



Chris Laszcz-Davis  
KASRA President

Visit website at  
[www.e-kasra.com](http://www.e-kasra.com)

Do you know a retiree who has not signed up for the VEBA? Suggest they call KASRA at (925) 685-1313 or email at [kasra@e-kasra.com](mailto:kasra@e-kasra.com)

## *Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees Association*

### A MESSAGE FROM THE KASRA PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Retirees/Surviving Spouses:

On behalf of the KASRA Board, staff and volunteers, we hope you had a memorable holiday season!

Some reminders--some of you recently visited our **website** at [www.e-kasra.com](http://www.e-kasra.com) and expressed how pleasantly surprised you are at the wealth of interesting information it includes. For those who have not yet had a chance to visit our website, look for the following:

**News/Communications** – News on KASRA, the VEBA, and the aluminum industry, as well as general communications to our members and a link to the Kaiser Aluminum website.

**VEBA**—The VEBA Trustees remind participants that December 31, 2013 is the deadline for filing for the 2012 benefit of \$2,100 per family unit. The 2013 benefit of \$2,250 per family unit may be claimed until December 31, 2014. More than 7% of eligible family units have still not enrolled for benefits. If you know someone who may be eligible, please encourage them to contact Delta Fund Administrators, LLC by phone at (888) 344-8322, or by e-mail at [VEBA@Deltafund.com](mailto:VEBA@Deltafund.com).

**Events** – A listing of regional events and announcements.

**Newsletters** – We archive copies of these dating as far back as September 2001 - so if you wish to refer to any missed past newsletters, you can access them here.

Please send us suggestions to improve/enhance the newsletter—fresh ideas are always welcome!

**Photos** - We have numerous photos of events and your former colleagues in the Bay Area, Trentwood, Belpre, Newark, Baton Rouge, Chalmette, Mead, Ravenswood, and Tacoma. It is wonderful to hear of activities and view recent snapshots of retirees and surviving spouses whom we knew and who now reside some distance away. Please feel free to share and transmit digital photos of your special events along with descriptive captions by emailing them to [web@e-kasra.com](mailto:web@e-kasra.com).

**Forms** – This section contains various forms. You can download all the KASRA and VEBA forms, including enrollment and reimbursement forms for your VEBA claims.

**Contacts** – General contact information is provided in the event you need to reach KASRA, The VEBA Third Party Administrator, Kaiser Aluminum, or the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

In terms of simple day to day logistics, please advise us of any **change in your postal and email addresses**. We want to be sure that you receive all of our communications. On the other hand, if you do not wish to receive any further communication from us, please let us know and we will respect this and make a note of it in our database.

The Christmas and New Year's holiday

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### Birthday and Anniversaries

...

Congratulations to **DeDe Cook Pauley** (Ashville, OH) who married Dave Pauley over the summer. The two met in 1995 when both worked at KACC in Newark, OH. Dave also worked for Kaiser at Ravenswood, WV, and continues to work at the plant, now owned by Constellium, an aluminum semi-products manufacturing company.

DeDe recalls how wonderful it was to work for Kaiser, a company that treated employees like family. "You don't find that much in today's corporate culture," she says. **Harold "Rocky" Thompson** (Kingwood, TX) and his wife celebrated their 50th anniversary this year with an Alaskan cruise. The former Maintenance Manager also does woodworking and drives a bus for handicapped children.

Wedding bells rang for **Betty Lou Koska** (Winnemucca, NV) this past June. Although her new last name is Olsen, she plans to keep using Koska. The newly-



**Quentin Huebner recently turned 90 years old. Shown here with his wife Marilyn.**



**DeDe Cook and Dave Pauley, both former Kaiser employees, were married this past summer.**

weds traveled to Seattle, WA, recently for a late honeymoon. When at home, Betty enjoys helping out at the rodeo for the local fair.

**Quentin R. Huebner** (Traverse City, MI) sends his thanks for the KASRA Newsletter and to the officers for keeping the Association "top shelf." He also notes that he recently reached his 90th year. "My wife Marilyn and I have been blessed with good health." **Carl Holland** (Bay Minette, AL) and his wife celebrated 61 years of marriage in June. They spend summers at their home in Winchester, OH, where they love to garden, go to public auctions, and sing in church. Carl also spends part of the summer playing guitar so he'll be ready to perform with his country band back home in Alabama.

**Harold Totten** (Yuma, AZ) turned 90 on December 1, 2013 but still plans on going to Alaska this coming sum-

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mer. He also still enjoys kayaking when weather permits on the Colorado River and bike riding. "I'm on a constant vacation since retirement in 1986," he says.

### Traveling Near and Far . . .

Former Gramercy, LA, worker **Jack Carmend** (Baton Rouge, LA) traveled to Portugal with his wife Ursula as part of a tour group with other Baton Rouge residents. When not journeying to Europe, Jack volunteers at his church and at the St. Vincent De Paul center. **Michael Garver** (Graham, FL) took a trip from Florida to Ohio to visit family and friends with his daughter and grandson, while **Beatrice Anderson Pigno** (Zachary, LA) took an Alaskan cruise with her husband, her two grown children and their spouses this fall.

**John Lullo** (Clio, CA) traveled to Spain in September to revisit the Alhambra in Granada, where he asked his wife to marry him. Back at home, the former Fabrication Products worker makes rustic furniture and is a member of the Mohawk Valley Artists Guild. He is also treasurer of the Graeagle Men's Golf Association and on the Board of the hospital in Portola, CA. **Diana and Rick Kemmerle** (Auburn, CA) took a once in a lifetime trip to the Galapagos Islands and Machu Picchu.

**Len Sedlin** (Baton Rouge, LA) and his wife enjoyed a cruise on Holland America with their three grandchildren. "They still talk about what a wonderful time they had," says Len, who was honored as the 2013 Volunteer Activist by the Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation.



**Len Sedlin (far left) and his wife (right) took their three grandchildren on a cruise from Boston to Montreal.**

"I received the honor because of my many years of volunteer work with several organizations, but primarily with the Score Association," Len explains. "Score provides mentoring and workshops to entrepreneurs starting businesses and to existing small business owners."

In between repairing small engines, fishing, biking and snowmobiling, **Alan Morasch** (Spokane Valley, WA) enjoyed the Oregon Coast for two weeks and nine days at Priest Lake, ID. **Dennis English** (Venice, FL) spent the month of September visiting his brother in Sacramento, CA, and then touring Northern California golf locations. He also traveled to Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont. The former Trentwood, WA, employee also does landscaping, interior decorating and intermittent consulting on HR matters.

Poor health hasn't kept **James W. Miller** (Rocky Point, NC) from doing what he loves – spending time with his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. He traveled to Texas to see family and winters in Key West, FL. **Sara Sittel**

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(Camarillo, CA), surviving spouse of **Dick Sittel**, joined 12 friends for a cruise to Hawaii and then traveled to Tulsa, OK, and Houston, TX, to visit friends and family. When at home, she likes to play golf, read, do water aerobics and play duplicate bridge. "I truly enjoy my life and keep very busy," she says. "My bucket list includes getting my bridge life master."

**Shirley Schmalfluss** (Oakland, CA) went on a Baltic cruise where she visited Hamburg, Amsterdam, Oslo, Copenhagen, Helsinki, St. Petersburg, Tallinn (Estonia), and Stockholm Sweden. She worked in the International Division for Kaiser and keeps busy with the Oakland Art Association and tutoring at the Lakeview School in Oakland, CA. Shirley also loves to do acrylic paintings and has exhibited at several venues in the San Francisco Bay Area.

France called to Kaiser retiree **William Maher** (North Muskegon, MI) in September while **Al Schrock** (Baton Rouge, LA) and his wife Shirley spent a week at the Excellence Resort in Punta



**Shirley Schmalfluss, an avid painter, cruised the Baltic recently.**

Cana, Dominican Republic. "Our group of eight that went together included another KACC retiree, **Wilson Roussel** and his spouse. It was a wonderful change of pace with lots of eating, beaching and relaxing," Wilson says. Summers in Jackson Hole, WY, an Aruba vacation and Christmas back in Jackson Hole with the grandchildren, keep **Fred Peightal** (Bermuda Dunes, CA) young at heart. He also manages to work part-time at Teton Pines Golf Club as the course marshal.

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**(L-R) Roger Hamm, Roy Brennan, Les Foster, Art Wilson, and Bob Mohr had a great time at Tacoma's December luncheon.**

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## MEMBER PROFILE: John Silano

The KASRA Newsletter starts off 2014 with a profile of former Mead Works, Spokane, WA, employee **John Silano**. John worked at Kaiser in Spokane, WA, for 35 years, completing his career with the company in 2001 as the Operations Safety Manager. John and his wife of 47 years, Marge, have two children and six grandchildren. They continue to like in Spokane, WA.

### You mentioned that you received most of your education after you started working for Kaiser. Please explain.

I had been in the Naval Air Force for three years when I began working for another company in Spokane before applying to Kaiser. I started working for Mead Works as a clerk in 1966 and soon began learning from all these wonderful co-workers and supervisors who were great teachers. I don't think they ever thought of themselves as teachers and neither did I at the time. They gave me a skill set, however, which is still in demand today.

I also went to Eastern Washington University my first few years with Kaiser and earned a Business Management Degree. With Kaiser's help, I went on to the University of Southern California and completed a certificate program in occupational safety and health management. It really helped me gain a formal background in occupational safety, which made a big difference as I moved up to Administrative Supervisor in the Maintenance Department and then Safety Manager in the pot rooms before being promoted to the plant level Operations Safety Manager.

I feel really blessed to have worked with such outstanding employees – both hourly and salaried – who taught me so



**John Silano and his wife Marge.**

well that I can continue doing what I love with other companies.

### What was your most memorable time at Mead Works?

There were so many of them that it's hard to choose! One that really stands out is the "Investment in Excellence" program. It was the mid-1980s, and Kaiser wanted to help employees increase their potential.

Kaiser Mead bought the rights to a program developed at the Pacific Institute called "Investment in Excellence" and I became the facilitator. It was a two and one-half day seminar that both hourly and salary employees could take. In fact, some would bring their significant others and, at times, older children to attend.

"We received so many letters from people who attended thanking the plant manager for allowing them to partake in the program. They would comment on how positive it was for the company to offer it.

We even took it to Ghana, West Africa, to

### Send KASRA Your News & Pictures

Write us your news, travels, stories... humorous tales welcome. Send a note to Sally Hogarty, P.O. Box 84, Canyon, CA 94516 or [sallyhogarty@gmail.com](mailto:sallyhogarty@gmail.com).

\* Photos encouraged.

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the folks at Valco as well as Ravenswood, WV, and the corporate office in Oakland, CA. As the facilitator, I got more out of that program than anyone, and I was able to travel to all these cool places and meet so many fine people, while sharing such a worthwhile program.

### **What are you doing now?**

When I left Kaiser in 2001, I thought I was retiring -- but that only lasted six months! A friend called saying they needed someone at Itron in Spokane, WA, to help with safety programs. I became a consultant with them for several years. Then, I left to become the Risk Manager for SL Start for the next five years. In 2008, I was offered the position of Safety and Security Manager at Rockwood Medical Clinic.

Rockwood has 1,400 employees and 41 locations, and I'm a one-man department. But, I enjoy it so much that it really doesn't feel like work.

### **Do you ever see your former coworkers from Kaiser?**

Since I work at a medical facility, I do see lots of Kaiser retirees as they come in for various needs. It's nice to see them again, especially if they aren't stopping in for something serious.

### **What do you do outside of work?**

I've always enjoyed doing volunteer work. I got started when I worked at Mead Works. Now I'm a senior volunteer with the Spokane Police Department where I assist in SWAT team training. I'm also on their "call-out" crew, helping with various accident and crime-scene investigations.

Boxing is still a sport I enjoy, although, I don't box myself anymore. I've coached

some clubs here in Spokane, WA, such as the Senior Boxing Team and the Salvation Army's Red Shield team. In fact, my 19-year-old grandson Tony boxed for the Spokane Boxing Club for a couple of years and often sparred with the #5 rated heavy weight boxer in the WBO (World Boxing Organization).

Recently, I've tried something totally different for me – being an extra in the movies! I've always been curious about how movies are made, so I signed up with a local talent agency – Big Fish Talent – and I've appeared in four movies as the "fuzzy" background. It's a lot of fun watching the technicians set everything up and I've even met several stars like Antonio Banderas and Ray Liotta. While none of the movies have hit it big, I've bought copies of them and can even find myself in some of them.

### **Are your children and grandchildren close by?**

Our son and his two girls are in Boise,



**John Silano in his uniform as Safety and Security Manager at Rockwood Medical Clinic.**

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ID, but our daughter and her three boys and one girl are here in Spokane, WA. The grandkids range in age from two and one-half to 19 years of age. Vinnie, the

16 year old, plays hockey at a pretty high level. Sometimes I wish he had picked up badminton instead; it gets pretty cold watching hockey!

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**Lynn Huston** (Erie, PA) enjoys wood-working and repairing church statues. In October, he went to Las Vegas, NV, for a week. "Rested, relaxed, lost a little money and had nice weather," he says. Former Ravenswood, WV, retiree **W.J. Schindler** (Ravenswood, WV) and his wife Faye recently enjoyed a week's cruise on the St. Lawrence River. They traveled from Kingston, Ontario to Quebec City, then returned by train to Kingston. "We plan to spend some time in Florida in January and February, 2014," he adds.

#### **A Little of This, A Little of That . . .**

Gardening and dancing keep **Paul Anderson** (Pleasanton, CA) busy while **Richard Nowell** (Spokane Valley, WA) adds golf and travel to his gardening duties. He also recently traveled to Ocean Shores, WA, Blanchard, ID, Rockaway Beach, OR, Lake Chelan, WA, and Pendleton, OR. Ravenswood, WV, em-

ployee, **Donald Skeens** (Ravenswood, WV) takes time out from his golf game to do maintenance work at the First United Methodist Church, as well as belong to the Lion's Club.

**Violet Johnson** (Bemidji, MN) had a family reunion with 125 family members over the summer. She moved back to Minnesota after being gone for 72 years. "My daughter wanted us closer to her," says Violet. "The skies re so beautiful – no smog, no fog. Wish me luck that I don't freeze this winter." After living alone for several years, **Norman Whitford** (Otis Orchards, WA) now has his grandson living with him. "He's doing an internship for a degree in Pharmacy and is a big help to me as well as companionship," says Norman, who thanks the KASRA directors for all they do.

Training her new Border Collie puppy is a fun pastime for **Patty Lohrenz** (Jenks,

OK). She also goes to Branson, MI, and to Golden, CO, to visit her son and his wife as well as trips to Tulsa, OK, to spend time with her 95-year-old mother. Former Trentwood Works, WA, employee **Arthur Hoener** (Bayview, ID) enjoys fishing and traveling to other parts



**(L-R) Sue Summerson, Phylis Jordan, Betty Lynch, Marilyn Schlafmann and Juanita Johnson got together at Trentwood's December luncheon.**

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of the U.S.A. He's also a member of American Legion Post 149 in Athol, ID. **Gary Blair** (Surprise, AZ) keeps busy with golf and making stained glass. The former Mead Works, Spokane, WA, employee also volunteers at the 1st tee at his local golf course.

Although **Bob Walls** (Gulf Shores, AL) has severe vascular dementia and can't recall many things, friends say that, when Kaiser is mentioned, his face lights up and he boasts, "I worked for Kaiser in Ghana, West Africa, and Tacoma, WA." He still recognizes **Chuck Schimmel** and **Ralph Veller** and talks to **John Koger** in Spokane, WA. Bob also traveled to Bethesda, MD in June to see his grandson graduate. He has nine grandchildren in all, with one currently attending the University of Alabama and another attending the University of Maryland.

Since retiring, **Gordon Goble** (Gal-



One of the beautiful restorations by former Ravenswood, WV, employee Gordon Goble.

lipolis, OH) has restored 12 vintage vehicles, the oldest being a 1921 Ford Model T touring car, and the newest, a 1968 Mustang convertible. His collection also includes a 1926 Buick and several Model A Fords. He and his wife divide their time between their home in Ohio, a beach front condo in Garden City, SC, and a home in Fort Pierce, FL.

**Robert Putnam** (Waynesville, NC) says he doesn't have a lot of hobbies any more but really enjoys reading the KASRA Newsletter. "It helps us through the winter," he says. **Woody Sorensen** (Scottsdale, AZ) and his wife Marlowe recently moved to a smaller home in the area. The former Chemicals Division worker likes to golf and go cycling. Self-employed, Woody travels for business about twice a month. Marlowe keeps busy volunteering with the Hospice of the Valley in Scottsdale, AZ.



Sonja and Gene Whitcombe enjoyed seeing old friends and former co-workers at Tacoma's December luncheon.

**Margaret Gayda** (Lacey,

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WA), surviving spouse of Al Gayda, loves living close to her family. Last November, her son-in-law John was elected King County Sherriff. "The whole family participated in his campaign – walking in parades, fairs and attending rallies," says Margaret. The active senior also loves driving her Honda Element. "It's not a typical older lady car and the bag boys at Safeway think I'm cool," she adds. **Bill Jordan** (Canton, GA) checked off one of his "bucket list" items when he shot his age in golf. "I shot an 80 at age 80. I did play from the forward tees, however," he laughs.

An avid ham radio operator, **Joe Darling** (Bristol, RI) would love to hear from other retirees. He recently sold his boat and bought a new toy – a 1994 Mazda Miata convertible. "Good for picking up chicks," he jokes. He might just drive it

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season often allows us to pause long enough to reflect on what really matters. It is during this holiday season that we are often reminded again of the wonders of life and its fragility. The textures of both joy and sorrow weave a fabric of the year as we close one and begin another. At the end of the day, it comes down to life being a "gift." Our "gift" always is to make music with all that we have, and then, when that is no longer possible, to make music with all that we have left.

Hope the year 2014 brings you joy, health, prosperity and wonderful memories!

*Chris*

Chris Laszcz-Davis  
President, KASRA



on his annual trip to his daughter's home in Beaufort, SC. "Where I don't have to shovel now," he adds.

## *In Memoriam*



*Delou Bowers, Fort Myers, FL*  
*William M. Carey, Jr. - Metairie, LA*  
*Marshall Eubanks - Lady Lake, FL*  
*Kellis M. Howery - Lakeland, FL*  
*Dan Perry - Deer Park, WA*  
*Harry A. Ray, Bensenville, IL*  
*David W. Rowe - Truckee, CA\**

*Sam S. Salvaggio, Sr.*  
*Orangeburg, SC*

*James R. "Jim" Schultz*  
*El Dorado Hills, CA*

\* Died more than one year ago.

Please inform us of a retiree or spouse passing. Include date of death, city and state, and first name of surviving spouse. If possible, a copy or link to the obituary or name of the newspaper would be helpful. Contact Klaus Adler, 1127 Rachele Rd., Walnut Creek, CA 94597 or (925) 935-2938 or [kcharlie34@comcast.net](mailto:kcharlie34@comcast.net).

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

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### KASRA Board of Directors

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We're on the Web!  
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### Jan. 6, Feb. 3, Mar. 3 Los Angeles

Lunch is usually held at Noon on the first Monday of each month at The Elephant Bar, 1403 Firestone Ave., La Mirada. Contact Bob O'Leary at [\(714\) 898-7463](tel:7148987463) to confirm time and location.

### Jan. 9, Feb. 13., Mar. 13 Mead

Lunch at 11:30 A.M. at Cathay Inn, North Division St. Contact Danny Petruss at (509) 483-2171 or [dpr70@comcast.net](mailto:dpr70@comcast.net).

### Jan. 18, Feb. 15, Mar. 15

Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. at Colony Restaurant. Call Tim Healy at (814) 474-3536, fax (814) 474-2700 or email [thealy7@verizon.net](mailto:thealy7@verizon.net).

### Jan. 31

Breakfast at 9:00 a.m. at Shoney's Restaurant, Garfield Ave. Parkersburg. Visitors always welcome. Contact Betty Blair at (304) 489-1337 or [Bettylou13@suddenlink.net](mailto:Bettylou13@suddenlink.net).

### Feb. 11, Apr. 15

Lunch 11:00 a.m. at Stacy's Hometown Buffet, Heath. Please note: lunch is paid for by the Newark plant. Contact Bill



(L-R) Art Donaldson, Don Ditlevsen and Cliff Rider attended the Bay Area Holiday luncheon in December at the San Ramon Golf Club.

### Erie

Snider at (740) 403-8328 or [colbill44@roadrunner.com](mailto:colbill44@roadrunner.com).

### Mar. 12

Lunch 11:00 a.m. at La Rosetta Tratoria, 348 Robert Blvd., Slidel. Cost is \$20.00. Contact Chuck Schimmel at (985) 643-0437 or [schimcol@aol.com](mailto:schimcol@aol.com).

### Mar. 18, Apr. 15

Meet at 11:00 a.m. at the Valley Eagles, 16801 E. Sprague Ave. Hot lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. Mead retirees are always welcome. Following lunch, guest speaker will provide an update on the North/South Freeway project. Contact Steve Harvey at (509) 924-1132 or [Siharv3y@comcast.net](mailto:Siharv3y@comcast.net).

### Newark



(L-R) Augie Albano, Guy Robicheaux, and Frank Kraus attended Chalmette's holiday get together.