





SPARTAN SENIOR

A newsletter for Michigan State University Retirees

LANSING AREA LOCAL EDITION Nov.-Dec. 2012

The Old Newsboys and the Children Need Your Help

For a half dozen years, the MSURA has been helping with the one-day Old Newsboys fundraiser. **Can you help this year?** The campaign will be **Thursday, December 6**. If you can help, please contact Brenda Spackman (517-651-9091) or the MSURA office (517-353-7896). If not, please call and make a donation.

The fundraiser consists of volunteer vendors selling a six-page tabloid newspaper, typically called *The Lansing Stale Journal*. The issue costs a dollar or as much as a buyer can give. The paper spoofs local personalities, institutions, and politics. All the materials and printing work is donated so that all proceeds purchase footwear for children in need in the Lansing area (as recommended by school-district staff).

Last year, shoes were provided to 5,600 children, a 13% increase over the previous year. The Old Newsboys Association is itself a spoof, recalling an age when boys hawked newspapers on street corners. Now, anyone can join who wishes to volunteer—men and women of any age. The annual campaign dates back to 1924.

MSURA volunteers are typically assigned to a campus location to "sell" the paper in the early morning of the campaign. There are other, less-demanding, supporting assignments.

**Donation money also can be sent directly to Old Newsboys Association of Greater Lansing, P.O. Box 14058, Lansing, MI 48901-4058. (Brenda Spackman)







HOW TO MAKE GIFTS TO SUPPORT THE MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION

Your association is financially stable because many individuals have chosen to make charitable contributions to the association. These donations are used to pay for the programs and services budgeted by your board of directors. Most expenses incurred by the association are for communication to MSU retirees and their spouses through the newsletter, the website and special bulletins when it is urgent to forward information. Newsletter subscriptions are the other source of income to the association.

Make your charitable contributions to the University Development account (No. AB272) as described below. *This is the only way your gifts can be tax deductible.* Your gifts also will count toward university donor recognition clubs and societies. You may also make gifts to this account in tribute to deceased or living loved ones or former colleagues.

To make a donation by mail, enclose the following form with your donation and mail to: University Development, 300 Spartan Way, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824:

You may also donate on line. On the MSURA website, open the **'Donate to MSURA'** link. This opens the on line donations window at Development. In the search box enter either retirees or AB272 and your contribution will be tagged with the correct code.

| This is a charitable contribution to <i>Michigan State University</i> to support the educational programs and services provided by the MSU Retirees Association for retirees and their spouses and in support of the university community |
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| Make your check out to: MSU — Retirees Association AB272 Name(s) |
| Full Address |
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HUGE KUDOS AND THANK YOU

The plea for help went out and did you ever respond! The phone rang off the hook as twenty-two ladies decided to clean out their closets and the yarn just poured into my car, into the upstairs bedroom and then into the capable hands of our knitters and crotchetiers.

With all your help over the years the Knitting Group has been able to craft over 20,000 items that have gone to a great many agencies in the Lansing area who help the needy. Your generous response encourages me to make another appeal, for more crafters. The need in the Lansing area just keeps growing and we are so few. However, the positive ripples of love and caring that go into the making of the items comes back in the most beautiful of thank you letters.

If you could find just a few minutes out of your day to stitch up a little something it just might help someone stay warm this winter. If you would like to join in the group we meet every other Tuesday from 1:00-4:00 p.m. in Room 27 of the Nisbet Building or just call Rosemary Pavlik at (517)882-2030. I'm waiting for the phone to ring off the hook.

(Rosemary Pavlik)







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Upcoming Meetings

REMEMBER we will still enjoy the hospitality of the MSU Federal Credit Union for our MSURA meetings. All our meetings are set to take place at the new Farm Lane Branch Office of the MSU Federal Credit Union located at 4825 East Mt. Hope Road, East Lansing. Essentially, this is at the intersection of Mt. Hope Road and Farm Lane.

All meetings will start with coffee, donuts and conversation at 1:30 p.m. The talk will start at 2:00 p.m.

Our November Program Highlights the Amazon Rain Forest. MSU Professor Robert Walker will talk to us on November 12, 2012 about his many trips to the Amazon and his work with stopping the logging, preserving the trees and saving the great rain forests which are so necessary for the survival of the planet.

The December Meeting will Explore the Changing Face of Santa Claus. Santa Claus will be familiar to most Americans as an icon of our winter holiday culture. Join us at 1:30 for refreshments and 2:00 for the presentation at our December 10, 2012 meeting at the MSU Federal Credit Union branch at Mt. Hope Road and Farm Lane in East Lansing. Our Vice President Rosemary Pavlik has arranged for Val Berryman, Curator of History at the MSU Museum, to trace the evolution of our image of Santa Claus over the years.

Val Berryman joined the staff of the MSU Museum in 1963 shortly after graduating from MSU. He has served as Curator of History since 1967, the same year he received his M.A. degree from MSU. Curatorial duties include cataloging, researching and preserving of the museum's historical and cultural collections and making them available for study and exhibition. He assists in training students in museum philosophy and practice.

On January 14, 2013 the Retirees will host Julie Duesing, the Program Coordinator of the Michigan Great Lakes Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. She will talk on "Different Aspects of Alzheimer Disease."

February 11, 2013 TBA.

Our March 11, 2013 meeting will pertain to Health Care. Rene Rivard and Sharon Butler of MSU Human Resources will discuss changes in health benefits. Clinical Center Director Jana Jirak will bring up changes in her department.

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