

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Martinez Refining Company



September 2026
Edition 247

**Special
points of
interest
in this
edition:**

- ◆ SAVE THE DATES FOR 2026 EVENTS!
- ◆ Sign up now for 9/10 Chili Bingo Event
- ◆ Alumni Association Celebrating 40 years on 10/1/26
- ◆ School Supply Donation to Las Juntas Elementary
- ◆ Toys for Tots Luncheon and toy drive on 11/12/26
- ◆ Tour of the Museum and Annex on 8/3 by CCC Historical Society
- ◆ Blasts from the Past—Do you know these Alumni?
- ◆ New Alumni Members— membership at 395!
- ◆ Alumni Scholarship Recipients 1993 - 2026
- ◆ Photo links to 2025/2026 events and the website
- ◆ Birthdays, Obituaries, & Anniversaries - Benefit Info.
- ◆ 2026 Calendar of Events
- ◆ Bingo Flier for September 10th
- ◆ Payment form for single/multiple Alumni events **and renewal of dues**
- ◆ Alumni Membership Application

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND SAVE THE DATES FOR 2026 EVENTS!

September 10th, 2026, Thursday

Chili Bingo Honoring our Veterans

October 3rd. Saturday - Tentative

Cancelled due to lack of interest this year.

November 12th, 2026, Thursday

Toys for Tots

Chili Bingo (Honoring our Veterans) - **sign up now to attend on September 10th to attend.** Serving chili by John and Jeff and pulled pork sliders. Remember, Veterans receive free lunch and bingo play for free. Hope to see you there.

Museum Construction Progressing on Schedule

The Martinez Complex Museum is well on its way to becoming a reality, thanks to the talent and industry of volunteer Alumni Club carpenters, machinists, electricians, painters and others.

The Museum, which will be dedicated as part of the Complex's Diamond Jubilee Celebration, is housed in the former training quarters near the Shell Clubhouse. Along with display rooms, the Museum will also boast both video and meeting/conference rooms.

According to Alumni Activities Chairman Bob Gotelli, the work is progressing nicely. It's expected, he said, that the Museum will be finished in plenty of time for the dedication ceremony, which will take place during the Martinez Complex Community Open House scheduled for September 22.



The museum will display old pieces of refining equipment such as the huge pump, (pictured here) which was used to pump oil through pipelines.

CONGRATULATIONS!

The Alumni Association will hit their 40th anniversary on 10/1/2026. The article shown in MRC Community Update from Summer of 1990 indicates the progress is on schedule for the dedication ceremony scheduled on 9/22/1990.

This milestone has been made possible due to the support of the Alumni members and the MRC site management for their support each year. The BOD is hoping to dedicate the Alumni Museum Annex addition by the end of 2026, if all goes as planned.

Currently we have 395 members and counting from all over the US, Canada and Australia. If you know other Alumni that might be interested in joining us, please forward this newsletter with the membership info.

Alumni School Supply Drive Donation for Las Juntas Elementary

The Alumni was able to supply some of the many items on their wish list for 2026-2027 school year to help stretch their budget. The wish list included many basics for the students, such as; pencils, pens, crayons, colored pencils, pencil bags, paint, and glue sticks. Administrative supplies, such as; sharpies, flip chart paper, post it notes, expo markers, index cards, and various types of paper for the teacher's use.



November Toy Drive is fast approaching!



The end of the year is fast approaching with only Bingo and Toys for Tots to finish out 2026. Last year's toy drive was fantastic with all the generous donations, both toys and monies, from both Alumni and MRC employees. This is for a great cause to ensure children have a wonderful Christmas that might otherwise not happen.

I would like to challenge the Alumni/MRC to outdo last year's toy drive. Toy costs have gone up and to that end I would offer several options to donate, especially for those unable to attend in person.

- Drop off a new toy(s) at the Museum on Tuesday or Thursday between 9 and noon.
- Monetary donations can be put in an envelope and dropped through the Museum door mail slot.
- Venmo, Zelle, or checks (payable to Alumni General Fund) mailed to P.O. Box 1093, Martinez, CA 94553.
- Amazon toys purchased and delivered directly to Brenda Hill, 1036 Birch Ct., Fairfield California.
- MRC will have a drop off location, an Amazon purchase option for delivery to Ann Notarangelo, and checks/monies can be sent directly to Alumni (%Linda Reed) for the toy drive..

Contra Costa County Historical Society tour of the Museum and Annex

On August 3rd we hosted the CCC Historical Society of the Museum and Annex after a tour of the refinery and a Refinery 101 presentation by Dominic. The group seemed to enjoy the tour.

The Alumni BOD were invited to tour the CCC Historical Society, which we are working a date to do. If you are interested in attending with us, please send me an email.



Photo of the group and Darrell Foote with other members of the CCC Historical Society touring the Museum.

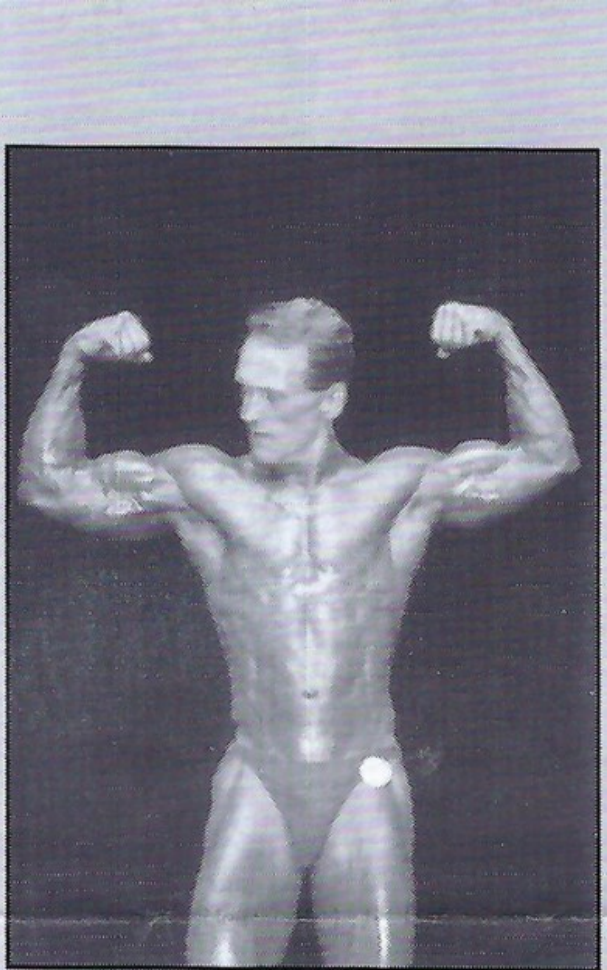




Photo of the group with Jeff Facer other members of the CCC Historical Society touring the Museum Annex..

Photo blasts from the past!

July 1995, can you name
this
employee from EM&SR?



*When you start
feeling and looking
better, you'll be
hooked on
fitness...
I guarantee it."*

SAA 's 5th Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast.

...*A*nd they're off and hunting. As the gates at the Club House opened on April 4, close to 300 kids (from infants to ten year olds) along with their parents took part in the 5th Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast. It didn't take long for the kids to find the 1,000 colored eggs hidden all over the grounds, as well as the 50 plastic eggs, each of which contained a \$10 gift certificate to Toys R Us. Shell Alumni and SAA members prepared and served a breakfast feast so that all would be fueled and ready for the hunt. A pink bunny (yes, that is **Jim Purdy**, dressed in pink) handed out baskets and posed for pictures. Who had more fun here — the kids, the adults, or the bunny?

Bunny & Brianne Abbott, daughter of Russ and Donna Abbott.



Cathie Arenas – MRC's Flower Child

*I*n the fall of 1996, **Cathie Arenas** began her own neighborhood beautification project by planting flowers along the side street to her home. Living on Wild Flower Drive, Cathie felt there should be flowers lining the streets — not weeds! After getting approval from her neighbors, Cathie tilled the soil along the fenceline, purchased, and then planted several type of drought-resistant flowers (Ceanothus, Verbena, Poppies, Geraniums and Mexican Primrose). This was no small endeavor. For the first six months, Cathie used a wagon to transport bottled water down to the site several times a week until the plants rooted; they are now self-sustaining. If you want to view Cathie's green thumb efforts for yourself, check out the corner lot on Gilrix Street and Wildflower Drive in Martinez.



ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP REACHES HIGH OF 395!

FYI WE NOW HAVE 92 MRC ACTIVE EMPLOYEES. Thanks to all the folks joining the Alumni to support the group. The membership form is found on the last page of this newsletter.

Please pass on to those retirees/employees that have not joined us. Great work by current members reaching out to fellow coworkers and friends to join us.

Joe Vorderbrueggen

Ron Eggers



Here are a few facts about our members: Members reside in the following countries and states: Australia, Canada, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, & Washington.

Looking for current or previous Alumni newsletters or photos from recent or previous events, check out this link to the [MRC Alumni web site](#) for the items as they become available for viewing.

PHOTO ARCHIVES OF EVENTS

Crab Feed 2026 from March 5th, 2026. Open this [hyperlink](#) to check out all the photos from the event.

Annual Alumni Meeting on March 24th, 2026. Open this [hyperlink](#) to check out all the photos from the event.

Annual Alumni Reunion on April 30th, 2026, Open this [hyperlink](#) to check out all the photos from the event.

Scholarship Awards from May 4th, 2026, to view the photos of the event just open this [hyperlink](#).

Annual Alumni Picnic on June 16th, 2026. To view the photos of the event just open this [hyperlink](#).

Bocce Tournament on July 26th, 2025. To view the photos of the event just open this [hyperlink](#).

Annual Bingo, September 16th, 2025—Honoring our Veterans. Veteran's enjoy free lunch and bingo play in recognition of their service. Open this [hyperlink](#) to check out all the photos from the event.

Annual Toys for Tots November 12th, 2025. Open this [hyperlink](#) to check out all the photos from the event. This was a great success thanks to all who contributed or attended!

Alumni Breakfast (canned food drive) 2026 from January 15th. Open this [hyperlink](#) to check out all the photos from the event.

Annual Clubhouse decorating by PBF staff and Alumni. Open this [hyperlink](#) to check out all the photos from the event. Thanks to all that helped.

Click on this https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l_iJLWbluuI to watch a clip of the Museum and Annex tour for the 2025 Martinez Historical Society.

2025 Martinez Historical Society



[Open hyperlink this to view the Alumni scholarship photos from 1993 to current.](#) [This hyperlink opens the scholarship list of recipients.](#)



Michael Gonzalez, September 1st
Ron Duhamel, September 3rd
Alina Sturgeon & Minnie Tsunezumi, September 4th
Linda Cutright, September 6th
Michael Grech & Anne Randall, September 7th
Alan Robbins, September 8th
Tim Brady, September 9th
Allan Metcalf, September 10th
Dave Seaton, September 11th
Thor Nygaard & Marcelo Ognian, September 12th
Igor Skaredoff, September 12th
Charlie Cayro, September 13th
Joseph LaGrone, September 14th
Chris Weisse, September 15th
Chad Long, September 17th
Andy Chen, September 19th
Thomas McLain, September 20th
Dale Rash, September 21st
Museum Dedication, September 22nd (1990)
Sal Coniglio, September 24th
Lee Madrid & Craig Zimmerman, September 26th
Edward Alemany & Darrel Sturgeon, September 27th

SHELL—BENEFITS, MEDICAL, PENSION
SHELL BENEFITS SERVICE CENTER The old Shell Benefits number has been disconnected. The new phone referenced below is to a dedicated department who can further assist you on your Shell Benefits inquiry, you may directly contact them thru the following:
800-307-4355 Also as a backup for assistance, try reaching out to the Fidelity Patient Advocate (**Stephanie, 877-208-0936 Ext. 23411**).

Attention Please: Are YOU and YOUR SPOUSE 65 AND ELIGIBLE FOR MEDICARE? All retirees must be enrolled in Medicare Part "B" to enroll in the Medicare Senior Advantage Plan with Kaiser or their HMO.
Persons not a member of Kaiser must contact their HMO for application and approval. Please follow these steps concerning Medical Coverage with your HMO or Kaiser.

- 1..You need to contact your HMO or Kaiser for an application 90 days prior to your 65th birthday. Call Kaiser for an application at 1-800-747-2189.
2. Complete and return the application to your HMO or Kaiser for approval.
3. Your HMO or Kaiser should notify you of the date of approval of your application.

Current Board Members and Officers	
Museum Phone number (925) 293-4162	
Chairman—Brenda Hill	
Vice Chairman—Rodger Engebretson	
Treasurer—Jeff Facer	
Secretary—Dina Cotten	
Board Member—Allan Robbins	
Board Member—Jon Marangoni	
Board Member- John Wellner	
Board Member—Anne Fincke	

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY	
Greg and Shari Mejia, September 6th	40s
Udayashankar and Chithra Ganapathy, September 7th	
Nick and Reina Harrington, September 7th	20s
Daniel and Heather Riccabona, September 7th	20s
Dean and Vickie Chamberlain, September 8th	40s
Ken and Vicki Cramer, September 10th	60s
David and Staci Gieber, September 10th	20s
Pat Owens and Robin Reese, September 11th	30s
Edward and Ronda King, September 13th	20s
Ed and Marilyn Campbell, September 15th	
Jeff and Wendy Harris, September 16th	30s
Dewey and Sara Kranz, September 19th	30s
Thor and Andrea Nygaard, September 19th	40s
Don Sanders & Lindsay Murphy, September 20th	10s
Greg and Eva Chambers, September 22nd	
Dave and Megan Bleckinger, September 23rd	
Melisa and Gus Guilen, September 27th	20s
Kris and Nancy Koller, September 27th	
Misha Karton and Irene Fusman, September 28th	
Steve and Sue Luck, September 30th	20s

Obituaries	
Please email us if you know of other Alumni that have passed.	
Igor Kobrinovitch, May 2026?	
John Whaley, June 2026?	

“Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn.”
Benjamin Franklin

MARTINEZ REFINING COMPANY ALUMNI 2026 SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

P.O. Box 1093 Martinez, CA 94553

MRCMTZALUMNI22@GMAIL.COM

Proposed event schedule of activities for 2026 (cost and dates subject to change).

DATE	DESCRIPTION	MEMBER COST/PERSON	COMMENTS
January 6th, 2026 Tuesday	Clubhouse Christmas Decorations removal—RSVP for lunch	Lunch provided to volunteers, please RSVP	
January 15 th , 2026 (Thursday)	MRC Annual Alumni Breakfast and Canned Food Drive @ Clubhouse (Doors open @ 9:30am & breakfast served at 11:00 am)	Breakfast \$10.00 and/or a donation of non-perishable food/canned goods – NO GLASS PLEASE.	RSVP requested by 1/13/2025 – payment by 1/21/2025
March 5th, 2026 (Thursday)	Crab Feed @ Noon Clubhouse—	Ticket cost \$50 per member limited ticket sales – reserve your ticket	
March 24th, 2026 (Tuesday)	Membership Meeting to announce new BOD for 2026-2027	Free (Members and their guest Only)	RSVP by March 18th via email or text to 707 718-0398
April 30th, 2026 Thursday	Retiree Reunion/Open House – Mexican Buffett	<i>\$10 at the door per member</i>	
May 4 th 2026 Monday	Scholarship Lunch @ Zio Fraedo's Waiting on confirmation with restaurant	<i>\$10/person TBD</i>	
June 16 th , 2026 Tuesday	MRC Annual Picnic @ Clubhouse – The event will be held indoors again this year.	Alumni member and a guest \$10.00/person (Children, grandchildren & great grandchildren are \$5.00 each over age 5.)	
July 25 th , 2026 Saturday	Bocce Tournament Registration @ 8:30 am and Starting @ 9:00 am Lunch and t-shirts provided	Alumni members and their guest/and or family members \$10.00/person (children over 10 - free)	
Sept 10 th , 2026 Thursday	Chili Bingo – Honoring our Veterans	Alumni member & a guest \$10.00 per person	
Nov. 12 th , 2026 Tuesday	Luncheon & Toys for Tots Drive	Alumni member & a guest \$10.00 per person and/or a new toy(s) per person	
December 2026 TBD	Volunteers to decorate Clubhouse		

BINGO

SEPTEMBER 10TH, 2026

The Alumni would like to honor our Veterans and thank them for their service with a free lunch and bingo. This invite includes Alumni members and MRC employees. Veterans will be admitted to lunch and receive two bingo cards without charge in recognition of their service. If you don't have time for bingo, join us for the social hour and lunch.

This event will be held in the MRC Clubhouse on September 10th. The menu will be chili, cornbread, and dessert (water, soda, beer and wine will be served). We will open the doors at 10:30 for socializing and serve lunch at 11:00 am. After lunch and a short break, we will play 6 rounds of assorted bingo which should take about 60 minutes. **(Reminder: RSVP's by 9/2/26 are required prior to the event to attend.)** *Note: bingo cards are the shutter style - no messy bingo daubers.*

Date: September 10th, 2026
Time: Doors open @10:30 am to 1:00 pm
Lunch: Served at 11:00 am
Place: MRC Clubhouse



We will play 6 rounds of varied bingo, as noted below, with gift cards (\$25 to \$50) being the prizes. The rounds of bingo will be: traditional "line bingo", a "two line", "four corners", an "outside picture frame", and the finale will be "full house or blackout bingo".

Four Corners – Block off the numbers in all four corners of your bingo card.

Traditional Line Bingo – Block off a horizontal, vertical, or diagonal line of five numbers.

Outside Picture Frame – Block off the outside boxes all the way around your bingo card.

Two Lines – Block off two horizontal lines of five numbers.

Full House or Blackout – Block off all the numbers on the card.

Please complete the information below and submit via email or by mail this form with payment to the Alumni, at P.O. Box 1093, Martinez, CA 94553. Check should be made payable to "Alumni General Fund". RSVP's due by September 5th, payment due by September 10th, 2026.

Name: _____ Check If You are a Veteran ☐

Contact info: Email address or Cell Number: _____

Guest's Name: _____

Single or Multiple Payment(s)

Please make check payable to “Alumni General Fund” and mail to
Martinez Refining Company Alumni at P. O. Box 1093 Martinez, CA 94553

This payment sheet is being provided for your convenience to eliminate multiple payments/mailings for annual dues renewal and/or events you plan on attending in the future. **Complete the appropriate portion of this form, print the form and mail with the appropriate payment.** Note the event fliers are not required if you use this payment form. Additional details and reminders for events will be forthcoming as the dates get closer.

Please provide your name and cell/email for contact information: Name: _____
_____ Cell or email info. _____.

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Annual Dues Renewal – Please indicate the year(s) below that you are paying dues for or just provide the amount of dues paid and it will be recorded as necessary. **Please complete the membership form and include in the mailing if your information has changed or you are a new member.** Dues are \$5.00 per year.

Indicate the amount for dues: \$ _____ ☐ 2026 ☐ 2027 ☐ 2028 ☐ 2029 ☐ 2030

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Chili Bingo – Honoring our Veterans, September 10th – Lunch will be served at no cost to members only and their guest. **Please RSVP for the catering count BY Sept. 1st via, mail, email. \$10.00 per person, Veterans are served a free lunch and play bingo—a small thank you for your service.**

Member's Name: _____ ,
Guest's Name: _____ Please provide your email address or
cell number for contact info. _____

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Toys for Tots Luncheon, November 12th – Lunch will be served for the entry of a new unwrapped toy(s) or \$10.00 per person for those not wishing to shop. **Please RSVP for the catering count BY November 1st via, mail, email. \$10.00 per person.**

Member's Name: _____ ,
Guest's Name: _____ Please provide your email address or
cell number for contact info. _____

In addition to attending the luncheon on November 12th, these are other options for members to participate who are unable to attend in person due to schedule conflicts or being out of state. We are hoping to exceed the drive last year which was fantastic due to the support of the Alumni and MRC employees.

- Drop off a new toy(s) at the Museum on Tuesday or Thursday between 9 and noon.
- Monetary donations can be put in an envelope and dropped through the Museum door mail slot.
- Venmo, Zelle, or checks (payable to Alumni General Fund) mailed to P.O. Box 1093, Martinez, CA 94553.
- Amazon toys purchased and delivered directly to Brenda Hill, 1036 Birch Ct., Fairfield California.
- MRC will have a drop off location, an Amazon purchase option, and checks/monies can be sent directly to Alumni in care of Linda Reed.

MRC (Martinez Refining Company) Alumni Membership Form & Dues

This information requested below is to allow the Alumni Newsletter to congratulate and celebrate folks on birthdays and milestone anniversaries. Please forward this form to other Martinez Refining Company retirees and active employees that would be interested in joining.

NAME: _____ Date Submitted: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number(s): ☐ Cell _____ ☐ Home _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Birthdate: _____

Wedding Anniversary Date: _____

Spouse or Significant Other's Name: _____

Date of Retirement: Month: _____ Date: _____ Year: _____

Please indicate the amount paid (\$5.00 per year), payment method, and indicate the year(s) for which dues are being paid.

Amount: \$ _____ ☐ Check (Payable to Alumni General Fund) ☐ Cash

Dues for ☐ 2026 ☐ 2027 ☐ 2028 ☐ 2029 ☐ 2030 ☐ 2031

Mail your money and this form to the Martinez Refining Company Alumni, P.O. Box 1093, Martinez, CA. 94553.

Disclaimer: Regarding all events photos/videos Alumni Reunion Photos/Video:

Please note that the Martinez Refining Company (MRC) Alumni owns/uses photographs and/or video taken of Alumni members and/or group shots taken at events. Those photos are shared in the Alumni and the MRC Martinez Minute newsletters and to be posted on Alumni web pages, in publications, news releases, online, and in other communications related to the mission of the MRC Alumni, Martinez Refining Company and PBF Energy. By joining the Alumni and attending the events you approve of these photos and the use thereof.

Revised December 2025