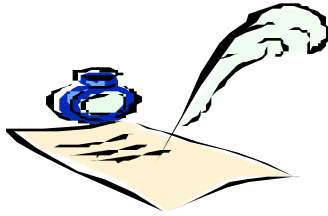


KASRA

March. 2007

Email: news@e-kasra.com



Retiree News

Dear Fellow Retiree:

I would like to share with you the status of two benefit programs that affect many of our retirees, spouses, surviving spouses and dependents. The first benefit program is COBRA, maintained by Kaiser. As of the end of 2006, there were a total of 304 retirees (including spouses and dependents) enrolled in that program. In the under age 65 category, there were 140 people enrolled and in the age 65 and over category, there were 124 people enrolled. In addition, 40 individuals have elected to receive custodial care and prescription drug benefits only. The COBRA enrollment is becoming smaller each year and, as a result, may cause more volatility in the premiums.

The second benefit program is the VEBA Plan. I am pleased to report that, based upon the efforts of the VEBA Trustees and KASRA, enrollment in the VEBA Plan increased significantly in the fourth quarter of last year. Special thanks are due to each of our members who helped to get the VEBA Plan's enrollment message out to retirees and surviving spouses who were not previously enrolled, and to each of our members who assisted them in completing enrollment and benefit reimbursement claim forms, where help was needed. VEBA Plan benefits are payable on a "Family Unit" basis. As of December 31, 2006, there were 4,362 Family Units eligible to participate in the VEBA Plan, and 3,533 (about 81%) of them were enrolled. Enrollment efforts will continue this year in an effort to provide retirees and their families the benefits to which they are entitled. We hope by the end of this year to make personal contact with retirees and surviving spouses in the remaining 829 Family Units to be sure that they are aware of the benefits that they are eligible to receive. **There is no reason not to enroll in the VEBA Plan, and I urge you to do so this year if you are eligible but have not already done so.**

As of December 31, 2006, \$3.3 million had been paid out in reimbursement of 2006 qualified benefit claims. Only individuals who were enrolled prior to December 31, 2006 are eligible for 2006 qualified benefits. However, qualified benefit claims for 2006 may be submitted by eligible individuals at any time prior to the December 31, 2007 deadline for submitting such claims. **Now is a very good time to review your records to be certain that you claim (or have claimed) all of the 2006 qualified benefits to which you are entitled.** The benefit amount for 2007 has not yet been determined.

The VEBA Trustees have selected the Capital Guardian Trust Company as the investment manager for a majority of the assets of the VEBA Trust and Plan. Capital Guardian Trust Company is a leading institutional investment money manager and one of the Capital Group Companies of Los Angeles. Capital Guardian Trust Company assumed investment management responsibility for \$74 million in VEBA Trust and Plan assets on February 1, 2007.

If you have any questions concerning VEBA Plan eligibility, enrollment or benefits, or if you need enrollment or qualified benefit claim forms, please contact the VEBA Plan's administrator as follows:

Professional Insurance Consultants, Inc.
P.O. Box 4026
Concord, CA 94524
Telephone: (800) 339-3479 (*In California only*)
Telephone: (925) 798-2550 (*Outside of California*)
E-Mail: vebaplan@proadministrators.com

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dick Kauffman".

Dick Kauffman

CELEBRATE QAL 40TH ANNIVERSARY IN AUSTRALIA

KASRA retirees and or spouses and children whose careers may have intersected at Queensland Alumina Limited, in its early years, may be interested to know that plans are underway for a 40th QAL reunion this October in Australia. So far, plans include an informal gathering at the Bob Druitt Center, onsite at QAL on Friday, October 19, 2007. The PCYC (onsite) has been reserved for an all day open house on Saturday, October 20, 2007. The Annual QAL Picnic Day will occur on Sunday, October 21, 2007, and bus tours of the plant will be available.

Anyone who has been involved with the construction, commissioning, operation and expansion phases and overall success of the QAL plant is invited to attend this reunion. For more information, please contact by email **Jim Elliot** at jenandjim@bigpond.com or **Len Sedlin** (Baton Rouge, LA) at len_sedlin@bellsouth.net.

For travel information, contact the Gladstone Area Travel Bureau at gapdl@gladstoneregion.org.au

KASRA NEWS NEEDS YOUR NEWS

Your editor is completely out of the brown slips containing your news. Please send information about your vacations, celebrations, anniversaries, birthdays, vocations and the like. Please fill out the brown slips that come with your newsletter and mail or email the editor at the addresses on the back-page, bottom of col.2. Just send a note if you don't have a form.

KASRA NEWS COLLECTING MORE PHOTOS

KASRA News is again asking our contacts with the various Kaiser retiree groups to send us pictures of their gatherings. The idea is to allow you to keep up with your fellow Kaiser employees. As we receive photos we will place them on a web photo data base. We will start slowly. Just click on email or copy and paste on your browser address line.

We would like to thank Kent Aggers of Pentad Systems for setting up the photo data base. If you have questions on how to access the website or upload photos, contact Kent at aggers@pentadsys.com or (509) 280-5185

For pictures from the SF Bay Area's KARLA

Christmas luncheon, link to:

<http://new.photos.yahoo.com/kasraphoto3> . For a lone photo from Chalmette link to:

<http://new.photos.yahoo.com/kasraphoto1>

WHAT'S GOING ON...

Congratulations to **Mike Goldsmith** of Oakland, CA, who is celebrating the 20th anniversary of KLS



Logistics Services, a company he formed from Kaiser Aluminum's traffic department in 1987. Mike was elected to the Board of Trustees of Golden Gate University in San Francisco. Globetrotter **Harlan Gilmore** of Ann Arbor, MI, has been in India since November. You may recall reading

some of Harlan's travel anecdotes in SE Asia last year. Over the holidays, Trentwood retiree **Steve Harvey** (Spokane Valley, WA) and his wife, Gertrude, drove to Southern California to deliver a family heirloom bassinet to their daughter, who gave birth to the Harvey's first granddaughter last month.

Newark, OH retiree **Brent Lambiotte** (Hoover, AL) retired from the Mercedes-Benz operations in Tuscaloosa last November. With his professional certification from the American Production & Inventory Control Society, Brent plans to teach on an adjunct basis at the University of Alabama, Birmingham. Tulsa, OK Extrusions retiree **Tom Brennen** of Broken Arrow, OK, is a docent at Tulsa's Philbrook Museum of Art and volunteers at the Salvation Army. Ravenswood retiree **Dar Ekstrom** of Polson, MT, substitute teaches at the local middle and high schools.

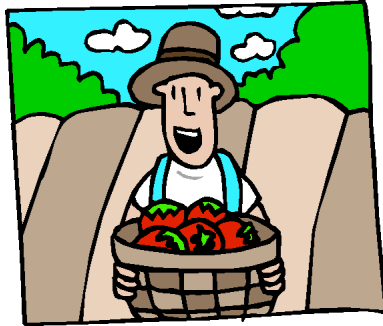
Paul Flores (Hayward, CA) has made four trips to Israel during his travels around the world to visit religious sites. He's a handyman who completed a big honey-do for his wife, repairing and rewiring her South Dakota home and ranch. After spending 20 years "on vacation" in Florida, Ravenswood retiree **Charles "Pete" Jordan** is happy to be residing back in Evans, WV.



Between his volunteer work at church, the local museum and at Maennerchor, a German singing society, Newark retiree and resident **Robert Andrews** is too busy to play golf more than once a week.

Editor is still playing catch-up with all your news. Here are notes sent to us from last summer.

Tacoma retiree **Penny Whipple** (Kingman, AZ) is the safety and training manager for Laron, Inc. in Kingman. When she's not at work, Penny loves riding her Harley and joined 70,000 other motorcycle riders at last year's Laughlin River Run. Tulsa retiree **J.F. "Jim" Brown, Jr.**, (Howell, MI) last year made his first hole in one on No. 12 at Shepherds Hollow in Clarkson. Savannah Ag Chem retiree **Butch Lowenthal** of Tybee Island, GA, plays golf three times a week and serves as president of his church's parish council.



Tomatoes galore... Last summer, green thumb gardener **Bill Alsup** (Fremont, CA) wrote that he gave away about 1000 cherry tomatoes to neighbors.

Hmm, wonder if the distance between Walnut Creek and Fremont qualifies editor to become one of Bill's neighbors. **Michael McCarthy** (Parkersburg, WV) and his wife, Eleanor, spend the winters in St. Petersburg, FL. Similarly, Newark retiree **Jim Holland** (Granville, OH) spends half the year in Florida and the other half in Ohio, where he farms 50 acres of corn and soybeans.

Last year, CFT retiree **Sam Sankaran** and his wife, Ann, of Sparks, NV, completed the Lewis & Clark trail from Fort Benton, MT to Fort Clatsop, OR, through the Lemhi and Lolo Passes. Trentwood retiree **Harold "Rocky" Thompson** (Gillette, WY) works at Powder River Coal Company and enjoys camping, backpacking and golf. Ravenswood retiree **Jay Tofaute** of Parkersburg, WV, enjoys his grandchildren as well as traveling and playing golf. **Reba Miller** (Lafayette, CA) loves to garden and last summer set up a greenhouse to cultivate plantings. Hope this spring and summer produce great yields.

Judy Dunn (Burson, CA) spent time last year making RV trips to Arizona, Oregon and Missouri. She also visited Hawaii last fall.



On the mend: **Rob Weber** (Brentwood, CA) underwent rotator cuff shoulder surgery; **Donald Vorwerck** (Elk Grove, CA) for undisclosed conditions.



Permanente Foil retiree **Jerry Denny** of Morgan Hill, CA, and his wife, Virginia, explored their family roots in Finland and England last spring. Perhaps as an extension of his roots, Jerry and his border collie like to chase sheep in the hills near home.

Texas Extrusions retiree **Colin Ward** (Green Cove Springs, FL) plays guitar in a blues band and spent last winter in the Bahamas aboard his sailboat, "Mandalay". **Sharon Fraetis** of Lafayette, CA, is looking forward to a cruise to Mexico in April. **Richard Paxton** (Aiken, SC) gave up flying and sold his Piper Cub airplane last year. Now he volunteers at schools and church. **Fred Peightal** of Bermuda Dunes, CA, has a home in Jackson Hole, WY, where he spends the summers and serves as a part time starter ranger at the Jackson Hole Golf & Tennis Club.

Retirement sure hasn't slowed down Harshaw Filtrol retiree **Philip Grosso** of Auburn, CA, who, as a consultant, has procured 7 patents with 5 more pending. Oakland retiree buddies of **Joann Del Re** (Panama City Beach, FL) are invited to visit her for golf and sunbathing on the beach. Call Joann at 850-234-8528. Toledo, OH retiree **Bill Johnson** of Temperance, MI, and his wife Marian, have a power boat at Bolles Harbor and love to fish on Lake Erie. Trentwood retiree **Chuck Foster** also loves fishing - he moved to a spot on Lake Oconee in Buckhead, GA. Chuck replaced both hips a couple years back.



Oakland retiree **Bill Patterson** (Las Cruces, NM) serves as an Ombudsman for the State of New Mexico's Department on Aging and Long Term Care. Alpart, Jamaica retiree **Steven V. Smith** of Brentwood, TN, enjoys bird watching, hunting and fishing.

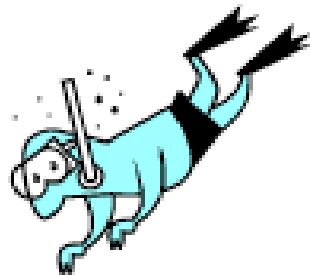
-What's Going On cont. backpage

Farbest Chemicals retiree **Joe O Connell** (Mission Viego, CA) prides himself for being able to beat the grandkids down the ski slopes. Joe admits that won't last long, since the young'uns are just 8 years old. Ravenswood retiree **Jarrell W. Williams** of Woodlawn, VA, enjoys wood working and making furniture. He also likes fly fishing for trout and small mouth bass in the mountain streams of south-west Virginia.

Oh my! Two years ago, San Leandro Can Lab retiree **Elizabeth Atkinson** (Castro Valley, CA) was making her way across a dance floor toward her retirement facility's holiday party for employees (she writes their newsletter), when she slipped and fell. Paramedics rolled her away to the hospital instead. Hope she made last year's Christmas celebration standing in good cheer! Mead retiree **Lynn Tower** (Spokane, WA) enjoys camping and last year traveled to Casa Grande, AZ. **George Speicher** (Spokane, WA) sends greetings to his good friend, **Ed Westerman**. George's wife Doris survived a stroke several years earlier.



Chalmette retiree **Zeadous S. "Bonny" Hart** of Slidell, LA, enjoys eating out and is pining for a 'po boy' sandwich from Rocky & Carlo's Restaurant, a casualty from Hurricane Katrina that has yet to reopen. Spokane Sales Office retiree **J. Douglas Shacklett** is a commissioner on urban renewal for the town of Spirit Lake, ID, where he resides. Kaiser Chemicals & Kaiser Refractories retiree **R. Thomas Smith** (Colorado Springs, CO) visited the Galapagos Islands last year raving about the nature walks and snorkeling.



Beverly Anderson-Roberts (Loganville, GA) visited Branson, MO for a vacation with family, then went to Denver, CO for a granddaughter's wedding. She and her husband spent a few months last fall in California visiting more family and are thankful to be able to do all that travel and take care of a mini farm as well. Baton Rouge, LA. resident and retiree **Len Sedlin** took a cruise to the Baltic Sea last summer. Len volunteers with the Service Corps of Re-

tired Executives (SCORE) to counsel entrepreneurs starting out. Portsmouth retiree **F. Richard Strabley** of Barnington, RI, traveled last year to Spain, California, Florida and Oregon. Ravenswood retiree **Ralph D. Fleming, Jr.** (Parkersburg, WV) is the safety manager at MML Insulation Company in Huntington. Ralph traveled to London and visited Spokane a few years ago.

Wow! On the maiden voyage of his new 23-foot boat, Chalmette retiree **Clif Arnold** (Slidell, LA) caught the limit of 75 trout. Bedford, IN retiree **Don Gallogly** of Maryville, OH, is still spending most of his time traveling in his RV motorhome. He's a crossword puzzle and Sudoku enthusiast as well. Pittsburgh retiree **David Cross** (W. Palm Beach, FL) traveled to the U.K. and Turkey last year.

Happy Anniversary. Jane and **Bill Warfield** of Rancho Mirage, CA, will celebrate their 50th anniversary this June.

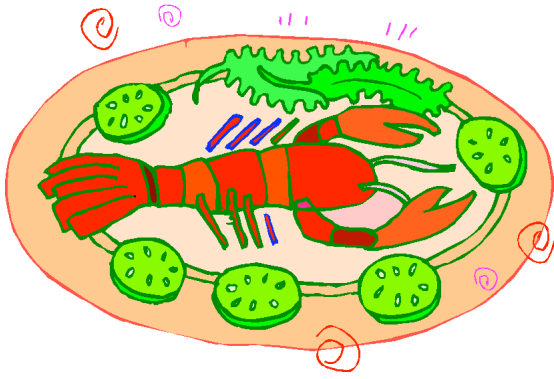
In Memoriam

Erwin J. "Erv" Anthofer - Walnut Creek, CA
Lawrence J. Barker - Livermore, CA
John K. Connery - Bristol, RI
Edgar G. Eichhorn - Tracy, CA
Anthony "Tony" R. Gill - Beaver, OR
Robert A. Gill, Jr. - Auburn, CA
Hilman L. Humphrey - Richmond, KY
Andrew D. Hunter, Sr. - Sugarland, TX
Karl James "Mr. Jim" Klason - Wauna, WV
Mary Lou Domenichelli Myles - Cloverdale, CA
Inez Miloceovich - Oakland, CA
Harry A. Priest - Marion, IN
Robert E. Stefanov - Millwood, WV
Ronald Stehouwer - San Antonio, TX
Calvin L. Webb - Spokane, WA
Robert A. Whitwood - East Aurora, NY
Paul L. Womax - La Place, LA
Francis L. "Frank" Wooten - Savannah, GA

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

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

March 1 Baton Rouge

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

March 4 Los Angeles (So. CA)

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

March 6 Chalmette

11:30 a.m. Doors open for Luncheon at Doug's restaurant (formerly Bealer's), Slidell, 348 Robert Blvd. (Restaurant 985-649-1805). All KASRA retirees and spouses invited. Call Sherman Faught at (985) 690-4942. Or email Chuck Schimmel at schimcol@aol.com. Chuck's phone (985) 643-0437.

June 6 Tacoma

Noon, Tacoma Elks Lodge, 1965 South Union. Contact Bob Mohr at (253) 820-6569 or bobjanetmohr@comcast.net. (Next Meeting Dec. 5, 2007)

March 8 Mead

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

March 20 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)

March 21 Erie

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

March 15 Trentwood

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

April 2 Bay Area K.A.R.L.A.

Please note new restaurant for KARLA. 11 a.m. Blake's at Boundary Oaks Golf Course in Walnut Creek. Email Carol Brown at: cbrown3799@yahoo.com or Sharon Fraetis at lafnatv@silcon.com

TBD Ravenswood

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

TBA Bay Minette, AL

All former Bay Minette employees, salaried and hourly, are invited to attend regular meetings. For info contact Carl Holland at 251-937-9737; Freddie Hosey at 251-456-1267; or Betty Wilson at 251-610-5611.

