumina Division of ORMET in Burnside, LA. He operated his own consulting company for environmental and metallurgical areas until 2010. He now lives with his wife Jackie in Slidell, LA. They have three children and three grandchildren.

Norm Schwemberger joined Kaiser Ravenswood, in 1956 as a college trainee for production. Loaned to the computer department (initially for just one year!), he spent most of his career in data processing and systems work. Transferred to Oakland, CA, in 1959, Norm developed Kaiser's salaried payroll programs before being transferred to England and then to Frankfurt, Germany, as Systems Manager for the European Region. He returned to Oakland, CA in 1970 and retired in 1989. He formed his own corporation and did

WHAT'S GOING ON

Accomplishments . . .

Congratulations to **Gary Simpson** (Atherton, CA) who was inducted into the Alumni Hall of Fame for the College of Mass Communications and Journalism at California State University, Fresno.

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

Jerry Bills (Downers Grove, IL) still keeps up-to-date on trends in the aluminum industry as a consultant for Conex Cable, an aluminum-clad steel wire company out of Dekalb, IL. "I had 32 wonderful years with Kaiser and was Sales and Marketing Manager of Electrical Products when I retired in 1988," he says. "I was fortunate to later be employed by the new owners of Conex and celebrate 25 years with them this year." Jerry notes that Kaiser's former facility in Dublin, CA, which Conex purchased in 1988, was featured in articles appearing recently in "Energy and Infrastructure" and "Manufacturing Today." Driving around in his Miata with the top down is a favorite pastime for **Joe Darling** (Bristol, RI). He also spends time as a ham radio operator.



Ravenswood Retirees enjoyed Christmas Dinner at Greenhills Country Club on December 5.(L-R): Bob Fisher, Bonnie Smith, Ruth Mick, Pat Harvey, Dottie Whitman and Dave Whitman.

on Long Lake, WA, and to try and get my garden to produce more than tomatoes!" **William F. Miller** (West Chester, PA) remembers fondly his 27 years with Kaiser Refractories. He and his wife recently sold their summer home in Maine and will be moving to a retirement community in Honeybrook, PA, by this summer. **Nancy Brown** (Severna Park, MD), surviving spouse of **Lafayette Brown, Jr.**, still plays golf and bowls "duck pins," a smaller ball and pins popular in Maryland. "Two of my children live close by and I love seeing them and my six grandchildren and two great grandsons," she says.



Retirees from Ravenswood and Newark met in Marietta, OH, for lunch over the holidays. (L-R) Faye Schindler, Bill Schindler, Phil Cook and Hazie Parsons.

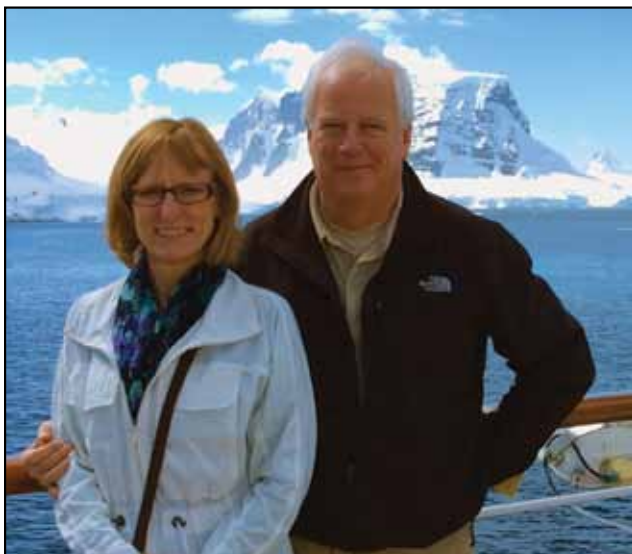
Former Trentwood Works, WA, employee **Judy Eigell** (Tum Tum, WA) finds time to do quilting, gardening and reading even though she works approximately seven months a year. "I have summers off which gives me plenty of time to enjoy my home

Also keeping his hand in the business world is former Columbus OH, employee **William O. "Bill" deBruler** (Biloxi, MS), who works part time as a computer consultant. He also enjoys photography, watching his granddaughter compete in college fast pitch softball, and volunteering at his local breast cancer and heart facility. In his spare time, he plays a little casino slots and is a member of the Hibernia Marching Society of South Mississippi, an Irish organization. **Ron McHaney** (Canton, GA) recently moved to Georgia after many years in Portland, OR. Former Ravenswood employee

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Sherlie Hodge (Ravenswood, WV) keeps busy singing in her church choir and doing interior decorating. She recently enjoyed a visit from her son Chris and his two daughters, who now live in Chigasaki, Japan. Now a project manager for Dell Computers, Chris had worked at the Ravenswood plant in the Engineering Department during summer vacations and holidays.

William C. Weyer (Richmond, TX) likes to work on his stamp and coin collection and also enjoys playing bingo and visiting family in Virginia, Washington State, Tennessee and other parts of Texas. Known as the “patriarch of hockey” in Columbus, OH, **Glenn Wright** (Worthington Hills, OH) has coached several generations of players. He is now coaching the coaches. “We have all these kids who want to play – which is great – but we’re going to need more qualified people to teach them the proper way to skate and play,” he says. The 82-year-old still shows up at his local rink to check kids into practice and skated himself up until two years ago. Hockey has always been near and dear to his heart



John Baker and his wife Carla on their Antarctica cruise. “If you want icebergs, I have lots of pictures,” says John.

even during his long career as an executive with Kaiser, which included working in Los Angeles and Oakland, CA, Denver, CO, and Boston, MA.

Honoring Those Who served . . .

In the November 2014 issue of the newsletter, we inadvertently listed **Bobby G. Osborn** (Watsonville, CA) as Bobby Olson. Here is the record of his military service again with the correct name! Bobby joined the Army in 1950 when he was just 17. He trained at Fort Ord, CA, before shipping out to Guam and then Korea, where he served for two years in the 15th QM, Co. 1st Calvary Division. He returned briefly to the U.S. before being sent to Hokkaido, Japan for nine months. During his service, Bobby received five Bronze Stars and a United Nations Service Medal. Discharged as a corporal in 1953, Bobby went to work for Kaiser Refractories in Moss Landing, CA, for 33 years. When Kaiser sold the plant to National Refractories, he worked another 11 years for the new company. Retiring in 1996, Bobby stays involved through American Legion Post 121 where he has served on the board of directors for many years. Post 121 selected him to be Veteran of the Year for 2014.

Traveling Near and Far . . .

John Baker (Mukilteo, WA) has been covering the world lately. The former Tacoma, WA, Reduction Division worker traveled to Spain, France, Italy, Monaco and Tunisia in 2014 and has already been to Argentina, Uruguay, the Falkland Islands, Antarctica and Chile in 2015. He keeps in shape cycling and has completed the Seattle to Portland Bike Ride 23 times. “I started at Kaiser in Ravenswood in 1974 before being transferred

(What's Going On, continued Page 4)

(What's Going On, from Page 3)

to Tacoma, in 1981. I left the company after 14 years as the Business Unit Manager for Laboratory and Potroom Services. "It was the most enjoyable job I ever had. Kaiser was a great place to work and I still meet with the KASRA group twice a year in Tacoma. Fabulous group of people."



Enjoying the December lunch in Tacoma, WA, are Clark Kenney, Clara Kenney and Carol Hamm.

Aprina Leavy (Oakland, CA) stays busy walking, singing, dancing and traveling to Europe and working as a travel consultant. A cruise on the Portland Spirit made for a fun vacation for **Bill Reeve** (Gresham, OR). "We went down the Willamette River to the Columbia River and then to Astoria, OR," he explains. When not traveling, Bill likes to do picture puzzles, play card games and go dancing with his wife. Traveling to Lake Tahoe, NV, to celebrate her son's 50th birthday was **Margaret Zaffran** (Homedale, ID). The former Kaiser Gramercy, LA, worker also crochets, knits, does hand painting and gardening. "I'm just enjoying life and very grateful for the yearly dividend from VEBA and to those who make it happen."

Birthdays, Anniversaries . . .

Happy Birthday to **Donald Waltenburg** (Spokane, WA) who turned 88 this Fall.

The former foreman in the shipping department loves classic movies and spending time with his family, especially his 10-year-old great granddaughter.

January was

a big month for **Stuart "Bud" Rother** (Lake Wylie, SC). He celebrated his 85th birthday on January 5 and his 62nd wedding anniversary on January 31. He continues to walk twice a day, attends the YMCA twice a week, and is active with the Lions Club and the Chamber of Commerce. The Rotherers spend their winters in Florida and summers in the North Carolina mountains.

Condolences . . .

Best wishes go to KASRA President **Chris Laszcz-Davis** (Orinda, CA) who lost her husband of 37 years, Stephen Davis, in January of this year and to **Mike McGroarty** (Pinehurst, NC) who lost his wife of 60 years, Greta, in August. Gary Emile Duhe, husband of **Linda Evans Duhe** (Slidell, LA) passed away on Feb. 3 at the age of 65 and **Jed Daniel's** (San Ramon, CA) wife Rosemary died February 21. **Robert Cole** (Darien, IL) lost his wife Elinor on May 24, 2014, just three months before their 58th wedding anniversary.

Record Snow in Erie, PA

Tim Healy reports that Erie's snow fall total has reached 100 inches and the year is not over! Tim claims Erie holds the record for most snow thus far in the United States!



Ray Bates and Gary Bennett catch up at Tacoma's December lunch at Johnny's Dock.

MEMBER PROFILE: Burch Roark

Former Trentwood and Ravenswood worker, **Burch Roark** (Spokane, WA) took time out of his busy retired life to reminisce about his years with Kaiser. His 37-year career (34 with Kaiser; three with Ravenswood Aluminum) began thanks to a Kaiser employee who spoke to Burch's graduating class at the University of Idaho.

Who was this person that had such an effect on your future?

It was Don Angell, who worked at Trentwood at the time. He and his identical twin brother Rob both worked for Kaiser -- mostly, at the same facility throughout their careers. Don was a mechanical engineer and Rob an electrical engineer. Everybody had a tough time telling them apart. But then I noticed that they parted their hair on opposite sides so I could tell who I was talking to.

When I first met Don, it was 1955, and I was just about to graduate with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. I had been fortunate to attend the University of Idaho on a four-year football scholarship.

I asked Don about possible job opportunities. He said he thought they were hiring at Trentwood, WA, so I went up there and was hired. They started me in their one-year training program. But I had been in the Air Force ROTC in college and was due to be called up in the fall of 1955. Kaiser was great. They told me to do my three years in the Air Force and then come back, which I did.

What did you do in the Air Force?

I was a pilot and instructor pilot for prop planes. I mainly flew B25s and T-28s. In 1958, I was honorably discharged as a captain and went back to Kaiser at

Trentwood.

What was your career like at Kaiser?

I've had a really enjoyable time with Kaiser. They always seemed like family to me and they still do. Kaiser gave me so many different experiences and an opportunity to put my engineering knowledge to work.

I started in 1958, after being discharged from the Air Force, as a Junior Engineer. By 1966, I was the Plant Engineer and then promoted to Maintenance Superintendent in 1970. But things really got interesting when we began the modernization of the Trentwood rolling mill in 1974. I was made the Project Manager for Phase 1, which was a \$45 million project and then Kaiser asked me to be Project Manager for the \$230 million Phase 2, which we completed in 1985. I reported to Ed Wood in Oakland, CA, at the time. During both phases, we made lots of trips around the U.S. and overseas to look at different mills and see what people were doing. It was all very exciting, and when we finished, we had the most modern rolling mill in the world for that time.

How did you end up in Ravenswood, WV?

Kaiser transferred me to Ravenswood following the completion of the modernization of Trentwood. It was only supposed to be for two-three years, but it ended up being seven. But my wife Marjie and I didn't mind. We really enjoyed living there. The people



Burch Roark and his wife Marjie at one of the many classic car shows they attend.

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.

(Members Profile, from Page 5)

are really nice and we took advantage of getting around and seeing the area. We still have good friends in Ravenswood and go back there every few years to visit.

When Kaiser sold the Ravenswood complex in 1989, the new owners asked me to stay on as Plant Manager of the fabrication plant for three more years. I did and in 1992, I retired, and we moved back to Spokane, WA, where our grown children lived.

But, you didn't stay retired, did you?

No. Shortly after we moved, Kaiser asked me to come back to Trentwood, WA, as the Engineering and Maintenance Manager. I worked until 1995 when I retired a second time. But, I guess I wasn't ready to completely leave the industry, so I did several consulting jobs in the aluminum industry that took me all over the U.S. plus Russia, Venezuela and the Philippines. When you travel for business, people think it's all fun. But, it's not like that when you're there to work. Marjie came with me a couple of times, and she even remarked that she didn't believe me before, but after seeing how hard we all worked, she understood our trips weren't sight-seeing excursions.

How did you and Marjie meet?

I actually met her through my wife. They were in the same Bridge Club together, so I had known her for a few years when my wife died of cancer in 1980. Marjie had been divorced for a number of years. After some time, one thing led to another, and we married in 1982.



Burch Roark and his wife Marjie.

Tell us about your combined family.

Marjie has one son, who is married and has two daughters. I had five children, but the doctors discovered our youngest daughter had a brain tumor when she was just over a year old. They operated but didn't think she'd live more than six months. She lived to be 15, but had many medical problems during her short life. She passed away two weeks after my first wife died. 1980 was a rough time for me personally.

My other four children are all married and, together with Marjie's son, we have 16 grandchildren and four great grandchildren so far.

What do you do in your spare time?

I've always been interested in old cars. Over the years, I've collected quite a few including a 1911 Maxwell, a 1912 Baker Electric, a 1913 Stevens-Duryea C-Six, a 1914 Model T, a 1931 Model A Roadster and a 1957 two-passenger T-Bird. I take them on various tours and car shows, which we both enjoy a lot.

(Members Profile, from Page 6)

I also love to do wood and metal working. Now I do metal work primarily, especially since they don't make parts for my old cars any more. I've learned how to make them myself and sometimes I make them for other collectors.

Marie and I are also quite active in our local Presbyterian Church. I'm an Elder and Marjie is a Deacon. I'm also

president of our church sponsored low-income 40-unit housing complex. It's HUD supported. I've put on the church's classic car show for the past 17 years as well as assisting with other antique car activities.

Keeping up with our family, our hobbies and, of course, shoveling snow, keeps us both pretty busy.



Tim Parker

(President's Message, from Page 1)

systems and EDI consulting until retiring at the age of 76. He and his wife Nancy live in Lafayette, CA, and have four children and seven grandchildren.

Mike Venie began his Kaiser career at Trentwood Works, WA, in 1972 as Assistant Traffic Manager. He held numerous managerial positions in sales, marketing and plant operations in Fabricated Products that included assignments at Kaiser locations in Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, California and Ohio. Mike retired from Kaiser in 1995 as Vice President, Automotive, based in Pleasanton, CA. He became CEO of a multinational powdered metals producer, co-owner of a specialty steel and aluminum bar service center, and CEO of an aluminum coil anodizing company in the Chicago, IL, area. He and his wife Claudia live most of the year in Phoenix, AZ, and three-four months in Chicago, IL.

chelle Alviso for all you do to keep this organization running so well. A special thank you to **Dan Dahlen, Dick Kauffman, Steve Abernathy, Carlos Xavier, Doug Mann and Ed Westerman**, who are no longer on the Board but who continue to contribute as the leadership team.

VEBA. If you are aware of anyone who has not yet applied for the VEBA benefits to which they are entitled, please contact us at kasra@e-kasra.com, and we will be happy to follow up. As a reminder, this benefit is not automatic, and the eligible person must first enroll and then annually apply to the VEBA Third Party Administrator for reimbursement. Application forms are available on our website or on request to us. KASRA provides copies of all VEBA Benefit Program materials on our website.

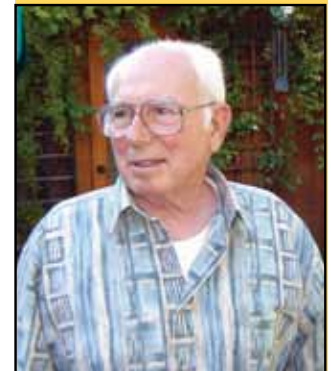
I again want to thank you for your past and continuing contribution to making the KASRA News such an enjoyable paper to its many readers around the country.

Chris

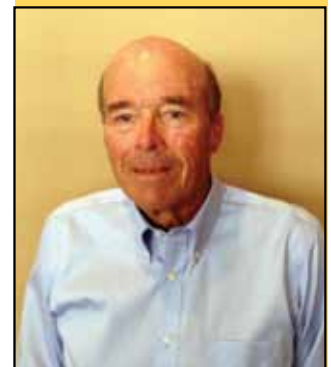
Chris Laszcz-Davis
President, KASRA



Chuck Schimmel



Norm Schwemberger



Mike Venie

Heartfelt Thank You – We would like to thank our retiring Board members **John Schnittker** and **Ed Quinnan**, who have served with such devotion and given so freely of their time to help KASRA serve its members even better. Ed will now serve as a member of the Board Advisory Leadership Group. Also thank you, **Joanne Gutterez, Kari Dahlen** and **Mi-**

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We're on the Web!
See us at:

www.e-kasra.com

Mar 2, Apr 6, May 4 Los Angeles

Lunch is usually held at noon on the first Monday of each Month at The Elephant Bar, 1403 Firestone Ave., La Mirada. Contact Bob O'Leary at (714) 898-7463 to confirm time and location.

Mar 4 Chalmette

Lunch 11:00 a.m. at La Rosetta Trattoria, 348 Robert Blvd., Slidel. Contact Chuck Schimmel (985) 643-0437 or schimcol@aol.com to confirm.

Mar 21, Apr 18, May 16 Erie

Breakfast 8:30 a.m. at Shirley's Country Kitchen, Wattsburg Rd., Erie. Contact Tim Healy (814) 474-3536 to confirm.

Mar 12, Apr 9, May 14 Mead

Lunch 11:30 a.m. at Cathay Inn, North Division St., Contact Danny Petrus at (509) 483-2171 or Dpjr70@comcast.net to confirm.

Mar 17, Apr 21 Trentwood

Meet at 11:00 a.m. at The Valley Eagles, 16801 Sprague Ave., Hot lunches will be served at 11:30 a.m. Mead retirees are always welcome. Following lunch, the March guest speaker is Jayne Singleton, Director, Spokane Valley Heritage Museum. The April speaker will be a master gardener with the Spokane County Extension Office. Contact Steve Harvey (509) 924-1132 or slharv3y@comcast.net with questions or to confirm.

Apr 9 Ravenswood

Spring Lunch 12 noon at Cedar Lakes, Ripley. The lunch will be catered. Contact Lee Corder (304) 273-9457 or Dave Whitman (304) 273-5548; dwhitman@gmail.com with questions and to confirm.

Apr 14, Jun 9 Newark

Lunch 11:00 a.m. at Stacy's Hometown Buffet, Heath. Lunch is paid for by the Newark plant. Contact Bill Snider (740) 403-8328 or

colbill44@roadrunner.com.

Apr 24

Belpre
Breakfast 9:00 a.m. at Shoney's Restaurant, Garfield Ave. Parkersburg. RSVP to Betty Blair (304) 489-1337 or Bettylou13@suddenlink.net. **Visitors are always welcome.**

In Memoriam

Emajean E. Baker, Newark, OH

*Donald J. Beerntsen,
Santa Rosa, CA*

*Mortimer C. Crockett,
St. Augustine, FL*

*Ernest H. Kopp,
Spokane Valley, WA*

*Charles Warren Mallard,
Brooklet, GA*

*Carrol "CJ" Joseph Miller,
Braithwaite, LA*

John W. Moody, Newark, OH

Kennie H. Stowers, Ravenswood, WV

Bill Sydow, Whittier, CA

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.