

KASRA**July 2007**Email: news@e-kasra.com

Retiree News

Dear Fellow Retiree:

One of **KASRA**'s major efforts over the past couple of years has been to get information about the VEBA benefits to all salaried retirees and surviving spouses who are eligible for medical premium reimbursements. Once retirees have the information and understand fully their entitlement to the benefit, they can decide whether they want to take advantage of it. However, a point I keep making is that there is no reason not to enroll in the VEBA; only after enrolling can a person apply for the reimbursements they likely are entitled to receive. Currently 82% of our retirees have signed up for the VEBA benefit. This month we are sending a letter to all those who have not yet enrolled, once again reminding them to review the possible benefits that are available to them. A copy of that letter is included in this Newsletter. Our goal is to make sure that everyone who is eligible for VEBA benefits is reached. So, if you know any retirees who have not signed up for the VEBA, please share this letter with them.

Many people have asked what the VEBA reimbursement is going to be for 2007. As you know, it was \$500 in 2005 and \$1,500 in 2006. The VEBA Trustees have not yet finalized the 2007 number but plan to send out a mailing in August, stating the amount and enclosing the form necessary to claim medical premium reimbursement up to that amount. Between now and then, the VEBA Trustees will also send out the 2006 Summary Annual Report to all participants.

Again this year, we are mailing copies of the July newsletter to ALL retirees and surviving spouses – not just **KASRA** members. However, in order to continue to receive copies of the newsletter, you need to be a member of **KASRA**. So, if you are

not already a member, you will need to pay the \$10 annual dues to join.

Enclosed is a "What's Going On" form in which we encourage you to provide updated information about yourself to be considered for publication in the newsletter, a form to use in paying your dues if they are now due for renewal or if you desire to become a member, and a reply envelope. If your current dues are already paid, a dues notice is not included.

Also enclosed (for those who are dues-paying **KASRA** members) is a ballot for the election of directors, which we ask that you complete and return as soon as you can.

I want to close this letter with a request. Please tell me whether or not you feel the **KASRA** organization is meeting your needs and desires. If it isn't, please indicate how we can better serve you.

With best regards and appreciation for your continued support,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dick Kauffman". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dick Kauffman
President

**ELECTION OF NEW
BOARD MEMBERS
MAIL IN YOUR BALLOTS**

ELECTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS



NEW NOMINEES – THREE YEAR TERM

Subhas Sarkar - Edward Quinnan

CURRENT DIRECTORS FOR SECOND THREE-YEAR TERM:

Carol Brown - Joanne Cunningham - Dan Dahlen

BIOGRAPHIES OF NEW NOMINEES FOR KASRA BOARD:

Ed Quinnan. Ed spent 22 years with Kaiser Aluminum, joining the company in 1967 and retiring in 1989. During that time, except for one year at Rancho California in Temecula, CA, Ed spent his time in various capacities in the Treasury Department in Oakland, becoming Vice President and CFO in 1982. Ed resides with his wife, Friderike, in Orinda, CA.

Subhas Sarkar. Subhas joined Kaiser's Can Division Engineering in Oakland after completing his graduate studies at UC Berkeley in 1968. He was the manager of Can Division Engineering, worked in Corporate Planning and was Business Manager for Fabricated Products until he left Kaiser in 1989 in order to lead an investment group to purchase Kaiser's Flexible Packaging business. He now owns several small businesses in the Bay area and India and lives in Berkeley with his wife of 40 years, Ratna.

**PLEASE MARK YOUR BALLOTS
& MAIL THEM IN ASAP**

What's Going On

World beat... **Bob Hansen** and his wife, Beth, of Baton Rouge, LA, attended the Festival Internationale de Louisiane in Lafayette, which brought more than 400 musicians from 15 counties onstage. After spending 4 months in Southeast Asia and India, world traveler **Harlan Gilmore** (Ann Arbor, MI) is planning his next winter's trip, this time to Argentina and Mexico. Former Kaiser Jamaica Bauxite plant manager **Ed Coyne** (Birmingham, AL) and his son, Kevin co-authored a white paper entitled: How to Survive Your New CEO. It was published in the Harvard Business Review and written up in the Wall St. Journal. Kevin teaches strategy at Harvard Business School, while Ed is an assistant professor at Samford University School of Business in Birmingham. To read the article highlight, copy and paste the following link into your internet browser.



<http://custom.hbsp.com/b01/en/implicit/p.jhtml?login=COYN042507S&pid=R0705C>

Tulsa, OK retiree **Patty M. Lohrenz** has moved to the City of Jenks, located in the post office district of Sapulpa, OK. Patty's mother lives with them, and so does Tara, a border collie who listens to her mama, having scored 198 out of 200 in obedience training. Retired Chicago office field engineer **Joe Yadron** and his wife Donna (Hot Springs Village, AR) are Master Gardeners who proudly showed off their yard to peers as part of the tour for the 2007 International Master Gardeners Convention held in Little Rock.

Happy Anniversary... Emma Jean and **Clinton Posey** (Ravenswood, WV) celebrated their 50th anniversary last year in Honolulu, HI at a resort built by Henry J. Kaiser, the Hilton Hawaiian Village. Mr. & Mrs. **Melbourne (Mel) Taylor** (Jacksonville Beach, FL) celebrated their 55th wedding year and Mel his 90th birthday last year. Gloria and **J. Dewey Gregoire** toasted their 57th anniversary in their new home in Prairieville, LA last year, the same year Dewey hit the big 80. Faye & **Bill Schindler** (Ravenswood, WV) marked their

50th wedding date last year in Northern Wisconsin. Betty and **Carl A. Holland** (Bay Minette, AL) celebrated 55 years of marriage in June. Mr. & Mrs. **Millard Osborn** of Newark, OH, had their 50th anniversary celebration with children, grandchildren and friends at the Brownsville Community Hall.

Happy Birthday to **Elizabeth Ballard** of Salt Lake City, UT, who turned 94 last month. **Bernice Benson**



turned 90 last November and now resides at Alameda Care Center, Alameda, CA.

CFT retiree **Lee Thach** of Clarkson, WA, volunteers as an English teacher and conducts sing-alongs at retirement homes. North Wales retiree **Glenda M. Sharp** of Marlinton, WV, takes care of her farm, growing fruit trees. She enjoys fishing, bowling and traveling. Fluency in Spanish enables **Rosita Dorrance** (Oakland, CA) in her job as a bilingual medical interpreter. Rosita also loves dancing and helping her ten grandchildren. Los Angeles Extrusions retiree **Rosa Lee Swartz** (Bannings, CA) likes genealogy research, golf and gardening. Oakland, CA retiree and resident **Aprina Leavy** enjoys the arts and going to the theatre, ballet, opera and concerts. She is a travel agent.

Resident poet... Ravenswood retiree **John P. Poling** of Ripley, WV, a published author of 300 poems, must be fully recovered by now, after severing his Achilles tendon on a lawn mower blade last winter. Yup, he even wrote a poem about it. Ravenswood retiree **Jackie Menchini** would love to hear from folks who remember working with her there. Write to Jackie at 2818 Durmont Ct., Annapolis, MD 21401.

CFT retiree **Chuck Carroll** of Georgetown, CA, manages his 45-acre horse ranch and says it's a full time job. Nonetheless he still finds time to act and wear the hat of Georgetown's theater director to develop and promote live theater there. Mead retiree **Ruth Yaeger** of Spokane, WA is not surprised her former boss Dick Evans is now Alcan's CEO. Ruth says he was one of the greatest bosses she ever had. Pleasanton Research Metals

retiree **Dudley Aldous** (Santa Cruz, CA) took a two-month trip to New Zealand last year, revisiting a place where he once worked.

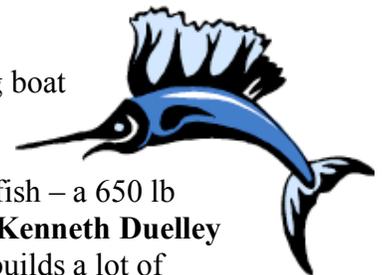
Plymouth Refractories retiree **Amy Yurkonis** of New Port Richey, FL, enjoys pool exercise and golfing twice a week a week, chasing that hole-in-one. Amy took a 3-week trip to Australia, New Zealand and Fiji. **Robert W. Gambill** of Troy, MT, was among four graduates from the Class of 1947 who were honored at the Montana Tech School of Mines reunion.

Vrroom...Ravenswood, WV retiree and resident **Bill Bartlett** got a thrill of a lifetime for his 83rd birthday - a NASCAR riding experience, courtesy of his family. Plymouth Meeting, PA retiree **Bill Miller** (Westchester PA) says Refractories retiree **J.L. (Jim) Willis**, who resides at 211 Willow Valley, Box 308, Lancaster, PA 17602 is having memory problems. Jim's wife, Mary, would appreciate phone calls of support at (717) 464-5532.

Trentwood retiree **Bruce Ely** of Athol, ID, is building a Glastar kit airplane. **Richard Possner** (Wellfleet, MA) enjoys woodworking and doing home repairs. He delivers Meals on Wheels to shut-ins. **Lonnie "Lynn" Blankenship** (Denham Springs, LA) is back to work at Gramercy Alumina. **Earl Hazan** (Palm Desert, CA) sits on the advisory committee to the Imperial Irrigation District Board of Directors.

Russ & Lee Radach (Auburn, CA) have put 50,000 miles on their RV, touring the Continental U.S. With their trip to Hawaii, the Radachs have visited all 50 states.

Last year, on a fishing boat in Maui, **Jacques Martinet** (Danville, CA) only caught one fish – a 650 lb Pacific Blue Marlin. **Kenneth Duelley** of Columbiana, OH, builds a lot of birdhouses.



Editor's Note: Katie Trefethen, widow of former Kaiser Industries executive Eugene (Gene) Edgar Trefethen, Jr., passed away in Napa last month at the age of 98.

Member Profile: Dave Perry

Thanks to Dave Perry and a number of other KASRA members, salaried retirees and surviving spouses who qualify are receiving benefits to help pay for healthcare expenses. These benefits are funded by a trust known as a Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association or VEBA. The following interview recaps its development.

Q. Kaiser Aluminum filed for bankruptcy in 2002. Kaiser was seeking to eliminate salaried retiree medical and life insurance benefits. What did KASRA do?

A. We formed a Retirees' Committee comprised of Jed Daniel, Jess Erickson, Jim Hobby, Tim Preece and myself. We engaged legal counsel and requested the Bankruptcy Court to recognize us an official committee so that we could represent salaried retirees and hopefully negotiate a settlement that would preserve at least some of their benefits.

Q. What was the outcome?

A. We were initially opposed by Kaiser and turned down by the Bankruptcy Court. But when the corporation distributed an extremely confusing document to salaried retirees regarding the exercise of their COBRA rights, we submitted it to Bankruptcy Court Judge Judith Fitzgerald to demonstrate why salaried retirees needed official representation. Judge Fitzgerald declared she couldn't understand the document either and granted us the right to represent salaried retirees as an official committee exclusively on the COBRA issue. Later on, when it became clear that Kaiser had to negotiate a settlement with salaried retirees over the eventual termination of salaried retiree medical and life insurance benefits, we were recognized as the official committee for that purpose as well. We began negotiations in 2003. The VEBA was established as a result.



Dave Perry speaking to KARLA 2006

Q. How long did this process take?

A. We agreed to a settlement in January 2004 that provided for the termination of retiree medical and life insurance benefits as of May 31st. Changes to the settlement were agreed upon from time to time during Kaiser's bankruptcy proceedings, with the final terms being agreed to in January 2006.

Q. How is the VEBA funded?

A. Kaiser agreed to make certain cash contributions to the VEBA during Kaiser's bankruptcy proceedings against an initial cash contribution obligation of \$5.2 million. Its actual cash contributions during that period amounted to \$7.7 million. Kaiser also agreed to create a profit sharing plan on emergence from bankruptcy and to make variable annual contributions to the VEBA not exceeding \$2.9 million per year, based on its future profitability. Under the settlement, Kaiser was obligated to contribute to the VEBA 1,940,100 shares of Kaiser Aluminum Corporation common stock on emergence from bankruptcy. The VEBA sold its rights to receive a portion of those shares prior to emergence and the balance afterward.

Q. Who is eligible to participate in VEBA?

A. Salaried retirees of Kaiser who began service prior to February 1, 2002 and who in retirement are eligible to participate. When an eligible retiree dies, his or her surviving spouse continues to be eligible to participate. Approximately 4200 salaried retirees and surviving spouses are currently eligible to participate and about 82% of those are enrolled. Despite our efforts to communicate with them via mail, there are about 740 retirees or surviving spouses who should be receiving VEBA benefits but haven't yet signed up. We need KASRA members' help in reaching out to these folks to let them know that our correspondence is legitimate and they are entitled to benefits.

Q. How much money is in the VEBA today?

A. As of December, 2006, the VEBA had assets of more than \$77 million.

Q. After 23 years, you retired from Kaiser Aluminum in 1992 as Corporate Vice President and General Counsel. What were some of the professional challenges you experienced during your career?

A. I worked on a number of projects such as the Celestite-Strontium Carbonate Project in Nova Scotia, the Kaiser-Preussag Joint Venture in Europe, the Kaiser-Aetna Real Estate Joint Venture and the LNG Shipbuilding Project. After I became General Counsel, I was very involved with the three corporate takeover battles of the 1980s.

Q. What was among the most memorable conversations you've ever had with Chairman and CEO Cornell Maier?

A. In 1984, Cornell asked me to stay behind as others left a meeting that had just concluded. He asked if I had any champagne in my refrigerator. A very strange question, so I thought at the time. As a matter of fact, I do, I replied, wondering what he would say next. Well, he smiled, you're going to be opening it tonight because the Board has just appointed you General Counsel.

Q. What are you doing these days?

A. I am planning a trip to Strasbourg and Paris, France in September. It's actually a high school reunion put together by a foreign exchange student who spent his senior year at my high school in Dedham, MA. We'll be going on a two-week sailing adventure.



QAL to Celebrate 40th Anniversary

Queensland Alumina Limited is having a party – a BIG 40th Anniversary Party.

The celebration will take place over a three-day weekend, October 19-21, at Gladstone, Queensland, Australia.

Kaiser retirees and/or spouses and children who had any part in the early days of QAL or its various expansions are invited. The organizers keep getting comments from people who say they'd love to attend but feel they shouldn't because they were involved with QAL only indirectly, or for only a short time, or worked only in Brisbane or Botany, not Gladstone. Well, folks, if you want to come, QAL wants you there. As one of the organizers put it, "A lot of us are not going to be around for a 50th, so we don't want anyone to miss out who would like to attend."

The weekend will be fully packed with activities, including tours, a harbor cruise, a formal dinner, and the launching of a commemorative book on QAL.

For more information, contact by e-mail any of the following: Bruce McGree at brucemcgree@hotmail.com, Len Sedlin (Baton Rouge, LA) at len_sedlin@bellsouth.net or Jim Elliot (Australia) at jenandjim@bigpond.com.

If you have questions about the venue and/or travel arrangements, contact Melissa Case, Community Relations and Media Specialist, Queensland Alumina Limited. Phone: 07 4976 2448. E-mail: casem@qal.com.au

The organizers urge you to make your travel plans without delay.

**Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees
Association (KASRA)**
P.O. Box 1171, Lafayette, CA 94549,
(925) 685-1313
news@e-kasra.com

July 2007

Dear Fellow Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retiree or
Surviving Spouse:

I am Dick Kauffman, president of the Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees' Association (KASRA), and I am writing to you on a very important matter. You are entitled to reimbursement of a portion of your health care premiums each year, but only if you enroll in the Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees VEBA Plan – VEBA, for short. A large majority of Kaiser retirees/surviving spouses have enrolled, but we believe you have not.

There is no reason not to enroll in the VEBA.

There is no cost to you and you need to enroll only once. Once enrolled, the process of filing annual claims for reimbursement is very straightforward and simple.

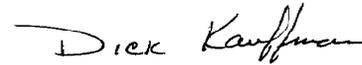
More than 80% of your fellow retirees/surviving spouses have already benefited from this ongoing plan. Those who enrolled and filed claims for the year of 2005 – VEBA's first year of operation -- received reimbursements of up to \$500. For 2006, the maximum reimbursement was increased to \$1,500. Although you are not eligible to claim these past amounts, you can and should enroll before the end of this year so you can file claims for 2007 and future years.

In talking with retirees, others and I have found that some believe they have no medical insurance costs to claim. Therefore, they conclude they are not entitled to seek reimbursement. In all likelihood, that conclusion is not correct. For instance, a retiree who has Medicare Part B medical coverage has the monthly premium for that coverage deducted from his or her Social Security check. That premium for Medicare Part B qualifies as a medical expense, which the VEBA will reimburse.

You may not have enrolled in the VEBA previously because you did not fully understand the plan, missed the initial 2005 deadline, thought you weren't eligible, or simply didn't get around to doing it. To assist you in understanding the plan and the process of signing up and claiming reimbursements, I encourage you – or a close friend or family member --to contact any one of the Kaiser retirees listed on the following page. If you prefer, fill out the enclosed post card and send it back to **KASRA** and you will be contacted by one of us. You do not have to be a member of KASRA to enroll in the VEBA or to gain a full understanding of it. **KASRA's** only motivation is to make sure you know about this reimbursement plan and to assist you in enrolling, if you desire.

Again, there is no cost to you. This is a benefit you or your spouse earned. So, please contact one of us so we can answer any questions you may have.

With best regards,



Dick Kaufman
President

Aluminum History



Caption: "Little Lady easily holds aluminum fender assembly..." from Kaiser Aluminum News 1962-63

KASRA Contacts

Please feel comfortable to call or email anyone of these people for information and assistance with VEBA questions.

Baton Rouge - Bob Eisenbach, (225) 926-1334,
bobeisenbach@cox.net

Bay Area (KARLA-Northern California)
Evo Alexandre, (925) 376-2259
alexand@gmail.com. Colleen Geary, (925) 685-1313 (KASRA answering machine, please leave message), dsgeary@comcast.net. Jed Daniel, (925) 551-7734, jed.daniel@comcast.net. Dick Kauffman, (925) 838-2334, rkauffman@sbcglobal.net

Bay Minette - Carl Holland
(251) 456-1267

Chalmette - Chuck Schimmel
(985) 643-0437 schimcol@aol.com

Erie - Tim Healy
(814) 474-3536, thealy@velocity.net

Los Angeles - Norm Manger
(310) 377-2135 normmanger@cox.net

Mead - Phil Marksbury
(509) 325-1798 pjmarksb@comcast.net

Newark - Bob Abel
(740) 323-2268, rbabel@alltel.net

Ravenswood - Dave Whitman
(304) 273-5548 dwhitman@wirefire.com

Tacoma - Bob Mohr
(253) 820-6569 bobjanetmohr@comcast.net

Trentwood - Del McKinley
(509) 924-3077 delmckin@aol.com

Or contact the VEBA Administrator:
(800) 339-3479 (In California only), (925) 798-2550 (Outside of California)

IN MEMORIAM

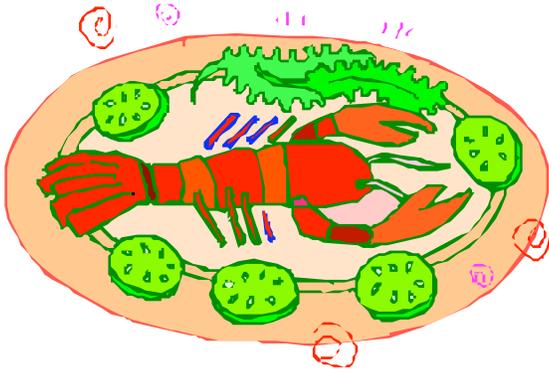
William "Russ" Baker - Belpre, OH
Richard B. Bridgford - Mexico, MO
Joseph L. Cavanaugh - Veradale, WA
Carroll Walter "C.W." Conard - Utica, OH
Albert DeLalla - Fremont, CA
Frank G. DeMonnin - Greenacres, WA
Norman P. Frauchaux* - Covington, LA
A. Joe Fife - Spokane, WA
Julius E. "Jeff" Frye - Lilliwaup, WA
Joseph J. Gallagher - Bristol, RI
Maybelle S. Gibson - Madison, FL
Ronald G. Imholt - Spokane, WA
Andrew A. Jaufre, Sr - Lacombe, LA
Harold "Hal" Jensen - Walnut Creek, CA
Coleman S. Kopcsak - Fort Worth, TX
David L. Lazarz - Colorado City, CO
Frank M. Mancieri - Bristol, RI
Douglas F. Marten - Los Gatos, CA
Floyd C. Ragsdale - Fuquay-Varina, NC
Ronald D. Thompson - Mineral Wells, WV
Janie Bryant Wilder - Wilmington, NC
Estelle B. Wisely - Las Vegas, NV

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

* KASRA NEWS inadvertently printed Norman P. Frauchaux's first name as "Normal" in the May newsletter. Apologies from the Editor.

Send KASRA Your News

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



The Lunch Bunch

Aug. 2 Baton Rouge

Noon, Mansur's, 5720 Corporate Blvd. Call Bob Eisenbach (225) 926-1334; or email:

bobeisenbach@cox.net (Baton Rouge meets 1st Thursday of each month)

Aug. 6 Los Angeles (So. CA)

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

Aug. 9 Mead

11:30 a.m., Cathay Inn on North Division St. Contact Phil Marksbury (509) 325-1798; or email: pjmarksb@comcast.net. (Mead meets 2nd Thursday of each month)

Aug. 15 Erie

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

Aug. 16 Newark

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

Aug. 16 Trentwood

5:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres at Lone Canary Winery located at 109 S. Scott St. There will be a short business meeting with election of officers for 2007-8. Call Del McKinley (509) 924-3077; or email: delmckinl@aol.com, or Jan Gorman (509) 926-

5476 or email: jandon10@aol.com (Trentwood meets 3rd Thursday of each month)

Sept. 11 Chalmette

11:30 a.m., Jasmine French Restaurant (across from the Slidell Train Station on the corner of Teddy Avenue - in Olde Towne Slidell) 1768 Front Street (AKA US Highway 11, Blue Star Highway) Slidell. Call Sherman Faught (985) 690-4942; Chuck Schimmel (985) 643-0437 or email: schimcol@aol.com.

Oct. 1 Bay Area - KARLA

Please note new restaurant for KARLA.

11 a.m., Blake's, Boundary Oaks Golf Course in Walnut Creek. Contact Carol Brown by email: cbrown3799@yahoo.com or Sharon Fraetis by email: lafnatv@silcon.com. December meeting TBA.

Oct. 20 Bay Minette, AL

4 p.m., Fire Mountain Restaurant in Spanish Fort at the Eastern Shore Shopping Centre. For info contact Carl Holland (251) 937-9737; Freddie Hosey (251) 456-1267; or Betty Wilson (251) 610-5611.

Dec 5 Tacoma

Noon, Tacoma Elks Lodge, 1965 South Union. Contact Bob Mohr (253) 820-6569; email: bojanetmohr@comcast.net. (Next meeting Dec. 5, 2007)

TBD Ravenswood

Dinner/Dance at the Green Hills Countryclub. RSVP. Call Dave Whitman (304) 273-5548; email: dwhitman@wirefire.com

