



Steve Ping  
Erach Tarapore  
Mike Venie

KASRA  
Co-Presidents

Visit website at  
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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).

## *Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees Association*

### A MESSAGE FROM THE KASRA PRESIDENTS

Dear Fellow Retirees / Surviving Spouses:

We hope that you are all doing well this summer. As life returns slowly to a new normal, during which the COVID situation can change rapidly, we need to remain vigilant to remain safe. With more people getting vaccinated, resulting in fewer new cases, hopefully, we will not see another variant such as the Delta variant anytime soon.

This past July was the last time that we will send out our annual letter to all of you, requesting that you renew your membership in KASRA. Thanks to all of you who have already responded by sending in your annual KASRA dues. Thanks also to those of you who have written to tell us how much you enjoy receiving the Newsletter. A couple of you have even written to tell us that you would be willing to pay a higher amount in dues to keep KASRA going. The Board has carefully considered many options to continue KASRA operations farther into the future. But we have found it more and more difficult to find individuals who are able and willing to perform the various volunteer duties required to produce our newsletter, manage our membership systems, and fill positions on our Board of Directors. Most of us are volunteers and have been working with KASRA in various capacities for more than 10 years. When people leave, we have now found

it necessary to request existing Board members to take on additional tasks to cover for the person who is leaving. We appreciate your support of KASRA very much and regret that these realities have made this decision necessary.

A big thank you to **Joanne Gutierrez** and her husband **Bernard**, who again took care of the entire job of inventorying and processing the membership payments that came in during our peak renewal period. With COVID restrictions, we have not had a “work party” to share the burden these past two years.

VEBA ... if you have not already filed, there is still time to secure your maximum benefit of \$4,000 for 2020 and \$5,000 for 2021. It should be noted that if you do not file in a timely manner, all your rights to receive a Qualified Benefit within the specified year will expire and be forfeited. The expiration dates for the 2020 reimbursement and 2021 reimbursement are December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2022 respectively. We encourage you to take advantage of this benefit, if you are enrolled in the VEBA, as it can go a long way towards defraying the cost of medical care related insurance. In addition, if you know of someone who may be eligible but has not yet signed up, please encourage them to contact the VEBA and find out if they might be eligible for benefits. VEBA enrollment and reimbursement request forms are available by contacting the VEBA plan administrator, Delta Fund, at 888-344-8322 (toll free), or through their website at [VEBA@](mailto:VEBA@)

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### Accomplishments . . .

Way to go **Bob Irelan** (Rancho Murieta, CA)! His second novel “Justifiable – Murder in the Mountain State” is being well received ([www.bob-irelan.com](http://www.bob-irelan.com)). When not writing, the former Corporate Public Relations Vice President out of Kaiser’s Houston office enjoys reading, traveling, playing golf, staying in touch with family and Kaiser pals and “serving as staff to my cat.” Bob has planned some trips for 2021 (if COVID allows) including Maui, Las Vegas and San Francisco. “I also still enjoy the cabin we had built in the Sierras over 46 years ago,” said Bob, who is also active in several writers’ groups and his local Democratic Party Club.

### Birthday and Anniversaries . . .

Congratulations to **Leon and Peggy Buckles** (Spokane, WA), who celebrated their diamond anniversary recently. Sixty years ago, they married in Bremerton, WA, while Leon was in the U.S. Navy serving aboard the aircraft carrier USS Hornet. “Our ceremony was held in a small church with a few shipmates and friends in attendance. The reception con-

sisted of 7 Up and banana cake,” Leon recalls. Their three children organized a family gathering on the banks of the Clark Fork River in Montana. Kids, grandkids, and great grandkids attended the celebration complete with a prime rib dinner with all the trimmings. To top it off, Peggy and Leon finally had a wedding cake and a bottle of champagne. Leon, who worked for Kaiser at Valco in Ghana, West Africa, continues to enjoy outdoor activities, especially fly fishing. Named President Emeritus of his local fly-fishing club, Leon has also taken many fly-fishing trips including Argentina, the Arctic Ocean, the Bahamas, and Hawaii. He also volunteers with the Game Departments in Washington and Montana to help on various projects.

**Robert C. Newsom** (Pleasanton, CA) and his wife celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary recently. They also spent four months in Baton Rouge, LA, visiting their daughter and her husband and enjoying their three grandsons and five great grandchildren. Robert turns 90 in September!



Four generations of (far right) Leon and Peggy Buckles family joined together to celebrate the couple’s 60th wedding anniversary.

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Married in 1951, **Donald and Mary Gallogly** (Marysville, OH) celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in March. Donald began working for Kaiser in 1954 at the Newark plant. He was transferred to Kaiser's Bedford, OH, plant as controller in 1980. Upon retirement in 1985, they moved to Marysville where Donald worked as office manager for an automotive testing lab until 1992. The couple then decided to move into a motorhome and travel the country for the next 16 years. Back in Marysville, they enjoy square dancing and Donald likes to hunt, fish and go water-skiing.

**James W. Miller** (Rocky Point, NC) celebrated his 86th birthday in January, and he and his wife Erika celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary in July. The former Gramercy, LA, Plant worker no longer goes camping but finds plenty to do in their community.

Ravenswood, WV, Kaiser retiree **Hazel Parsons** (Ripley, WV) had two major events to celebrate on May 21, 2021 - her 86th birthday and her great granddaughter's high school graduation. **Gracie Marie Boyles** graduated from Buckhannon Upshur High School, making her great grandmother's celebration even sweeter!

Happy Birthday to **Frederick H. Lawson** (Carmel, CA) who turned 94 June 30. Fred was the Vice President for Industrial Relations at Kaiser Oakland, CA.

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

**Percy Sanders** (Baton Rouge, LA) recalls working at the Gramercy plant with last issue's profile, **Geoff Smith**. "I used to go to his office occasionally after all the others had gone for the day and pick his brain. I knew the plant operation but needed help with the chemistry. He was



**Hazel Parsons with her great granddaughter, Gracie Marie Boyles, at her graduation from Buckhannon Upshur High School in West Virginia.**

such a great guy," said Sanders, who is 92-years-young.

Helping others has become a way of life for Ravenswood, WV, retiree **Richard E. Galloway** (Ravenswood, WV). Following his retirement from Ravenswood FAB Engineering in 2002, he began driving a school bus for Jackson County School Board and is still driving today! "I drove a regular size bus until this school year (2021-22) when I will drive a handicap bus. I've enjoyed driving all these years in good and bad weather, making all the sports and music trips, and talking kids out of quitting school or into going to college or trade school. Sometimes, I even talked about quitting drugs. It's been a good ride and satisfying." Galloway

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## MEMBER PROFILE: CARLOS XAVIER

Born in the British colony of Hong Kong, **Carlos Xavier** joined Kaiser in 1968 after a successful career as an accountant both in Europe and America. He retired from Kaiser in August 1999 after 31 years. He and his wife Ann live in Walnut Creek, CA, and have three children and four grandchildren.

### Tell us a little about your nationality and early years during the war?

I am of mixed Portuguese and Asian descent, a Macanese named after the Portuguese colony of Macau. When the Japanese army invaded Hong Kong in December 1941, our family fled to Macau where we remained as refugees for the duration of the war. After the War in 1945, we returned to Hong Kong. In 1954, I went to London, England, for my advanced schooling. I studied at the London School of Economics and graduated with a law degree. There I met my wife Ann who was a Sociology student from Yorkshire, in the North of England. She graduated the same year as I did and went on to become a Medical Social Worker. In my case, I went on from college to be indentured for three and a half years to a firm of Chartered Accountants in London to attain a professional qualification.



**Ann and Carlos (far right) with their three grown children (L-R) Julian, Jane and Jeremy.**



**Carlos Xavier at one of his favorite locations – a golf course!**

### You also broke into films while in London, didn't you?

I guess you could say that! I had several odd jobs while in college, including three stints as an extra at the Elstree Film Studio outside of London. I was in the films Inn of the Sixth Happiness, Camp on Blood Island, and Windom's Way. I never made it to the final cut, however!

### You might not have made the films' final cut but, evidently, you made Ann's.

Yes, I did! Ann and I got married in 1962 and our first two children were born in London. Our third child was born in Jamaica, 1971, while I was on assignment there. In that same year, I became a U.S. Citizen.

In 1965, we emigrated to the States when I was fortunate to obtain a transfer from the London Office of Arthur Young (now Ernst & Young) to their San Francisco Office. After three years, I received my CPA certificate and decided it was time to leave public

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accounting and move into industry.

### **And the industry you choose was aluminum, right?**

I applied to Kaiser Aluminum in 1968 and was interviewed by **Ralph Schwarz**, **Chuck Hines** and **Bob Fratus**. My first assignment was in the Internal Audit department under **Ray Payne**.

In 1969 I was assigned to Jamaica for the first time as Assistant Controller. I replaced **Jerry Ordeneaux**, who was reassigned to the new Sardinia project in Italy. It was the first time I was on the “other side” of being audited. **Dave Herdman**, **Tom Gordon** and **Jerry** were helpful in my transition from a pure financial mindset in public accounting to a plant working orientation.

In 1975, I returned to the Raw Materials Corporate Office where I was assigned the project of rewriting the “Controller’s Policy Manual” under the guidance of **Chuck Hines** and **Tim Preece**. This assignment gave me many interactions and exposure to not only Controller personnel from all divisions but also upper, middle, and lower management. When the job was completed, I returned to the Raw Materials Division and then International Reduction Division, Kaiser Trading, and eventually to our Corporate Planning group.

In 1989, I received a call from **Larry Watts** requesting my services again in Jamaica. I was initially assigned to be the Administrative Manager replacing my former boss **Tom Gordon** at the newly restarted Alpart plant with a new partner Norsk Hydro, a Norwegian company replacing Reynolds and Anaconda. I later held the position as Financial Director for both Jamaican operations – Alpart and



Carlos and Ann at their wedding in 1962 in London.

Kaiser Jamaica Bauxite. My bosses during this period were **John Launey**, **Gene Miller**, and **Ray Gendron**. I was there for 10 years before retiring in late 1999 and returning to the Bay Area.

The years I spent in Jamaica were both challenging and satisfying. Many of my Jamaican colleagues helped me during my time there, including **Carl Welsh**, **Jerry Thomas**, **Earl Howard**, **Horace Neil**, **Pansy Johnson**, and **Beryl Rochester**.

### **What have you been doing in retirement?**

After my retirement from Kaiser, I was recruited for consulting work for the Raw Materials Business Unit, putting together the financial protocol of a mining agreement with Alcoa in Jamaica.

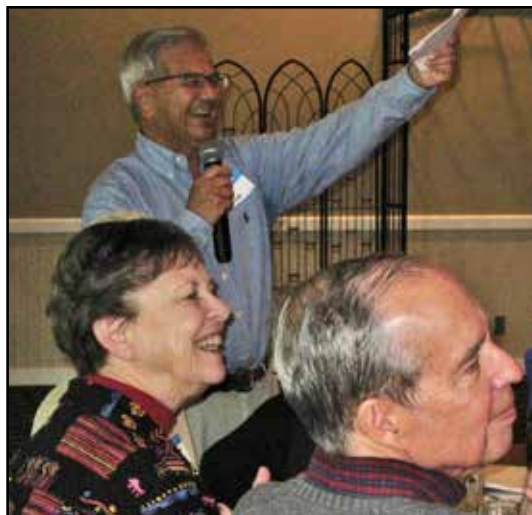
On my retirement in early 2000 from consulting, **David Geary** sponsored me to become a member of a great retiree organization called the “Sons in Retirement” (SIRS). I am still a member

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of Branch 116, which has many activities for retired men including golf. We currently have a few KACC retirees among our over 200 members in this branch including **Dick Kauffman, Jed Daniel, Art Donaldson, Kirk McVean, Doug Allen, Ron Radakovich, and Bob Shader.**

I joined the KASRA Board replacing **Art Donaldson** as Treasurer when he joined the VEBA Board. I proudly served on the KASRA Board for several years. I also enjoyed working on the KARLA luncheon Committee with **Dick Kauffman, Carol Brown, Sharon Fraetis, Dan Dahlen, Steve Abernathy, and Chris Laszcz-Davis** to revive the program for the Bay Area retirees.

Upon retirement, Ann and I vowed to travel annually to at least one place overseas and one place in the States, and we have so far achieved this. Another favorite pastime is golf. At 86, I still play 18 holes each week, weather permitting, with a senior group including two Kaiser retirees - **Tony Hodge and Ron**



**Carlos Xavier (standing) at a pre-COVID Christmas celebration of the Bay Area Lunch Bunch, KARLA. (Seated L-R) Mary Alice and Art Donaldson.**



**Carlos and Ann's grandchildren (L-R) Natalie, Abby, Nicole and Sean (center) at a pre-COVID Christmas celebration. Radakovich.**

### **What about your family?**

All three of our children and our four grandchildren are college graduates from various universities in California and are now contributors to the teaching, financial, and marketing fields. This year in 2021, we will be celebrating our 59th wedding anniversary. We celebrated our 40th anniversary with the whole family in London and renewed our vows at the same Church where we were married. Our 50th was with the family in Hawaii, and we have rented a villa in Jamaica for our 60th anniversary in 2022, God willing, again with the whole family – three children, three in-laws and four grandchildren.

We are very fortunate and grateful that all our children live close by -- two in Walnut Creek and one in Martinez. This was especially helpful during the strict COVID-19 pandemic guidelines when they and the grandchildren took turns shopping and bringing us food and groceries while we sheltered in place. Definitely a sign of old age when there is a role reversal of who is taking care of whom!

## CORNELL C. MAIER 1925-2021

**Cornell C. Maier**, who capped a more than 38-year-Kaiser Aluminum career by serving the last 11 as Chairman and CEO, died of natural causes on August 13 at his home in Oakland with family at his side.

Born January 12, 1925, in Herreid, South Dakota, a small farming community, he applied the lessons he learned as a child to earn broad respect for the social activism of Kaiser Aluminum.

During his tenure as CEO, he launched the “One Person Can Make A Difference” program both as an incentive/reward for individual job performance within the company and as a blueprint for community involvement. Under his direction, the company “adopted” schools and parks and provided summer jobs and workplace mentoring for high school students.

Upon retirement in 1988, philanthropy basically grabbed hold of his life and came to define him within and well beyond his community. His involvement was expansive and diverse, with special emphasis on education and medical care. The causes included Holy Names University, Holy Names High School, Cole Elementary School, The Marcus Foster Educational Institute, Oakland Women’s Rowing Club, Oakland’s St. Mary’s Center and the Oakland Zoo. Two – Northern Light School and UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital in Oakland – exemplified the extent of his personal involvement.

Established in 1989 by four educators determined to provide “a whole child education” for children who, otherwise, would not have the opportunity of a private school experience, Northern Light has produced hundreds of graduates who have gone on to earn scholarships to and graduate from major colleges and universities. Michelle Lewis, one of Northern Light’s founders, says this about Cornell: “He has meant everything to the school.

Our students have always felt accountable to him.”

At Children’s Hospital, Cornell turned down a seat on the board, choosing instead to hold and comfort medically fragile babies in its neonatal unit two days a week for about 25 years. “I just wanted to be with the children,” he said.

In short, he loved Oakland and Oakland loved him back.

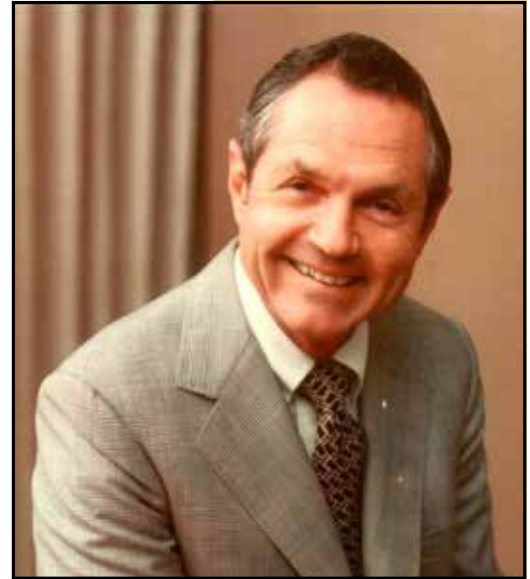
Cornell graduated from UC Berkeley with an electrical engineering degree. As a bomber navigator during World War II, he flew 51 missions out of Italy.

At Kaiser Aluminum, he started at the bottom and worked his way up through the ranks in virtually every major activity of the company’s operations, including key posts in sales, production planning, marketing, and administration in the U.S. and abroad. He was elected President of the company in early 1972, CEO later that year, and Chairman in 1978.

During his corporate career, he also found the time to serve as Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, as a director of the Bank of America, the Bay Area Council, the California Business Roundtable, and the University of California, Berkeley Haas School of Business Advisory Board.

Interment will be private. A Celebration of Life will be held at Allen Temple Baptist Church in Oakland on a later date. In lieu of flowers, kindly donate to Northern Light School, 3710 Dorisa Avenue, Oakland, CA 94605.

*The above story was written by Bob Irelan, who worked closely with and was inspired by Cornell Maier.*



### 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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turns 81 next summer and plans to retire at that time. His wife also works for the school system and plans to retire in two years. "Who knows? My health is still good so maybe I'll go for two more years as well."

Surviving spouse of **Jerry Lambert, LeRene Lambert** (Covington, LA) said she enjoys reading the KASRA Newsletter and how many interesting Kaiser memories it triggers. "It brings many smiles to me as I recognize names and recall our fun at the Super Bowl in New Orleans over 20 years ago." LeRene retired from Loyola University but continued teaching piano at her home. The COVID pandemic made that a challenge as she pivoted to Zoom classes. "A whole new learning experience and I'm still doing it for some students, even those who have moved



**Lee Corder (Ravenswood, WV) and his grandson Colt braved four inches of snow and 28-degree weather in February so Colt could catch this 7 lb. 3 oz, 26.25-inch Rainbow Trout.**

away from the area."

**Danny Petrucci, Jr.** (Spokane, WA) says he's still in good shape and coping with his COPD. He says hi to everyone. **Leroy Avers** (The Villages, FL) has cut way down on his hobbies because of health issues. "I seem to do little except visit doctors," he said. "But I am attempting to work on a pencil drawing when not sitting in waiting rooms!"

The droughts and fires keep **Margie Dillard** (King City, CA), surviving spouse of **Arza Dillard** busy. When Arza retired from Kaiser's Nativad and Moss Landing plants, we purchased 2,000 acres and raised Angus cattle. Arza passed away six years ago, but the family and I continue his dream. Our chores are 24/7 and there's never a dull moment." Margie said she doesn't drive the quads or tractors anymore which leaves her time to watch her favorite sports on TV and cook. "I miss Arza everyday, but I have my memories of all the Easter Egg hunts, family weddings, barbeques, brandings and horseback rides."

**Chris Laszcz-Davis** (Orinda, CA) and her son Grant, spent a weekend in lovely Carmel, CA, where they had lunch with **Fred Lawson** who resides there with wife Peggy. Chris used to work for Fred and, when Fred retired from Kaiser Aluminum moving over to BHP, her husband, Steve, also worked for Fred. Small world! Unfortunately, Chris can't enjoy time with her daughter, son in law and grandson, who presently reside in Brisbane, Australia. Australia has very strict COVID requirements, which prohibit them from coming to the U.S. and Chris from traveling there. "For now, it's two zoom calls a day with my delightful grandson Luke.

*(What's Going On, continued Page 9)*



*(What's Going On, from Page 8)*

Not easy, but the good news, is all are well!"

### Traveling Here and There . . .

Traveling is in **Tony and Kathy Procanik's** blood (Miami, FL). Post-pandemic, the couple has traveled all over Mexico including San Cristobal, Izamal, Valladolid, Progressive and Sisal. "It's great to get out and enjoy the Mayan/Yucatan culture," said Tony, who was in sales in Los Angeles for Kaiser. When not traveling, Tony enjoys photography, cooking and golf.

### Best Wishes

**Rob Jilbert** (Spokane, WA), who worked a combined 32 years at Mead and Trentwood, let us know of the passing of his mother, surviving spouse **Dorothy Jilbert**, last October. Dorothy was 91 years old. Her husband **Richard Jilbert** worked at Mead Reduction Works for 42 years.

Our condolences to **Nadine Rydman** on the death of her husband **Ronald** in April and to the families of surviving spouses **Edwina Boucher** and **Joyce Glann**.

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*(President's Message, from Page 1)*

deltafund.com.

We wish everyone good health and look forward to many of you sending us your favorite memories of your Kaiser career.

All the best!

Erach Tarapore, Mike Venie and Steve Ping

Co-Presidents, KASRA

## In Memoriam

*David Glenn Berg  
Oakland, CA*

*Leslie "Les" Buchholz  
McMinnville, OR*

*Robert H. Coyle  
Orlando, FL*

*Lawrence J. Duplantis  
Loranger, LA*

*John E. Gutknecht  
Fairhope, AL*

*Cardell Harris  
Letart, WV*

*Richard L. Humphrey  
El Dorado Hills, CA*

*Harold Morgan Legendre  
Bogalusa, LA*

*W. Roger Linn  
Lafayette, CA*

*Bernard J. Lowenthal  
Savannah, GA*

*Cornell C. Maier  
Oakland, CA*

*Carrol E. Mathis  
Bedford, IN*

*Stuart D. Rother  
Lake Wylie, SC*

*John W. Schnittker  
Alamo, CA*

*Bobby R. Tucker  
Savannah, GA*

*Nolan A. Vicknair  
Madisonville, LA*

*Robert "Bob" Dale Young  
McMinnville, 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.*

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

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See us at:

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#### Baton Rouge

The Baton Rouge group is currently being surveyed to see how many would like to resume the luncheons with a potential function in November. Email Bob Presson at [leilap3@cox.net](mailto:leilap3@cox.net), or Bob Schoen at [bobschoen@cox.net](mailto:bobschoen@cox.net), or call Bob Schoen at (225) 937-2984.

#### Bay Area, KARLA

"Hopefully, members will be vaccinated and ready to attend our holiday lunch in December," says Sharon. "If not, then maybe next spring." Contact Sharon Fraetis at (925) 330-8533 or email [lafnatv@gmail.com](mailto:lafnatv@gmail.com).

#### Belpre

Organizers are looking to the fall as the first possible luncheon. Contact Betty Blair at (304) 489-1337 or email [bettylou13@suddenlink.net](mailto:bettylou13@suddenlink.net).

#### Chalmette

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

#### Erie

Contact Tim Healy at (814) 402-1062

or email [thealy1931@gmail.com](mailto:thealy1931@gmail.com).

#### Los Angeles

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

#### Mead

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

#### Newark

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

#### Ravenswood

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

#### Tacoma

Contact Bob Mohr at 253 820 6569 or [bobmohr1942@gmail.com](mailto:bobmohr1942@gmail.com).

#### Trentwood

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



Enjoying a pre-COVID lunch bunch get together are (L - R) Charlotte and Pat Grannan and John and Bridgette Malm.