

# KASRA

## July 2005

Email: [news@e-kasra.com](mailto:news@e-kasra.com)



# Retiree News

## Dear Fellow Retiree:

There are several items to cover in this issue of Retiree News.

First, an update on the VEBA Trust. The VEBA Trustees expect to mail out enrollment and benefit forms to all eligible retirees and surviving spouses around the end of July. To help ensure that you receive these materials, please advise KASRA - if you have not already done so - of any recent change of mailing address. KASRA is assisting the VEBA Trust to update the records of eligible retirees and surviving spouses furnished to the Trust by Kaiser last year after Kaiser ceased maintaining those records for retirees who retired prior to May 31, 2004. A point of clarification: Eligibility for the VEBA Plan is basically the same as that for retiree benefits under the Kaiser Retirement Plan (KRP). Therefore, only those retirees and surviving spouses who were eligible to receive retiree medical benefits from Kaiser under KRP or who would have been eligible if Kaiser had not terminated those benefits will be receiving the VEBA mailing.

As you know from my May newsletter message and previous communications, so long as the company remains in Chapter 11 reorganization, it is obliged to make advances of \$300,000 per month to the VEBA Trust. If the company emerges from bankruptcy before it has made advances totaling \$5,220,000, it is obligated to contribute the unpaid balance on emergence to the extent it can. If the company has made advances of more than \$5,220,000 before it emerges from bankruptcy, the excess contributions will be credited and offset against future profit-sharing contributions, if any. Including an initial \$200,000 advance payment, the advances to the Trust through June total \$4,100,000. The funds are being deposited by the Trustees in the Union Bank of California and are earning interest.

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## VOTE NOW FOR KASRA DIRECTORS

Now is the time to cast your votes for KASRA directors. Two 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 agreed to stand for election to a second, three-year term. All directors serve voluntarily.

Enclosed in this issue of KASRA Retiree News are brief biographies of the two new nominees, a ballot, and a reply envelope for your use in voting. The deadline for receiving ballots is August 15, so please cast your votes as soon as possible.

The two new nominees are:

### Steve Abernathy

Steve transferred to Kaiser Aluminum's Corporate Engineering Department in Oakland in 1978 after six years with Kaiser Engineers. He held various energy- and technology-related positions, the most recent of which was Northwest Energy Planning in Spokane. Steve retired from Kaiser Aluminum in 2002 and relocated back to the Bay Area the following year.

### Carlos Xavier

Carlos joined Kaiser Aluminum in 1968 as an internal auditor and, from then until his retirement in 1999, held various controllership positions in Oakland and Jamaica. He was Financial Director for the Alpart and Kaiser Jamaica Bauxite Company operations. Carlos and his wife, Ann, live in Walnut Creek, CA.

The four current directors who have been nominated to stand for election to a second, three-year term are: Dick Kauffman, Alan Longmuir, Ron Radakovich, and Steve Ringwood. Donna Buster, whose initial term also is expiring, opted not to stand for election to a second term because she is working full time.

## What's Going On

Sounds like a handy man to have around the home.

**Dean A. Gressley** of Huntington, IN, not only does gardening and mowing, he is an able mechanic who does work on garden tractors. Doesn't say whether he fixes just his own or fixes up the neighbors', too.



Oakland retiree **Willemina Bosch** (Santa Rosa, CA) is between trips. She was in Medford, OR, visiting friends last month and next month plans to visit Holland. Willemina is a volunteer at Canine Companions.

Oakland retiree and resident **Mary Rhodes** got some great news the other day. Her humorous manuscript entitled "Dysfunctional Musings" has been accepted by a literary agent for publishing. Surviving spouse **Evelyn Fulcher** (Fairfield, IA) just loves to sightsee and take in the beautiful homes located in a suburb of Pittsburgh, PA. Evelyn belongs to the literature group of a women's club which tells us she's an avid reader.

Happy Anniversary. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. **Peter DiPalma** of Bristol, RI, who celebrated their 65th anniversary with family and friends last month. The couple also dotes on their two great grandchildren. Claire and **John H. Gesser, Jr.**, of Mandeville, LA, were married 60 years on May 30. Mary and **Walter Winschell** of Vero Beach, FL, celebrated their 50th anniversary by traveling on Amtrak from the Chicago area to San Francisco. And Carol and **George Nolta** of Citrus Heights, CA, celebrated their 50th anniversary on Kauai. How romantic. Best wishes to all you love birds.



feels good that he's able to help people become

Drop down and give me ten. Gramercy retiree **Anthony W. Alise Sr.** of Gonzales, LA, works at a health club as an instructor and manager. At 72 years young, Anthony

physically fit. Savannah retiree and resident **John B. Connor** is also a retired USAF Colonel who is a docent at the 8th Air Force Heritage Museum. The colonel likes to help retired people and the disabled.

World traveler **Dudley J. Aldous** (Santa Cruz, CA) has completed a 62-day voyage which began in Vancouver and visited many ports including Alaska, Aleutian Islands, Russia, China, Japan, Midway and Hawaii before returning home aboard the Seven Seas Mariner. Erie retiree **Al Vogel** (Flagstaff, AZ) writes that he and wife Maralyn enjoyed the past ski season with the grandchildren at the Arizona Snowbowl Ski Resort, which received a record 460 inches of snowfall that allowed skiing through April. This fall, the Vogels are heading to Scranton, PA, for a visit with Al's brothers and their wives at one of the brother's hunting camp in the Endless Mountains.

It must have been non-stop celebrating for Ravenswood retiree and resident **Bill Fleming** and his wife Rowena. Four grandchildren received college degrees and another grandchild graduated from high school. Our sincere condolences to Trentwood retiree **Janet Prendergast** of Spokane, WA, on the passing of her husband, Johan.



## KAISER CENTER RESOLD

Just two years after it was purchased by Summit Commercial Properties of Los Angeles for a reported \$100 million, the former Oakland, CA, headquarters for Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation, Kaiser Center, has been sold for reportedly \$200 million to Swig Properties of San Francisco. Current tenants of the 913,000 square foot, 28-story Kaiser Building include Bay Area Rapid Transit, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and the University of CA Board of Regents.

The Kaiser Building was constructed in 1960. The architect, Welton Becket, created the curving masterpiece along Lake Merritt. The building was distinctive not only for its design but also for its 3.5-acre rooftop park, which at the time it opened was the largest of its kind in the world.

## Fellow Retiree (continued from page one)

That's where things stand with respect to the VEBA. KASRA and the separately established VEBA Trust will continue to keep you informed. With respect to other matters of interest:

Prescription Drug Program: KASRA has been advised by PRAM Insurance Services that, effective August 1, the prescription drug program it had offered last summer to retirees and surviving spouses will be discontinued. Only 107 retirees/surviving spouses signed up for the coverage. Since then, the number of enrollees has declined to 71. Under the terms of the policy, PRAM determined there was not enough participation to justify continuing the coverage. Individuals who enrolled in the plan already should have received a notice of non-renewal from PRAM or the underwriter, Ace American Insurance Company.

Kaiser Aluminum's Reorganization: As reported previously, the company expects to emerge from bankruptcy sometime in the fourth quarter of this year. Kaiser recently reported it was profitable in the first quarter of 2005. It also said it has reached agreement with the United Steelworkers' union on a new, five-year labor agreement. The details on these announcements and other company news can be found on Kaiser's web site, [www.kaiseraluminum.com](http://www.kaiseraluminum.com).

Election of KASRA Directors: Enclosed with this issue of the newsletter are: biographical information on two new nominees for election to the KASRA board, a ballot which also includes the names of current directors who are nominated for a second term, and an envelope for your use in mailing your completed ballots. KASRA directors all serve voluntarily, so we appreciate their willingness to do so. Please take the time while you are reading this issue to complete your ballot and put it in the mail.

KASRA Membership Dues: For those of you who have not already paid your \$15 KASRA dues, we have included a letter and a dues-enrollment form. We appreciate your continued support because it allows us to represent your interests and communicate news which affects you.

That's all for now. Be on the lookout for the mailing from the VEBA Trust.



Jed Daniel  
President

## In Memoriam

Earl C. Beatty - Pocatello, ID  
Dorothy A. Chini - Millwood, WV  
Rosa Lea Daughtry - Tybee Island, CA  
Martin J. Heimes - Savannah, GA  
Edna J. Howell - Spokane, WA  
David A. Janke - Spokane, WA  
Frank Jurena - Town & Country, MO  
William J. Ryan - W. Jefferson, NC  
Margaret B. Sampson - Spokane, WA  
Frank J. Ulijohn - Spokane, WA  
F. Leon Wilson - Ravenswood, WV

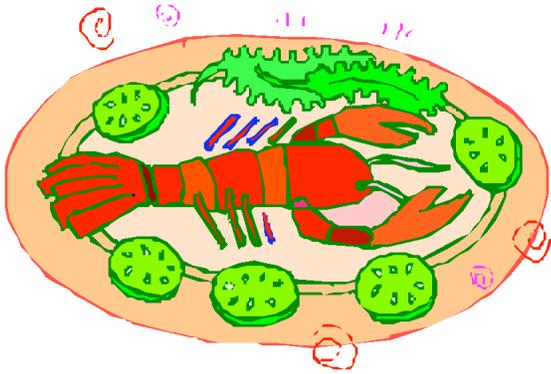
The KASRA Board of Directors expresses its deepest sympathy to families and loved ones.

KASRA is no longer receiving information from Kaiser Aluminum or EBDS regarding the deaths of salaried retirees. Often, when an obituary appears in the local newspaper, there may be an electronic version on the newspaper's website as well. Sometimes, the web site will include an electronic guest book where friends may send email messages of sympathy and condolences to the families. If you become aware of such notices, or know of the passing of a colleague, please send this information to Editor, KASRA News, 2471 San Miguel Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 or email [wmipr@aol.com](mailto:wmipr@aol.com).



## PLEASE SEND KASRA YOUR NEWS

Write us your news, travels, stories... humorous tales welcome. Electronic photos are accepted in jpeg files. Just be sure to note you are a KASRA retiree in the subject line, however, or they will not be opened. Write to KASRA News, 2471 San Miguel Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94596 or [wmipr@aol.com](mailto:wmipr@aol.com).



## The Lunch Bunch

### July 7 Baton Rouge

Lunch at noon at Mansur's on Corporate Blvd. Call Bob Eisenbach (225) 926-1334 [bobeisenbach@cox.net](mailto:bobeisenbach@cox.net)

### July 11 Los Angeles (So. CA)

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

### July 14 Mead

11:30 a.m. Lunch at Cathay Inn on North Division St. Call Joe Fife (509) 466-9155 [ajjfife@aol.com](mailto:ajjfife@aol.com) or Phil Marksburly at 509-325-1798 or [pjmarksb@comcast.net](mailto:pjmarksb@comcast.net).

### July 22 Ravenswood

Luncheon at Cedar Lakes 1 pm. For information, call Dave Whitman (304) 273-5548 or email [dwhitman@wirefire.com](mailto:dwhitman@wirefire.com)

### August 1 Los Angeles (So. CA)

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

### August 4 Baton Rouge

Lunch at noon at Mansur's on Corporate Blvd. Call Bob Eisenbach (225) 926-1334 [bobeisenbach@cox.net](mailto:bobeisenbach@cox.net)

### August 11 Mead

11:30 a.m. Lunch at Cathay Inn on North Division St. Call Joe Fife (509) 466-9155 [ajjfife@aol.com](mailto:ajjfife@aol.com) or Phil Marksburly at 509-325-1798 or [pjmarksb@comcast.net](mailto:pjmarksb@comcast.net).

### August 16 Newark

11:30 a.m. Lunch at Stacey's Hometown Buffet. Previous meeting speaker provided valuable information on Medicare part d (drugs). Call Bob Abel at (740) 323-2268 or [rpabel@alltel.net](mailto:rpabel@alltel.net)

### August 18 Chalmette

1 p.m. Luncheon at Salvaggio's, Slidell on Highway 11 (Ponchartrain Drive). June's gathering brought together 48 retirees and spouses. All KASRA retirees and spouses as well as visiting KASRA retirees are welcome. Call Sherman Faught at (985) 641-6121 or email Chuck Schimmel at [schimcol@aol.com](mailto:schimcol@aol.com).

### Texas

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

