



Chris Laszcz-Davis
KASRA President

Visit website at
www.e-kasra.com

Do you know a retiree who has not signed up for the VEBA? Suggest they call the Delta Fund Administrators toll-free at (888) 344-8322 or email VEBA@deltafund.com.

Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees Association

A MESSAGE FROM THE KASRA PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Retirees/Surviving Spouses:

Thank you to all who responded to our July 2014 newsletter insert by sending in your annual KASRA dues. If you know of any fellow retirees or surviving spouses who are not presently KASRA members and would like to join, please ask them to simply return the enrollment form available on our website (www.e-kasra.com) together with the annual fee of \$10.00. KASRA strives to keep its members informed on issues and developments, especially those relating to the VEBA, COBRA coverage, senior issues, and the activities of retirees.

Thank you to Joanne Gutierrez for, once again, organizing the “work party” to inventory and process the membership payments. Volunteers this year included—**Steve Abernathy, Klaus Adler, Art Donaldson, John and Jayne Schnittker, and Erach Tarapore.**

COBRA or Bankruptcy COBRA benefits...if you have questions concerning those benefit plans, please contact: **Mark Krouse**, Vice President, Human Resources, Kaiser Aluminum Corporation, 27422 Portola Parkway, Suite 350, Foothill Ranch, CA 92610. Telephone: (949) 614-1773.

VEBA... if you have not already filed, there is still time to secure your maximum benefit of \$2,250 for 2013 and \$2,800 for 2014. It should be noted that if you do not file in a timely manner, all your rights to receive a Qualified Benefit shall expire and be forfeit. The expiration dates for the 2013 disbursement and

2014 disbursement, assuming you have previously enrolled in the VEBA, are December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2015 respectively. Take advantage of what you have coming back to you! VEBA enrollment and reimbursement request forms are available on the KASRA website. Please note VEBA’s current contact information: Delta Fund Administrators, LLC, P.O. Box 2308, Stockton, CA 95201-2308. Telephone: (888) 344-8322(toll free) Email: VEBA@deltafund.com.

And finally, thank you to all who returned their “What’s Going On” forms. Contact us if you have any inquiries about any retiree matter, and we will try to assist you in any way we can. We also welcome any suggestions you may have to improve on the contents of our newsletters. Our contact information is listed right in the newsletter.

In the meantime, please stay active, keep in touch with friends and family, and remain healthy!

Chris

Chris Laszcz-Davis
President, KASRA

Calling on Veterans

We would like to put together a special November 2014 issue of the KASRA Newsletter for Veteran’s Day. If you served your country in any of the armed services, we’d like to hear about your experiences. Please send your story and photos (please!) to Sally Hogarty, P.O. Box 84, Canyon, CA 94516 or via email to sallyhogarty@gmail.com.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Accomplishments . . .

Congratulations to **Shirley Schmalfluss** (Oakland, CA). The former Oakland, CA, International Division worker has been exhibiting her acrylic paintings at various venues throughout the Bay Area. Shirley is also a member of the Oakland Art Association and managed to leave her paintings for a while to travel to Europe and take a Crystal Cruise on the Baltic Sea.

Birthdays and Anniversaries . . .

A 26-day cruise of England, France and the Baltics helped **James Pantaleo** (Spokane Valley, WA) celebrate his 78th birthday. He and his wife Shirley said the highlight of the trip was a visit to the Normandy beaches and cemetery for the 70th anniversary of D-Day and the two-day stop in St. Petersburg, Russia. When not traveling the world, the former Trentwood, WA, worker delivers meals on wheels, is active in his church and enjoys digital photography and gardening. **Robert Newsom** (Baton Rouge, LA) and his wife Lucy celebrated 57 years of marriage in June. The former Gramery Works, LA, and Ravenswood, WV, worker enjoys gardening and traveling to Ohio and California to visit family.



Jim and Shirley Pantaleo celebrated his 78th birthday in St. Petersburg, Russia.

John Sprowl (Spokane, WA) and his wife Shirley celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in August. "I love staying home, enjoying the warm weather and playing with



Shirley Schmalfluss has been exhibiting her paintings.

my model railroad." **Robert Young** (McMinnville, OR) and his wife just celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary. They also enjoyed a visit from fellow Kaiser retiree **Gordon Hubbard** (Lake Roosevelt, WA) and his wife Carol. When not visiting with friends, Robert enjoys woodworking, gardening, fishing and singing in church.

On June 28, **William Bartlett** (Ravenswood, WV) held his 90th birthday celebration at Ravenswood Senior Citizen Center. According to his daughter Brenda Conley, close to 200 people attended. "That was one of the best days of my life," says the retiree from Ravenswood who still lives with his wife in Ravenswood, WV, and can often be seen riding his bike.

A Little of This, A Little of That . . .

Former Erie Works, PA, employee **Janice Coon Smith** (Erie, PA) says she's enjoying good health and feels very blessed. **Bob Schoen** (Baton Rouge, LA) still works two days a week at the Gramercy, LA, plant but also does lots of hunting,

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fishing, gardening, beekeeping and cutting grass. Most of his travel involves visiting grandchildren. **Joanne Clevenger** (Letart, WV) enjoys quilting and getting together with other former Ravenswood, WV, retirees. **Rod McMillan** (Mt. Vernon, OH) restores old hand tools that he then sells to the Amish. He doesn't travel much anymore since losing his wife three years ago.

Tim Parker (Laguna Hills, CA) recently found out that his wife is related to President William Harrison, President Benjamin Harrison and Cornelius Vanderbilt, who founded Vanderbilt University. "Amazing what you can find out from old books and papers," says Tim, who worked at Oakland International, CA, and Trentwood, WA. When not looking up their ancestry, Tim and his wife travel to Omaha, NE, to watch their eldest grandson in baseball tournaments. "He's only 13 but already taller than his mother and me," says Tim. "I also keep busy around the house and as President of the Los Angeles Philanthropic Foundation." Still working at Kaiser in Trentwood, WA, **Thomas Shields** (Liberty Lake, WA) finds time for fishing, hunting, gem digging, travel-



Joanne Clevenger (L) and Sherry Miller enjoyed a Christmas dinner at the Green Hills Country Club in Ravenswood, WV.



William Bartlett at his 90th birthday party in Ravenswood, WV.

ing and enjoying his motor home with his wife Sadie. **Ruth Welcker** (New Orleans, LA) is grateful to her goddaughter who helps the 92-year-old get around.

Dennis DeMattia (Spokane, WA) has continued to follow a Kaiser project started in the mid-1970s by **Don Bristol**, then head of the Automated Applications Department in Oakland, CA. According to Dennis, it was one of the first microcomputer systems that controlled an industrial process. "In the late '70s and '80s, Kaiser manufactured many thousands of these systems, and after installing them in all the Kaiser plants, sold the technology all over the world. Called Celtrol, it still runs today, under different owners." In the early '90s, Kaiser redesigned the hardware and software at the Division Technology Center at Mead, WA. This past summer, Dennis hosted a group of retirees who worked on the revised Celtrol product at his house in Deer Lake,

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WA. “Don, now 89, was there along with **Chuck Myers**, who headed the second revision. We also had a lunch last April for the group and both **Steve Price** and **Garry Woollette** were able to attend. We hope to do more gatherings in the future,” Dennis adds.

Trentwood, WA, retiree **Alan Van Deusen** (Discovery Bay, CA) credits **Don Fallquist**, **Bob Buckner** and **Duncan Gregg** for his position at Kaiser Aluminum in 1964. Before his retirement many years later, Alan also worked at CFT in Pleasanton, CA, Kaiser Center in Oakland, CA, the Packaging Division in San Leandro, CA, Baton Rouge Works, LA, Gramercy Works, WA, and Trentwood Works, WA. After retiring from Kaiser, Alan spent two years as the purchasing agent at Aluminum Smelter Company of Nigeria in Ikot Abasi, Nigeria. Upon returning to the U.S., he established Van Deusen Enterprises, which today specializes in the export of industrial equipment and spares to Nigeria. Alan’s grandson Ben recently graduated from Tufts University in Boston, MA. Not only did Alan attend the graduation, but also took a side trip to Gloucester, MA, to catch up on some fishing history. Alan sends greetings to all of his former associates.

Rosita Dorrance (Oakland, CA) volunteers on Thursdays from 8 am – noon at the north entrance of the Kaiser Hospital in Oakland. She invites fellow retirees to stop by and say high. “I have developed macular degeneration, so if you come by, please let me know your name and where we met. I have a good memory but not so good eyesight,” she says.



Alan Van Deusen, a Trentwood, WA, retiree, now lives in Discovery Bay, CA.

Best Wishes . . .

John Clifford Goodwin (Addis, LA) is battling lung cancer, but according to his wife, Janice, he’s doing well with his treatments. Also, please keep **Jeanette Guillaume** (Gonzales, LA) in your thoughts. She has had two more surgeries but is still confined to her bed.

Carl Hinger (Spanish Fort, AL) enjoys reading the KASRA newsletter while caring for his wife whose brain cancer has left her paralyzed on her left side. “I don’t get out much anymore, but I certainly enjoy keeping up with my former friends and colleagues through the newsletter.”

“There comes a time in your life, when you walk away from all the drama and people who create it. You surround yourself with people who make you laugh. Forget the bad, and focus on the good. Love the people who treat you right, pray for the ones who don’t. Life is too short to be anything but happy. Falling down is part of life, getting back up is living.”

-- Jose N. Harris

MEMBER PROFILE: Pete Miranda

Ninety-five years young, **Pete Miranda** lives on his farm in Plaquemine, LA, with his youngest son Brian, daughter-in-law Brenda and dog Doodie. He worked for Kaiser in Baton Rouge, LA, for over 30 years.

How did you start working for Kaiser?

I knew some people who worked there, including my brother-in-law, Tony Savariste, who worked in the chemicals division, and who thought it would be a good job for me. At that time, so many people were looking for work. I would drive the 15 miles from Plaquemine, LA, to Baton Rouge, LA, and just hang around. I was there so often that people got to know me. Eventually, I was hired in the maintenance department.

Tell us about your career with Kaiser.

I did a little bit of everything, working primarily in the field and in the machine shop. But then, the plant manager found

out I had gone to business school and was a notary public and before I knew it, I had been moved into the maintenance division office.

I did all sorts of things for Kaiser including notarizing loan documents for employees through our credit union. When there was a party or awards function, I'd be asked to coordinate the party and do the barbecuing. Once when someone brought his 10-day old Shetland pony to our guard gate, I was called to come up and handle it. Everyone knew I loved animals and had been involved with 4-H, so I was the natural one to call.

What were your favorite things about working for Kaiser?

There were so many things that it's hard to choose. I worked with some really good people, especially my administrative assistant **Theresa Linton** and my supervisor **W.B. "Buddy" Gallent**. I



In 1971, Pete (2nd row, 3rd from the right) poses with other workers, at Baton Rouge, LA, who were honored for 30 years of service.

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.

* Photos encouraged.

(Members Profile, from Page 5)

had a tough childhood and youth. My family was very poor – lots of hard times but, at Kaiser, people treated me so good. They gave me lots of opportunities and treated me with dignity.

Are you still in touch with anyone from Kaiser?

Unfortunately, most of the people I worked with have passed on. But, I still exchange birthday and Christmas cards with my former assistant, **Theresa Linton**. She used to call me “Mr. Pete,” and she was so competent and helpful -- very hard working. She even came to my 95th birthday party. I hadn’t seen her in so many years, and she turned up with her family, a birthday gift, and, to my surprise, a very special thank you present. When she worked for me and was expecting, she would get so hungry



Theresa Linton (far right), Pete’s former administrative assistant at Baton Rouge, LA, surprised him when she came to his 95th birthday party. Also shown are Theresa’s family (far left) and Pete’s daughter-in-law Brenda.

before her lunch break that I’d share my peanut butter and crackers. So here she shows up at my birthday party with a beautiful gift bag full of crackers and peanut butter and a thank you card! She said she was finally paying me back.

Tell us about your family.

My wife Mary Ann and I had two sons, Glenn and Brian, and a daughter, Janet. Mary Ann passed away over 20 years ago. Now, I live on our working 40-acre cattle farm with our youngest boy Brian and my daughter-in-law Brenda. I guess Brian and I have always been a bit alike. When Brian was little, friends referred to us as “Pete and Re-Pete.” He’s now in his 34th year working at a local chemical plant. Like me, he has become a notary public and, along with Brenda, maintains the farm. Brenda also gets to take care of me! I have six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren with another one due in March 2015. They all live close by.

What are you doing now?

I continued to do notary work until last year. Now, I take care of the farm with the help of Brian and Brenda, and I’m still very active with 4-H. You can usually



Pete helps a young 4-H member care for his chicken.

(Members Profile, from Page 6)

find me at the stockyard cattle sale in Baton Rouge every Monday.

How long have you been involved with 4-H?

I started hanging out at the 4-H offices when I was a young kid. I loved cows but just didn't have the money to have one myself. That was in the 1920s and 30s. I eventually got involved and haven't stopped since.



Pete demonstrates to a group of preschoolers how to bottle feed a calf. The little girl inside the fence is Pete's granddaughter, Brittany.

Years ago, I noticed other kids hanging around the 4-H like I used to do and could see how fascinated they were with the animals. So I started a little Petting Zoo on a corner of our farm, and kids would come out and see the horses, rabbits, cows and goats. Pretty soon, I started getting calls from members of the community asking me if I could bring the zoo to different areas.

You were recently inducted into the Louisiana 4-H Hall of Fame. What was that like?

It was very special. I got a big trophy



Surrounded by his family, Pete holds his award inducting him into the Louisiana 4-H Hall of Fame. (L-R) His son Brian, Pete, daughter-in-law Brenda and grandson Brant.

and everything. The award was for my 86 years in the program, which they couldn't have kept me away from anyway! I'm just passionate about livestock and working with the youth of our community. It's what I love to do. Recently, we had an 8-year-old and his father come over to the house and ask for help on a chicken project. I love doing things like that.

Pete's daughter-in-law Brenda speaks.

Pete is an inspiration. I am learning that tenacity (a/k/a stubbornness) aimed in the right direction can add to your longevity. Pete expects a lot from himself, especially physically. As his physical abilities fade, he draws strength from his strong will, and then he accomplishes things I didn't think he could, or even should at his age. I feel very blessed to spend these years with him.

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We're on the Web!
See us at:

www.e-kasra.com

Sep 8, Oct 6

Los Angeles

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

Sep 11, Oct 9

Mead

Lunch at 11:30 a.m. at Cathay Inn, North Division St. Contact Danny Petrus (509) 483-2171 or Dpjr70@comcast.net to confirm.

Sep 3

Chalmette

Lunch at 11:00 a.m. at La Rosetta Trattoria, 345 Robert Blvd, Slidel. Cost \$20. Contact Chuck Schimmel to confirm at (985) 643-0437 or schimcol@aol.com.

Sep 20, Oct 18

Erie

Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. at Shirley's Country Kitchen, Wattsburg Rd., Erie. Contact Tim Healy (814) 474-3536 to confirm.

Oct 14

Newark

Lunch 11:00 a.m. at Stacy's Hometown Buffet, Heath. Note: Lunch is paid for by the Newark plant. Contact Bill Snider at (740) 403-8328 or colbill44@roadrunner.com.

Oct 31

Belpre

Breakfast 9:00 a.m. at Shoney's Restaurant, Garfield Ave. Parkersburg. Visitors always welcome. RSVP to Betty Blair (304) 489-1337 or bettylou13@suddenlink.net.

Oct 21

Trentwood

Lunch – Meet at 11:00 a.m. with a hot meal served at 11:30. Location: The Valley Eagles, 16801 E. Sprague Ave. Guest speaker: Jed Daniel. His topic: "All You Need to Know About VEBA and More." Mead and Tacoma KASRA retirees are warmly invited. Contact Steve Garvey (509) 924-1132 or slharv3y@comcast.net.

October

Bay Minette

Contact Betty Wilson at (251) 610-5611 or bsw1939@netzero.com for date, time and location for the October gathering.

In Memoriam

*Anthony "Tony" Anderson -
Dayton, OH*

Howard C. Barnes - Wilson, NC

*Lawrence P. Bourgeois -
Chalmette, LA*

Howard P. Brelsford - Bristol, RI

Roy J. Couvillion - Plaquemine, LA

William J. Clair Jr. -

New Orleans, LA

William L. Cohee - Medford, OR

Fred E. Farhat - Danville, CA

John D. Fox - West Richland, WA

*James (Ham) R. Hammond Jr. -
Danville, CA*

*John "J.H." Lambert Jr. -
Gonzales, LA*

Andrew W. Lawlor - Fairview, PA

John Q. Menesses -

North Richland Hills, TX

Walter E. Peak - Hayden, ID

Ronald R. Royer - Spokane Valley, WA

Patricia G. Rubeck - Newark, OH

James R. "Jim" Shaw - Atlanta, GA

John H. Tabor - Ravenswood, WV

Carl R. Van Sickle - Cottageville, WV

Richard Vargas - Redding, CA

Robert D. Volkmar - Waterford, PA

Ellen H. Whiting - Melbourne, FL

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