

KASRA

Sept. 2006

Email: news@e-kasra.com



Retiree News

Dear Fellow Retiree:

This will be my final newsletter message to you. It has been my pleasure to serve on the KASRA Board for six years and to be your president for the last five. In short, "It ain't been dull!" I'll have more to say about this toward the end of my letter. But, first, I want to bring you current on some recent developments.

As you know by now, Kaiser Aluminum emerged from bankruptcy in early July. The "new" Kaiser Aluminum is smaller and different from the company we were a part of. The company no longer mines bauxite or produces alumina, and its only primary aluminum investment is a 49% interest in the Anglesey smelter in Wales. It now operates eleven plants in the United States and Canada for the production of sheet, plate, extrusions, forgings, rod, bar and tube products for aerospace and high-strength, general engineering, and automotive and custom industrial applications. The company now has about 2,000 employees. I encourage those of you who have e-mail capability to go to the company's website (www.kaiseraluminum.com) for more details and the latest announcements.

Although we retirees certainly have had our differences with the company the past several years, it is in our best interests that the new version succeed because our VEBA holds stock in the company and is entitled to share in the profits if and when certain targets are met. Beyond that, I personally like the notion that a company with the name of Kaiser Aluminum continues, even though it is a very different company from the one we worked for.

There have been a number of developments relating to the VEBA:

- Kaiser Aluminum's Plan of Reorganization

became effective on July 6. Under terms of the plan, the VEBA was entitled to receive 1,940,100 Kaiser Aluminum shares of common stock on that date. Prior to the effective date, the VEBA was able to sell its rights to receive 940,233 of those shares for gross proceeds of \$31,702,578. The first of these two sales was reported in my July newsletter message. The VEBA received the remaining 999,867 shares to which it was entitled. The two sales, along with future sales of the remaining shares under favorable market conditions, advance two principal objectives of the VEBA - providing necessary liquidity for the payment of benefits and administrative expenses over time and allowing diversification of its investment portfolio.

- In June, the VEBA received the final monthly cash contribution of \$300,000 from Kaiser Aluminum to be made while it was in reorganization, bringing the total amount of such contributions to \$7,700,000.

- As previously reported, the VEBA Trustees declared a Qualified Benefit for 2006 of up to \$1,500 per family unit. The amount declared can be used to reimburse medical insurance premiums paid in 2006 by retirees or surviving spouses who have enrolled in the VEBA Plan no later than December 31, 2006 and who have filed the necessary reimbursement form prior to December 31, 2007. In addition to declaring a Qualified Benefit for 2006, the Trustees declared a "make-up" benefit for those family units who did not receive their full \$500 Qualified Benefit for 2005 because one or more individuals in that family unit received COBRA or Bankruptcy COBRA benefits from Kaiser. The additional Qualified Benefit is limited to \$500 per family unit, less the total amount paid by way of reimbursement of health care premiums paid by or on behalf of participants in that family unit for 2005.

cont. on back page

What's Going On

Most of what we print in this section of the newsletter deals with retirees' travels, hobbies, celebrations and other activities. A lesser number of items report on illnesses and recoveries. If you have been or are ill and would like your fellow retirees to know this, let us know. Our aim is to try to include whatever news you wish to provide. - Editor

And now, what's going on...Tacoma retiree and resident **Gene Whitcombe** was selected from over 500 applicants to push the demolition plunger that brought down the smokestack at the former Kaiser Aluminum plant there. The Port of Tacoma purchased the property in 2003 and plans to build a marine terminal on the 96-acre site. A video clip of Gene and his 3-year-old grandson Paul is available online at www.portoftacoma.com. Follow the prompts to News Releases and look for the Successful Demolition release dated 7/2/06.

Cruisin...**Scott Walker** of Walnut Creek, CA, took a cruise through the Panama Canal. **Norm Shinetsky** and his wife, Pamela, of Plano, TX, went on a small ship cruise on the Volga River from Moscow to St. Petersburg. **Larry Edwards** of Royal Palm Beach, FL, traveled on a cruise to Alaska with his son and family. **Waymon Sloan** of Kaufman, TX,



is the quintessential cruise ship traveler who enjoys 5-6 cruises a year. At 95 years young, **Orville Benjamin** (Coeur d'Alene, ID) says he doesn't do much of anything but he did take a cruise to Hawaii.

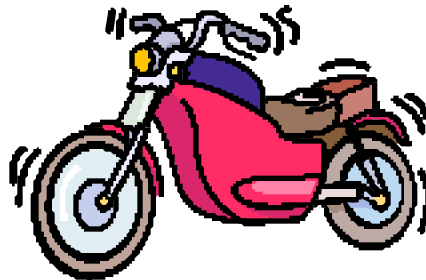
Jack Holtzapple of Lafayette, CA, went on a cruise down the Dneiper from Kiev to Odessa in the Ukraine. **Paul Schmeil** (Spanaway, WA) enjoyed a 7-day Alaskan cruise. Also taking an Alaskan cruise was **Harry Wenberg** of Saratoga, CA.

Marceline Kieou of Alameda, CA, went back home to Tahiti for a month-long visit with family. **Guy Robicheaux** has put all hobbies on the shelf while he renovates a home in Slidell, LA, to replace the one he lost in Chalmette to Hurricane Katrina. Condolences to Guy on the loss of his wife. **Frieda Boughton** (Vacherie, LA) volunteers to give hair

cuts and shampoo and sets to residents of a nursing home. Gentleman farmer **Oscar Wallace** (Ripley, WV) invites you to visit him and wife Lois on their 315-acre farm, and, no, you won't have to tend to the 20 Angus cows. Erie retiree and resident **Rita Serafini** took a trip of a lifetime to spectacular Dubai.

Douglas Brisbin of Apple Valley, CA, builds model boats and is restoring a 1967 Harley Davidson servi-car motorcycle. **Patricia Scherer** of Tulsa, OK, enjoys gardening and reading.

Claude Ford Jr. (Clovington, LA) enjoys fishing, a



coin collection and attending LSU sports events.

Anne Wells of Erie, PA, plays bridge, chess, belongs to a book club and likes cross word puzzles.

Robert Leeson (Spokane, WA) says his hobbies include playing at casinos, computers and watching television.

On the mend: **John Sprowl** of Spokane, WA, says he is recovering nicely from carotid artery surgery.

Bob Hartwig (Ashland, OR) is undergoing a strict medical regimen following a second bout with cancer.

Patricia Nargang (Walnut Creek, CA) had hip replacement surgery. **DuWayne Watts** of Trentwood, WA, is recuperating from cancer surgery.

Clovis Buck (Leon, WV) is recovering from double hernia surgery. **Eleanor Keefer** (Leon, WV) is doing great after double knee replacement surgery.

Newark, OH, retiree and resident **Bill Snider** had knee replacement surgery.

Jacksonville, FL, retiree and resident **Frank Pintelto** is involved in a multi-church volunteer effort that feeds more than 200 people every week. Surviving spouse **Phyllis Glubka** of Lincoln, CA, likes square dancing, exploring her genealogy, and enjoying her children and grandchildren. **Clare Deahl** (Spokane, WA) sends a big hello to fellow Mead retirees. Gramercy retiree **Althea Haywood** says repairs are 95% complete to their New Orleans, LA, home damaged by Katrina.

Jack Schwegmann of Alameda, CA, is in his 18th year as a Master Gardener volunteer for the University of CA Ag Extension Service. Condolences to Jack on the loss of wife Nan last year. **Cornelis Langewis** (Walnut Creek, CA) likes to build model steam engines. When she's not keeping hubby busy with a daily Honey Do list, **Rosa Lee Swartz** of Banning, CA, collects Snoopy and Peanuts memorabilia and has visited the Charles Schultz Museum in Santa Rosa.

Let's hear it for these golfers: **Robert Elder** (Spokane, WA); **Paul Kochman** (Seven Bays, WA); **Leroy (Lee) Avers** (The Villages, FL); **Bill Fulks** (Liberty Lake, WA); **Bruce Wagar** (Greenacres, WA); **Larry Miller** (Concord, CA) and his playing partner **Jim Nichols**; **Jim Bondurant** (Gainesville, FL); **Ian Anderson** (Parkersburg, WV); **Sally Sittel** (Camarillo, CA); **Ed Nesselroade** (Wilmington, NC); **Bob Seiter** (Paoli, PA); **Bud Rother** (Lake Wylie, SC); **Joseph Voss** (Palm City, FL); **Gerry Gemmill**, **Harold Kendall**, **Swede Ulven**, playing at Deer Park near Spokane, WA; **Jerry Ashby** (Spokane, WA); **James Mire** (Baton Rouge, LA) who is also a starter. Trying for that 2nd hole-in-one is **Frank Weber** (Middletown, NJ).

Thanks to his lifelong contribution to agriculture, the family of **Fred Chambers** (Waynesboro, GA) received the Family of the Year Award at the Burke County Chamber of Commerce. The former Kaiser Chemicals farm market manager managed the family business after retirement and continues to be a gentleman farmer at 78. **Ford Willoughby** (New Orleans, LA) is involved in rebuilding his beloved city post Katrina. **Allen Lightner** of Slidell, LA, looks forward to moving into a new home in Ponchatoula, LA.

On the move:

Dewey Gregoire from Chalmette, LA to 17255 Rue Village, Prairieville, LA, 70769. **Lewis Parsons** moved from Ravenswood, WV, to 2035 Gatehouse Ln, Powell, TN 37849. After 9 months in Monroe, LA, **Arthur Brewster** moved to 4820 Alphonse Dr., Metairie, LA 70006 **Benita Schontag** moved to Benicia, CA, to be closer to family and friends. **Althea Mayer** relocated to Baton Rouge,



LA. **Marey Wofford** is now living in Athens, GA. **C.S. Kopcsak** from Dewey, AZ, to Forth Worth, TX. **Yvonne Nauss** (925-695-4313) moved back to the Bay Area in Pittsburg, CA, after living 17 years in Las Vegas. **Ed Doody** relocated to 17744 Gray

Moss Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70817 post Katrina.



Happy Anniversary. Polly and **Daniel Nickel** (Piedmont, CA) have observed 61 wonderful years of marriage and soon will see 62 together in Oc-

tober. Mr. & Mrs. **J.P. Lafond** (Buena Park, CA) celebrated their 55th anniversary. Carolyn and **Bobby Tucker** of Savannah, GA, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at a resort in Bonita Springs, FL, with their children and families. **Virginia Thiesies** and her husband of Spokane, WA, enjoyed their 50th anniversary with their children and families in Caribou Park, BC. Mr. and Mrs. **Howard Nelson** (Alamo, CA) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary and Howard's 71st birthday with a family reunion in Hawaii. **Rita Avery** and her husband of San Leandro, CA, enjoyed their 35th anniversary. Congratulations to all you love birds.

Happy Birthday. A huge party of family and friends was thrown for the 90th birthday celebration of **Julius Fandal** (Slidell, LA). Last year, they roasted a pig for **Ellis Franklin Rush** of Lakewood, CO. No telling what will be served at his 91st birthday this month.

Happy Hour. **Harry Wittrock** (Santa Rosa, CA) fondly thinks of Kaiser Aluminum when he imbibes in a nightly happy hour, using a company logo-imprinted gold jigger. **Rosemary Pimentel** (San Leandro, CA) helps friends by driving them to doctor appointments and shopping for groceries. Surviving spouse **Eva Torrice** (Paradise, CA) continues to volunteer at the care facility where her late spouse Robert was well cared for. **Doris Folkman** of Reno, NV, traveled for 24 days by land and sea from China to Singapore, enjoying wonderful shopping in Hong Kong and Bangkok. Condolences to **Howard Ferreira** of Pleasanton, CA, whose wife, Doris, passed away in January.

Jed's Letter - continued from page 1

■ After some unexpected delays, the VEBA completed three separate 2006 benefit materials mailings. One, to previously excluded COBRA individuals; another, to all other eligible but not yet enrolled individuals; and a third, to enrolled participants. By the time you read this letter, you should have received one of the mailings. **If you have not received your benefit materials or if you have any questions once you receive them, please contact the Plan Administrator: Professional Insurance Consultants, Inc., P. O. Box 4026, Concord, CA 94524. Telephone: 800/339-3479 (in California only) or 925/798-2550 (outside of California). E-mail: vebaplan@proadministrators.com.**

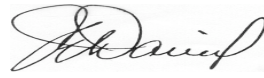
■ A final note on the VEBA. **There is absolutely no reason not to join.** So, if you have not, I urge you to do so. Only by joining can you be eligible to receive reimbursements such as the up-to-\$1,500 declared for 2006.

Now, for some concluding thoughts. When I first came on the KASRA Board six years ago, few if any thought the company would go into bankruptcy in less than two years. But it did, with the result that retiree medical and life insurance benefits were terminated. During this time, your Board, past members of the Board, the Official Retirees' Committee, and the VEBA Trustees have worked to do everything they could to represent and protect your interests. The stock ownership and the VEBA and the benefits it will provide are a result of these efforts. None of this would have been achieved without the existence of a strong membership organization like KASRA and the support you have provided.

It has been a privilege to be associated with the many who volunteered endless hours to bring us to where we are today. It also has been a pleasure and privilege to visit with so many of you - in person and over the phone. My thanks to all of you. Although I and others who have served six years (two terms) are term-limited off the board, I will continue to be available to the board if and as called upon.

A new president and other officers will be elected at KASRA's annual meeting in September. Your association is in good hands and deserves your continued input and support.

Best wishes,



Jed Daniel

In Memoriam

Frank R. Aguillard - Ventress, LA

William H. Allen - Brandon, MS

Raymond Bessette - Winter Haven, FL

John A. "Jack" Bickel - Newark, OH

Marshall Nichols "Ned" Bradley -
Mead, WA

Howard L. Bridges - Oakland, CA

Edward M. Carson - Erie, PA

Thomas R. Connolly - San Ramon, CA

Earlie C. Cook - Vance, AL

Robert "Bob" L. Dittmar -
Ravenswood, WV

David W. "Dave" Goldsmith -
Baton Rouge, LA

Kenneth A. Hoffman - Gretna, LA

Donald J. Juneau - Lacombe, LA

Lewis F. Mace - Tucson, AZ

Joseph "Buck" Marino - Baton Rouge, LA

Thomas Newhart - Mulberry, TN

Joseph D. Sullivan - Spokane, WA

Howard P. Taylor - Cottageville, WV

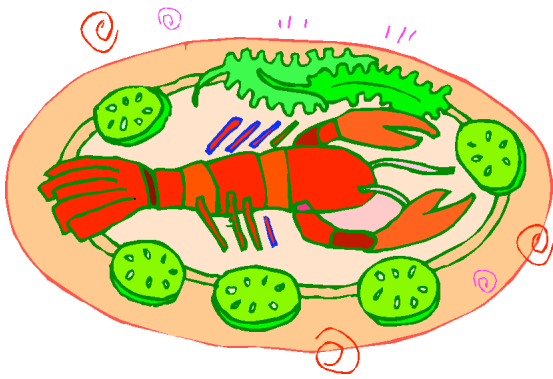
William E. Vogt - Spokane, WA

William F. Zook - Sylvania, OH

Send KASRA Your News

Write us your news, travels, stories, KASRA obituaries. Send a note to Mark Murray, Editor, KASRA News, 2471 San Miguel Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 or email mamwmipr@aol.com.

Telephone: 925-932-6050



The Lunch Bunch

Sept. 4 Los Angeles (So. CA)

Noon at The Elephant Bar, 14303 E. Firestone Blvd., La Mirada. Norm Manger (310) 377-2135 email normmanger@cox.net. (Meetings held the 1st Monday of each month)

Sept. 6 Ravenswood

12 noon at Cedar Lakes. Call Dave Whitman (304) 273-5548 or email dwhitman@wirefire.com

Sept. 7 Baton Rouge

Lunch at noon at Mansur's 5720 Corporate Blvd. Call Bob Eisenbach (225) 926-1334 bobeisenbach@cox.net (Baton Rouge meets 1st Thursday of each month)

Sept. 14 Mead

11:30 a.m. Lunch at Cathay Inn on North Division St. Contact Phil Marksbury at pjmarksb@comcast.net. (Mead meets 2nd Thursday of each month)

Sept. 19 Chalmette

11:30 a.m. Doors open for Luncheon at Bealer's, Slidell, 348 Robert Blvd. (Restaurant 985-649-1805). All KASRA retirees and spouses invited.. Call Sherman Faught at (Cell 985- 290-8617). Or email Chuck Schimmel at schimcol@aol.com

Sept. 20 Erie

Lunch at 1:00 p.m., Lake Shore Country Club. Call Tim Healy at (814) 474-3536 fax (814) 474-2700 thealy@velocity.net. (Erie meets 3rd Wednesday of each month)

Sept. 21 Trentwood

11:00 a.m. at Valley Eagles, 16810 E. Sprague, Veradale. Del McKinley (509) 924-3077 or at delmckinl@aol.com or Jan Gorman (509) 926-5476 or at jandon10@aol.com (Trentwood meets 3rd Thursday of each month)

Oct. 7 Bay Minette, AL

All former Bay Minette employees, salaried and hourly are invited to meet at Fire Mountain Restaurant in Spanish Fort, AL, at 5.p.m. Contact Carl Holland at 251-937-9737; Freddie Hosey 251-456-1267; or Betty Wilson 251-610-5611.

Oct. 16 Newark

11 a.m. at Stacy's Hometown Buffet in Heath, Ohio. Contact Bob Abel (740) 323-2268 or email rpabel@alltel.net. (Newark meets 3rd Tuesday of every other month)

Dec. 4 Bay Area K.A.R.L.A.

11 a.m. Elks Club, 1475 Creekside Dr., Walnut Creek. October meeting cancelled. Call Al Matthews at (925) 930-8243.

Dec. 6 Tacoma

Noon, Tacoma Elks Lodge, 1965 South Union. Contact Bob Mohr at (253) 820-6569 or bobjanetmohr@comcast.net.

Dec. (TBA) Bristol

11:45 a.m., The Wharf Restaurant. Call Carol Cook (401) 253-4251 or John Carre at (401) 247-2199

