



Doug Mann
KASRA President

Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees Association

A MESSAGE FROM THE KASRA PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Retirees/Surviving Spouses:

Greetings from a slightly soggy California. With our rain totals so far this season well above normal, I think it's safe to say our five-year drought is over. I hope you are doing well in whatever part of the country you live. Hopefully, just enough snow or rain to make those first blossoms of spring even more delightful.

And, speaking of delightful, one of my favorite holidays is almost upon us – St. Patrick's Day. It's a time when everyone seems to find a bit of Irish in them. And, why not? Good food, Irish dancing, festive music and maybe a pint or two with family and friends makes for a lovely way to celebrate Ireland's patron saint. It's even a legal holiday in Suffolk County, MA, and Savannah, GA. Furthermore, the north White House fountain has been dyed green for Saint Patrick's Day every year since 2009. How about that!

So, I hope you find a way to celebrate the Irish in you. And, as the old Irish blessing says:

“May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind always be at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,

And rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

VEBA – Trustee Chairman Art Donaldson reminded KARLA luncheon attendees that eligible family units have until December 31, 2017 to file for the 2016 maximum benefit of \$3,800.

For more information on VEBA or to register, contact the Delta Fund Administrator by phone at the toll-free number of (888) 344-8322.

PHOTOS. We encourage you to send in pictures you have taken recently or in the past at luncheons, vacations and back yard bar-be-cues along with your What's Going On forms. Be sure to identify everyone in your photos to make the pictures more meaningful to your fellow readers of KASRA News. Send photos to Sally Hogarty, our Newsletter Editor, at sallyhogarty@gmail.com or P.O. Box 84, Canyon, CA 94516.

All the best!

Doug Mann
President, KASRA

Visit website at
www.e-kasra.com

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.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Accomplishments . . .

Congratulations to **Tony Procanik** (Ormond Beach, FL) who received the John D. Rockefeller Casements Award at the 36th Annual Photography Show for his image of an Indian Sadhu from Jaipur, India. "This is the top award given, and I was quite humbled since there were 64 images submitted by some very talented photographers here in the Daytona Beach/Ormond Beach area." Tony also shows his work at the P.A.S.T.A. Gallery in St. Augustine, Fl.



Tony Procanik won an award for his photo of this Indian Sadhu from Jaipur, India.

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

Frank "Beef" Lewis (Baton Rouge, LA) and his wife moved to the St. James Retirement Center in Baton Rouge after their house flooded during recent storms. "Our family room had 42 inches of water and we just sold the house as is," Frank explains. The former Gramercy Works employee still volunteers on the U.S.S. Kidd in downtown Baton Rouge but says his legs won't let him play golf anymore.

Resident Association and on the Board of Directors of the Chabot Space and Science Center keeps **Richard Spees** (Alameda, CA) active. He also found time to travel to Washington, D.C. and San Diego, CA.

Serving as President of the Cardinal Point



Chris Laszcz-Davis spent part of her Christmas holidays with her family in New Zealand. Here they are skydiving in Wanaka, New Zealand (L-R) Son-in-law James, Chris, son Grant and daughter Lauren.

William N. Maher (Pittsburgh, PA) and his wife MaryLou made a big change this year. They left their home of 33 years in Muskegon, on the western coast of Michigan and moved closer to family in Pennsylvania. "We loved living in Muskegon but now we're enjoying the retirement community in Pittsburgh and being close to our children," says William, who, along with MaryLou, traveled to Chautauqua, New York this year.

Staying healthy is **Alda J. Almeida's** (Bristol, RI) priority, who says she doesn't need to travel because she's always on vacation. Former Newark Works employee **Mildred "Millie" H. Ankrum** (Easley, SC) is doing fine but misses her flower hobby and dancing with her husband, who passed away in 2015.

Traveling Near and Far . . .

Chris Laszcz-Davis (Orinda, CA) and family went to New Zealand for the

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Christmas holidays. They backpacked the Routeburn Track (32km, 5,000ft elevation gain over three days, including one 19 degree night in a tent). "What a gorgeous, gorgeous country," says Chris. "This was preceded by luge go-carting in Queenstown and skydiving in Wanaka. All in all, a fabulous, fabulous family holiday!" Chris says that her crew wants to go camping in Iceland next Christmas but she's not sure that's a great idea!

Each winter, **Dan Reynolds** (Washington, WV) packs up his Honda Goldwing motorcycle and travels to Florida. The former worker at Ravenswood Casting Department also enjoys camping, rebuilding motors, old cars, traveling, ATV riding and, of course, motorcycles.

Bruce Wilson (Pleasanton, CA) and his wife Mary Louise visited India in December. "I had not visited India since sales trips for Kaiser in the early 1960s," Bruce



(L-R) Bob Mohr, Lindy Nelson and Kirk Cocran enjoyed Tacoma's Dec. 7 Christmas luncheon.

says. "There have been so many changes since then. We traveled to Delhi, Agra, Jaipur and Rathaboke National Park for a safari in a tiger preserve. I still find the country fascinating." Bruce and Mary Louise moved to Stoneridge Creek Retirement in Pleasanton, CA, a few years ago and enjoy it very much. They are looking forward to their 67th wedding anniversary in August, 2017.

Best Wishes . . .

All the best to **William Kister** who lost his wife **Cora** in November, to **Tim "John" Healy** who lost his wife **Elizabeth "Betty"** in December and to **Bob Robertson** who lost his wife **Pat** in January of this year. Our condolences also go

to the families of **Colette "Clara" Alessandro** (surviving spouse of **Valentino Alessandro**), **Jean Dow** (surviving spouse of **Delmar Dow**), **Byrnild Housh** (surviving spouse of **Lloyd Housh**) and **Babetta Patterson** (surviving spouse of **Robert Patterson**).



Having fun at Chalmette's Christmas luncheon are (L-R) Jim Lesaicherre, Carol Lesaicherre, Ralph Veller, Dolores Veller, Jerry Lambert and Frank Kraus.

MEMBER PROFILE: Erach Tarapore

Erach Tarapore worked in Kaiser's Research and Development group for 24 years before retiring in 2001. He lives with his wife Silloo in Lafayette, CA. They have two grown children, a son, Phiroz, who is a neurosurgeon at UCSF in San Francisco, CA, and a daughter, Shenaya, an architect in the San Jose, CA, area. Erach has served on the KASRA Board since 2012 and is currently the Treasurer.

Was it difficult moving from your home in Bombay to Northern California?

Growing up in Mumbai, India was not much different than growing up here in the Bay Area. I was surprised, but there really wasn't much of a culture shock when I moved to the United States to attend U.C. Berkeley in the early '70s.

Tell us about your schooling and how you became interested in Materials Science.

I had always enjoyed chemistry in school, so when it came time to pick a major at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), I chose metallurgical engineering. People with that major typically go to work for companies that make metals out of the raw materials that are mined out of the ground, so there is a lot of chemistry involved in the process. I graduated in 1972 before coming to the United States to work on my doctorate at U.C. Berkeley.

At Berkeley, my undergraduate field was part of the Department of Materials Science, which covered mining the materials out of the ground, separating the ore from the dirt, and then processing the ores into the metals that we use in everyday life.



Erach and Silloo Tarapore at a Kaiser Christmas party in 1991.

The department covered physical metallurgy, where scientists examine metals under a microscope to determine their properties and structure. It also covered ceramics, which are used industrially in all sorts of high temperature uses - think of crucibles for melting metals and the bricks that line our chimney flues, as well as industrial furnaces. Today the field covers all the exotic materials that make possible a host of high tech applications.

As it happened, I did my graduate work in the design of induction furnaces. This is a type of electric furnace used to melt and refine steel and other metals. What is special about these furnaces is that the electrical current that heats up the furnace also generates a powerful magnetic field. Under the combined effects of the current and magnetic field, the molten metal moves, for the same reason that

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an electric motor spins when you turn on the power. I was looking to see if I could predict how fast the metal moved, as that determines how rapidly it could be melted and purified, which was the purpose of putting it into the furnace. One part of my study used physics and a lot of mathematics (using the computers then available) to solve the mathematical equations. The other part of my work was done on an industrial induction furnace in Berkeley (that factory is now a BMW dealership!), measuring how fast the metal moved when the furnace was operating. It turned out that the measurements agreed reasonably well with the predictions and became the basis of my Ph.D. thesis.

How did you get involved with Kaiser



Erach Tarapore (lower right) and Jeff Dickinson (upper right) with an aluminum casting, which utilized electromagnetic casting technology that improved product quality. This particular casting made aluminum beverage cans.

Aluminum?

When I was completing my Ph.D., Kaiser Aluminum had a research team, the Reduction Research group, whose mission involved improving the performance of the electrical furnaces in which aluminum metal is made.

These furnaces have very large electrical currents flowing through them, which cause the molten metal to move around, just as it does in induction furnaces.

Warren Goodnow, who led the group at the time, hired me to look at how the design of the furnace affected the metal flow and, consequently, furnace performance. I joined an exceptional team of researchers, who modernized Kaiser's aluminum making operations worldwide.

Tell us a little about your job during your years at Kaiser.

Over a couple of decades, the Reduction Research group worked with all the Kaiser reduction plants. Some of them were of WWII vintage, others dated from the 1960s and early 1970s. We worked with the technical departments of each plant, set up test sections, analyzed data and recommended design changes. As a result, we made significant improvements in the operating efficiency of the plants, so that their performance kept up with newer technologies. This effort kept these plants viable, without major capital expenditures, for almost two decades.

Later, I moved into the Metal Casting research group and worked with Kaiser's fabrication plants. Kaiser was competing in markets in aluminum beverage cans and aerospace alloys, which require holding to tight specifications when the

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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metal is cast. My last assignment was with the Micromills group, which was looking to revolutionize the making of aluminum sheet products. The group made several breakthroughs and succeeded in developing a continuous caster at the development facility outside Reno in 2000. I retired from Kaiser in 2001, when the R&D facility in Pleasanton closed.

What were the most memorable aspects of your job with Kaiser?

There were two aspects of my job that made it into a memorable career. First, being in R&D, there were always new challenges, so it never became repetitive. The other was that I worked with an incredible group of people who were interesting, supportive and great to work with. They became like family, and I am still in touch with a great many of them.

What did you do following your retirement from Kaiser?

I worked in the R&D division of Clorox for five years until I retired again in 2011. Now, Silloo and I devote a lot of our time to babysitting our grandchildren.



Erach and Silloo Tarapore on a recent trip to China.

Our son has three, ages 6-1/2, 3-1/2 and six months, and our daughter has a 2-1/2-year-old and she is expecting another child in March. Shenaya lives in Los Altos, so Silloo and I go down there every Wednesday to take care of her son. He's at that "talking non-stop stage" and running all around. On Tuesdays, Silloo babysits my son's children. They live in Piedmont, CA, which is close to our home, so usually just Silloo goes over and I see them other times.



Erach and Silloo Tarapore and Art Scott at the San Francisco Bay Area's December luncheon.

What made you decide to volunteer for the KASRA Board?

I so enjoyed my years with Kaiser and wanted to be involved with KASRA, but when **Steve Abernathy**

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first asked me, I was still working at Clorox so I said no. As soon as I retired, however, Steve recruited me to the board to do data base work. Now, I've been the Treasurer for several years.

What other things are you involved in now?

Both Silloo and I are very active with our community organization, the Zoroastrian Association of Northern California. I've served on the Board off and on for almost 30 years and both of us teach Sunday school there. At present, we facilitate an adult class. We're also in a book club, which meets once a month.

I am also an avid gardener. With all the rain we've received this winter, I'm really looking forward to all the spring flowers.

We enjoy traveling and have planned an April trip to Amsterdam and a July trip to Banff and Western Canada.



Rosemary Clark and Klaus Adler catch up on local news at the Bay Area's Holiday luncheon at the San Ramon Golf Club.

In Memoriam



*John William Beck Sr.
Baton Rouge, LA*

*Dr. Bush Y. Abadir
Monterey, CA*

*Henry W. "Sonny" Abadie
Denham Springs, LA*

*William Donald Bartlett
Ravenswood, WV*

*William R. "Bill" Croushore
New Albany, IN*

*Donald D. Dewar
Spokane Valley, WA*

*James (Jim) D. Elliott
Veradale, WA*

*Tony J. Guzzardo
Baton Rouge, LA*

*Orville (Jack) M. Hill
Cincinnati, Oh*

*John L. Lapp
Hamilton, IN*

*John J. Mack
Mesa, AZ*

*Delmar Wayne McKinley
Spokane, WA*

*Clifford Gorden Rolie
Spokane, WA*

*Gary Simpson
Atherton, CA*

*Oscar Wallace
Ripley, WV*

*Bob Weber
Brentwood, 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.

P.O. Box 1171
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KASRA Board of Directors

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We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.e-kasra.com

Belpre

Saturday breakfast, 9 a.m., Shoney's
Garfield Ave. Parkersburg. Confirm with
Betty Blair at (304) 489-1337 or to
bettylou13@suddenlink.net.

Apr 28

Chalmette

Lunch, 11 a.m. NOLA Lagniappe, 1375
Gause Blvd., Slidell. Cost \$20 Confirm
with Chuck Schimmel at (985) 643- 0437
or to schimcol@aol.com.

Mar 8, Jun 7

Erie

Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. at Peggy's
3512 Liberty Street., Erie, Confirm with
Tim Healy at (814) 402-1062 or
thealy1931@gmail.com.

Mar 18, Apr 15

Los Angeles

Lunch, 12 noon, Marie Callendar's, 540
N. Euclid, West Anaheim. Confirm with
Bob O'Leary at (714) 898-7463 or
robemmet39@gmail.com.

Mar 6, Apr 4, May 1

Mead

Lunch, 11:30 a.m. at Cathay Inn, North
Division St. Confirm with Danny Petruss
at (509) 483-2171 or
dpjr70@comcast.net.

Mar 9, Apr 13, May 11

Newark

Lunch 11 a.m., Stacey's Hometown Buf-
fet, Heath. Lunch paid for by the New-
ark plant. Contact Bill Snider at (740)
403-8328 or colbill44@roadrunner.com.

Apr 11, Jun 13

Ravenswood

Cedar Lakes, noon
River Shelter Cookout, 1 p.m. Confirm with Pete Westenhaver at (304)
266-4109 or Pete26164@gmail.com or to
Lee Corder at (304) 273-9457.

Apr 20

Jun 24

Tacoma

Lunch Noon to 3 p.m. at Johnny's Dock,
1900 East B St., Tacoma. Confirm with
Bob Mohr at (253) 820-6569, at bobja-
netmohr@comcast.net or to Roy Bren-
nan at (253) 535-4942.

Jun 7

Trentwood

Meet 11 a.m. Hot Meal served 11:30
a.m. Valley Eagles, 16801 E. Sprague
Ave. Confirm with Steve Harvey at (509)
924-1132, or slharv3y@comcast.net or
TJ Summerson at (509) 448-1228 or
tsummerson@aol.com.

Mar 21, Apr 18



(L-R) John Wessenberg, Karen Wessenberg, Colleen Geary, George Jung and Nancy Jung celebrated together at the San Francisco Bay Area KARLA luncheon on December 5.