



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

SPARTAN SENIOR

A Newsletter for Michigan State University Retirees

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International Edition

Fall 2009

Former President Dr. Gordon Guyer on the Importance of MSURA

It is exciting to have talented and dedicated retiree volunteers representing us in numerous ways and providing the latest information that is important to our future.

I hope all of you will join me in supporting the MSU Retirees Association. MSURA provides important liaison with retirees and the MSU administration and is your advocate with the University for retirees health benefits, as well as other retirement benefits. You will be kept informed about retirement issues such as changes in prescription drugs and other health issues. Charlie Downs does a great job in highlighting latest campus issues. MSURA maintains a community of fellowship with other retirees and provides many educational opportunities.



Dr. Gordon Guyer & Nancy Craig
MSURA Membership Chair

You can support the MSURA leadership by keeping your newsletter subscription paid to date. Another way to support the educational programs and services of MSURA is to send a charitable contribution to the MSU Development office and designate it for MSURA. There are subscription and charitable contribution forms for your use included in this newsletter.

I propose there has never been a time in the history of this great Land Grant University that communications and representation of retirees is so important.

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION FORM

I wish to renew/start my subscription for the MSURA newsletter at \$5 per year with the enclosed payment to "The MSU Retirees Association."(before Jan.1, 2010)

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Make check payable to MSURA
Mail to Bob Wenner, MSURA Treasurer, PO Box 203, Okemos, MI 48805

Would you prefer receiving the Newsletter by e-mail? Yes _____ No _____

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Fellow retirees;

Michigan State University has a strong tradition of providing health care benefits for both active employees and retirees. We have heard many times that these benefits are producing ever greater strains on the ability of the University to sustain them. Over the past year, a task force with representation from the MSU Retirees Association, the MSU Faculty Emeriti Association, and the many groups representing current employees have worked on this issue. Their efforts have produced a new generic prescription drug program, which presents an opportunity for the University and its employees and retirees to control costs while maintaining quality medical care.

Retirees and all employee groups have been well represented during the discussions on this program. The Michigan State University Retirees Association and the Faculty Emeriti Association have participated in those discussions. Thanks go to Professors Marilyn Rothert and Gary Stone for their leadership on behalf of retirees. These individuals have spent many hours studying, discussing and helping shape the program.

The University plans to mail detailed information about the generic prescription drug program by the middle of November. Please read that information carefully when it arrives. If you are unsure about how the program affects you, or if you have not received the mailing by Thanksgiving, contact MSU Human Resources at 517-353-4434 or 800-353-4434. You can also get information from CVS/Caremark at 800-565-7105.

In most cases, such as when no generic drug is available or a generic is already being used, you should see no increase in the cost of your prescriptions. Those who switch to a generic drug will see a decrease in co-pay. An appeal process is available if your physician decides you must not use a generic for medical reasons. The University wants you to have full confidence that appropriate medications are available to you.

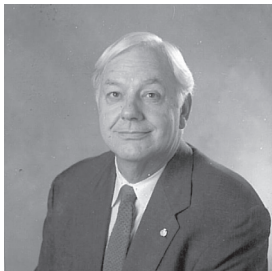
Gale Arent, President, MSU Retirees Association
John Forsyth, Chair, Steering Committee of the Faculty Emeriti Association

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Our MSU Boys of Summer

Think way back to the Spring of 1954, a year that saw MSU's baseball team enjoy an outstanding season! The Spartans won the school's first Big Ten title, and the team's only trip to the NCAA College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska. Members of that team have relived those memories by means of a series of Spring Reunions. They gathered with family members at campus in 1964 and 1974; and then in 1979, started a five-year cycle, with the most recent one this past April. The 2009 meeting attracted eleven team members and included six of the players that have attended every reunion.

(cont. next page)



Gale Arent



John Forsyth

SPARTAN SENIOR Subscription Rate to Rise

Friends and faithful readers: it had to happen sometime. On January 1, 2010, the subscription cost will go up from \$5 per year to \$10.

Please note that all subscriptions for a year or more that we receive prior to December 31, 2009, will be at the old rate of \$5. And if you have already pre-paid for future years at \$5 per year, we will still honor this commitment.

Check the mailing label of this newsletter for your subscription expiration date above your address. (Ron Smith, chair of Budget Committee)

Old Newsboys Sale Thursday, December 3, 2009

Brenda Spackman

Have you noticed how things are constantly changing? Some changes work out nicely and others just don't. And you never know, but you have to try them. **The Old Newsboys Association decided to try something different this year for their annual sale.** They are not changing their mission; i.e., to purchase footwear for needy children in the Lansing area, but they are going to change the day on which their sale is scheduled. Back in the mid-1900s, the sale was on either the first Friday or second Friday in December, the day most employees in downtown Lansing were paid, and the day after the State workers were paid. Over the years, the area the Old Newsboys Association serves has grown and the number of employees who work on Fridays and who would purchase a copy of the Lansing State Journal's Spoof Edition has decreased. Therefore, the board of directors of the Old Newsboys Association has decided to try something new this year **and hold their sale on Thursday, December 3, 2009.**

Along with changes, come some things that never change. **The thing that doesn't change here is my need to have your help.** Would you be willing to help sell the paper that day? MSURA took on this challenge several years ago. Each year, it seems we get better at it and have more areas of the campus covered. If possible, we would like to have people sell near the building in which they worked. If we already have that area covered, then we do have other areas where people never have an opportunity to purchase this paper because no "paper person" comes to their area. Most of the volunteers need to be at their location between 7:00 a.m. and 7:45 a.m. in order to serve those people on their way to work. Please remember what a worthwhile cause this is and give us a few hours of your time. (Ed. Call Brenda at 517-651-9101). **Please Help!. It's for a Good Cause.**

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(Our MSU Boys cont.)

The current Spartan team was out of town that weekend, but the attendees did their usual Friday night dinner at the home of catcher Dan Brown; and then a second dinner session at the Kellogg Center on that Saturday night.

A highlight was the tour of the splendid new team facilities at the McLane Stadium. The 1954 squad was coached by John Kobs and assistant Frank Pellerin. It consisted of 28 members. The coaches and four players have passed away. The 1954 club compiled a record of 25 wins, 10 losses, and one tie. It stood atop the Big Ten standings with an 11-2 mark. State moved through the NCAA District Four tourney with a 2-1 won-lost record over Ohio University. Then on to Omaha—State won over Arizona and Massachusetts; lost once to Rollins; then defeated Rollins to advance to meet Missouri. The Spartans lost that encounter, to bow out of tourney play. Missouri then defeated Rollins to win the title, with State ending up third. Leaders among the pitching staff were Ed Hobaugh, 7-2 won-lost and an ERA of 2.08; Dick Idzkowski, 4-3 and 2.38; and Walt Godfrey, 4-0 and 2.87. Leading hitters included Chuck Mathews (1B) with a batting average of .352; Jack Risch (OF), .319; John Matsock (SS) .310; and Tom Yewcic (C) .305. Named to the All-BigTen first team were Mathews, Risch and Yewcic. The latter was named the NCAA tourney MVP. Matsock, Yewcic and Earl Morrall will also be remembered as star members of the Spartan football team of that period. Yewcic was the quarterback of the 1953 unit that tied for the Big Ten title and defeated UCLA in the 1954 Rose Bowl game. Morrall was the quarterback of the 1955 team that finished second in the Big Ten and beat UCLA in the the 1956 Rose Bowl game. He went on to a great career in the NFL. Idzkowski and Brown, who reside in the Lansing area, have played prominent roles in the staging of the reunions. Team member Ray Collard (OF) of Swartz Creek has been a key leader, as a kind of business manager of the entire series of gatherings. Collard says he already has his sights on the projected 2014 reunion.

(Nick Vista)

We Hear from Our Readers

with Rosemary Pavlik and Pat Jeffries

We know you fly the friendly skies to exotic places, burn rubber on the roadways and camp in remote jungles and even sail the oceans deep to far away islands - - so, why are you not telling us all about these grand adventures? Maybe you do unusual volunteer work in a forgotten land or you're writing a book or helping the Red Cross in ravaged areas or maybe you are living a tranquil life lying on a beach reading a good book. It all sounds good yet no one is telling us about this grand life we retirees get to live. So, come on get on your computer or pick up your pen and let us know what's happening.

We start off our news with a letter from **Clare Musgrove [Ext]** who says he is enclosing a check for \$15.00. I have reached the age of 90 on July 8, 2009 so I only sent in for 3 years not knowing how long I might be around to read the newsletter. I'll send you more in 2012. My family gave me a good send off for my birthday so I am well on my way to 100 years. I hope I make it as long as I remain in good health. Keep up the good work with the excellent newsletter. *{WOW! You only have 10 more years to go. See you in 2019.}*

Paul Thompson [Ext] sends a big thanks to Bob Wenner and all the rest of the crew for all the effort you put into the Retirees Association and the newsletter. *{We appreciate your 'thank you'}.*

Dora Williams [Custodial Services] also sends a thank you for all the up times and all the news we are to know about.

An informative letter came in from **Don Juchartz [Ext]** who says both my wife and I enjoy reading the newsletter and getting information about former colleagues, although they seem to be getting more and more scarcer. I have been retired from MSU for 25 years now and have this year retired from my Horticultural Consulting Business, which has taken me all over the world. I started this company in 1985 and just this year closed down the consulting business - - after 24 years. I am, however, continuing with my live radio horticultural call-in show which this year is my 56th year on radio. I have broadcast over 16,000 radio broadcasts and have done them from a hospital bed, while traveling in Europe and four years ago set up a broadcast studio/equipment in my farm office. I would like to make a suggestion concerning the financial situation of MSURA.

We are paying \$5/year now and I know very few recipients who would complain about having a \$10/year charge. This would essentially double the subscription income with no additional bookkeeping chores. At \$10 it would still be a super bargain. Thanks for what all of you do for us. I appreciate it very much even though I do not get to the campus much to participate. *{Now these are the kind of letters we like to get.}*

Nada Bentley [Hum Med] says thank you for the copy of the Spartan Senior newsletter. I really enjoyed reading it. In the future I would be interested in possibly ushering at events or joining the knitting group. Though it's been a year, I'm still getting used to not working. And I've been traveling to visit kids and grandkids. I love it! *{Good for you. But, boy is the knitting group waiting for you - - come join us.}*

Another two year subscription came in from **John Baker [Ext]**. His wife Jane writes that we continue to keep movin around and about. In June, we celebrated our 60th wedding anniversary. Our two sons and daughters-in-laws surprised us with a wonderful party. *{Congrats are certainly in order here! Keep it going.}*

Harrison Gardner [CARRS] says we have a great newsletter. I remember having breakfast with Fred Graham. Moved to North Carolina this year. Keep up the fine work. *(Well, we will certainly give it our best shot.}*

John Michels sent in an "Appreciation Statement" for his wife **Virginia Michels [Business]**, who passed away June 29, 2009. It was written by the professor she worked for. The accolades went on for a page and a half and I truly wish we had the room to print it all. She must have been a truly remarkable person as Professor Trebling so eloquently stated.

Well, some of our retirees will soon be making a mad scramble for warmer climates. You can almost hear those engines revving up. Let's hope they all make it safe and sound. The rest of us snow junkies will hang around up north and hold down the (snow) fort while some frolic on the beach or knock that little white ball around. We wish you a safe trip, a blessed holiday season and a safe landing back home. Take care and see you in the spring.



A Thankful Appreciation



Dr. Richard Reid

Dick Reid has been the MSURA computer expert for many years and has now decided to pass his guru ship, which includes hard drive, disks, mouse and a multitude of files, on to another willing retiree.

Dick was always available for meetings, discussions, development of new projects and always there for the rest of us, who struggled, with his sage counsel and quiet wisdom. A tremendous amount of time and attention was given to detail which paved the way to getting the job done accurately and swiftly whatever and whenever we asked of him.

Dick's ready smile and calm demeanor will be truly missed by all within the retiree's office but the time has now come to take life easy and enjoy his family. So, congratulations on your second retirement and thank you again for all the wonderful years you so willingly chose to give to all the MSU retirees.

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Mike Garland Amuses & Informs

On Monday, September 14, over eighty of the faithful gathered in the brand new Community Room at the Crescent Road branch of the MSU Credit Union to get a preview of our basketball team from Assistant Coach Mike Garland, who is on his second stint as one of Tom Izzo's superb quartet of assistants. One highlight of his talk came from the promise Tom made to Mike many years ago when both were seventeen year old freshmen players at Northern Michigan University: "Mike," quoth Tom, "when I become a head coach someday, you can be my assistant."

Your editor thinks Mike said it was twenty-seven years later that he got a call from Tom, who had just been named to succeed Jud Heathcote as head coach of the Spartans. "Hey, Mike, come to East Lansing. That job I promised is ready for you!" The story certainly fits the reputation Tom Izzo has as a coach who supports his players and honors his word.

The questions that followed from the audience came thick and fast and almost all pertained to the coming season. Who will play inside? What do you think of so-and-so's chances? Which teams in the BigTen will challenge us this year?. (It sounds like ALL of them are nearly unbeatable!)

The coffee was hot and the donuts were excellent. The new room seats more than the old, although it doesn't appear to be much bigger. Let's make it a hundred on hand when we gather on Monday afternoon, October 12 and again November 9! (Editor)

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CONQUERING YOUR KNITTING

Well, OK, so I'll admit to not being a monogamous knitter. Actually, I suffer from an affliction called startitis. Just can't help myself with all that gorgeous yarn floating through my fingers, new exciting patterns leaping off the pages just yearning to be made. It just gets my fingers a twitching. So, what's a body to do? My humble theory is start them all because beginning is so easy but continuing to the finish is what's so hard. Eventually, throwing a discerning eye over that startitis pile, the decision is made to take drastic action - - finish them!

Knitting is a time honored venture. To simply take a string, clack away and turn it into a usable object that will help keep a baby cozy, a cancer patient's head warm or give a battered woman comfort is worth startitis. Hope does spring eternal though, that there are some women out there that have managed to fight this malady and can simply sit down, knit and actually finish an item. We NEED you!

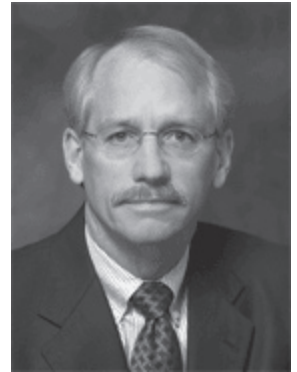
If you are interested in helping those who are truly in need please call Rosemary Pavlik at (517)882-2030 for further information. The knitting group meets every other Tuesday in the basement of the Nisbet Building between 1:00-4:00 p.m. Hope to see you there and bring a friend.

Upcoming Meetings

Meetings are now held in the Community Room on the FIRST FLOOR of the Crescent Rd Branch of the Credit Union off S. Harrison Rd. Coffee and donuts at 1:30; Meeting from 2:00 until 3:00 p.m.

Monday, November 9, 2009: “State Budget woe and its Impact on the University.”

The speaker will be our own lobbyist Steve Webster, Vice President of Governmental Affairs at MSU. During the Q and A time, ask Steve questions about other facets of his job or get his take on the cause of our state’s budgetary problems. He’s had the job for a dozen years and no doubt has some stories to tell.



Steve Webster

Monday, December 14, 2009: Take a Virtual Trip to Saginaw Valley.

When MSU alumna Annette Rummel, President of the Saginaw Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau, opens up for us the “other side” of Up North, what do you think her power point show will highlight? The huge outlet mall at Birch Run, of course, Frankenmuth, with its Bronner’s Christmas Wonderland, and its great eating places (Zehnder’s and Bavarian Inn), the Showboat at Chesaning. What else? Well, your editor doesn’t know. But, along with you all, I plan to find out at our December monthly meeting on Monday, the 14th, from 2 to 3 p.m. Come at 1:30 and have a cup of coffee or hot chocolate, and chat with old and new friends, and colleagues galore.



Annette Rummel

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DON'T MISS SPECIAL DEMMEER SHOOTING CENTER TOUR

The Shooting Sports Education and Training Center special tour for Retirees takes place Thursday, November 12 at 2 p.m. Named for John and Marnie Demmer, the newly opened center is located at 3365 East Jolly Road, just east of College Road on Jolly. All MSU retirees, spouses and guests are invited.

According to Vice President Patrick Scheetz, the new center will serve as the training site for NCAA shooting programs, but is open for use now by MSU students and faculty, also to the public. There are two indoor ranges serving small bore rifle practice, as well as archery competition. An outdoor archery park has also been built and includes several competitive ranges.

Not only will it be used for ROTC training, but also programs requiring firearm safety, and education certification for the DNR as well as for Police Officer training and certification. So grab your “iron” (which may be parked at the door!) and come to admire the newest construction on our widely diversified campus.

What's New at the U

By Charles Downs

The gods that rule the economy are not being kind to the state of Michigan and MSU is among the many sufferers. The situation is further aggravated by legislators who see the state universities as an expense to be cut rather than a means of energizing the economy. Another round of tuition increases has begun.

That's the bad news. It's hard to find any counter-balancing good news, but try this. More and more, the media is telling the public that the state universities are a major factor in economic recovery. MSU, in particular, is getting some nice kudos.

In his Sept. 29 column in the Detroit News, Daniel Howes called MSU "a lesson in leadership and smart management, how to decide what's important and do it, how to move forward amid terrible financial times because looking backward and guarding the status quo is not a path to emerging on the other side"

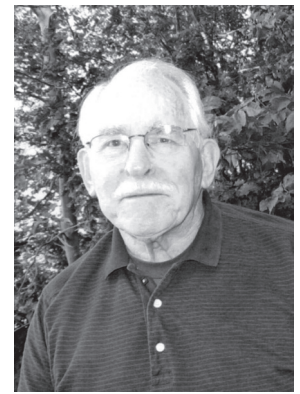
He quoted President Lou Anna Simon, "If you're going to go through all this pain and anguish" of recession and budget cutting, you better decide on what you're going to be. "You have to sort of move forward. The crisis doesn't define who you are or where you're going."

Howes went on to say, "Michigan State is approaching the most serious financial crisis in decades in a refreshingly different way — comprehensively, collaboratively, publicly and head-on. There's a Web site: www.shapingthefuture.msu.edu There are meetings and unambiguous statements of harsh financial reality. There are evaluations of business practices, academic programs, compensation, health care options for faculty and staff, even printing and how much bread to bake on campus".

"We think it's a value to be ... cost-efficient," Simon said, offering that Michigan State already claims the lowest energy costs within the Big Ten. "What we're doing right now is going through and analyzing all our sub-functions of administration.

"People know we're going to look at everything. Everybody's got to be part of the

solution. It's going to be really messy and the noise levels are going to go up for awhile. If we can use this to restructure the way we work on the administrative side that will serve us well no matter what happens."



Charles Downs

Howes concludes, "Simon's right: It'll be messy. The professors will complain. The unions will complain. Everyone, to the extent you can use that word, will want someone else to make sacrifices so they don't have to. And the politicians, pushing this week to avoid the second shutdown of state government in three years, probably will ignore the leadership lesson playing out on the banks of the Red Cedar".

"But it's there!".... AN EDITORIAL in the Grand Rapids Press on Sept. 23 was also complimentary. It said, "President Simon deserves credit for her new initiative to sculpt — that's her word — the school into the best possible shape, financially and competitively.

"Her plan assumes a 4 percent budget cut this year and a 6 percent cut next year and conveys a clear set of efficiency, success and accountability standards. She has kicked off a campus-wide discussion about how to make that happen.

"More state universities should follow her lead. . . . Even so, most universities are reacting slowly. . . . In contrast . . . Michigan State's president was refreshingly bold, announcing the university needs to reshape itself and its priorities by 'investing in areas of societal need and academic strength, even as we reduce investment in other areas.'

". . . Ms. Simon isn't letting the state Legislature off the hook, however. The president cautions that failing to invest in Michigan's universities will maim a state struggling to stay economically relevant — point that can't be missed by lawmakers and the governor as they wrestle with next year's state budget.

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“I don’t want our exercise to be viewed as “we can cut universities,”” the president said. ‘We’re going to do our part to preserve quality and be competitive and we need the state to do its part and support universities. It has to be viewed in the sense of a covenant.’”

BARNETT ROSENBERG, who died Aug. 12, saved more lives through his research and brought more money (hundreds of millions) to the University than any other professor in all of MSU history.

He should be formally remembered by MSU for his serendipitous discovery of cisplatin and the development of its successor carboplatin. These two drugs are among the most widely used – if not the most widely used – anticancer drugs in the world.

He should also be formally remembered for his tenacity in persuading the National Institutes of Health to test the drugs in humans at a time in medical history when doctors considered metal-based drugs (cisplatin and carboplatin are made with platinum) too toxic for medical use.

Rosenberg’s early work was carried out in the Biology Research Center, which stood where the BioMedical and Physical Sciences Building now stands. If he were still active today he would almost surely have a lab in that building because he was a physicist who did biomedical research.

Wouldn’t it be most fitting to give that building his name?

MIGHTY IMPACT – Despite the economy, the University Research Corridor – a partnership of MSU, U-M and WSU – continues to grow. The second annual study by the Anderson Economic Group shows the URC had a \$14.5 billion impact on the Michigan economy – up 10 percent from the previous study two years earlier.

It shows the corridor’s institutions return \$16 for every dollar invested by the state and that the corridor rivals the nation’s top research and development clusters.

URC executive director Jeff Mason said, “We’re third in patents granted, (up from fifth two years ago); fourth in technology licenses (up from sixth); and we are producing an average of 20 new companies a year, more than a company a month for the past 60 months.”

BROUHAHA – When a new dean on her first day on the job asks for the resignation of a director and the director doesn’t want to quietly resign, it attracts attention.

That’s what happened when Pamela Whitten, a professor in the Department of Telecommunication, Information Studies and Media, became dean of the College of Communications Arts and Sciences on July 1. She asked Jane Briggs-Bunting, director of the School of Journalism to return to her role as a professor.

Briggs-Bunting said the only reason given was to take the school in new directions. “I was totally shocked,” she told the Detroit News. “I’ve done a good job. I’ve done what I was supposed to do. I hit all the marks.”

The furor subsided after Briggs-Bunting eventually resigned and the Lansing State Journal published a letter from Stephen Lacy, a long-time journalism professor and a former director.

Lacy said the suspension of Briggs Bunting “has resulted in some media coverage that mistakenly equates the future of the School of Journalism with negations occurring between former director Jane Briggs-Bunting and MSU.

“. . . The lawyers will determine the outcome of the negotiation. “The faculty, with the help of alumni and friends, will determine the future of the MSU J-School.” Another longtime faculty member, Lucinda Davenport, is serving as acting director.

MSU ENROLLMENT is up only slightly – 450 — but enough to set a new record high of 47,100. The first-time fall class numbers 7,215 selected from 25,392 applications. For the entering class, the high school grade point average 25th to 75th percentile range is 3.4 to 3.8.

The total undergraduate class numbers 36,400, a slight decrease from last year. New graduate and graduate professional enrollment increased by 154 students, accounted for, in part, by the College of Osteopathic Medicine’s new presence in southeast Michigan.

NEW MUSEUM DIRECTOR – In my 51 years of association with MSU, I’ve known only two museum directors – Rollin Baker and Kurt

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Dewhurst, who stepped down this summer after 27 years on the job. Perhaps that kind of longevity has something to do with the way that time tends to stand still when you enter a museum.

Anyway, the Museum now has a new director. Gary Morgan is an Australian who brings 25 years experience in management and research in museums around the globe, including stints in Africa and the Middle East. Morgan said museum has great potential to connect with the public and broaden perspectives on university-related research and community programs. “The museum,” he noted, “can draw together the threads of sound scholarship, innovative research and an appreciation of heritage to inform us about our contexts and futures.”

EAST & WEST MSU – With the expansion of the College of Human Medicine in western Michigan and that of the College of Osteopathic Medicine in southeastern Michigan, we can expect to see more news stories about MSU datelined in those areas.

COM classes began this summer with 50 new students at each of two sites – the Macomb University Center in Clinton Township and the Detroit Medical Center in downtown Detroit.

William Stempel, dean of COM said the Macomb site is “a state-of-the-art educational institution situated among a high concentration of osteopathic physicians and partner hospitals.”

“At the DMC in Wayne County”, he added, “we will be teaching our students in an environment that will help them to learn how to meet the needs of an urban population.”

Look for CHM presence in the Grand Rapids area to have a strong research emphasis. For example, a study by Eric Kort of Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital in and formerly a researcher at Van Andel Institute (both in Grand Rapids) attracted media attention after publication in the journal, *Cancer Research*.

Kort, along with George Vande Woude, founding research director at Van Andel and Nigel Paneth a prominent epidemiologist at MSU, examined mortality figures for two years.

But instead of averaging statistics on all cancer deaths, they gained a new perspective by looking at averages within certain age groups. One finding was that the youngest age groups saw a 25.9 percent decline in cancer deaths per decade while older groups had a 6.8 percent decline per decade, “The problem with cancer is that the elderly so dominate the picture . . . that you cannot see what’s going on with younger people.”

COLLEGE HALL, built in 1856 as the nation’s first building for scientific agriculture, was torn down nearly a century ago. But its foundation saw the light of the 21st century this summer during routine sidewalk replacement near Beaumont Tower, where a plaque commemorates the historic building.

Before starting the sidewalk work, MSU Landscaping Services, knowing the history of the site, contacted the Campus Archaeology Program. The project went on hold for a few days so an excavation could be made. When the intact foundation turned up, it was photographed, mapped and carefully covered so it could be re-excavated in the future, perhaps as part of an archaeology field school.

MORE ARCHAEOLOGY – Is there any retiree who hasn’t walked by the pine and spruce trees on the mound between Munn Ice Arena and Demonstration Hall. But who among us ever suspected that the mound was part of 16,000-year-old sand dune? “The MSU campus is an odd place in Michigan to find a sand dune, said Alan Arbogast, an MSU geography professor, who helped to determine the dune’s age. While sand dunes come under the purview of geologist and geographers, the facts about this one came to light because of the Campus Archaeology Program directed by anthropology professor Lynn Goldstein.

Last spring, when MSU Landscaping Services had to replace some storm damaged trees, Goldstein was asked if the work would destroy any archaeology sites. Goldstein brought in Arbogast and the discovery was set in motion.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Have thoughts you'd like to share? Your opinions matter to us!

Write to MSU
Human Resources at:

MSU Human Resources
Communications Office
Suite 250 Nisbet Bldg.
1407 S. Harrison Rd.
East Lansing, MI 48823

or

Send us an e-mail at:

hrmail@msu.edu

and tell us what you think!



Thank You MSU Retirees

In appreciation of the past contributions of all MSU Retirees to Michigan State University, and the continuing contributions of the MSU Retirees Association, MSU Human Resources is pleased to sponsor this edition of the Spartan Senior newsletter.

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Go White

Go State!

IN MEMORIAM

ADAMS WILBERT	Surviving Spouse	1/1/2009	GARDNER RICHARD E	Retiree	9/17/2008
ADDISON YVONNE F	Retiree	6/16/2009	GARNER ERNEST G	Retiree	11/12/2008
ALCHIN EVERETT	Retiree	11/15/2008	GARTUNG SYLVIA	Retiree	12/24/2008
ALEXANDER SALLY	Surviving Spouse	12/13/2008	GBBONS THEODORE	Retiree/Spouse	4/21/2009
AMES JOSEPH W	Retiree	1/18/2009	GEBBER GERARD L	Retiree	4/9/2009
ANDERSON DAVID J	Retiree	2/12/2009	GEORGE BONITA	Surviving Spouse	11/1/2008
ANGELL FRANCES	Surviving Spouse	6/14/2009	GOODELL JOHN	Surviving Spouse	12/18/2008
ARMITAGE ELLA L	Retiree	9/17/2008	GRIMES DONNA	Surviving Spouse	7/12/2008
BARTKOWIAK JOHN P	Retiree	10/5/2008	GROH HELEN	Retiree	12/3/2008
BARTLETT PHYLLIS C	Surviving Spouse	4/1/2009	GUSTAFSON MARY M	Surviving Spouse	2/26/2009
BAZZANI FREDERICK A	Surviving Spouse	9/4/2008	HALL JEANNE	Retiree	6/11/2009
BISSONETTE KENTON ELMER	Surviving Spouse	6/30/2009	HALL ROSE F	Retiree	8/6/2008
BOND ELSIE	Retiree	6/27/2009	HARRIS M LOUISE	Retiree	12/24/2008
BOROSAGE VERA	Retiree	7/7/2008	HATTON GLENN	Retiree	1/16/2009
BRACE ALLEN D	Retiree	9/12/2008	HEFT MARVIN	Retiree	10/18/2008
BREYER RICHARD A	Retiree	6/1/2009	HEPFER DONALD	Retiree	4/6/2009
BRINKER WADE	Retiree	8/7/2008	HEPLER SHEILA	Retiree/Spouse	1/5/2009
BROOKOVER EDNA	Surviving Spouse	12/14/2008	HOLLIDAY VIOLET	Surviving Spouse	2/11/2009
BURLEY MARGARET	Retiree	2/24/2009	HOPPER RAYMOND	Retiree	2/8/2009
BYERRUM RICHARD	Retiree	9/28/2008	HORN DOROTHY	Surviving Spouse	12/29/2008
CAUL FRANCES	Surviving Spouse	12/8/2008	JACKSON JAMES A	Retiree/Spouse	11/23/2008
CHILDS SALLY	Retiree	11/19/2008	JAKUS JAMES D	Retiree	6/7/2009
CHLEBO KATHRYN	Surviving Spouse	5/13/2009	JARDOT BERNARD	Retiree	5/20/2009
CHRISTIAN ELLEN	Retiree/Spouse	6/11/2009	JENNEX JACK	Retiree/Spouse	3/25/2009
CHRISTIAN KENNETH	Retiree	6/16/2009	JOHNSON RUTH	Retiree/Spouse	2/19/2009
CHRISTINA KENNETH	Retiree	6/16/2009	JOHNSON VANDEL	Retiree	5/6/2009
CLEEVES DONALD	Retiree	5/11/2009	JOHNSON WILHELMINA	Retiree	2/7/2009
COLEMAN THEO	Retiree	6/22/2009	KALLEN DAVID J	Retiree	4/20/2009
COLLINS WILLIAM J	Retiree	2/16/2009	KAPFF MARY	Retiree	7/31/2008
COME DONALD	Retiree	9/14/2008	KAPUR YASH	Retiree	4/7/2009
CONNOR LARRY J	Retiree	3/30/2009	KEBLER RICHARD	Surviving Spouse	1/17/2009
CRAMER ERNA	Retiree	10/26/2008	KING ALICE	Surviving Spouse	4/28/2009
CUMMINGS DORIS	Retiree	11/19/2008	KNAPMAN SHIRLEY E	Retiree	9/25/2008
DANNER WALLACE	Retiree	6/25/2009	KNOP DOLORES	Retiree	11/18/2008
DARNELL CLEO	Surviving Spouse	9/19/2008	KOSBAR LOU	Retiree	8/31/2008
DASEN ROLLIN	Retiree	2/14/2009	KUZE MIRDZA	Retiree	7/15/2008
DAVIDSON HERBERT	Retiree/Spouse	6/9/2009	KYLE LEONARD		7/2/2008
DELONG PAUL	Retiree/Spouse	11/30/2008	LAATSCH GERALD	Retiree	11/10/2008
DICKMAN MARGARET	Retiree	2/25/2009	LEEPA ALLEN	Retiree	6/26/2009
DOANE DOROTHY	Retiree/Spouse	1/9/2009	LILLEVIK HANS	Retiree	5/9/2009
DRAWERT ANNE MARIE	Surviving Spouse	8/7/2008	LLOYD BARBARA	Surviving Spouse	5/30/2009
DURR WILLIAM K	Retiree	3/13/2009	LONG KEITH	Retiree/Spouse	12/28/2008
ELLISTON STEPHEN	Retiree	2/23/2009	LUC HONG DICH	Retiree/Spouse	5/5/2009
EVERETT ESTHER	Retiree	8/21/2008	LUECKE RICHARD W	Retiree	12/10/2008
FARMER EDWARD H	Retiree	8/23/2008	MACK WALTER	Retiree	9/26/2008
FEDORE PATRICIA	Retiree/Spouse	6/19/2009	MAHONEY BARBARA	Retiree/Spouse	4/18/2009
FERRIS FRANK	Surviving Spouse	10/29/2008	MAIER DAALE	Retiree	12/1/2008
FEURIG BETTY	Surviving Spouse	8/21/2008	MANGE ELINOR	Retiree/Spouse	12/1/2008
FIENUP DARRELL F	Retiree	2/13/2009	MCCAUL CLARE	Retiree/Spouse	10/28/2008
FINNI DOROTHY B	Retiree	2/25/2009	MCCONNELL MARY K	Surviving Spouse	1/31/2009
FOSTER SUSAN	Retiree	6/16/2009	MCCMAHON BETHANY	Retiree	8/14/2008
FROST CARL F	Retiree	6/23/2009	MCMILLEN CAROLYN J	Retiree	1/30/2009
GAMBLE WILLIAM	Retiree	2/6/2009	MEYERS FRED A C	Surviving Spouse	5/1/2009

MICHEAL W JEAN	Retiree/Spouse	6/10/2009	SMITH MARY K	Retiree	11/21/2008
MICHELS VIRGINIA	Retiree	6/29/2009	SNYDER JANE M	Surviving Spouse	4/17/2009
MILLER PEARL	Surviving Spouse	7/3/2008	SOLTIS RONALD	Retiree	5/22/2009
MILLER RICHARD D	Retiree	4/22/2009	SOMMERS MARJORIE	Surviving Spouse	2/18/2009
MILLS MABIRD E	Surviving Spouse	8/1/2008	SPEICHER JOHN A	Retiree	8/26/2008
MISHLER MARY ELAINE	Retiree	5/17/2009	STEWARD FLORENCE	Retiree	8/13/2008
MOLESWORTH JOHN R	Retiree	9/18/2008	STINNETT ELMER	Surviving Spouse	11/8/2008
MONROE DORTHA	Retiree/Spouse	11/4/2008	THABIT ELEASE	Retiree	5/29/2009
MOORE ELVA	Retiree	1/4/2009	THOMAS RUBY C	Retiree	8/4/2008
MULVANY VALERIE	Retiree/Spouse	11/7/2008	TREADWELL IRENE	Retiree	11/18/2008
NEILS MAX	Retiree	8/1/2008	TRIMMER DUWAYNE	Retiree	8/5/2008
NICOLAY ILSE A	Retiree	2/18/2009	TUNG WU-KI	Retiree	3/30/2009
NIXON AUGUSTA	Retiree	10/31/2008	TURNER ARNELLA	Retiree	10/9/2008
OBRIEN HELEN M	Retiree	4/13/2009	VANBAALEN BARBARA	Retiree	1/10/2009
OLSTROM VIVIAN	Surviving Spouse	1/5/2009	VANDERSMISSEN BETTY	Retiree	11/6/2008
OYER ELLA JANE	Retiree	2/3/2009	VEENENDAAL GEORGIA	Surviving Spouse	8/10/2008
PAGE LOUISE	Surviving Spouse	7/12/2008	VINKLE CATHERINE	Surviving Spouse	11/1/2008
PASH DONALD	Retiree	4/14/2009	VINSONHALER JOHN	Retiree	8/13/2008
PAYNE ISABELLE K	Retiree	5/3/2009	WAGENHEIM GEORGE	Retiree	8/10/2008
PETERS JOHNIIE	Retiree/Spouse	6/27/2009	WALSH WILLIAM J	Retiree	6/7/2009
PETERSEN CARMEN	Surviving Spouse	9/19/2008	WALTERSDORF LEIGH	Retiree	7/4/2008
PINNEY IVA	Surviving Spouse	7/19/2008	WARD BARBARA	Retiree	8/5/2008
POLIN DONALD	Retiree	2/11/2009	WELLS DOROTHY	Surviving Spouse	8/3/2008
POTTER LOUIS A	Retiree	1/26/2009	WERT JAMES C	Retiree/Spouse	12/16/2008
PRESCOTT ALICE	Surviving Spouse	1/31/2009	WHITAKER IRWIN A	Retiree	2/15/2009
RABBAGE GERALD	Surviving Spouse	8/19/2008	WILKENING DONALD	Retiree	1/6/2009
RABY MARTIN	Retiree/Spouse	1/6/2009	WILLIAMS ELAINE	Retiree/Spouse	10/21/2008
RAYBURN ELAINE		3/2/2009	WILSON J RAYMOND	Retiree	9/23/2008
REDMAN ALBERTA	Surviving Spouse	4/6/2009	WILTZER CLYDE H	Retiree/Spouse	4/3/2009
RIBAR JEAN	Surviving Spouse	12/9/2008	WILTZER ELLEN M	Retiree	5/15/2009
ROSA CLARICE	Retiree	4/26/2009	WONG PUI KEI	Retiree	11/4/2008
ROSE DOROTHY	Retiree	9/17/2008	WOOD LENA L	Surviving Spouse	8/3/2008
RUDOLPH VICTOR	Retiree	8/30/2008	WOODARD BETTY JANE	Retiree	10/18/2008
SCALLIN BARBARA	Retiree	2/5/2009	YOUNG NANCY BARKEY	Retiree	7/8/2008
SCHMIDT LUCILLE	Surviving Spouse	2/28/2009			
SHELL WILLIAM	Retiree	9/14/2008	The above list included deaths of MSUretirees and surviving		
SHIREY MERVIN	Retiree	6/6/2009	spouses between July 2008 and June 2009		

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

*Help MSURA in keeping in touch with all MSU Retirees.
Make a tax exempt donation!*

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION FORM

I _____ wish to make a charitable contribution to support the educational programs & services of MSURA. Enclosed is payment to: "MSU—Retiree Association Programs." Mail this to: University Development Office, Suite 220, 4700 S. Hagadorn Rd., East Lansing, MI 48823.

NOTE WELL: You won't get IRS Credit unless you send your check to the Development Office. Please don't send your gifts to our treasurer. Send Bob only newsletter subscriptions. We know it is tempting to write one check to cover both the newsletter and a charitable gift, but it complicates things badly!

ABE LINCOLN IN MICHIGAN

2009 is the bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth and last year marked the 150th anniversary of his debates with Stephen Douglas that won national prominence for Lincoln and made him a credible Presidential candidate two years later. Books on Lincoln, already plentiful, have been appearing even more rapidly in recent years. Doris Kearns Goodwin's look at Lincoln's Cabinet (Team of Rivals, 2006) is one of the best known but we also have a new full-length biography, a definitive edition of the 1858 debates, numerous books on Lincoln's religion, writing style, family life, mental health, etc. And now the casual web user, as well as the serious academic, can browse all 20,000 items in the Library of Congress collection of Lincoln's papers. There one can discover, for example, a handwritten letter from Austin Blair, Michigan's Civil War Governor, whose statue still greets visitors to the Capitol building. In the letter Blair assures the President that he is raising troops as quickly as possible and that the "new Reg'ts will commence to take the field about the first August."

In another curious document J. F. Driggs, Congressman from Michigan's 6th District, offers President Lincoln a fish – "a fair specimen of our Mackinaw Salmon Trout." It had been caught in Lake Huron by an eighty-year old fisherman, a lifelong Democrat who in 1860 had made "a forty mile trip by fishing boat" to vote for Lincoln and the Union. No information is provided about the condition of the fish or whether it was served at the Presidential table.

Direct connections between Michigan and Lincoln, however are not so easy to find. Though he had many dealings with Michigan's political leaders of the mid-nineteenth century – Blair, Lewis Cass, Zachariah Chandler – he made only one trip to the state in which, by one account, the Republican Party was created. (It was then decades from being the Grand "Old" Party.)

In 1856 Lincoln came to Kalamazoo to speak in support of the very first Republican Presidential candidate, John C. Frémont.

Lincoln was a private citizen and a busy lawyer in 1856. He had served just one term in Congress but his 1854 speech against the spread of slavery into Kansas and Nebraska had drawn national attention. The star of the Kalamazoo rally, held in what is now Bronson Park, was Michigan's Zachariah Chandler, Mayor of Detroit and future U. S. Senator. It was Chandler who had invited anti-slavery leaders to Jackson in 1854 to create the political movement that had become the Republican Party. No one on that day would have predicted that Lincoln would be the Party's next, and first successful, Presidential candidate, and that both Frémont and Chandler, as "Radical Republicans" (not an oxymoron,) would become Lincoln's most severe critics for his moderation in dealing with slavery and the Confederacy.

The conventional understanding of the Civil War is that supporters of slavery fought those who opposed it, and that Lincoln and the North tried to preserve the Union by denying the right of any state to secede from it. (The fight, as Professor Maurice Crane, a Union man himself, used to tell his students, was between " . . . the Union army and the non-Union army.")

But in 1856 the idea of abolishing slavery everywhere by law, though widespread in the north, was far too radical for a national party to adopt. Many, like Lincoln himself, would have been willing to accept the status quo of slavery where it existed. But in the nineteenth century the status was never quo; the landscape was constantly changing. In just two generations the new nation had expanded beyond the Mississippi river, creating, and admitting to the Union, new states from the territories it acquired. Thus the central question in 1856 was whether the U. S. government could limit the spread of slavery by prohibiting it in these new states.

In Kalamazoo, Lincoln assured the crowd that neither he nor Frémont wished to abolish slavery. But, he said, that institution must be contained, not allowed to spread into states about to be created, like Kansas and Nebraska. The genius of America, the source of its prosperity and the world's admiration " . . . is that every man can make himself." Slavery, if not held in check would destroy the possibilities for liberty and shared prosperity that America enjoyed and offered to all humankind. Lincoln's message to Michigan Republicans in 1856 expressed core convictions that lay beneath the moderate course he followed over the next eight years. As President, in the sobering context of Gettysburg in 1863, he voiced them again in words we all remember. Our nation, he said, had been "dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal." The civil war, still unresolved, was testing " . . . whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure." (Milt Powell, MSURA Historian)

2009 Big 10 Retiree Associations Meeting

Amish Farmers and Prisoners fill Sandbags

by Gale Arent, MSURA President, and Kay Butcher, MSURA Past President

The University of Iowa hosted the 2009 meeting from August 14-16 at Iowa City, Iowa. Ten of the universities were represented (Northwestern was absent.) and we had the privilege of representing the MSU Retirees Association.

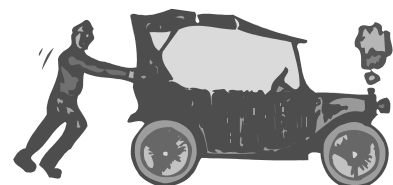
The opening session featured Dr. Wallace Loh, U. of Iowa, Provost. He presented a contemporary message of opportunities facing major public universities. Among them are declining state appropriations, tuition increases that exceed the rate of inflation, continuing expectations to keep the quality of education high and affordable, changing U.S. demographics, globalization (increase in international student numbers), the need to move from disciplinary to interdisciplinary research to solve complex problems. Dr. Loh's presentation generated a lively discussion and feedback from participants.

The Saturday morning program was fascinating. Dr. Sally Mason, U. of Iowa president, presented images of the devastating flood of the Iowa River that damaged and/or destroyed a large portion of the campus prior to the 2008-09 academic year. Several academic buildings, including the campus Arts Center will need to be removed. Fortunately the U.S. Homeland Security Department will provide 90% of the cost of reconstructing lost facilities to sites outside the flood plain. A special appropriation by the Iowa State Legislature will provide the 10% match required. We were fascinated by the enormous effort to save campus facilities, clean up, and to accommodate a record number of students at the U of Iowa last fall. Rod Lehnertz, Director of Campus and Facilities Planning, showed us a moving visual presentation about the flood. We will not forget the image of local Amish farmer and local jail inmates working together to fill some of the one million sand bags used to save the campus.

Following these presentations, we toured the campus, including the addition to Kinnick Stadium (much like the Spartan stadium addition.) The tour ended at the old State Capitol building which is a campus feature that has been restored to serve as a wonderful museum.

Finally, we learned about the work of the committee on Institutional Cooperation from Barbara Allen, Executive Director. The purpose of CIC is to connect Big 10 universities across their common academic and administrative functions through collaboration. A standard feature of this annual gathering is for each association to highlight its programs and new initiatives. We have returned the materials shared to our MSURA office for use by the board and committees of MSURA.

The 2010 meeting will be from August 20-22 at Indiana University. MSU's next opportunity to host this annual gathering of Big 10 University Retirees Associates will be in 2015.



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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
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