

KASRA

July 2004

Email: news@e-kasra.com



Retiree News

Dear Fellow Retiree:

It's an understatement to say that we've been through a lot the past couple of years. Benefits that we hoped would last a lifetime, didn't. Promises that were made were broken. The fact that retirees of a number of other companies were experiencing similar outcomes was of little comfort. Through all of this – as unsettling and difficult as it has been – your support, encouragement, and constructive criticism have been sources of strength.

Although Kaiser Aluminum has terminated our retiree medical, prescription drug, and life insurance benefits, KASRA and/or the Official Retirees' Committee will continue to represent retirees and surviving spouses in dealings with the company and the bankruptcy court. KASRA also will continue to serve as a communications vehicle, sharing information you need to know and have indicated you want to know.

In this regard, I want to make sure you are informed about the progress made on prescription drug coverage and the formation of the Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees VEBA.

Prescription Drug Plan

Although we were unable to find a full group medical benefits plan which was significantly better than what you could obtain on your own, we have identified a group prescription drug plan that may be of interest. You already should have received an initial communication on this program, which – if enough people enroll in it – will be provided, effective August 1, 2004, through PRAM Insurance Services, Inc. and ACE American Insurance Company, an "A" rated insurance

carrier. All retirees/surviving spouses over or under 65 are eligible. If, after examining the program, you decide to participate, you must enroll during the initial 30-day enrollment period; no subsequent enrollment period will be available.

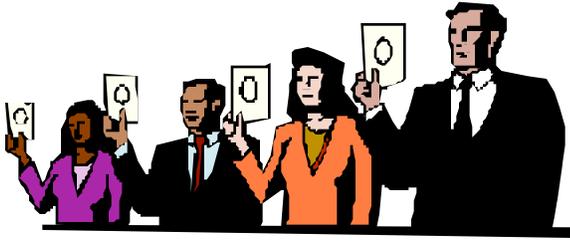
KASRA does not sponsor this prescription drug program. Only you can decide whether it fits your needs. If you have selected the COBRA option offered by the company (which includes drug coverage) you will not be interested in this program. However, the PRAM/ACE program may make good economic sense if, for example, you do not have drug coverage and you use several generic prescription drugs. It would provide at least some drug coverage until January 2006, when the Medicare drug program is due to go into effect. KASRA's purpose in bringing the program to your attention is to provide you an alternative to meet your prescription drug needs.

Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees VEBA

The Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees VEBA was created as of May 31, 2004, for the purpose of providing medical benefits to salaried retirees. The VEBA is a type of trust that is formed and operated under the Internal Revenue Code and under ERISA. It allows employers to make contributions to the VEBA on a tax-deductible basis and allows the VEBA to reimburse medical insurance premiums or pay for medical benefits for retirees on a pre-tax basis.

The Official Retirees' Committee elected to create a separate VEBA for salaried retirees rather than to operate a VEBA jointly with Kaiser Aluminum and the United Steelworkers of America for both hourly and
(continued on back page)

VOTE NOW FOR KASRA DIRECTORS



It's that time of year again . . . time to cast votes for KASRA directors. Three new directors are to be elected to the KASRA Board for three-year terms. In addition, the initial three-year terms of four current directors will expire and they have been nominated and have agreed to stand for election to a second, three-year term.

Enclosed in this issue of KASRA Retiree News are brief biographies of the three new nominees and a ballot and reply envelope for your use in voting. The deadline for receiving your ballot is August 15, so please return your completed ballot now.

The new nominees are:

Carol Brown, who retired as a senior accountant in 2000 after 35 years of Kaiser service. Her accounting experience included stints in accounts payable, accounts receivable, and financial accounting. Carol continues to serve as an active director of the Kaiser Lakeside Credit Union.

Joanne Cunningham, who retired in 2003 after 23 years of Kaiser service, the first 15 of which were in public relations. After PR, she moved to the information technology group for several years and, in 2000, she became a benefits administrator, working with the active salaried and retiree groups.

Dan Dahlen, who retired in 2000 after 15 years of legal service to various Kaiser businesses, including primary products, technical sales, Kaiser International, purchasing, and real estate. Dan now maintains his own law office in Moraga, CA.

Two of these three seats will open due to term limits which apply to Janet Mangini and Jack States, both of whom were first elected in 1998. The third is open due to Dave Perry's resignation from the Board in or-

der to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Employees Beneficiary Association (VEBA), which is being formed.

The four current directors who have been nominated for election to a second (and final) three-year term are:

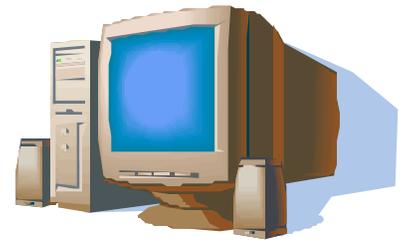
Sharon Fraetis
John Lullo

David Geary
Karen Wessenberg

So, please remember, complete your ballot now and return it to KASRA.

HELPFUL HINTS FOR KASRA E-MAIL USERS

We need your help to ensure that you continue to receive communications from KASRA. We have found that e-mail be-



ing sent to some KASRA members is being returned for a number of reasons, including:

Mail box full: When this occurs, you will miss the mailing. We do not try to resend the mail. Most service providers try to resend the messages a few times before returning a "mail box full" message to the sender. You should ensure that there is sufficient space in your e-mail box to accommodate additional e-mail. Be sure that when mail is downloaded from your Internet Service Provider's (ISP's) mail server, your mail is deleted from the mail server. Check with your ISP if you are not sure this is happening.

KASRA e-mail blocked by the retiree: When this occurs, there is no way we can communicate with you since all e-mail is rejected and returned to KASRA. We remove the address from our records and notify you via the USPO that you must clear the block for KASRA's e-mail to go through. This may require you to ask the ISP for instructions on clearing the blocked e-mails. In other cases, the KASRA e-mail address should be included in your address book. These are the addresses that we use: news@e-kasra.com and kasra@e-kasra.com. After the block is cleared, send your e-mail address to KASRA advising us that the

block is cleared and that your e-mail address needs to be added to KASRA's records.

Bad e-mail address: The e-mail is returned to KASRA because of a bad e-mail address. We remove the e-mail address from our records and notify you via the USPO that your e-mail address is no longer valid. Please be sure to keep KASRA advised of your current e-mail address.

Attachments & Adobe PDF Format: If you run into problems with attachments and the PDF-formatted files that we occasionally send, please contact one of our volunteers who will be most happy to assist you.

Silicon Connections: We want to acknowledge the continuing contribution of Silicon Connections, which has generously provided KASRA with all of the service of a first class Internet Services Provider. Dan Dahlen, a salaried retiree, arranged for the services with his son Mark who, at a young age, started a company that today offers full Internet services including, web site design and DSL high-speed connections.

SOUR MASH GOLF TOURNEY RESULTS

The San Francisco Bay Area-based Kaiser Aluminum Retirees and Friends (KARAF) Golf Club held the annual Sour Mash event in May at the Oakmoore Country Club in Stockton. Of 44 players, 27 were Kaiser Aluminum retirees and spouses. **Jim McKnight** won low gross with a score of 79 on the difficult course. Barbara and **Bob Irelan** teamed with Colleen and **David Geary** to win the team event. (The same group won the Couples championship at Sweetwater Country Club in Sugarland, Texas, in 1994). Jim McKnight had the longest drive. **Carol Brown** was longest of the ladies. **Jim Todhunter** was closest to the hole, just inches away. Barbara Irelan was closest of the ladies. **Steve Booth**, assisted by **Jed Daniel** and David Geary, organized the event.



WHAT'S GOING ON

Trentwood retiree **Orville Benjamin** of Coeur D'Alene, ID, likes working with stained glass and collecting coins. He visits Hawaii every couple years. Speaking of Hawaii, **Sherry Hellyer** of Ravenswood, WV, recently returned from a visit there. Sherry, widow of Homer Hellyer, invites retirees to stop in at the Hair Shack in Ravenswood, where she is a stylist. **Margareta Sullivan** of Alameda, CA, enjoys sewing and may visit Panama later this year. Condolences to Margareta for the loss of her husband in February.

The rain in Spain....**Doris Sutnick** (King City, OR) teaches public speaking to school children. Doris also likes to collect old records, 78 RPM speed. She has some from the 1940's, 1950's and a few Boston Pops records, too. On the mend - **James Fickle** of Henderson, NV, had triple bypass surgery.



Doug Mann (Orinda, CA) and his wife enjoyed a long vacation that included a trip to Venice, a cruise through the Mediterranean and time in London.

What's more, the Mann's daughters and their husbands also joined them. The wife of **Robert Torrice** of Paradise, CA, writes that she volunteers regularly at the Sun Bridge convalescent home where Robert is staying and receiving such good care. Condolences to **David Martin** of Humboldt, TN, whose wife, June, passed away after a sudden, brief illness.

Columbiana Refractories retiree **Joe Moore** and his wife Amy of Sun City, AZ, enjoyed a back to back visit to Mexico via a cruise and Costa Rica on a nature tour, where they saw tons of birds, flora, fauna, crocodiles and more. Best to **Maxcine Gibson** (Doraville, GA) who fell and shattered her left arm last summer and was awaiting results of other medical concerns. Surviving spouse **Joyce Wilkinson** of St. George, UT, enjoys making quilts for her church's humanitarian outreach.

What's Going On cont.

Happy 45th Anniversary to Angie and **Joe Cavanaugh** (Veradale, WA), who traveled with Marian and **Larry Edwards** (Royal Palm Beach, FL) to Australia and New Zealand in the spring.

Wedding bells rang again for **Scott Walker** (Walnut Creek, CA) and Marcella Willis, whom he met at church a couple years ago. Scott plays golf and volunteers at Kaiser Hospital ER.



Chalmette and Gramercy retirees **Althea Haywood, Miriam Page, Yvonne Davis and Joycelyn Hyman** got together over lunch and shared stories about grandchildren and more. They talked so much they closed the restaurant down and were locked inside! And speaking of Chalmette, that lunch bunch is taking on a life of its own. The May event drew 60 retirees and their spouses, says **Sherman Faught** of Slidell, LA. He's set the next date for July 22nd and invites all KASRA retirees to join them. See the Lunch Bunch for details.

A group of Kaiser Chemical retirees and their spouses got together at the home of Carol and **Rowe Huggins** in Hot Springs, AK. They included Pat and **Lee Avers** (The Villages, FL), Yvonne and **Craig Borlinghaus** (Downington, PA), Gale and **Phil Castaldi** (McKinney, TX), Gail and **John Knipp** (North Tonawanda, NY), Alice and **Bob LeValley** (Cornelius, NC), Nancy and **Kirk McVean** (Walnut Creek, CA), Marlowe and **Woody Sorensen** (Scottsdale, AZ), and Gerrie and **Roger Triemstra**



(Highland, IN) along with loyal Kaiser customer **Marv Meiowitz** and wife Elizabeth (Wayne, NJ). **Ed Doyle** joined the group for golf, and the rest of the weekend was spent boating, eating, talking, laughing and sharing good company. Woody writes: sales people always have lots of good stories!

Habla Espanol? Marshall Murray, son of **Roberta Wong Murray** (Walnut Creek, CA), is in Nicaragua and Venezuela this summer, playing baseball for Athletes In Action. He attends Marshall University, Huntington, WV on a baseball scholarship.

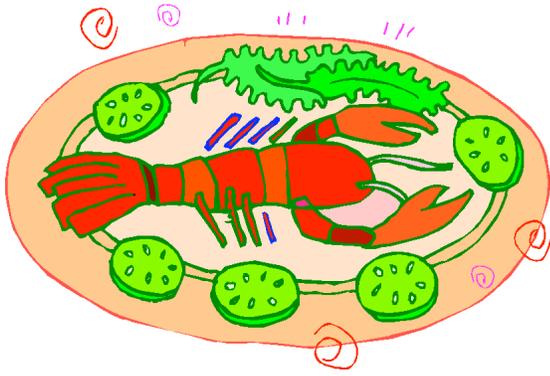


Roberta and Marshall

Mail Your Ballot in Today

Send KASRA Your News

Our sources are depleted! Write us your news, travels, stories... humorous tales welcome. Send a note to Editor, KASRA News, 2471 San Miguel Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 or email wmipr@aol.com. Okay to send jpeg photos, but please be sure to write KASRA News in subject line or they will not be opened.



The Lunch Bunch

July 8 Mead

11:30 a.m. Lunch Cathay Inn on North Division St.
Call Joe Fife (509) 466-9155 ajjfife@aol.com or Phil Marksbury at pjmarksb@comcast.net.

July 12 Los Angeles (So. CA)

Noon at The Elephant Bar, 14303 E. Firestone Blvd.,
La Mirada. Norm Manger (310) 377-2135 email
normanger@cox.net.

July 22 Chalmette

1 p.m. Luncheon at Salvaggio's, Slidell on Highway 11
(Ponchatrain Drive). All KASRA retirees and spouses
invited. Ron Chapman, history instructor at Nunez
Community College, will be seeking information to put
together a history of Chalmette. Call Sherman Faught
at (985) 642-6121.

July 23 Ravenswood

Luncheon 1 pm at Cedar Lakes. Call Dave Whitman
(304) 273-5548 or email dwhitman@wirefire.com

July 27 Newark

11:30 a.m. Luncheon, Stacey's Hometown Inn. Guest
speaker from the Department of Veterans Affairs.
Call Bob Abel at (740) 323-2268 or rpabel@alltel.net

August 2 Los Angeles (So. CA)

Noon at The Elephant Bar, 14303 E. Firestone Blvd.,
La Mirada. Norm Manger (310) 377-2135 email
normanger@cox.net

August Bristol

Contact John Carre (401) 247-2199 for specific date
and details.

August 5 Baton Rouge

Lunch at noon at the Louisiana Culinary Institute, Es-
sen Lane. Call Bob Lister (225) 272-2886 or Bob
Eisenbach (225) 926-1334 bobeisenbach@cox.net

August 12 Mead

11:30 a.m. Lunch Cathay Inn on North Division St.
Call Joe Fife (509) 466-9155 ajjfife@aol.com or Phil
Marksbury at pjmarksb@comcast.net.

Texas

Please contact Cathy Peterson Eaton at (972) 562-
2352 or email Cathypeaton1@comcast.net



**KAISER ALUMINUM SALARIED RETIREES
ASSOCIATION
OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS
(As of July 2004)**

Officers:

John E. (Jed) Daniel, President
Jack J. States, Secretary
Art Donaldson, Treasurer

Directors:

John Billups*
Donna Buster
John A. Carre*
John E. (Jed) Daniel
Art Donaldson
Robert L. (Bob) Eisenbach, Jr.*
Sharon Fraetis
David Geary
Joanne Gutierrez
Robert W. Irelan
Karl J. Klason*
Dick Kauffman
Alan Longmuir
John Lullo
Norman A. Manger*
Janet A. Mangini
Kirk D. McVean
Ron Radakovich
Ron Rhody
Steve Ringwood
Jack J. States
Janet Vogelgesang
Karen Wessenberg
David (Dave) Whitman*

*Indicates Directors in plant cities or regions outside
of SF Bay Area

NOTE: Directors Janet Mangini and Jack States will
go off the Board later this year due to term limits.
Nominated to become new Directors are: Carol
Brown, Joanne Cunningham, and Dan Dahlen.

IN MEMORIAM

Donald Browne - Pebble Beach, CA
Donald Burbank - Newman Lake, WA
Robert M. Cole - Spokane, WA
Winston H. Cundiff, Jr. - Baton Rouge, LA
Harold Dios - Salinas, CA
Thomas Farley - Deland, FL
H. Edgerly "Ed" Gessler - Oakland, CA
Lowden Hanselman - Walnut Creek, CA
James Hess - San Ramon, CA
Robert Hickey - Virginia Beach, VA
Herbert "Mike" Kelly - Kila, MT
Jerry Kenney - Mitchell, IN
Joseph M. Malkewick - Veradale, WA
William McGee - Jacksonville Beach, FL
Ernest Moore - Midville, GA
Ronald Mulligan - Union Mills, IN
John Nutt - Oakland, CA
Robert Patterson - Fresno, CA
George Richards - N. Saunich, Wales
Claude Ricketts - Pickerington, OH
Donald A. Rossworn - Spokane, WA
A. H. "Hank" Schroeder - Spokane, WA
Hugh L. Seney - Loon Lake, WA
James W. Shaffer - Oakland, CA
Steve Stanga - Ponchatoula, LA
Eugene Starr - Savannah, GA
Jerry Steele - Hollister, CA
Henry "Arthur" Will - Columbus, GA
Emmett Williams - Covington, LA
Royce Williams - Baton Rouge, LA
Arthur Wilson - Houston, TX
Raymond J. Wright - Warren, OH

KASRA recently learned of these retirees passing in
2003:

Maurine Nottingham - Oakland, CA
Marius Sydor - Minerva, OH

The **KASRA** Board of Directors extends its deepest
sympathy to the families at the loss of their loved
ones.

salaried retirees. The Official Retirees' Committee nominated Douglas G. Allen, James B. Hobby, and David L. Perry to serve as the initial Trustees of the Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees VEBA. Under the terms of the settlement with Kaiser Aluminum as approved by the Bankruptcy Court, salaried retirees with a credited service date prior to February 1, 2002, their surviving spouses and eligible dependents who do not elect COBRA continuation coverage will be eligible to receive benefits from the VEBA. The Trustees of the VEBA may or may not extend VEBA benefits in the future to individuals who elect COBRA continuation coverage.

The VEBA Trustees adopted a Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees VEBA Plan that provides for the reimbursement of premiums paid to obtain medical, prescription drug, dental and/or vision care benefits under a health care policy or plan. Reimbursable premiums would include premiums for Medicare Part B, but would not include co-payments or any payments of co-insurance or deductible amounts. Details concerning the Plan will be sent to salaried retirees later in the year. The Plan depends entirely upon the proposed funding of the VEBA Trust by Kaiser Aluminum. An outline of the proposed funding arrangements is contained in the Official Retirees' Committee letter of February 4, 2004, to salaried retirees.

The value of the Kaiser Aluminum funding arrangements is highly speculative. It depends upon a successful reorganization of the company, a return to profitability, and operational success in the years to come. The amount of cash that the VEBA may have available for the payment of benefits, if any, may vary substantially from year to year. Salaried retirees should not expect the VEBA to provide regular benefits, if any, or to provide benefits in any case that are comparable or equivalent to the medical benefits that were terminated as of May 31, 2004. Salaried retirees should therefore not count on receiving such benefits and should plan accordingly.

Election . . . and Dues Renewal

This issue of KASRA Retiree News includes the following inserts.

One of them is a ballot for the election of three new KASRA directors and the re-election of four current directors. Please fill out the ballot at your earliest convenience and return it in the envelope that is provided. (Those of you who receive this newsletter by e-mail will also receive a copy by mail so that you can vote in the same manner; we are not equipped to accommodate e-mail voting.)

For those of you who have not already paid your KASRA dues, we have included a letter and a dues-enrollment form. We appreciate the support you have provided in the past and we continue to need it.

In a future issue, we will be asking for your input on the content of KASRA Retiree News. We want to make sure we are providing the kind of publication you want.

Our Thanks

This letter would be incomplete if I didn't express heartfelt appreciation to Janet Mangini, Jack States, and Dave Perry. Janet and Jack are completing six years of dedicated service on the KASRA Board of Directors. Both have given generously of their time and talents. Term limits preclude their continuing to serve as directors, but both have very kindly agreed to continue to help wherever and whenever needed.

Dave Perry, who would have been eligible to serve another three years on the board, resigned several weeks ago so that he could serve as a VEBA Trustee. Dave's advice, counsel, and tireless energy have been invaluable as we have worked our way through the company's bankruptcy process. The great news is that retirees will have Dave's continued expertise and commitment in his role as a VEBA Trustee. So, KASRA's loss is VEBA's gain.

I seem to close each of these letters with the words, "We'll continue to keep you informed." We aim to do just that.



Jed Daniel
President