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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:

Twelve months ago, we opened the January Newsletter with the usual season's greetings and an upbeat vision of the year ahead of us. What actually transpired in those 12 months was far different than anything we imagined or hoped for.

The deadly Coronavirus that began spreading through our country early in the year has impacted every one of us and has resulted in changes to every aspect of society. How we interact with family and friends, travel, shop, entertain, work and educate are now viewed through the prism of how do we best protect ourselves and others from becoming infected. Shutdowns, stay at home orders, social distancing, mask wearing, hand sanitizers, wipes and shortages of essential products are now part of daily life, where previously these were not issues we concerned ourselves with.

The good news is that vaccines to prevent infection of the Covid-19 virus have been developed and are currently being distributed throughout the country. In addition to being developed and produced in a few short months, previously thought to be impossible, they appear to be extremely effective. In the meantime, we continue to be mindful that experts warn that one of the negative side effects of all of the changes we are experiencing is becoming isolated, which can cause both mental and physical health problems. As

frequent, in person contact with family members and friends becomes more complicated, the threat increases. Fortunately, in today's world, the technology exists to help us stay in touch with others. Zoom, Skype, WhatsApp, Facetime, etc. are all excellent vehicles for maintaining face to face interactions. We encourage everyone to find ways to reach out and stay connected.

While still on health-related matters, 2021 will mark the 17th year the VEBA Plan will provide benefits to help offset health care related insurance premiums. There are currently over 2,300 family units enrolled and receiving benefits totaling over \$7 million from the Plan. For 2020, the maximum benefit per family unit is \$4,000, and we encourage all eligible retirees and surviving spouses to take advantage of this very important benefit. As always, please contact the VEBA@Deltafund.com with any questions or concerns you may have.

Shifting gears to Kaiser related news: the company recently announced a change in their top management. Jack Hockema, CEO since 2001, was named Executive Chairman and Keith Harvey was named President and CEO, replacing Jack in those positions. Keith has been with Kaiser for over 40 years and has served in numerous engineering and sales positions prior to being named President and COO in 2015. While the company has performed well for several years, the current conditions are creating challenges not encountered previously. The grounding of the Boeing 737 Max fleet worldwide resulted in production cutbacks which

WHAT'S GOING ON

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

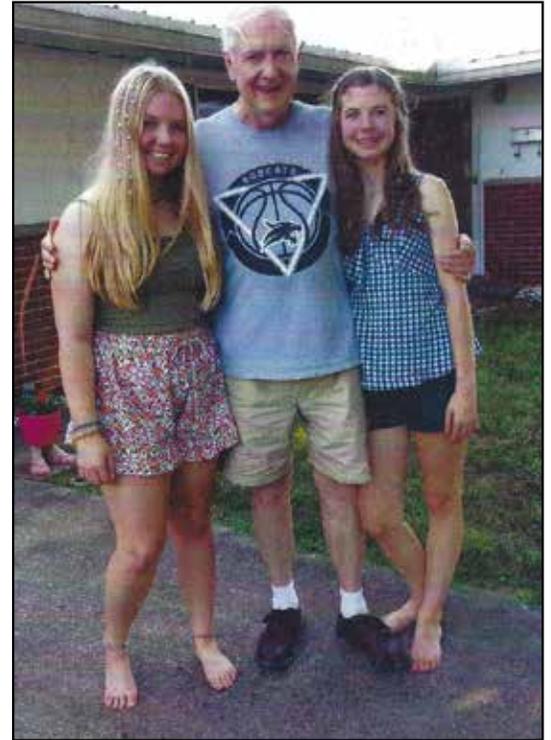
Ken Goode (San Lorenzo, CA) recalls starting his career with Kaiser in 1967 in the computer room on the third floor of the Kaiser Center before transferring to Ravenswood, WV. Since retiring, the 80-year-old volunteers for St. Vincent de Paul Society, working with the poor and the homeless. Ken and his wife Lorry have three sons.

Former Ravenswood Works employee **Lee Corder** (Ravenswood, WV) enjoyed a summer visit from his granddaughters Molly and Sally. Both came to visit their grandfather from Seabeck, WA. **Marlene Kearney** (Vail, CO) thanks KASRA for the newsletter. The surviving spouse of **Adrian Kearney** still remembers some of the people Adrian used to work with and enjoys catching up with them through the newsletter.

Guy Robicheaux (Slidell, LA) says he's "surviving" and that he needs to quit driving soon. He fills his time with reading, housework and keeping track of his 11 great grandchildren ranging in age from four months to 20 years!

Accomplishments . . .

Chris Laszcz-Davis (Orinda, CA), a member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and part of their STEM Planning efforts, coordinated a series of Girsl4STEM related webinars for high school girls, featuring successful young women in STEM careers. Professions featured included—NASA aerospace engineer; astrophysicist; physician; mechanical engineer/operations manager at Chevron; construction manager at Swinerton; Product Manager at Dupont; University of Oxford doctoral student specializing in eco-systems and policy; and a Stanford graduate structural



Lee Corder and his granddaughters Molly and Sally.

engineer, nationally acclaimed for her sustainability expertise in constructions/architecture. "The webinars, each hosting upwards 150 young high school girls, have been met with fabulous reviews," said Chris. "The future looks with these bright, young women!"

Birthdays and Anniversaries . . .

Ed Coyne (Leesburg, FL) celebrated his 90th birthday in appropriate COVID style. His family and friends all stayed home and got together over Zoom. "It made it possible for 39 people in 18 different locations and seven different states to see each other, talk, eat a birthday menu of hamburgers, hot dogs and birthday cake "together" and, of course, sing "Happy Birthday" to Ed. Each family had five minutes to do something special for Ed, which included some original songs and a Broadway musical review of "Ed Over-The-Years." A great time was had by all. So great, in fact, they eagerly

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looked forward to a “do over” on Christmas Day.

Congratulations to **TJ and Sue Summer-son** (Spokane, WA) on their 65th wedding anniversary. TJ worked at CFT Trentwood for 45 years, with Sue employed at CFT Pleasanton, CA, for 22 years.

Joanne Gutierrez (Walnut Creek, CA) and her husband Bernard celebrated 62 years of marriage at the end of December.

Traveling Near and Far . . .

Recalling a time when travel was safe, **Beatrice Beran** (Sarasota, FL) reminisces about her trip to Paris, London, Dublin and Galway with her daughters Jean and Diane. That was two years ago, but she hopes to travel again in the not-to-distant future. Beatrice has been keeping busy



Joanne Gutierrez and husband Bernard still enjoy each other's company after 62 years!



TJ and Sue Summer-son celebrated 65 years of marriage recently.

with oil painting, sewing and crocheting. She belongs to the group Crafty Ladies through St. Thomas More Catholic Church, which knits and crochets for various charities. The surviving spouse of **Robert J. Beran**, Beatrice, says she met Bob when she was 16 years old. They were married for 68 years and had six children. “Bob was a quiet person but a brilliant, patient man. He was a mechanical engineer and worked at Kaiser’s Los Angeles facility. During WWII, he was with General Chennault and the Flying Tigers.” Even with the pandemic, Beatrice still enjoys spending time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren.”

Best Wishes . . .

Our best wishes go to **James Martin**, who lost his wife **Helen** on Oct. 4, 2020. Condolences also to the families of surviving spouses **Marie Burroughs**, **Ernestine Couvillion** (Cilton Couvillion), **Arlene Evans**, **Margaret Norton** (Glen Norton) and **Frances Quick**.

MEMBER PROFILE: FRED LAWSON

Fred Lawson (Carmel, CA) and his wife of 66 years Peggy live in beautiful Carmel, CA, a location they first experienced as a young couple when Fred worked for Kaiser at Moss Landing. Fred would go on to become Corporate Vice President during his 30 years with Kaiser. His many honors include Fort Benning's OCS Hall of Fame, Who's Who in Australia, and being chosen by Kaiser to attend the Sloan Stanford Graduate School of Business.

The Illinois native and his wife have two sons and two grandchildren.

Tell us about your dedication to the military.

My father served during WWI and both my brother and I were raised to look up to the military. I enlisted in the Army in 1945 when I was only 17. Since we were in the middle of WWII, the service was happy if kids wanted to lie about their age. I served in the European Theater and made staff sergeant before being commissioned. I entered the reserves at the end of the war and completed Officer Candidate School at Ft. Benning.



Peggy and Fred Lawson at an Army reception in 1980.



Fred and Peggy Lawson at home in Carmel, CA, in 2012.

Commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army Corps of Engineers, I served in prewar Korea for two years, helping to build what is now Kimpo International Airport. I left active duty in 1948.

Why did you stay in the reserves when you started college?

Although I was on the GI bill, it only covered books and tuition plus \$75 per month. Any other expenses were up to me.

Money is one reason! Most hobbies or avocations cost money, and, while the reserves didn't pay much, at least it didn't cost me anything. That little bit of extra cash helped with my expenses at the University of Illinois. When I started my career with Kaiser, I decided to stay in the reserves. I was even able to do so when Kaiser sent me to Australia. The U.S. reserves had a reciprocal agreement with Australia, and I served with the Royal Australian Engineers while also working for Kaiser. This was during the Vietnam War and there had been talk of our unit being activated, but it never happened.

I retired after 37 years in 1982 as a major general with two stars. My last command was with the 91st Division of the Army Reserves, which included their subordinate units throughout the west coast.

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Tell us about your career with Kaiser.

Kaiser hired me right out of college. My degree was in Business Administration but, at the time, half of my classes were in the engineering school. Kaiser sent me and 20 other new college grads to Spokane, WA. It was the first time Kaiser had hired kids right out of college and the other people at the rolling mill were very suspicious of us. None of them had gone to college, but we slowly assimilated.

From Spokane, I was sent to Oakland and then to Moss Landing, where Kaiser had three plants. I told my wife we had been to the three best locations and it was downhill from there. Little did I know how wrong I was. Our next assignment was Australia!

What was Australia like?

We loved it but customs were a bit different. It was a very male dominated society. Women weren't even allowed in the pubs when we first arrived. There were all these formal dining occasions where women weren't invited, and I had to wear a tuxedo. The Australian military also had its own formal dress dinners and allowed soldiers to have a beer while on duty. That would be a court martial offense in the U.S!

But there were also many highlights



Peggy and Fred Lawson in Australia in 1967 with Queensland Alumina Ltd. Plant Manager John Holman and CEO Al Sangwin. When Peggy was



Fred Lawson as an official judge helping select the Oakland Raiderettes, the drill/dance team for the former Oakland football team.

during our four years in Australia. The biggest one was the birth of our youngest son Tom. As for work highlights, one would be when the head of the union asked me to go to a meeting with him at a mine in West Australia. Kaiser was having some problems with the union at that time. The meeting was going pretty well when the president told me he had to leave, and I would be in charge of the meeting. Management was never even allowed at union meetings normally, so this was all new territory. Luckily, everything worked out fine.

People used to say they would hate my job since I dealt with the unions so much. But I loved it. Kaiser believed in working with the unions, not against them, as other companies did. It made a big difference to me.

How did you meet your wife?

We were both students at the University of Illinois and the big social event was the interfraternity ball. I had a date with one of the girls in the court.

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)

elected queen, my date was very upset and ruined the entire evening. I knew that wasn't the kind of girl I was looking for, so I called Peggy afterwards and we went on a blind date. We really enjoyed each other's company. We were married in 1954 and the rest is history!

What did you do after you retired from Kaiser?

I retired in 1982 after 30 years, and Peggy and I planned a relaxed, fun retirement until I got a job offer from the Australian international mining company, BHP Ltd. The kids were in college by then, so Peggy and I went off to Australia for the next 11 years.

When we returned from Australia, we retired back to the community we had fallen in love with so many years ago when I worked for Kaiser in Moss Landing – Carmel. Our first grandchild had just been born when I received a call from Ashanti Gold Field, a goldmining company headquartered in Ghana, West Africa. I told them I couldn't work for them full time, so we worked out a deal where I went to Africa every third month and spent the rest of the time in Carmel. That went on for another five years before I retired for good!

I had no idea when I was this little



Kaiser VP Fred Lawson (far left) with Alcoa VP Jack Morber, Reynolds VP Fred Edney and Kaiser VP Larry Stewart at Alcoa's skeet range in between master contract negotiations.



Three generations of Lawsons: Fred and Peggy Lawson; son Ted with his wife Jayne and grandchildren Andrew and Sarah.

country boy in western Illinois that my life would turn out to be so exciting!

What are you involved in now?

Prior to the pandemic, I worked out regularly at the Defense Language Institute's gym. They have a really nice sauna, which is closed now. I've also been very involved with World Affairs Council Monterey Bay serving as president, board member and discussion group facilitator for international affairs. It was fascinating. Of course, all our meetings are currently on the phone or Zoom.

Now that I'm 93 and Peggy is 91, our main job is taking care of each other. I walk with a cane nowadays but am still pretty active. We both thank our lucky stars that we've outlived our actuary table. We're in the gravy now!

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has impacted their aerospace volume. More recently, the global pandemic has reduced air travel dramatically, resulting in reduced demand for new commercial aircraft, a major contributor to Kaiser's volume and profits. The good news is

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(President's Message, from Page 6)

that the 737 is flying again and air travel will likely increase significantly as the vaccines become widely available. The company has also recently announced it is acquiring an Alcoa mill located in Warrick, Indiana, that specializes in can sheet. Overall, we continue to believe the company is well positioned in the markets it serves and maintains a positive outlook for solid financial performance in the future.

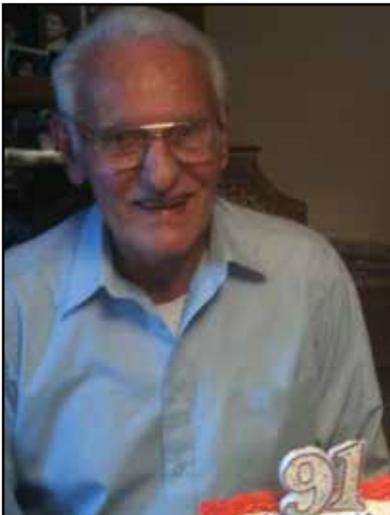
In closing, we sincerely wish all of you good health and encourage everyone to stay safe and stay connected.

All the best!

Erach Tarapore, Mike Venie and
Steve Ping
Co-Presidents, KASRA

In Memoriam Notes

Joseph Eugene Graziani was 98 years old when he passed away on March 19, 2020. "We miss him dearly, and even as old as he was, we still didn't have him long enough," says his son Guido.



In Memoriam

*Charles Alexandre
Bristol, RI*

*Leo Barsoti
Pleasanton, CA*

*Patricia C. Bruner
Pleasanton, CA*

*Stuart "Bud" Cool
Walnut Creek, CA*

*Harold L. "Curly" Defibaugh
Hollandsburg, OH*

*Joseph Eugene Graziani
Parkersburg, WV*

*Charles Vernon Jadlot
Simpsonville, SC*

*Vi (Sande) Johnson
Baton Rouge, LA*

*Sidney "Sid" Jones
Lakewood, WA*

*Frederick "Rick" Merkel
Columbus, IN*

*Thomas A. Murphy
Chalmette, LA*

*Frederick "Rick" Neubauer
Spokane, WA*

*Robert "Bob" Pearson
Medford, OR*

*Theodore Charles "Teddy" Peno
Baton Rouge, LA*

*Tony J. Saragusa
Denham Springs, LA*

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.

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We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.e-kasra.com

Due to the ever-changing restrictions resulting from the coronavirus, lunch meetings for the various KASRA groups have been postponed. They will be back as soon as it is safe for all our members. Contact information for the groups is listed below, and, hopefully, in the March issue of the KASRA Newsletter, we will have a full listing of meetings!

Baton Rouge

Email Bob Presson at leilap3@cox.net, or Bob Schoen at bobschoen@cox.net, or call Bob Schoen at (225) 937-2984.

Bay Area, KARLA

Contact Sharon Fraetis at (925) 330-8533 or email lafnatv@gmail.com.

Belpre

Contact Betty Blair at (304) 489-1337 or email bettylou13@suddenlink.net.

Chalmette

Contact Chuck Schimmel at (985) 643-0437 or email schimcol@aol.com.

Erie

Contact Tim Healy at (814) 402-1062 or email thealy1931@gmail.com.

Los Angeles

Contact Bob O'Leary at (714) 898-7463 or email robemmet39@gmail.com

Mead

Contact Dan Coe at (509) 944-7264 or email dancoe33@comcast.net.

Newark

Contact Bill Snider at (740) 403-8328 or email colbill44@roadrunner.com

Ravenswood

Contact Pete Westenhaver at (304) 266-4109 or email Pete26164@gmail.com or call Lee Corder at (304) 273-9457.

Tacoma

Contact Bob Mohr at 253 820 6569 or bobmohr1942@gmail.com.

Trentwood

Contact Steve Harvey at (509) 939-7132 or email s1harv3y@comcast.net.



Remember when we were able to meet and celebrate together? Here is a photo of the Bay Area group enjoying a holiday lunch in 2019. Hopefully, we will once again be able to see each other in person for our spring luncheons.