

Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees Association



Doug Mann
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.

Thank You to all the Kaiser Veterans

A MESSAGE FROM THE KASRA PRESIDENT

Greetings Fellow Retirees and Surviving Spouses:

On Veterans Day, November 11, we once again have the opportunity to thank our many veterans for serving so honorably and for defending this great nation of ours. Many did so on active duty while others served in the reserves. Whether a member of the Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard or Air Force, I'm very proud of all those veterans who unselfishly left their everyday lives to become a part of something much bigger. Of course, I carry a particular fondness towards those wearing Air Force blue as that was the branch in which I served.

For those who are currently serving, I'd like to extend a personal "Thank You." You do make a very important difference and we truly appreciate it. I'd also be remiss if I didn't extend an additional heart felt thanks to my fellow KASRA members who also served in the military during WWII, Korea, Viet Nam, and the Middle East. Thanks and God bless!

VEBA - You currently have until December 31, 2015 to apply for the 2014 maximum benefit of up to \$2,800 per family unit. Maximum benefit of up to \$3,300 per family unit for year 2015 must be applied for by December 31,

2016. It should be pointed out that if you do not file in a timely manner, all your rights to receive your qualified benefit for that year shall expire and be forfeited. So don't let this opportunity pass you by. Be sure to take advantage of what you have coming to you.

Any questions about VEBA should be directed to Delta Fund Administrator, LLC, P.O. Box 2308, Stockton, CA. 95201-2308. Toll free phone (888) 344-8322. Email: VEBA@deltafund.com.

In closing, I want to thank you for your continuing support of KASRA, its Board of Directors, and advisors who spend many volunteer hours performing its primary role - that of managing an organization of nearly 3,000 members.

That's it for now folks! My last letter for the year. So in closing, let me wish you and your family a happy Thanksgiving and a very blessed Christmas.

Keep healthy and stay young!!!

All the best,

Doug Mann
President, KASRA

WHAT'S GOING ON

Accomplishment . . .

Benita Schontag (Benicia, CA) and husband Peter have certainly been busy in retirement. In addition to the books that Benita has written, the pair have developed two larger keypads for iPhones and iPads. The EZ ABC keyboard runs IOS 8.0 and uses larger keys while their patented EZ Ond Hand keyboard for iPad facilitates typing of longer text or word processing and requires minimal movement of the hand to reach the keys. "The letter keys on both keyboards are in alphabetical order, which allows users to intuitively find the keys and facilitates its use in education," says Benita. Both are now available through Apple's App store.

Past KASRA President **Chris Laszcz-Davis** was recently asked to be a member of California State Assemblywoman Catherine Baker's Women's Advisory Council. She will provide input on issues of security, health, finance, education and family. The busy former VP for Kaiser also chaired the national Fall Health and Safety Conference held in Orlando, FL, in October.

Birthdays and Anniversaries . . .

James W. Miller (Rocky Point, NC) and



SueAnn and Lee Corder just celebrated 50 years of marriage.

his wife Erika celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary on July 16. They both love traveling in their motorhome to visit children, grandkids and great



Chris Laszcz-Davis is now a member of California State Assemblywoman Catherine Baker's Women's Advisory Council.

grandkids in Texas but prefer to spend their winters in Florida. The former Gramercy, LA, worker also likes doing Sudoku. **Gretta Byrne** (Haines City, FL) recently celebrated her birthday (she's not saying which one!) in style. Her three children put on quite a party with over 175 people enjoying good food, good drink, good music and, of course, good company.

Lee Corder (Ravenswood, WV) and his wife Sue Ann celebrated 50 years of marriage in August. "And we've only just begun," says Lee. **Anita (Hall) Parker** (Fairfield, CA) and her husband Harry celebrated their 29th anniversary earlier this year as well as her 94th birthday. Parker, a veteran of the Oakland Industrial Chemical Division, enjoys "golf, pool and reading as hobbies."

Howard Nelson (Alamo, CA), who served at the Chemical Division in Cleveland, celebrated his 80th birthday in Hawaii with three daughters, their spouses, and six adult grandchildren. **R. Leon Yoder** (Point Pleasant, WV) observed his 60th wedding anniversary on September 10th. **Lowell Barr** (Spokane Valley, WA), who worked at Trentwood, also cel-

(What's Going On, from Page 2)

celebrated his 60th anniversary October 8th with his wife Barbara and a gathering of family and friends.

Jerry Lambert (Covington LA) and his wife LeRene celebrated their 56th anniversary a couple of months back. Jerry earlier had spent five days in Washington, D.C. exploring national museums and monuments. He still volunteers at Lakeview Regional Medical Center. Jerry, who also volunteered at the Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center, takes pride in the fact that he is President of the eight-five members of the voluntary auxiliary at Lakeview, a group that worked over 32,000 hours last year and earned and donated \$40,000 to charity.

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

Jean E. Baysinger (Mexico, MO) volunteers at the local Veteran's Home and a nearby hospital. "I've taken eight of my 12 grand nieces and nephews to the Veteran's Home and junior volunteers and look forward to taking the other four when they turn 10," says Jean. Also volunteering is **Frank "Beef" Lewis** (Baton Rouge, LA) who has worked on the World War II Navy Fletcher-class destroyer, USS Kidd, DD661, for the past 20 years. The ship saw heavy action in World War II, participating in nearly every important naval campaign in the Pacific.

Formerly a worker at Newark, OH, **Rodney McMillan** (Mt. Vernon, OH) keeps busy purchasing and restoring old tools. He then sells them in Amish Country. Living the good life is **Sande Johnson** (Alameda, CA) who, at 92 years old, is "still hanging in there." Gardening for himself and others keeps **Charles Cager** (New Orleans, LA) busy. **Arun Bhatt** (Cerritos, CA) likes to play games on his iPad as well as practice Yoga at the gym. The retired maintenance supervisor also volunteers at a local senior citizen's

center and recently traveled to Las Vegas, NV.

Congratulations to **Harry Wenberg** (Saratoga, CA) and his wife who became great grandparents of a baby girl, Cameron. When not being a proud great grandparent, Harry plays contract bridge at the Saratoga Senior Center and enjoys watching the San Francisco Giants. Also a Giants fan is **Shirley Schmalfuss** (Oakland, CA). When not rooting for her favorite baseball team, Shirley likes to drive to Virginia City, NV, and Reno, NV. The former International Division worker is also a painter and has her work exhibit-



Shirley Schmalfuss loves to cheer on the San Francisco Giants at their beautiful AT&T Park in San Francisco, CA.

ed at the Oakland Chamber of Commerce and other venues.

Charles Porter (Newark, OH) spends his time doing wood work and small engine repair. Still light on her feet, **Phyllis Glubka** (Lincoln, CA) spends every Monday square dancing with the Sun City Squares of SC Lincoln Hills. She also traveled to Wisconsin last year to see her sisters and brothers. Surviving spouse **Jeanette Guillaume** (Gonzales, LA) is 90% disabled and can't get out much any more, but she does enjoy reading the KASRA Newsletter.

(What's Going On, continued Page 4)

(What's Going On, from Page 3)

Bill Hughes (Diamondhead, MS) went to work at Dow Chemical following his retirement from Kaiser. But now that the Dow plant is also out of operation, Bill spends his days fishing and hunting. Former Trentwood, WA, worker **Eugene Melanson** (Post Falls, ID), loves to go bowling and play golf and tend his garden. The 92-year-old remembers fondly the 2010 Honor Flight he took to Washington, DC. A World War II veteran, Eugene flew 34 combat missions as a ball turret gunner on a B24 bomber. Also involved in the military, **Charles "Chuck" Foster** (Buckhead, GA) is an American Legion Color Guard for military funerals. Also a former Trentwood, WA, worker,



Attending Tacoma's June 3, 2015 luncheon are Clark Kenney, Clara Kenney and Jim Giesy.

Chuck enjoys fishing, wood working, gardening and watching his grandson play soccer. He's also still involved with instrument/electrical maintenance and metal processing lines design.

Donald Skeens (Ravenswood, WV) stayed close to home this year raising a large garden this summer. While still enjoying golf, Donald also was an active member of the First United Methodist Church and volunteered with the Ravenswood Lions Club. **Doris Keiningham** (Danville, WV), who also last worked at Ravenswood and loves to travel, went on a twelve day Southern Caribbean cruise in January. Doris also loves to read, cross

stitch and explore the internet. **Richard E. Galloway** (Ravenswood, WV), from the Ravenswood's Engineering Department, has two main "jobs." He drives a school bus for the Jackson County schools. More importantly, he and his wife are raising their 11-year-old adopted granddaughter, Bailey. Small wonder that he lists his vacation travel as amusement parks, zoos, beaches and outlet malls in six different states. Richard still finds time to volunteer in the Ravenswood grade school kitchen at lunch time, participate in summer music camp for kids and serve as a board member of the Rosra Board.

Tony Procanik (Ormond Beach, FL) enjoyed two weeks in Phuket, Thailand, early in the year and some family visits to Columbia, South Carolina, and Naples, Florida. Tony, who reads for the blind and volunteers to support orphan children in Nepal, is also a voice-over artist. Photography, cooking and sports are other hobbies. Tony also does some work as an independent sales represen-

tative. **Verna Chapman** (Spokane Valley, WA), who last worked at Trentwood, checked in to note her love of gardening. **Warren Culpitts** (Reno, NV) also sent his greetings to all as did **Jim Hunter** (Ripley, WV), who last worked for S&P in Ravenswood, WV.

William (Pat) Harrington, Jr. (Hattiesburg, MS) moved to an independent living cottage in a newly developed retirement community after twenty years in his home. He still enjoys working with stained glass. **Bob Schoen** (Baton Rouge, LA), who worked at Alumina Gramercy, does consulting for Noranda, has traveled to Texas and Colorado, and enjoys

(What's Going On, continued Page 5)

(What's Going On, from Page 4)

the outdoors, bee keeping, hunting, fishing and gardening. **Guy A. Robicheaux** (Slidel, LA) enjoys woodworking and art. The Chalmette veteran, who recently rented a lake front cabin for a family get-together, is the treasurer of the Slidel Art league and takes time to enjoy his grandchildren and great-grandchildren as well as cut the grass for his handicapped neighbor.

Chuck Wilusz (Colonial Heights, VA), who eschews travel since “we [he and his wife Kathy] live in vacation land! It’s hard to leave,” does enjoy golf, bowling, and local history. He is president/owner of C.H.E.S.S. – a Colonial Heights management consulting business. Chuck, a member of the Citizens Police Force, is also president of his home owner’s association. **Wilma Tipton** (Anchorage, AK), who worked in Pleasanton, CA, and still visits family in California, loves living in Alaska: “I enjoy short trips around Alaska to view the spectacular scenery and breathe clean air. I have to watch out though when I go outside my condo, on the edge of the woods and a golf course. Bears and moose live on the golf course.” Wilma plays piano keyboard, gardens, knits (scarves to donate to homeless shelters) and reads, particularly now about Alaska’s history.

Kenneth E Duelley (Sevierville, TN) moved to Tennessee to be close to his son after living in Columbiana, Ohio, for 58 years. Kenneth, who was a shipping foreman for Kaiser, does bemoan the traffic in his new home town. **Anna Benevides** (Bristol, RI), who is ninety-one, keeps active serving as an accountant for her son’s restaurant in Fall River, Massachusetts. **Ford Evans** (Nicholson, MS) travels and sings gospel music in church and out. With experience from the service as a medic, the former Chalmette worker also helps take care of recovering pa-

tients, though also needing knee surgery soon. Ford really enjoys visiting friends and family in Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi and notes that this entails five generations of family. **Beverly Allphin** (Ponte Vedra Beach, FL) recently moved from Bay Village, OH, to a much milder climate in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL.

Traveling Near and Far . . .

Former Mead Works, WA, employee **Anne “Louise” Slusser** (Newport, WA) traveled to Everett, WA, to her daughter’s home for a visit. She returned to Everett for the Women’s State Bowling tournament. Last year, she made it to the the Women’s National tournament in Reno, NV. Anne also hosted the three year McIntosh Reunion recently which brought 53 relatives from across the United States for the family gathering. In her free time, Anne volunteers at her church putting together boxes for needy children in other countries and works with homeless youth in her area.

Roger Olson (Lake Havasu City, AZ) spends the summer months visiting family and friends in Spokane, WA, and belongs to an international travel club. When at home, he likes to go 4-wheeling in the desert and volunteer with the St. Vincent DePaul Food Bank. Former Kaiser Chemicals employee **Otto Weil**



Here is an old photo of Otto Weil supervising a sample run on Kaiser Chemicals pilot filling line at Dolton, IL. He was considered one of the finest aerosol technical men in the country at the time.

(What's Going On, continued Page 9)

MEMBER PROFILE: Richard (Dick) Humphrey

Dick Humphrey began working for Kaiser Aluminum in 1954 at Tacoma, WA, as a Production Trainee. He retired in 1989 in Oakland, CA, as Vice President and General Manager of Primary Aluminum Products. Dick, who lost his wife Vivian in 2010, continues to live in the home they built in Shingle Springs, CA.

College Graduation was a special day for you. Tell us about it.

That was some day. I graduated from the University of Washington, got married to my high school sweetheart and received my Naval Officers Commission all on the same Saturday. My degree was in Production Management, a branch of The School of Business Administration. I had started out in Civil Engineering, but there was a recession going on in the '50s, and I believed changing majors improved the odds of finding employment.

In the end, it didn't matter much as the Korean War was going on, and I began active duty immediately after graduation.



A Ghanaian manager presents Dick with a Chief's stool and Kinta cloth.



Dick spent much of his time flying from one plant to another.

I was assigned to a refrigerated cargo ship and spent the next two years at sea supplying the fleet in Korea with food.

How did you get involved with Kaiser?

When I was released from active duty in 1954, my home port was Alameda, CA. My wife Vivian and I and our first son were living in Berkeley, CA. I had been sending out resumes for months but, because of economic conditions, responses were poor. Then I saw an ad in the paper that Kaiser Aluminum was looking for production trainees. I applied, interviewed and the rest is history.

Tell us about your Kaiser career.

I started in 1954 in Tacoma, WA. Since Vivian and I were from Seattle, WA, it was perfect, but then after only seven months, the company transferred me to Chalmette, LA. As a Production Trainee, I worked in all the various departments at both Tacoma and Chalmette doing whatever was asked and getting acquainted with the process, the systems and the people. They kept me really busy, but we managed and I learned a lot. Before I knew it, I was made Foreman of an Anode Shift Crew at Tacoma. There I learned quite a bit from the union president and from the Potroom Superintendent, Evans Cook.

(Member Profile, continued Page 7)

(Members Profile, from Page 6)

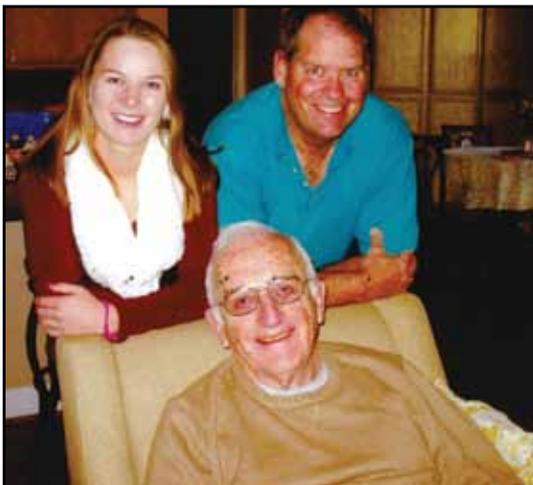
I transferred back and forth between Chalmette and Tacoma throughout my career, working my way up to Plant Manager in Tacoma, Production Superintendent in Chalmette and then Works Manager. I was transferred to Oakland as Assistant Division Manager in 1975. My time at Chalmette was particularly useful as I worked as foreman, general foreman and department superintendent in most operating departments.

What were some of the challenges working for Kaiser?

Taking over operating groups that I knew nothing about was intimidating! But, I learned that if you trusted the people in the groups, listened to them and gave them a chance, they would do the same for you. Eventually, I lost my concern and found my assignments more a positive challenge than something to be afraid of.

What are your fond memories of working for Kaiser?

My strongest recollections are of working with people with integrity and commitment to common goals. The plants were filled with really good people. In



Dick enjoys spending time with his granddaughter Emily and son David.



Dick receives an award from Valco Manager Ted Frostenson.

the '60s, Kaiser was a family. No matter where you worked you knew everybody. At that time, people worked for the company and not for themselves. Edgar Kaiser would come in, chat with you, and then put on his dirty clothes and go around the plant like one of the workers. That all changed later, of course, But in my 40-year plus career, I never felt cheated, or lied to, or taken advantage of. It made for a good life, and the people I worked with became friends.

Did you travel a lot for Kaiser?

It seems like my last few years were spent mostly on airplanes. I had all the reduction plants reporting to me, which included plants in Washington, Louisiana, West Virginia, Wales, Germany and Africa. I was also on the Board of Directors for the plants in New Zealand and Australia. Lots of jet lag! When my second son graduated from college, he said he wasn't going to take a job that made him travel and be away from home like my job did. Well, he's an executive with General Electric, and he travels all the time!

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 7)

The best part of my traveling was the last five years when Vivian would join me for one trip a year. All the times I traveled to the plants, I was really just in business meetings. I never really understood the city or the local culture until Vivian starting coming along. Then I would stay an extra day, and she'd tour me around the area.

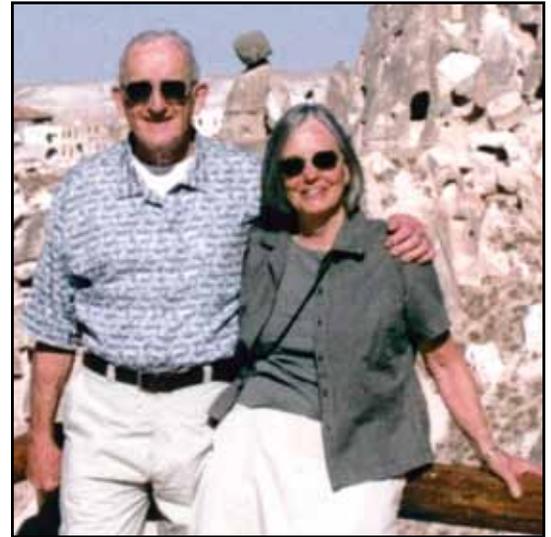
What did you do when you retired?

I was only 59 when I retired in 1989, so Vivian and I made a bucket list of all the places we wanted to go. Before she passed away in 2010 of a heart attack, we had done them all, plus we designed and built our dream house in Shingle Springs, CA.

Tell us a little more about Vivian.

She was the major positive factor in my life. She took all of our moves (eight) in stride. She'd get living accommodations straightened out, get the kids in school and never complain. On three occasions, I had to go ahead and buy a house without her seeing it. We would discuss it on the phone, I'd buy it and she'd just move in and make it a home. She made my life really easy because I never had to worry about the external things. Once she got the family settled, Vivian would decide what she wanted to do, which usually meant volunteering in hospitals or libraries. We were truly soul mates and mutually dependent on one another.

After all the years Vivian had to follow me around, I told her that when we retired, we'd build a home where ever she wanted, and she could help design it. She wanted a view of the Sierras and acreage, so we decided on Shingle Springs, CA, where we have 20 acres. We thought we'd be high enough to be



Dick and his wife Vivian on a trip to Turkey.

out of the heat and low enough to be out of the snow. Well, we're out of the snow but we missed on the heat. It rises out of the valley, so it can get pretty hot in the summer.

What are you doing now?

My family keeps me busy. Vivian and I have four sons, eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren. One of the grandkids just got out of the Marines and the oldest granddaughter is a project engineer at a construction firm. The youngest granddaughter was adopted from Russia as a baby and she's now entering college.

I occupy my time with photography, and taking care of our home and the 20 acres on which it sits. I also build and refinish furniture for friends and family. My biggest job during this on-going drought in California, however, is keeping the deer in water. I put buckets of water out for a doe and two fawns that are usually around, sometimes as many as seven deer stop by for a drink. One day I was filling the buckets when my granddaughter called me from Ohio, I looked up while inside on the phone and saw the doe starring at me through the window – probably wondering where the water was.

(What's Going On, from Page 5)

(Bennington, VT) still works part-time in a chemical laboratory when not traveling to such diverse places as Chicago, IL, and Japan.

Brent Harrah (Sylvania, OH) and his wife Dorothy flew to Austin, Texas to attend his granddaughter's wedding. They followed this with a trip to London, England, three weeks later to attend another granddaughter's graduation from dental college. **Martin Cross, Jr.** (Covington, LA) enjoyed a twenty-one day tour of Europe which sparked him to plan his first cruise in November. Besides traveling, Martin, who worked in Metal Products at Mead, enjoys golf and interacting with his 12-year-old grandson.

Best Wishes . . .

William Zappie (Sykesville, MD) is taking it easy these days. After 17 operations in 15 years, his heart problems severely limit his activities. But, he's proud of being a KASRA member since the organization began.

Condolences to **Robert Mohr**, who lost his wife **Janet Leslie** in August and to **George Sissea**, whose spouse **Ruth** passed away in late June. Condolences also to the families of **Adelaide Hughes** (spouse of **James Hughes**), **Mildred McFarling** (spouse of **Glenn McFarling**), and **Robert Miller** (spouse of **Betsy Miller**), who also passed away.

In Memoriam

Melvin L. Craft - Gallipolis, OH

Gerald D. Emmons - Minneapolis, MN

Sherman Elbert Faught Jr. - Slidell, LA

John C. Goodwin - Addis, LA

James P. Hughes - Oakland, CA

Ida M. Kloner - Bristol RI

Wayne W. Longdon - Walnut Creek, CA

Paul L. Mattoon - Bloomington, IN

Mary I. Merritt - El Dorado Hills, CA

Betsy I. Miller - Walnut Creek, CA

Dale W. Pattee - Bonners Ferry, ID

*Clifton Gale Price, Sr.
Ravenswood, WV*

Lonnie V. Roe - Spokane Valley, WA

Subbiah Sam Sankaran - Sparks, NV

Scott S. Walker - Walnut Creek, CA

William C. Warfield - Jacksonville, FL

James L. Willis - Oakmont, PA

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.



Art Wilson, Joan Foreman, Sid Jones and Rita Mae Jones renew friendships at Tacoma's June 3, 2015 lunch.

P.O. Box 1171
Lafayette, CA 94549
(925) 685-1313

E-Mail:
news@e-kasra.com

KASRA Board of Directors

Doug Mann
President

Erach Tarapore
Treasurer

Steve Ping
Secretary

Directors

Klaus Adler
Ed Coyne
Tim Parker
Charles Schimmel
Norm Schwenberger
Tom Summerson
Mike Venie
Dave Whitman

Board Advisors

Steve Abernathy
Dan Dahlen
Chris Laszcz-Davis
Ed Quinnan
Ed Westerman

We're on the Web!
See us at:

www.e-kasra.com

Baton Rouge Nov 11

Lunch at 11:15 a.m. at Oak Lodge, 2834 S. Sherwood Forest, Baton Rouge. Confirm with Bob Eisenbach (225) 926-1334 or bobeisenbach@att.net.

Bay Area (KARLA) Dec 7

Lunch 11 a.m. At Wedgewood Banquet center, San Ramon Golf Club. Confirm with Sharon Fraetis (925) 934-4334 or lafnatv@silcon.com,

Belpre Jan 29

Breakfast 9 a.m. at Shoney's, Garfield Ave, Parkersburg. Confirm with Betty Blair (304) 489-1337 or bettylou13@suddenlink.net.

Chalmette Dec 2

Lunch, 11:00 a.m. at NOLA Lagniappe, 1375 Gause Blvd., Slidell. Cost \$ 20. Confirm with Chuck Schimmel (985) 643-0437 or schimcol@aol.com.

Erie Nov 21, Dec 19

Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. at Shirley's Country Kitchen, Wattsburg Rd., Erie. Confirm with Tim Healy (814) 402-1062.

Los Angeles Dec 7, Jan 11

Lunch, 12:00 noon at Marie Callendar's, 540 N. Euclid, West Anaheim. Confirm with Bob O'Leary (714) 898-7463 or

robemmet39@gmail.com.

Mead Nov 12, Dec 10

Lunch at 11:30 a.m. at Cathay Inn, North Division St. Confirm with Danny Petruss (509) 483-2171 or dpjr70@comcast.net.

Newark Dec 8

Lunch 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 Dec 4

Dinner at the Green Hills Country Club Social 5pm, Dinner 6 pm. Confirm with Pete Westenhaver (304) 266-4109 or at Pete26164@gmail.com or with Lee Corder (304) 273-9457.

Tacoma Dec 2

Lunch 12 noon, to 3 at Johnny's Dock, 1900 East B St., Tacoma. Confirm, with Bob Mohr (253) 820-6569, at bobjanetmohr@comcast.net or Roy Brennan (253) 535-4942.

Trentwood Nov 17

Meet 11 a.m. Hot Meal served 11:30. Confirm with Steve Harvey (509) 924-1132, or slharv3y@comcast.net or TJ Summerson (509) 448-1228 at tsummerson@aol.com.



(Clockwise from left) Billy Doyle, Jeanne Doyle, Wanda Miller, Al Miller, John D'Antonio and Jim White enjoy Chalmette's September 2, 2015 luncheon.