



Steve Ping
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KASRA
Co-Presidents

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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 PRESIDENTS

Greetings
Fellow Re-
tirees and
Surviving
Spouses:

We trust your change of seasons this fall has been full of color and your health has been good. November brings us a day of remembrance for those who have served our country in the military. Something that was always clear and present to all who worked for Kaiser Aluminum was our leadership's commitment to also support our communities and non-profit organizations in general. Our company strongly supported United Way and also allowed generous time for employees to volunteer. The KASRA Co-Presidents want to give a big "shout-out" to the many retirees who have given and are still giving of their time and/or money to support those in need. Volunteering in schools, city and county support groups, and hundreds of non-profit organizations from amazingly dedicated retirees is about the best gift we can give back to our society/country. Some have used their leadership skills learned while working at Kaiser Aluminum to successfully lead the volunteer organizations. Others have used physical skills and a wide variety of knowledge to support those in need. You are all very special and we congratulate you for those generosities.

Many of you have aided loved ones or had others aid you when health issues have caused problems. This type of giving is also to be applauded. We prob-

ably all know of someone who worked or still works at Kaiser Aluminum who has helped a fellow employee/retiree (or family member) of the greater Kaiser Aluminum Family. May you all be blessed and continue your helping of others for many years to come. We look forward to reading in your "What's Happening" notes about your volunteerism. Keep giving and/or receiving the gifts of volunteers.

VEBA: If you have not already filed, there is still time to secure your maximum benefit of \$4,700 for 2018 and \$4,900 for 2019. 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 2018 disbursement and 2019 disbursement are December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2020 respectively. We encourage you to take advantage of this benefit if you are enrolled in the VEBA, as it can go a long way towards defraying your costs of medical care in retirement. In addition, if you know of someone who may be eligible but has not yet signed up, please encourage them to contact the VEBA and find out if they might be eligible for benefits. VEBA enrollment and reimbursement request forms are available by contacting the VEBA plan administrator, Delta Fund, at 888-344-8322 (toll free), or through their website at VEBA@deltafund.com or from the Forms page of the KASRA website.

May your holidays be surrounded by friends and loved ones. Cheers!

WHAT'S GOING ON

An Attitude of Gratitude . . .

After being on a five-year waiting list and doing home hemo-dialysis for eight months, **DeDe Cook Pauley** (Ashville, OH) received a kidney transplant in April. "I am so blessed to receive this gift from the family of a deceased young donor," says DeDe. "There have been some setbacks with Hepatitis C., Oral Thrush and now Shingles on my face, but I feel blessed to be living dialysis free!"

DeDe worked in traffic at Newark, OH, and her husband **Dave Pauley** retired from Ravenswood in 2014. The two have a business where they "flip" homes. When not working, they enjoy traveling in their Class C Winnebago. They recently went to Key West, FL, to visit their son and three granddaughters. At home, DeDe and Dave teach at their church's vacation bible school, youth group and Sunday school. They are also avid fans of Ohio State University football!

Birthdays and Anniversaries . . .

Celebrating in style, **Jerry and Darlene**



Thomas Vicknair and his wife Marion celebrated 69 years of marriage in August.



Dave and DeDe Cook Pauley at a Ohio State University football game.

Ashby (Spokane, WA) took a trip to the Big Sky Country of Montana for their 64th anniversary. Congratulations to **Thomas Vicknair** (Slidell, LA) and his wife who celebrated 69 years of marriage in August. Also acknowledging a significant milestone, **Robert Newsom** (Pleasanton, CA) and his wife marked their 62nd wedding anniversary. The former Gramercy Works employee also looks forward to his upcoming 88th birthday.

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

Lee Corder (Ravenswood, WV) and his wife SueAnn enjoyed their visit with grandchildren Sally and Molly in July. Lee also keeps busy on the board of directors of Jackson General Hospital. Fondly remembering his trips for Kaiser to Australia, Jamaica, Gramercy and Baton Rouge, **Percy Sanders** (Baton Rouge, LA) now says his hobby is "staying alive!"

Retired from Kaiser, and for the third time, from Spacelabs Healthcare, **Chuck Totten** (Puyallup, WA) just can't seem to slow down. The former Tacoma employee also keeps busy volunteering with the St. Francis House clothing bank and the Puyallup Food Bank. Meanwhile, **Wallace Lynn** (Sylvania, OH) sadly reports

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that he's had to give up golf.

Leroy F. Avers (The Villages, FL) certainly keeps busy. Previously with the Chemical Division in Baton Rouge, Leroy enjoys a yearly cruise (usually in the Caribbean!), plays guitar and sings with a group. He retired after 11 years from working on a local golf course, but will teach "Creation and Evolution of the Universe" at The Enrichment Academy.

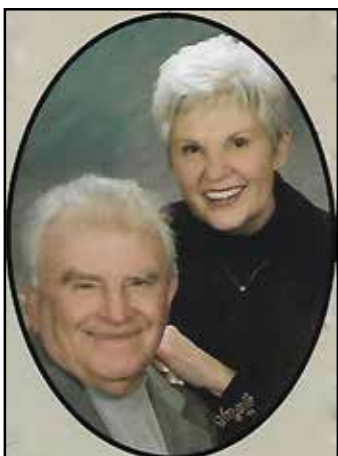
Darwin "Dar" Ekstom (Polson, MT) started work at Ravenswood in 1996 and retired when they sold the plant. He and his wife attended **Larry and Cheryl Hoppe's** 50th wedding anniversary in Spokane, WA, recently. "It was nice to see so many old friends from the Trentwood plant," says Dar. While he no longer volunteers at the Kaiser Permanente Clinic nor the trail patrol, **Tom Lowe** (Reno, NV) still keeps busy with crossword puzzles and remembering all his travel destinations, which include all the continents!

The daughter of **James B. Todd** (Cupertino, CA) says her dad is still sharp and optimistic at 95 and one-half years of age. "He enjoys the KASRA News and

still recognizes people and places," says daughter Katie. Roses are **Les Buchholz's** (McMinnville, OR) passion. "Our garden is very colorful with lots of annuals and perennials, but the roses are all his," says his wife Judy. She notes that while Les finds himself increasingly disabled due to arthritis, he remains fiercely independent and active.

Virginia and Myrl Thiesies (Dallas, OR) report they have sold their home in The Dalles, OR, and moved into the city of Dallas, OR. They currently live in a small apartment while awaiting a larger home. "Most everything is in storage, except my piano," says Virginia. "This is really home for us. Myrl was born on a farm here 88 years ago and my family moved here when I was in 6th grade. We are now attending the same church we grew up in, and there are still a few people here that we remember."

Surviving Spouse **Colette Flores** (Livermore, CA) fondly remembers her husband **Richard Flores**, who passed away in May of this year. "Richard believed in and worked for so many causes," recalls Colette. His many accomplishments included working with Cesar Chavez to help organize migrant farm workers, working with HUD on low cost housing and being a part of the smoke-free coalition in the Tri-Valley area, which resulted in the first smoke-free businesses in Livermore. A chemist at Kaiser in Pleasanton, Richard was given time off with pay when appointed to the Alameda County Grand Jury, becoming the jury foreman on the infamous Patty Hearst trial.



A young Darwin "Dar" Ekstom in 1962 and shown today with his wife Rosemary.

MEMBER PROFILE: : LARRY HOPPE

Larry Hoppe's (Spokane, WA) long and varied career with Kaiser, interesting in its own right with experiences in numerous locales here and abroad, was further enlivened by ancillary pursuits, such as running a cattle ranch in Colorado and a Bed and Breakfast Inn in the San Juan Islands. The former metallurgist, who recently completed a work assignment in India, hopes to stay home for a while and finally get his woodshop together, organize his photos and catch up on his reading. He and his wife Cheryl recently celebrated their 50th anniversary. They have two sons and five grandchildren. Both sons went into engineering and married engineers, with one grandchild studying engineering!

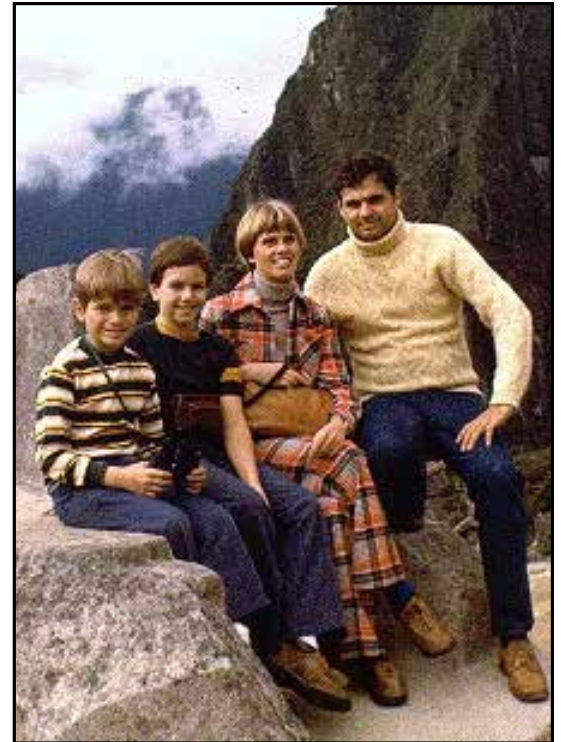
How did Kaiser become a major part of your future?

Colorado School of Mines offered me a scholarship which was \$100 more than that offered by Colorado State University(CSU). I chose Mines over CSU and began my metallurgical engineering training. After interviewing with many companies, I choose aluminum over steel and the western U.S. over the east. The interview at Trentwood in Spokane sold me on Kaiser.

Tell us about your early career with Kaiser.

I married my college sweetheart, Mary Ellen, and started work at Trentwood in August 1965. As a metallurgical trainee, I worked for Bill Kramer and Bob Gambill in the cast house improving dross reclamation for a year.

I then moved to the Finish Mill as the Horizontal Hoat Treat furnace metallurgist where we produced 7039 armor plate for use in the Vietnam War. Early in 1967, our son Eric was born.



(L-R) Hans, Eric, Cheryl and Larry Hoppe enjoyed a trip to Machu Pichu in 1977.

Within a month, Carl Howald Sr., the Technical Manager, literally grabbed me by the collar and hauled me into his office. He said I was wanted at Ravenswood, but my wife had to approve the move. Some wives, at that time, saw Ravenswood and did a 180 degree turn back home!

What was it like at Ravenswood in the 1960s?

I spent nine years under the tutelage of Plant Managers Warren Cooper and Jack Hopper, Technical Manager George Binczewski, and Chief Metallurgist Bud Goodwin. What a fantastic group of people! During this time, Ravenswood won "best operating plant" several years in a row.

There were many challenges throughout the plant. One involved the foil we made for Campbell Soup's TV dinner trays. The customer called one day saying there

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were bugs smashed into the surface of the coiled foil. Solving this problem required more than a degree in metallurgy!

I rotated from the cold rolling and foil departments to the hot line, then to the plate department. Process control and product development were mandatory to produce excellent quality auto trim, wide architectural sheet, Lockheed wing skins, along with a myriad of other products.

You experienced a profound tragedy while at Ravenswood. Tell us about it.

My wife had knee surgery in 1968, experienced a pulmonary embolism, and died in the Gallipolis hospital leaving me with a 16-month-old baby. It was a very difficult time. The wonderful Ravenswood community helped me get through it. Special thanks to my neighbors -- Barnetts, Harrahs, Boyds, and Flannigans -- all Steel Worker families that stood by me.

Ironically, my second wife, Cheryl, was

actually one of my first wife's apartment mates, had never married and went on to teach in California. After writing, we met in San Francisco during her spring break, got engaged, and married in August in Colorado.

Your job with Kaiser took on a more international flair, didn't it?

In 1976, Ravenswood got into the can stock business and decided to cast the ingots at the Valco Plant in Ghana, West Africa. My family and I moved there and remained for 3-1/2 years. Lee Newman, the ultimate Southern gentleman, was my supervisor until Sam Manaktala, another excellent technical person, relieved him. Jerry Black and Frank Clemens headed up the cast house and were instrumental in maintaining a zero-defect quality record.

This experience whetted our appetite for international travel. We went to Kenya, Egypt, the Greek Islands, Vienna, Austria, Germany, Holland, Peru and Brazil, among other exotic destinations. After



The grand opening of the Sam Yang plant in South Korea in 1992. Larry is shown with the company secretaries.

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growing up on a wheat farm in Colorado, I had to pinch myself to see if this was all real.

In August 1979, we transferred to Newark, Ohio, where I became the Chief Metallurgist. “Burt” Burtenshaw was the Technical Manager and a wonderful mentor.

How did you go from metallurgy to cattle ranching?

In October of 1980, my father and brother asked me to partner with them on a 6,000-acre cattle ranch in Colorado. Cheryl and I agreed and, in February 1981, headed for Colorado. At the same time, the federal government increased interest rates. After three years and a whole different life style, we lost the ranch, and so I asked Kaiser if they had any jobs available.

Where did you land at Kaiser?

In early 1984, I returned to Trentwood where preparations were being made to begin casting can stock alloys using electromagnetic molds. Dave Goodrich



Cheryl and Larry at the Tibet Base Camp on Mt. Everest in 2013.



Larry in 2013 next to a Chinese coil in Gonghi.

had perfected the process at CFT, and we installed it in Spokane. I was given the responsibility of overseeing the technical aspects of the process. I was promoted to Chief Metallurgist and oversaw the development of the wide can body and lid stock development.

The Rod, Bar and Wire Division (RBW) was expanding to three plants, and I was asked to be the Division Technical Manager. We moved back to Newark, Ohio, where I was given the challenge of developing continuous cast hard alloy rod for Kaiser, Tennialum. This was done in Puerto Madryn, Argentina.

It wasn't long until you were traveling again, correct?

The RBW Division was reorganized, so I was asked to head up a team providing the technology for a new rolling mill for Sam Yang Metals in South Korea. We trained a large group of Koreans at Trentwood before going to Korea for almost two years. The plant was ultimately purchased by Novelis and is now a major producer of aluminum sheet.

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Back at Trentwood in 1994, I became involved in developing the ISO-9000 quality management system. Boeing, a major customer, was requiring certification to remain a supplier. Trentwood became certified and at nearly the same time, Kaiser Richland (hard alloy extrusion plant located on the nuclear reservation) wanted to supply Boeing and needed to fast track their certification. Ron Walls, the plant manager, asked me to help. Richland qualified as a Boeing supplier. Working on a nuclear reservation had lots of interesting side notes. For instance, an employee killing a mouse in the plant turned into a major incident. We didn't realize killing a rodent wasn't allowed. The Hanford Reservation had a special mouse squad which was required to eliminate any mice. Evidently, the ground under our plant was highly radioactive and mice burrowing into it were dangerously radioactive.

You retired from Kaiser but not from working. Tell us about it.

I retired in February 2002. Shortly

thereafter, a group of us worked on the westernization of the Romanian aluminum complex in Slatina. While cultural differences sometimes made working together a challenge, I remember one very special event. Fellow retiree Kaiser Metallurgist Gary Schmauch and I attended an intramural plant soccer match with a dinner afterwards. It was the 4th of July. The Romanians put miniature American flags on everyone's meal. When we were introduced, everyone stood up and began chanting – USA, USA, USA. The music began and the two of us began line dancing with all the soccer players: What a tribute to us and our country.

Tell us about the next unique career path you followed.

In 2005, Cheryl convinced me that, after following me around the world, it was time for me to follow her dream, operating a bed and breakfast. We purchased the Trumpeter Inn B&B on San Juan Island. TripAdvisor rated it as the #1 B&B on the island, and we were able to maintain that status through 2008 when we sold it. The guests were a

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.



(3rd from the left) Cheryl and Larry treated their two sons, daughters-in-law and five grandchildren to a safari in Tanzania in 2016.

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(What's Going On, from Page 3)

Traveling Near and Far . . .

Mazatlán and Italy called to **Carol Kennedy** (Manteca, CA) this fall. The former Kaiser employee at Sunol, CA, and Tacoma, WA, also finds time to help out at a local food bank and summer reading program for K-4th grades at the library. After retiring from Kaiser, Carol worked as a bookkeeper at All Saints Church in Hayward, CA. She retired April 1, 2019 and she and her husband moved to Manteca. "I'm still adjusting to the move after being in Hayward for 48 years," she adds.

Traveling between two homes keeps **William H. Prior** (Delaware, OH) busy. The former worker for Kaiser's Corporate Environmental Affairs group, lives half the year in Ohio and the other half in Florida. He and his wife also manage to visit grandchildren in Tennessee, Indiana and Wisconsin. William also publishes "The Good News," a monthly, small market bible study publication started by his dad over 30 years ago. Hobbies include home improvement, teaching and visiting friends.

Also "commuting" between two homes is **Rebecca Keever-Taylor** (Millwood, WV). Formerly Rebecca Morehead, she lives in Florida for six months and then in

West Virginia the remainder of the year. Previously with Ravenswood Works, Rebecca enjoys birds and all wildlife. She and her husband recently downsized from 4.3 acres and 72 shrubs plus lots of fruit trees to two acres and no shrubs or pool!

Best Wishes . . .

Nolan Vicknair (Covington, LA) is now in a memory care center in Covington, LA. He formerly worked at Gramercy, LA, and enjoyed tennis, travel and movies. Also dealing with memory loss is **Edwin Frank** (Metairie, LA). His wife notes that he loved the people he worked with at Kaiser and is still a wonderful husband and "a truly good man."

Condolences to **L.F. Curtis** on the loss of his wife **Rachel, Donald Nadvornick**, who lost his wife **Margaret "Peggy"** in September, and to **Anita Parker**, who lost her husband Harry in June. Our best wishes to the families of **Janie Dobbins**, surviving spouse of **Grover Dobbins**, and **Beverly Riedle**, surviving spouse of **John Riedle**.

During this month of November especially, the KASRA Board salutes all of our retirees who served in the armed forces. Here are just a few of the many who gave so much to their country.



1st Lt. U.S. Army Air Force Cornell Maier, 1944



Naval Chief Store Keeper Anita (Hall) Parker, 1945



Corporal Don Gallogly (deceased) 1952

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spectacular cross section from around the world.

After running the B&B, you returned to metallurgy and traveling the world, correct?

In 2011, I found myself in China helping start up Trentwood's 5-stand cold mill, purchased by AAG. In that same year, David Williams, a fellow retired metallurgist from Trentwood and I visited 21 Rusal cast houses in Eastern Siberia to provide information about how they could improve productivity and increase the amount of value-added products.

By 2013, I was back in China helping HZI start up a large green site rolling mill in Gonghi. Then in 2016, Hindalco, an Indian aluminum company, hired me to improve its quality management system. I spent 15 months at the plant in Hirakud, India. Being in aluminum factories most of my life, it was enjoyable to walk the floor each day identifying areas of improvement. The down side was from March through June, the outside air temperature ran from 110-120 deg. F.!

And so, it has been good to, once again, settle in Spokane and smell the roses!

(President's Message, from Page 1)

All the best!

Erach

Michael Venie

Steve Ping

Erach Tarapore, Mike Venie and
Steve Ping

Co-Presidents, KASRA

In Memoriam



*Joseph d. Balsler
Livermore, CA*

*Jerrald "Jerry" Bennett
Walnut Creek, CA*

*John M. Ciociola
Bristol, RI*

*Grant Facer
Las Vegas, CA*

*Anthony "Tony" Ferrara
Baton Rouge, LA*

*Gary Gerard
Emeryville, CA*

*Earl Gonzales
Chalmette, LA*

*Liney Joseph Guidry
Baton Rouge, LA*

*Paul Harris
Concord, CA*

*Donald Felix Hebert
Gramercy, LA*

*Lynn D. Huston
Erie, PA*

*Jerry Lambert
Covington, LA*

*John Morgan Lewis
Rockford, Wa*

*William Lisker
Alameda, CA*

*Ron McHaney
Spokane, WA*

*Donald R. Ordes
Casper, WY*

*Dorothy H. Putz
Spokane, WA*

*Benita Schontag
Tracy, 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 email him at kcharlie34@comcast.net. The Board of Directors expresses its deepest sympathy to families and loved ones.

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Baton Rouge **Nov 20**
Lunch at 11:30 a.m. at Juban's Restaurant, 3729 Perkin's Road. Email Bob Presson at leilap3@cox.net, or Bob Schoen at bobschoen@cox.net, or call Bob Schoen at (225) 937-2984.

Belpre **Jan 31**
Breakfast 8 a.m. at Shoney's in Parkersburg. Contact Betty Blair at (304) 489-1337 or email bettylou13@suddenlink.net.

Bay Area, KARLA **Dec 2**
Holiday lunch at 11 a.m. at Wedgewood Banquet Center, San Ramon Golf Club. Contact Sharon Fraetis at (925) 330-8533 or email lafnatv@gmail.com.

Chalmette **Dec 4, Mar 4**
Lunch at 11 a.m. at NOLA Lagniappe, 1375 Gause Blvd., Slidell. Cost \$21. Contact Chuck Schimmel at (985) 643-0437 or email schimcol@aol.com.

Erie **Nov 16, Dec 21, Jan 18**
Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. at Peggy's, 3512 Liberty Street., Erie. Contact Tim Healy at (814) 402-1062 or email thealy1931@gmail.com.

Los Angeles **Nov 4, Dec 2, Jan 6**
Lunch, 11:30 a.m. at Marie Callendar's, 540 North Euclid, West Anaheim. Contact

Bob O'Leary at (714) 898-7463 or email robemmet39@gmail.com.

Mead **Nov 4, Dec 2, Jan 6**
Lunch at 11:30 a.m. at Cathay Inn, North Division St. Contact Danny Petruss at (509) 218-4730
email dpjr70@comcast.net.

Newark **Nov 4, Dec 2, Jan 6**
Lunch at 11 a.m. at Cottage Pizza, Route 79. Contact Bill Snider at (740) 403-8328 or email colbill44@roadrunner.com.

Ravenswood **Dec 6**
Mid-afternoon Holiday gathering at GreenHills Country Club. Confirm with Pete Westenhaver at (304) 266-4109 or email Pete26164@gmail.com or call Lee Corder at (304) 273-945.

Tacoma **Dec 4**
Lunch at noon at Johnny's Dock, 1900 East D St., Tacoma. Contact Bob Mohr at 253 820 6569 or bobmohr1942@gmail.com.

Trentwood **Nov 19**
Meet 11a.m. Meal served at 11:30 a.m. at Valley Eagles, 16801 E. Sprague Ave. Contact Steve Harvey at (509) 939-7132 or email slharv3y@comcast.net.



Having fun at Chalmette's September 4 lunch are Boni Aucoin, Ted Aucoin, Augie Albano, Dr. Incaprera, Earl Bellanger and Frank Kraus.