

## Contra Costa Chapter, Chevron Retirees

- This newsletter is published by the Chevron Retirees Association, Contra Costa Chapter
- Web Site: [www.chevronretireescontracosta.org](http://www.chevronretireescontracosta.org)

## NEXT MEETING

Monday, February 27, 2011

(No-host social hour - 10:45 to noon)

Contra Costa Country Club  
801 Golf Club Rd. Pleasant Hill, CA

\$25 per person including tax, tip and door prizes.  
(This price is subsidized by the Chapter)

Reservation coupon and directions to meeting on page 7

**Speaker: Barry Andrews**  
**VP, Commercial Chevron Asia Pacific Exploration and  
Production Company**

We are very fortunate to have Barry Andrews as our speaker.

Barry Andrews is the vice president of Commercial for Chevron Asia Pacific Exploration and Production Company, a role he assumed in October 2010. Previously, Andrews served as the head of Chevron's geothermal and power business and was based in Jakarta, Indonesia.

During his career at Chevron, Andrews has held roles in legal, business development and management positions in Los Angeles, El Segundo, Brea, Singapore and Manila. He joined Chevron in 1983 as an assistant tax counsel.

Andrews received a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from the University of Notre Dame in 1975; a Juris Doctorate degree from Loyola Law School Los Angeles in 1980; and a Master of Laws (in Taxation) degree from New York University in 1981.

We hope you can attend (and bring your questions) as it will be an interesting event.



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The Report

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope you have had a great start to the New Year and I would like to thank our members for support of our Chapter activities and all of our Board of Directors for all the work they have done in 2011. The year went well for our Chapter. Our membership level was stable, our luncheons went well with excellent Chevron speakers and, as expected, the National CRA continued their productive support of Retiree interests.

For our 2012 member meetings, the Board has decided to again have 3 Chapter luncheons at the well liked Contra Costa Country Club and let the popular Graduates Holiday Luncheon in Walnut Creek be the 4th opportunity for our members to get together with their retiree friends and hear interesting speakers. We hope to see you at our first 2012 luncheon on February 27th.

There are some Board assignment changes in progress for 2012 as follows:

- Our Treasurer, Steve Cruikshank, completed his term on the Board at the end of 2011. His efforts over the years were very helpful and much appreciated. Cathy Kerns has now taken over the assignment as our Chapter Treasurer.
- Ann Dzuna has completed her many years of assistance on the Board and Nominating Committee activities and again her efforts were much appreciated.
- And, after 3 years, it is time for a new President. The Board has selected Mart Masak to become the Chapter President for 2012 and the election process will be completed with members agreement at the February 27th luncheon. Mart has been an active participant during his 3 years on the Board and will be a very effective President. I enjoyed my term as President and will continue on the Board for 2012 as Backup Support where ever needed by the Board.

Thus, the Chapter's Board members for 2012 are currently as follows:

**Mart Masak** - President

Open - Vice President - Programs

Open - Vice President - Arrangements

**Larry Muth** - Vice President-Data Management

**Cathy Kerns** - Treasurer

**Helen Romain** – Scholarship & Special Events

**Joanne Clum** - Secretary

Open - Assistant Secretary

**Adrian D'Souza** - Compassion Committee

**Bob Boenig** - Programs & 2012 Meeting support

Open – Directors (3)

**Orvis Larsen** – Past President & Nominating Committee

The Board is looking forward to serving the interests of this organization and is staffed to handle the 2012 activities. However, as you can see above, there are open Board positions. It's important to have adequate backup for our Board positions to effectively continue our services through the yearly transitions. There is an overview of our Board activities in the "Get Involved" section of our Chapters website. If you have interest in becoming a Board member, please contact any of the Board members above.

And, for those who are interested in more details on items of interest to retirees, the "Web Links of Interest" on page 8 of this Newsletter provides links to many such areas. Most important is the National CRA website which provides information on activities they perform on behalf of Retiree members.

Most of you have responded to the 2012 dues notice we sent in November and we thank you for your continued support. The donations to the Scholarship Program have also continued to be generous and are much appreciated. If you haven't sent in your 2012 dues, please do so now. Also, if you know other retirees who are not yet members, please encourage them to join. There is strength in numbers and the larger the National CRA membership is the more effective they can be. To assist this, a sign-up form is part of page 4 of this Newsletter and can be clipped out and used to mail in membership applications and dues payments.

Orvis Larsen

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**Linda Johnson:** I enjoyed a great year -- vacationed at Disneyworld in FL, Palm Desert and Lake Tahoe. My oldest son is at Modesto JC playing baseball and made 1<sup>st</sup> Team Big 8 Conference for DH. My youngest son started middle school and has become an accomplished clarinet player, plays baseball and tennis and has made Honor Roll. Love being retired to enjoy my children. My business CRISP Resume & Interview Skills Prep is booming and I enjoy helping create success for those seeking permanent or temp. job employment. My husband Scott is still employed at Chevron so I get to keep up with what is happening in the company. Happy 2012 to all.

**Bill Hancock:** Retired now 21 years and enjoying it. Still volunteer one day a week as a Docent aboard the USS Hornet in Alameda.

## SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR 2012-2013

Just a reminder that our chapter's scholarship program began when the 2012 dues notice were sent out. As in past years, the scholarships are for one year, and awards will be based on academic merit and ability. Scholarship America, a national non-profit educational support organization, will select the recipients and distribute the awards.

Students may apply each year they are eligible, but those who have previously been awarded a scholarship by our organization are not eligible to reapply. The criteria for eligibility are:

- Be a child, grandchild or great grandchild of a dues-paying member of the chapter.
- Be age 25 and under.
- Be enrolled, or plan to be enrolled, in the coming school year in a full-time undergraduate course of study at an accredited two or four-year college or university.
- Submit your scholarship application to Scholarship America **NO LATER THAN MAY 1, 2012.**

The amount of each scholarship is \$1250 and the number of scholarships approved by the Board of Directors is four. However, this may change depending on the donations of the members. We appreciate your support of this program and hope you will add some additional money with your dues payment, if you have not already paid, to continue this support, particularly in these difficult times. The individuals we support may be future leaders of Chevron. If you have already sent in your dues and want to give additional support, please send your contribution to Chevron Retirees Assn., P.O. Box 371, Orinda CA 94563.

Application forms are available on-line on the chapter's website, [www.chevronretireescontracosta.org](http://www.chevronretireescontracosta.org) or by calling or e-mailing: Helen Romain, 925-833-8298 or [hromain@comcast.net](mailto:hromain@comcast.net)

## COMPASSION COMMITTEE REPORT

The following is a list of members of the Contra Costa Chapter of Chevron Retirees who have passed away since the issuance of the last newsletter:

John Cassell  
Lowell Corwin  
WJ Cusack  
Jeffrey Ehritt  
Raymond Gillies

Jack Manning  
Janet Manning  
James McCleod  
Emmanuel Santos  
John Williams



A complete list of Chevron retirees' deaths is published quarterly in the retirees' magazine Encore and in the Chevron Retirees' website ([www.chevronretirees.org](http://www.chevronretirees.org)). If you come to know of any Chevron Retiree members from the Contra Costa Chapter who have passed away, please let us know immediately at [compassion@chevronretireescontracosta.org](mailto:compassion@chevronretireescontracosta.org).

**Forrest Smith:** Still enjoying a couple of rounds each week. Grandkids is high on our list of enjoyment. Traveling is still fun.

**Aaron Paxson:** After eight years, retired from active work in the Tahoe Chamber Music Society. The first seven as President, Executive Director and Artistic Director; the last as Artistic Director only. To cap off my tenure at Tahoe Chamber Music (in Incline Village where our vacation home is), I managed to fall and badly damage my knee. After a week in the hospital, we came home to San Ramon where it is definitely on the mend, albeit, slowly.

**Lillian Smithson:** I'm sadden to say, I lost Ralph a year ago in October after 31 years together, and this November my 30 year old granddaughter lost her 2 year battle with melanoma cancer (after surviving Hodgkin's cancer at an early age). My thanks for all the loving support showed me and my family this past year.

**Donald Ray:** I enjoyed a recent lunch with David Hyams and Bob Richards. We worked together at the Richmond AGCHEM Plant 30 years ago when Dave O'Reilly was the plant manager.

The Report

**CHEVRON RETIREES ASSOCIATION - CONTRA COSTA CHAPTER**

***Membership Dues for 2012***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address:\*\* \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS WILL NOT BE SHARED WITH ANYONE OR ANY OUTSIDE ORGANIZATION.

Send your check to: Chevron Retirees Association  
P. O. Box 371  
Orinda, CA 94563

2011 Dues \$8.00

Scholarship Donation \_\_\_\_\_

Total of Check \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* If you would like to receive future correspondence and the Quarterly Newsletter by e mail, be sure to tell us your e mail address. If you prefer to get them by U.S. mail please leave it blank. We encourage you to use your e mail address, if you have one, because this will help keep our mailing costs down.

**Ed Sauve:** I retired at the end of June 2011, so retirement itself is new for me and my family. The first 6 months have been great. I have been able to spend more time with the family, and work on my golf game, to say the least. My daughter had a baby in July, so we have had the great fun with my new granddaughter and 2 ½ years old grandson.

**Albert Zeppa:** I would like to wish all my Chevron Retirees a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and hope you have a healthy year. I will never forget all the friends I met in all the years I spent at Chevron. Those are years I will never forget.

**Victoria A. Shore:** Enjoying retirement immensely. Quilting, sewing, and travel with my husband is so enjoyable. Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to everyone.

**Richard Towne:** This year we were asked to go on a mission for our church – The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Mormon Church. We went to Palmyra New York to work in the Temple there in April 2011 and returned the end of October 2011. While we were there we were able to see a lot of upstate New York and what a beautiful place it is. We made a visit to Niagara Falls and went into Toronto Canada. We really enjoyed this trip and would recommend this area to everyone. We now have 16 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren with one great on the way.

**Michael McGrath:** Retired in 1990. My health is great after a pacemaker was installed last January.

**Don Dexter:** Hello to all my friends at Chevron & Chevron Oronite. Well it is 14 years of retirement and I enjoy it very much. I still stay in contact with friends from Southwest Research, John Deere and even an old colleague from Sun Oil Company. Most of them have retired now but Facebook and email keep us in touch. Diana and I are still in good health, we go to the Concord Chevron gym on a regular basis to keep all the body joints moving. We still have our place at Northstar. We also have our daughter and grandkids living in Carlsbad so we get to go there to walk on the beach. Love it! We also travel when a good deal comes up. Well that's about it for now. We hope all of you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Pedro C. Concepcion:** Since retiring in May 2011, I've been actively pursuing my passion for music. Although I needed to take care of a few overseas trips for pleasure and family business, I always find time to sit down and compose songs. Sometimes, what I see and experience during my travels can inspire subjects for the songs I write. Usually these songs are completed quickly since the lyrics come easily. Music production is also on my

agenda. To learn the art of music production and collaborate with other musicians are on the top of my to-do list ASAP.

**Dwight Hodgen:** We are still residing in Oakley. Matthew, our eldest, finally got engaged, and is the COO of Macian Wealth Management. Peter, youngest, is living in San Diego, and is working for AXA Retirement Benefits. We enjoy traveling in Kerry's "birthday bus" (35-foot RV) and seeing new locations each year. We also enjoy reading about others in the newsletter.

**Lou Yeh:** Enjoying grandchildren and traveling.

**Donald B. Booth:** Instead of attending my 65<sup>th</sup> high school reunion this past year at Pacific Grove High and our 60<sup>th</sup> class reunion at Stanford, due to deaths, divorces and just plain lack of interest, do you want to know what Alice and I decided to do instead? We took a cruise ship out of San Francisco on a 30-day voyage to Hawaii, French Polynesian Samoa, American Samoa, Fiji, New Zealand, winding up at Sydney, Australia and had a wonderful time!

**John Fitzpatrick, Jr.:** Still providing tours at Gettysburg National Military Park from April to early November each year. Have just achieved "Emeritus" status. I also have a special series of postings on a daily Gettysburg blog [www.gettysburgdaily.com](http://www.gettysburgdaily.com). Click "Battlefield Guides", click "John Fitzpatrick" for my special tour on the Union Army's famous Irish Brigade.

**Ron Evens:** I continue to be active in toy making at the County Jail. Our program is at Marsh Creek Detention Facility near Clayton. The inmate students are taught and guided through a program that produces wooden toys. Late in November we invite agencies in Contra Costa County that provide services to needy kids to select toys for their programs. This year 30 agencies selected over 1600 toys and refurbished bikes to share during the holidays. I became involved in this activity through my church and have continued for the past 20 years. A win-win program where the students learn and the kids get some nice gifts.

**Alma Cuyugan:** I came back to Hayward from visiting my daughter Zenith and her 2 teenage boys. We had an early Thanksgiving with them. Then Bob and I drove to Palm Springs overnite and joined his family for the real Thanksgiving Day.

**Tim Campf:** Broke my shoulder playing tennis (believe it or not) and have 8 "pins" to show for it. The silver lining? No more wondering about the purpose of life – it's "to get well"!

**Pete Williams:** Had to take a break from 6 days a week mixed doubles tennis to have my appendix out Thanksgiving weekend. We travel nearly every month and I have 2 volunteer jobs. Contact me at [petepatwms@aol.com](mailto:petepatwms@aol.com)

**Roger Vogel:** This really isn't "new". However, I continue as a foster parent in Solano County. My wife and I have been foster parents continuously since 1973. Currently we have two children ages 6 months and 2 years. Both are medically fragile.

**Lorraine D. Hughey:** I'm still very active with my many activities and organizations. Also, I'm enjoying good health.

**Brint Deighton:** We moved to Fort Collins, CO in 1999 and enjoy our life here. Here is a short summary of our current activities.

Carolyn and I continue to attend the local symphony, opera, theater, many Colorado State University (CSU) musical events, CSU women's volleyball/basketball, and hiking/snowshoeing.

I attend a CSU Adult Fitness program MWF starting at 5:30 AM. I find it a good way to stay somewhat fit. In addition, it is very pleasant to work with the cute coeds who serve as personal trainers, learn about their life goals, and to impart my wisdom acquired over many years. I volunteer weekly at the Food Bank. I also enjoy cribbage, book group, and breakfast with the boys. In good weather I take bike rides to help keep fit. My routine program can keep me busy.

We still travel outside Fort Collins. Our big trip in 2011 was a two week Danube Cruise from Budapest to Nuremburg with a side trip to Prague at the end. We spent a week in Santa Fe to enjoy their famous opera. We continue to enjoy our Breckenridge timeshare winter and summer. Of course, we had trips to visit family.

**Vic Moore:** Still living alone in Moraga, CA.

**Dale Burrill:** Nothing new this year – no trips. In 2010 we were in Egypt, Jordan and Israel for 28 days – our 9<sup>th</sup> Grand Circle trip. Still enjoying life in beautiful Utah with good health.

**William McCarthy:** Still going strong in Sparks, NV. Still play golf once a week. Will be 20 years retired in 2012.

**Dave Ashe:** The Ashe's, Dave and Karen, continue to be blessed with excellent health. Our recent travels have been nationally oriented with RV trips to Mt Rushmore/Black Hills, with stops at Glacier and Yellowstone NP's. We visited Yosemite NP this spring to witness all the awesome waterfalls as a result of last winter's snowfall. Recently we used our timeshare week to visit Niagara Falls and the WTC Memorial, both very inspirational in different ways. Our winter sojourn to AZ continues to be an annual event. At home we remain very busy with church and community activities. Our golf games even showed some progress this year with Karen breaking the "100" barrier and Dave shooting his "career" low score of 80. We continue to enjoy retirement at Lake Almanor, now going on 15 years (My how time flies when you're having fun). Visitors always welcome.

The Report

**SPECIAL EVENTS (EAST BAY CHAPTER)**

Questions? Call Lillian Smithson on 510-223-4317 (home) or 510-334-6798 (cell) or Cynthia Mortimer on 510-758-3744 (home) or 510-409-1031 (cell)

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**WATCH FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2012**  
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**A's vs. Giants Baseball Game Sunday, June 24th**  
\$33.00

Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope  
Make checks payable to CRA—East Bay Chapter. Mail to Lillian Smithson,  
40 Avenida Martinez, El Sobrante, CA 94803

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**RENO OVERNIGHT BUS TRIP APRIL 1-2, 2012 (Sunday & Monday)**

Accommodations at Silver Legacy. Single occupancy \$99/person; double occupancy \$78/person. Buffet dinner show at El Dorado Hotel — “Benise, Nights of Fire” — an Emmy award winning spectacular adventure through Spanish Nouveau Flamenco, Cuban Salsa, Brazilian Samba, Argentine Tango, Indian Bollywood, Parisian Waltz, exotic African drumming and more. **Price for buffet dinner and show is \$44.** Dinner at 5:30, show at 7:00 p.m. Bus trip includes 3 hour stop at the Nugget + free \$5 voucher; \$5 free play and \$3 food credit at Silver Legacy; 4 hour stop at Boomtown on the return trip and \$5 cash + \$5 food credit.

**Reservations due March 1, 2012**

**Please print**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Single occupancy at \$99/person \_\_\_\_\_ Double occupancy at \$78/person \_\_\_\_\_

Buffet dinner and show at \$44/person \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to CRA -- East Bay Chapter. Mail to Lillian Smithson, 40 Avenida Martinez, El Sobrante, CA 94803.

**George Jardin:** Many Chevron retirees enjoy playing senior softball. There are two leagues to accommodate players, men and women, of all skill levels. Great fun, good exercise and new friends to meet. If you're interested, call me at (925) 934-4384.

**Richard Nielsen:** I had prostate surgery in January. So far post surgery tests look good. Living the good life in the foothills with wife Peggy. We spend most of the summer at our condo at Lake Tahoe. Have begun to get back to attending musical theatre performances.

**Sandy Gregory:** Life is good here in the Midwest. We've just had our first snowfall and it's beautiful!

**Warren King:** Well, one of the hottest summers in decades scorched the southern U. S. Most major Texas cities set average high temperature records for the summer season. The dubious distinction of top honors went to our very own Wichita Falls, where we experienced 100 days of high temperatures over 100 degrees. Undaunted by the worst one year drought in Texas history, we bought a used sailboat in November. We hope that the water level of Lake Arrowhead stays high enough to at least float a Flying Scot.

**Richard Gehring:** My "hobby" is hiking and I try to get out with Chevron Retirees as well as others on a regular basis. Although we hike a lot in the East Bay, we also enjoy other great trails that the Bay has to offer in areas such as the Santa Cruz Mountains, South Bay, and Marin. If you enjoy hiking, come join us. [richardgehring@hotmail.com](mailto:richardgehring@hotmail.com).

**DIRECTIONS TO CONTRA COSTA COUNTRY CLUB, PLEASANT HILL, GOING SOUTH**

From I-680 South, take Chilpancingo/Concord Avenue exit. Turn left at the traffic light (you will see Target on the right hand side of the street). Continue straight through the traffic light. At the next traffic light, make right on Golf Club Road (you will see a Chevron Gas Station on right hand side of the street). Continue on Golf Club Road (past DVC Community College) until the road forks to the left. Stay to the right on Golf Club Road. Continue on Golf Club Road through a residential area. Drive ahead to the Contra Costa Country Club at #801 on Golf Club Road.

**DIRECTIONS TO CONTRA COSTA COUNTRY CLUB, PLEASANT HILL, GOING NORTH**

Take Highway 24 to I-680 North. Take Willow Pass Road exit. Turn left off freeway onto Willow Pass Road and continue to the third traffic light. Be in the right hand lane and turn right onto Contra Costa Boulevard. Continue on Contra Costa Boulevard through two traffic lights. At the second traffic light, turn left onto Golf Club Road (Citibank will be on left hand side of the street). Continue on Golf Club Road (past DVC Community College) until the road forks to the left. Stay to the right on Golf Club Road. Continue on Golf Club Road through a residential area. Drive ahead to the Contra Costa Country Club at #801 on Golf Club Road.

**Reservation for February 27th Luncheon**

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Entrée choice:

Chicken Picatta ( )

Roast Sirloin ( )

Vegetable Wellington ( )

I (we) need transportation to luncheon:

address/zip \_\_\_\_\_

*Enclose a check for \$25 per person payable to Chevron Retirees Assn. Mail to Chevron Retirees Assn., P. O. Box 371, Orinda, CA 94563, before February 18th. If you have questions regarding the luncheon, call Larry Muth (254-8268). Cancellations must be received by February 22nd.*

The Report

**WEB LINKS OF INTEREST**

Chevron Retirees Association, National Organization:  
[www.chevronretirees.org](http://www.chevronretirees.org)

Chevron Retirees Contra Costa Chapter:  
[www.chevronretireescontracosta.org](http://www.chevronretireescontracosta.org)

Chevron Corporation:  
[www.chevron.com](http://www.chevron.com)

California Initiative Program:  
[www.chevron.com/CA](http://www.chevron.com/CA)

Chevron Advocacy Network:  
[www.chevronadvocacynetwork.com](http://www.chevronadvocacynetwork.com)

Discounts & Deals:  
[www.chevrec.chevron.com/deals/default.asp](http://www.chevrec.chevron.com/deals/default.asp)

Chevron Matching Gift Program:  
[www.easymatch.com/chevron](http://www.easymatch.com/chevron)

Bay Area Activities for Retirees:  
[chevrec.chevron.com/default.asp](http://chevrec.chevron.com/default.asp)

The Company Store:  
[www.chevronstore.com](http://www.chevronstore.com)

Information on Medical and Dental Plans:  
[hr2.chevron.com/retiree/](http://hr2.chevron.com/retiree/)

**David Barlow:** Still working for SIRVA but thinking more and more what retirement would be like!

**Mary Ann Williams:** We celebrated our 34<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a Rhine River cruise.

**Jim Labbe:** My wife, Judy and I spent 4 months this summer cruising in our boat from Olympia, WA throughout Puget Sound, the San Juan and Gulf Islands, Princess Louisa Inlet, Desolation Sound, north to the Broughton Archipelago and Port McNeill, and return. 1700 nautical miles in all.

**Francisco Jimenez:** Keeping busy with a few personal projects and adjusting to enjoying life after Chevron.

**Gene Reid:** Living comfortably at Chateau II at 98.

**Mart Masak:** My wife and I have been fortunate with our health, and we have been able to stay active. We have found that running with the Orinda Road Runners is a great way to enjoy retirement and meet new friends. We also manage to spend a few months every year at our house in Sweden. Although summers there are beautiful, I also enjoy the snow in the winter.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**CRA Contra Costa Chapter Luncheons:**

February 27th  
June 4th  
September 24th

**National CRA Annual Meeting:**

May 19-21 (Sacramento)

**Chevron's Graduate Holiday Luncheon:**

December 7th

**What's new with you?**

Your Friends enjoy reading about you and your activities. So jot down a brief note on what's new with you in the space below and send it in with your luncheon reservation or, as we prefer, email your note to the address below.

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please print your name \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

Email to [newsletter@chevronretireescontracosta.org](mailto:newsletter@chevronretireescontracosta.org) or  
Mail to Chevron Retirees Assn. P. O. Box 371, Orinda, CA 94563