



Doug Mann  
KASRA President

*Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees Association*

**A MESSAGE FROM THE KASRA PRESIDENT**

Dear Fellow Retirees/Surviving Spouses:

This is my first communication as your new President, and I am excited and humbled by the prospect of my new role. I've met a number of you during my 32 year career with Kaiser. Although based principally in Oakland, CA, I traveled extensively throughout the system establishing many memorable relationships with other Kaiser employees. I hope through my new role as your President, to make even more memorable relationships.

Every year in July KASRA holds it's annual membership drive. Included with this July issue of the News is a letter from me indicating your current dues status.

As you renew your membership, please remember to indicate any change of address on the green Dues Renewal form provided. In this way, we can be sure to keep you informed on matters arising on both KASRA and VEBA. We encourage those of you who have allowed your membership to lapse to rejoin us. We also encourage those who have never been members to join.

The board members of the Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees Association (KASRA) are all volunteers, and I'd like to thank them for their time, skill and personal commitment in keeping our organization moving and informative. Our continuing Board members include: **Klaus Adler, Steve Ping** and **Erach Tarapore**. In addition, we have seven new Board members: **Ed Coyne, Tim Parker, Chuck Schimmel, Norm**

**Schwemberger, T. J. Summerson, Mike Venie and Dave Whitman.**

In addition, **Chris Laszcz-Davis, Ed Quinnan** and **Ed Westerman**, who recently retired from the Board, have agreed to serve in an advisory capacity for which we are most grateful.

Others who directly assist the Board in a number of ways include: **Steve Abernathy, Joanne Gutierrez, Dick Kauffman, Kari Dahlen, Sally Hogarty, Sharon Fraetis, Carlos Xavier** and **Michelle Alviso** of A-Mailing.

In addition, I would like to mention and thank our field representatives for keeping the Board informed of news in their respective regions. They are: **Charlie Alexandre** (Bristol/Portsmouth), **Betty Blair** (Belpre), **TJ Summerson** (Spokane), **Tim Healy** (Erie), **Danny Petruss** (Mead), **Bob Mohr** (Tacoma), **Bob Eisenbach** (Baton Rouge), **Chuck Schimmel** (New Orleans), **Bill Snider** (Newark), **Bob O'Leary** (Los Angeles) and **Dave Whitman** (Ravenswood). And, finally, we'd like to thank our many KASRA members who have shared their lives with us through the newsletter.

By now, all eligible members of the Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees VEBA will have received a letter from the VEBA Board of Trustees advising them of the \$3,300 maximum qualified benefit for the year 2015. You have until December 31, 2016 to file your claim for the 2015 benefit. We want to take this opportunity to thank the volunteer VEBA Trustees: **Art Donaldson, Doug Allen** and **Jed Daniel** for their dedication in

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 the Delta Fund Administrators toll-free at (888) 344-8322 or email [VEBA@deltafund.com](mailto:VEBA@deltafund.com).

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### Accomplishment . . .

Congratulations to **Ken Hasse** (El Dorado, CA) and his wife Nancy. The couple recently learned they are among only 21 individuals and organizations nationwide to be honored with a 2015 Wildfire Mitigation Award. Ken worked at CFT in Pleasanton, CA, from 1969 – 1996.

### Birthday and Anniversaries . . .

A very special birthday wish goes out to surviving spouse **Gretta Byrne** (Haines City, FL) who turns 90 on July 8. Her husband, **Francis W. Byrne**, worked at Kaiser's Gramercy plant. Gretta enjoys playing cards and dominos, crocheting and reading.

**Orville Benjamin** (Coeur D Alene, ID) is looking forward to celebrating his 104th birthday on September 12. The Kaiser Trentwood retiree has given up most of his hobbies but still enjoys reading.

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

"We may not have had the most modern of plants and equipment, but we had the best managers and personnel," recalls **Frank Davis Jr.** (Sikeston, MO). Frank



**Frank Davis worked for Kaiser until 2004 and then continued in the industry with Noranda Aluminum until 2014.**

began his career at Kaiser's Chalmette plant in 1978 as a Shift Supervisor in the Potrooms before moving to VALCO in Ghana, West Africa, Mead, Raven-



**Ken Hasse (R) and his wife Nancy were recently honored with a Wildfire Mitigation Award.**

swood and back to VALCO. By 1990, he found himself in Tacoma, WA, as the Potroom Superintendent. He eventually became the HR Manager for Tacoma before being transferred back to VALCO in 1999. He continued working for Kaiser as Production Manager until 2004 when VALCO was sold to the Ghana government. "I loved every place I worked and made many friends at each location. I would have loved to finish my aluminum career at Kaiser but it was not to be," says Frank.

Hired by **Noranda Aluminum** as the Reduction Manager in October of 2004, he went on to become VP and Plant Manager of the Noranda New Madrid Smelter. He retired from Noranda at the end of 2014. "There were six or seven people at Kaiser that were great mentors and great managers. It was a privilege to work for them and learn from them. While at Noranda, I was able to again work with some great ex-Kaiser people who found work here after Kaiser exited the Reduction and Alumina businesses." When not working, Frank enjoys raising roses, traveling and South African wines. "Not necessarily in that order," he adds.

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Surviving spouse **Gail Buck** (Leon, WV) began square dance class when her husband, former Ravenswood worker **Clodus B. Buck**, passed away. "It's good exercise and I've met lots of nice people," she says. When not taking care of her sister, Gail works part-time for the National Agriculture Statistic Services. "I do a little traveling around the state and get to know some of the farmers," she adds. "They are very nice and helpful, making my job easy."

**Jacqueline Singer** (Appleton, NY) finally sold her big house and bought an old farm house near by. "I'm busy improving it now. Big job," she explains. "But the view over Lake Ontario and our apple orchards is a delight. I hope other retirees will come and visit and see it for themselves." **Betty Lou Koska** (Winnemucca, NV) says she's too busy for hobbies. She recently enjoyed a trip with her daughter and two grandchildren and is now busy helping with her local fair.

### Traveling Near and Far . . .

A Mediterranean cruise from Barcelona to Venice, a Caribbean cruise and a cruise to the San Juan Islands off the State of



**Will Roussel enjoys the view from his ship on a recent Mediterranean cruise.**



**(L-R) Dot Creel, Dot Drennan and Al Miller at Chalmette's June 2015 luncheon.**

Washington gave **Will Roussel** (Baton Rouge, LA) and his wife lots of fun memories. The former Gramercy Alumina worker served as a member and chairman of the River Parishes Chemical Industry Council for 30 years. His community work also included chairman of Gramercy Recreation District, founder of St. James Excellence in Education Program, board member of Capitol Area United Givers, chairman of St. James AARP, president of St. James Community Theater and a member of the Lutchter-Gramercy Lions Club.

**Seldon W. Angus** (Sandyville, WV) traveled to Myrtle Beach, SC, in April and then to Salt Lake City, Utah, in May. When not traveling, Seldon likes to spend time with his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He also enjoys fishing and playing golf and volunteering at the Sandyville Senior Center. Ravenswood retiree **Lee Corder** (Ravenswood, WV) and his wife Sue Ann visited granddaughters Molly and Sally in Silverdale, WA.

**John Sprowl** (Spokane, WA) and his wife **Shirley**, both World War II veterans, were part of this year's honor flight to Washington, DC. John, who worked in the Department Metallurgical Research at Trentwood, WA, and then at the Center

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for Technology in Pleasanton, CA, served aboard a destroyer while Shirley did duty in the Waves. There were 100 veterans and escorts on the flight. The honor flights are funded by donations and are free to the veterans. The airline terminal at Spokane was filled with well wishers, families, State Patrol officers and a local motorcycle club as the veterans returned. Large American flags formed an archway for the veterans to pass under as they came down the terminal ramp.

### Best Wishes . . .

Condolences to the family and friends of **Polly Baud**, who died on March 30, 2015. She was the surviving spouse of **Charlie Baud** and condolences also to the family and friends of **Theresa Proto**, who passed away on May 17, 2015. She was the surviving spouse of **Nicholas Proto**.



**John Sprowl shakes hands with a State Patrolman as he and his wife Shirley (with flowers) return from Honor Flight, where both were honored for their service during World War II.**

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overseeing our VEBA investments. Please remember you have until December 31, 2015 to file your claim for the 2014 maximum benefit of \$2,800. Also, remember to notify the VEBA administration office of any address change as this is key to receiving their annual correspondence. Their address is: Delta Fund Administrators, LLC, and P.O. Box 2308, Stockton, CA, 95201-2308. Email: VEBA@Deltafund.com. This same address change information should also be sent to the KASRA office listed below. We, as well as your fellow KASRA members, enjoy hearing about you. So please complete the enclosed "What's Going On" form and send it along with your membership renewal to KASRA, P.O. Box 1171, Lafayette, CA 94549. Photos are always appreciated.

And, in closing, I want to personally thank you for your past as well as your continuing support of KASRA and its Board. It's an all-volunteer organization that spends many hours performing its principle role - that of communicating to you. So please continue to communicate with us so we in turn can continue to keep your newsletter full of information about your fellow members along with other pertinent KASRA updates.

I'm here! So stop by on the Internet and say "hello." My email address is corom@aol.com.

Best!

Doug Mann  
President, KASRA

## MEMBER PROFILE: Joanne Gutierrez

Administrative Assistant/Secretary **Joanne Gutierrez** worked for Kaiser for close to 40 years. During her long career, she worked with many of the people who would help transform Kaiser into a giant in the aluminum industry. She and her husband of 57 years, Bernard, who worked for Bechtel before retiring in 2000, live in Pleasant Hill, CA. They have a son, also named Bernard, and a daughter, Veronica, and four granddaughters.

### Where are you from?

I was born in CleElum, WA. But I grew up in a little coal mining town near there called Ronald. You could hear the coal mines going all night and cows would wander up and down the streets. We even had a fire engine pulled by horses. When I was 7 years old, we came to the Bay Area on vacation and never left!

### When did you start working for Kaiser?

I first began in 1960 in Oakland, CA, in the Kaiser Center. With experience as a legal secretary, I thought I'd be working in Kaiser's Legal Department, but they needed me elsewhere. I first worked for **Dan Cheney**, part of the Department of Metallurgical Research at Trentwood and then **Hollis McLaughlin** in Aircraft and Defense. I had so much to learn about each area, but I really enjoyed it.

In 1968, while working for **Art Branstad**, our second child Bernard was born and I retired. That didn't last long, however. I got a call from Kaiser saying that **Sam Whiteside** needed a secretary and would I fill in for three months until his secretary returned. I agreed, but then she never came back, and I ended up staying with Kaiser until 1999 when I

really retired.

While working for Sam, I learned about Sheet and Plate/Mill Products. I had no idea all this existed until I started working for Kaiser. It was an exciting time as the company expanded into so many areas and places around the world.

I also had the opportunity to work in Personnel and Human Resources. I first worked for **Will Huffstutler** and **Tom Dwyer**, taking care of personnel work for the Fabricated Products and Sales organization. I later worked for others in the department including **John Schnittker** and **Dick Lemyre**. Before I left Personnel, I worked for **Ray McMullin**, Director of Human Resources, and his successor, **Roger Dunn**.

Moving to Pleasanton, CA, after the Kaiser Center sold also brought a whole new set of experiences, but I was always so fortunate to work with wonderful people like **Steve Hutchcraft**, who really made use of my shorthand skills, **Joe Bonn**, **Ray Milchovich**, **George Haymaker**, **Mick Seidl** and so many more. I never really had any complaints. I guess I was lucky to work for such good people.

### What was your biggest challenge working for Kaiser?



The Steelworkers' negotiations in May of 1983 in New Orleans, LA. (L-R) Ron Radakovich, Betty Perez, Joanne Gutierrez, Jim Presley, Bobbie Mazurie, Larry Stewart and MaryLou Domenichelli

### 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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Learning to use a manual typewriter! Of course, I'm just kidding but when I started in 1960, I was used to an electric typewriter and, at the time, Kaiser had mostly manuals. Boy did my fingers hurt until I found an electric and had it moved to my desk.

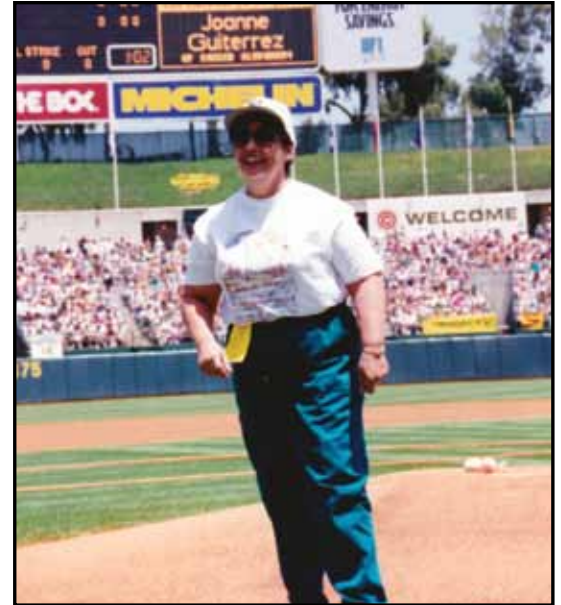
But, seriously, probably the biggest challenge and also most exciting aspect of my job was moving into Personnel. Once again, I had a big learning curve. The terminology and forms needed were so different. I didn't know anything about personnel at the time, but I certainly learned.

#### **What made personnel so exciting?**

It allowed me to learn so much about all the company's operations and all the wonderful people involved. I even got to go to New Orleans, LA, with the Labor Relations Group for a month to type up the minutes of the various meetings during the Steelworkers' negotiations.

#### **One of the new things you had to learn dealt with baseball, right?**

Yes, probably the most exciting thing I did while at Kaiser was throw out the first pitch at an Oakland A's game. Every year, Kaiser put on a Super Heroes' Day at the Oakland Coliseum. Usually a member of management threw out the first pitch so when **Steve Hutchcraft** said it would be me, I didn't believe him at first. I had both my son and daughter help me practice throwing the ball for weeks before hand. On the day of the game, **Jerry Carrell** took me down to field level. I was so nervous, and I wanted Jerry to walk out to the pitcher's mound with me; he said no and that I needed to do this by myself. Somehow I got through this. I got the ball to the A's catcher Terry Steinbach, who signed it. Afterwards,



**Joanne Guterrez throws out the first pitch at Kaiser Aluminum Day at the Oakland A's baseball game.**

Tony La Russa also signed the ball. I still have it.

#### **After retirement, you were still affiliated with Kaiser, correct?**

Yes, I joined the KASRA board in 2000. I served as a board member for six years before stepping down. Now I answer the KASRA phone and pick up the mail and deal with dues, address changes, etc. I work with some of the same people that I did when I worked for Kaiser. I remember working with **John Schnittker** when he was in Recruiting and Human Resources and with Controller **Art Donaldson**. Now, we work together in KASRA as fellow retirees. I'm also working with **Dan Dahlen's** daughter **Kari**, who also worked weekends and holidays at Kaiser while she was in college. Dan worked for Kaiser in the Legal Department, and now Kari takes care of the database for KASRA.

I also really enjoy talking with the KASRA members. Some of them I knew from before, and it's always nice to renew

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an old acquaintance.

### **What do you do when not working for KASRA?**

My husband Bernie and I used to love going on cruises, but we both have some leg problems which makes long plane rides uncomfortable, so we stay closer to home. Luckily, our daughter and son-in-law and granddaughters Nicole and Hannah, live close by in Pleasant Hill, CA. Our son, daughter-in-law and granddaughters Sophie and Ellie live in Mt. View, CA, so we spend lots of time with family. We also love to travel to Monterey, CA, and up to wine country in Napa, CA, as well as spending time tending our garden. And, being Italian, I love to cook. I used to make my own

pasta. My mom and I would get together and make raviolis all day. But that's so much work, so I gave my granddaughter Sophie, who also loves to cook, our pasta maker. Now, she's the one making all these wonderful fresh pastas. She sends me pictures of the rows of pasta drying. Nice to know it's being put to good use!



**(L-R) Granddaughters Nicole and Hannah, Joanne and her husband Bernard, granddaughters Ellie and Sophie.**

## **NEW BOARD MEMBER – DAVE WHITMAN**

**Dave Whitman** (Ravenswood, WV) worked for Kaiser for 37 years beginning in 1957, as a 21-year-old clerk in Ravenswood's Cold Rolling Mill. Dave worked at Ravenswood three separate times as well as Oakland, CA, Belpre, OH, Toledo, OH, Mexico, MO, and Newark, OH. He retired in 1996 as Plant Manager of Newark RBW. Dave has been a KASRA Regional Director for over 16 years, serving as a link between the KASRA board and Ravenswood.



Dave and his wife of 55 years, Dotty, live on a small farm in Ravenswood and have two sons, five grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Their son Mark lives in Columbus, OH, where he owns his own business, is an ordained minister and, as a black belt, competes in competitive martial arts. Mark's wife does cancer research at the James Cancer Center. Son Scott recently built a home on the family farm in Ravenswood and owns a business that services semi-trucks and trailers. His wife operates a restaurant and catering service.

During the winter months, Dave and Dotty love to travel, spending time in Myrtle Beach, SC, as well as visiting special friends. During the rest of the year, Dave can be found in his woodworking shop, in his garden or cutting grass with one of his John Deere tractors. The busy new board member also finds time to volunteer at his church.

P.O. Box 1171  
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E-Mail:  
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### KASRA Board of Directors

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Tim Parker  
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Norm Schwenberger  
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Mike Venie  
Dave Whitman

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Chris Laszcz-Davis  
Ed Quinnan  
Ed Westerman

We're on the Web!  
See us at:

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

**Bay Minette** **Oct 17**  
Lunch at 1:00 p.m., Street's Restaurant.  
Contact Betty Wilson. (251) 610-5611 or  
bsw1939@netzero.com to confirm. Visi-  
tors welcome.

**Belpre** **Aug 27**  
Lunch at 12:00 noon, Western Sizzlin  
Steak House, Lubeck, Ravenswood exit,  
Parkersburg. Contact Betty Blair (304)  
489-1337 or bettylou13@suddenlink.net  
to confirm.

**Chalmette** **Sept 2**  
Lunch at 11:00 a.m. at NOLA Lagniappe,  
1375 Gause Blvd., Slidell. Cost \$20.  
Contact Chuck Schimmel (985) 643-  
0437 or schimcol@aol.com to confirm.

**Erie** **Jul 18, Aug 15**  
Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. at Shirley's Coun-  
try Kitchen, Wattsburg Rd., Erie. Contact  
Tim Healy (814) 474-3536 or  
thealy7@verizon.net to confirm.

**Los Angeles** **Jul 6, Aug 3**  
Lunch at 12:00 noon at Marie Callen-  
dar's, 540 N. Euclid, West Anaheim.  
Contact Bob O'Leary (714) 898-7463 or  
robemmet39@gmail.com to confirm.

**Mead** **Jul 7, Aug 13**  
Lunch at 11:30 a.m. at Cathay Inn, North  
Division St. Contact Danny Petrus (509)  
483-2171 or dpjr70@comcast.net to  
confirm.

**Newark** **Aug 11, Oct 13**  
Lunch at 11:00 a.m., Stacey's Hometown  
Buffet, Heath. Lunch paid for by the  
Newark plant. Contact Bill Snider (740)  
403-8328 or colbill44@roadrunner.com.

**Ravenswood** **Sep 10**  
Lunch at 12:00 noon at Cedar Lake, \$10  
Reserve by Sept. 5 with Pete Westenhav-  
er (304) 266-4109, Pete26164@gmail.  
com or Lee Corder (304) 273-5548.



(L-R) John D'Antonio and Joe Drennan enjoyed Chalmette's June 3 luncheon held at Nola Lagniappe restaurant in Slidell.

## In Memoriam

*Mary Elizabeth Bayer  
Mineral Wells, WV*

*Robert W. Carichoff  
Kouts, IN*

*Betsy Ross Grant  
San Leandro, CA*

*Armond B. Janke  
Deer Park, WA*

*Joseph S. Martin  
Bristol, RI*

*John Albert Metzler, Sr.  
Meraux, LA*

*Austin L. Miller  
Mexico, MO*

*John E. Neiheisel  
Judsonia, AR*

*Mary Oliver  
Warren, RI*

*Charles William Solak  
Newark, OH*

*Raymond Van Buskirk  
Moraga, CA*

*Manuel Luis Vieira, JR.  
Bristol, RI*

*Cleatus L. Ward  
Hermiston, OR*

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.