



# MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION

## SPARTAN SENIOR NEWSLETTER

April-May 2026

VOL. 47, NO. 6

### Coach Fralick to speak at April monthly meeting

MSU's women's basketball coach Robyn Fralick will be the speaker at the April 13 membership meeting.

To accommodate more people, the meeting will be held at the MSUF-CU Headquarters Building, #2, Community Room, 3899 Coolidge Road in East Lansing.



Robyn Fralick

Fralick holds an impressive overall record over ten seasons as a head coach of 236-95 (.713) as of this printing and is a two-time National Coach of the Year honoree.

**When** Monday, April 13

**Time** 2 p.m., coffee at 1:30 p.m.

**Where** Please Note Location: MSUF-CU Headquarters Bldg. #2, Lower Community Room, 3899 Coolidge Road, East Lansing

Please note: While not required, if you plan on attending, we would ask that you use the Eventbrite registration system ([https://Robyn\\_Fralick.eventbrite.com](https://Robyn_Fralick.eventbrite.com)) to pre-register, which will allow us to properly plan the event set-up.

Please see COACH FRALICK on page 8

### ANNUAL LUNCHEON MAY 5

## Athletic director J Batt to be keynote speaker

Plan to attend the MSU Retirees Association Annual Luncheon on Tuesday, May 5, at the University Club.

The keynote speaker will be J Batt, who was announced as the MSU vice president and director of athletics last June.

Batt came to East Lansing from Georgia Tech, where he served as vice president and director of athletics since October 2022. Before that he worked at the University of Alabama as executive deputy director of athletics.

Please see ANNUAL LUNCHEON on page 8

J Batt, MSU's 21st athletic director, joined MSU in 2025.



### Members invited to hear about World War II photographer

Eric D. Zemper, eldest son of Duane Zemper, a World War II photographer, will speak to members about his father, Duane Zemper, on Tuesday, April 14, at 2 p.m. at the MSUF-CU at Farm Lane and Mt. Hope in East Lansing. Duane Zemper was a First Lieutenant and commanding officer of the Photo Intelligence unit attached to the 457th Bomb Group of the U.S. Army Navy Force, a B-17 bomber group stationed in England during World War II.

**When** Tuesday, April 14

**Time** 2 p.m. coffee at 1:30 p.m.

**Where** Comm. Room, MSUF-CU Branch, Mt. Hope & Farm Lane

First Lt. Zemper was stationed at Glatton airbase, just south of Peterborough in England

from January 1944 until the end of June 1945.

At the end of the war in Europe, First Lt. Zemper fortunately

Please see MILITARY HISTORY on page 15

### Wine tasting! Join us!

You're invited to a free wine tasting by Vintage Wine Company at Burcham Hills on Wednesday, May 20 at 2 p.m.

Gather with other MSURA friends to enjoy this fun event.

**Location:** Ada Whitehouse Room, Burcham Hills Life Care Community, 2700 Burcham Dr., East Lansing

**Arrival:** 1:30-2 p.m. Event 2-3:15 p.m.

**Limit of 50:** Reservations required. <https://burchamhillswinetasting.eventbrite.com>

**Registration deadline:** Friday, May 8, 2026

Please see WINE TASTING on page 15

# MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION

## OFFICERS AND BOARD FOR 2025-2026

President	Dave Brower	517-282-4883
Vice President	Sandra Buike	480-415-8440
Past President	Jacqie Babcock	517-282-6861
Secretary	Kate Wight	248-563-3210
Treasurer	Bob Patterson	517-896-8065
At-Large	William Anderson	517-290-7750
At-Large	Eric Crawford	517-256-6666
At-Large	Mike Gardner	517-290-7090
At-Large	Bruce Smith	517-323-9579
Office Manager	Elizabeth Thomas	517-351-7611
Asst. Office Manager	Gale Gower	517-332-0194

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Audit	Eric Crawford	517-256-6666
Awards	William Anderson	517-290-77750
Budget & Finance	Bob Patterson	517-896-8065
Communications	Rick Vogt	517-242-1324
Healthcare Insurance	Rick Vogt	517-242-1324
Information Tech	John Forsyth	517-332-6683
Interest Groups	Christina DeFouw	517-388-1813
Membership	Jacqie Babcock	517-282-6861
Nominations	Dave Brower	517-282-4883
Program	Sandra Buike	480-415-8440
Scholarship	Bruce Smith	517-323-9579
Special Events	Jennifer Decker	517-862-5825
Volunteer Coordinator	Jeanette Robertson	517-803-5454

## COMMUNICATIONS

Newsletter Editor	Rick Vogt	517-242-1324
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Underwriting Manager	Jacqie Babcock	517-282-6861
Mailing Labels Manager	John Forsyth	517-332-6683
Webmaster	John Forsyth	517-332-6683
Webmaster	Richard Huang	517-862-2393
E-Notices Editor	Rick Vogt	517-242-1324
Videographer	Bruce Smith	517-323-9579

## StraightLine seminar set for June 11

Join the StraightLine Quarterly Financial Planning Seminar on Thursday, June 11, at 2 p.m. for a discussion about market issues. This is a free event via Zoom. Go to <http://www.straightline.com/> to find News & Events for Zoom information.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

David Brower

I am pleased to announce that the MSU Retirees Association (MSURA) is now officially an Affinity Group with the MSU Alumni Office (MSUAO). MSURA is now able to collaborate with MSUAO, taking advantage of several key services made available to Affinity Groups. Among these is use of their Eventbrite event registration system, which supports credit card payments, as well as follow-up communications with event attendees.

In this newsletter on page 9 there is a registration form for attendance at the 77th MSURA annual luncheon meeting, to be held Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at the University Club. This year's speaker will be J Batt, MSU athletic director. Jacob Kirkham, executive senior associate athletics director of development, who joined MSU in 2023, will be joining Batt. The subsidized cost of the meal is \$30. Attendees can make a copy of the registration form and send it to our office, along with a check.

Or you can register online using Eventbrite, select your meal choice(s) and pay by credit card by going to [https://MSURA\\_annual\\_luncheon.eventbrite.com](https://MSURA_annual_luncheon.eventbrite.com). Note that for future events requiring payment, we intend to provide both options for registering and paying.

Another reason to align with the MSUAO, as an affinity group, is to cultivate joint programs and experiences that benefit the mutual communities we serve. It goes without saying that many MSURA members are also MSUAO members.

Our first joint meeting will be our monthly meeting on Monday, April 13, 2026, featuring MSU Women's Basketball Coach Robyn Fralick. To accommodate an anticipated larger turnout, the meeting location has been moved to MSU Federal Credit Union (MSUFUCU) Headquarters Building 2, 3899 Coolidge Road, East Lansing. While not required, if you plan on attending, we ask that you use the Eventbrite registration system to pre-register, which will allow us to properly plan the event set-up. Eventbrite access information is provided in the relevant article in this newsletter on page 1.

Register for the wine tasting event to be held at the Burcham Hills Life Care Community in East Lansing on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, from 1:30-3 p.m. While there

Please see PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE on page 3

is no cost for this event, the event is limited to 50 attendees so please register with the Eventbrite link on page 1 of this newsletter or email me at [brower@msu.edu](mailto:brower@msu.edu) with the names of members planning to attend.

Please provide feedback to [msu-  
ra@msu.edu](mailto:msu-<br/>ra@msu.edu) on your experience using the online Eventbrite registration process. Refinements will be made as we gain experience.

I will end with a quote from Abe Lemons which states "The trouble with retirement is that you never get a day off." So, who needs a day off when you are enjoying MSURA retirement activities! My well wishes to you all.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

• As in prior years, MSURA has agreed to provide volunteers to help staff at MSU's Annual Service Awards Reception. This year's event will be held on Tuesday, May 12, from 4-6 p.m. at the new Student Recreation Center. Parking will be across the road at Breslin.

Volunteers are asked to arrive by 3:15 p.m. to be ready when the doors open. If you can volunteer, please e-mail Dave Brower at [brower@msu.edu](mailto:brower@msu.edu). He will add you to the "volunteers list" and will provide updated information as appropriate.

• MSU Retirees Association is an all volunteer organization. We rely on volunteers to make the things we do possible. If you would like to volunteer, please email Jeanette Robertson at [robertsonjeanette516@gmail.com](mailto:robertsonjeanette516@gmail.com).

## In Memoriam



The Spartan Senior Newsletter prints in each issue of the newsletter the names of MSU retirees who have recently died. In publishing this notice to mark their passing, we honor them for their contributions to improve MSU and the Greater Lansing community.

Teresa Lynn Abbey	1/14/26
Carole Lee Abel	1/12/26
John Aylsworth	1/12/26
G. Geoffrey Booth	1/12/26
Shirley Bullard	12/29/25
Karl C. Carter	11/5/25
Marc Conlin	1/1/26
Ina May Eddy	2/5/26
Marian L. Erickson	2/1/26
John F. Foss	1/17/26
Richard E. Hansen	1/11/26
Homer Hawkins	2/10/26
Verna Lee Lyon	2/12/26
Sandra E. McLean	1/3/26
George Milekovich	1/22/26
Peter G. Murphy	2/5/26
Rose Ann Nichols	10/7/25
Kenneth Nichols	1/29/26
Joyce M. Ochowicz	1/23/26
Darwin A. Parks	1/19/26
Charles A. Petty	1/30/26
Joseph T. Ruppe	2/15/26
Cynthia L. Shidaker	2/3/26
Arthur R. Sieting	2/3/26
Martha-Jane Soltow	2/10/26
Gary Stollak	2/11/26
John B. Tasker	1/30/26
Thomas L. Wenck	2/20/26
Beverly Witt	2/12/26

## Peace of Mind is the best Return on Investment

Saving should feel simple, rewarding, and on your terms. An Insured Money Management Account (IMMA) from MSUFCU let's you keep your money liquid and earn more on your higher balances.

### IMMA Features:

- Higher dividends
- Easy access to funds
- Insured deposits

### Earn More With an IMMA

[msufcu.org/imma](http://msufcu.org/imma) | 517-333-2424



A minimum balance of \$2,000 in the IMMA is required to begin earning dividends. Dividend rates are subject to change weekly. Earnings assume funds remain on deposit and are compounded monthly. Federally insured by the NCUA.

# ETTA ABRAHAMS: Finding happiness in challenging times

**E**tta Abrahams applied to Michigan State University by accident. She thought she was applying to that other school down the road, encouraged by her New York City neighbor.

Regardless, MSU was the first school to accept her, and she quickly found a home in East Lansing. Abrahams studied English and earned her bachelor's degree in 1965. She went on to achieve a master's and doctorate in English from MSU as well, while teaching at the university.

Abrahams continued to teach at MSU while stepping into administrative roles throughout her career. She retired in 2002 to

spend more time with her husband, Herbert Greenberg, whom she met at MSU. Greenberg had a doctorate in modern British literature and taught at MSU until 1998.

When the couple wasn't in East Lansing, they were often in Jonesport, a small lobster-fisherman's town in Maine.

Greenberg and Abrahams owned a summer house in Jonesport, set right before the ocean. They bought it as a fixer-upper in the late 70s, after coming across the town by chance. Their summers were spent rewiring and fixing the house, until 2001, when a community started to develop.

"Although we knew people, we didn't really have friends, but all of a sudden, there were people who had been in the academic world," Abra-

hams said. "And my husband's saying, 'Well, they're going to be moving here year round.' I said, 'Well, I guess I could retire' because I had the time in. And so I came back and I said to the chair of my department, 'I think I'm going to retire.'"

Abrahams' retirement allowed her to spend more time with Greenberg, enjoying day-to-day moments — like the time the two of them just sat on the deck together, long into the night, taking in the quiet after a particularly noisy visit from their grandchildren.

Still, the next several years weren't the easiest. Greenberg developed a stagger in 2002 and was diagnosed with cerebellar degeneration in 2009. The disease affected Greenberg's walking, speech and vision.

In 2010, the family started returning to East Lansing for winters and Greenberg's disease took a toll on his mental health. Although psychotherapy helped him emotionally, he became more dependent on his wife as his physical abilities decreased.

**D**espite the challenges, Greenberg found joy in teaching Shakespeare at a senior college, which he did until 2016. His classes were popular and stretched to standing room only.

The couple still went to Maine, but Abrahams had to complete the drive, manage the dogs and handle all the luggage: a tall task for one individual. The drive changed from one night on the road to two. Eventually, someone bought the Maine

**“**It's really important to have friends and to create and to make new friends. It keeps us in touch with the world. Regardless of what we're experiencing, if we don't have that ability to be in touch with the world, we're going to just disintegrate.” — *Etta Abrahams*

## SPARTAN SPOTLIGHT



BY AUDREY DAYTON

Audrey Dayton is an MSU student majoring in journalism with a minor in sports journalism. She plans to graduate in the spring of 2027 and hopes to have a career as a sports journalist.

house during the COVID-19 pandemic and the couple moved back to East Lansing.

Throughout Greenberg's disease, the couple leaned on one of the very things that brought them together: poetry. The couple frequently read poetry to each other, although Abrahams said she didn't have the same talent for it as Greenberg or their son Jonas.

"Poetry appeals to the emotions immediately," Abrahams said. "You're not sure why it does, but there's an impact there. It seems to be saying one thing at one time, but there's something else going on underneath it... Poems that punch you in some way, that say 'wake up' and 'look at this.' 'Listen to this.' 'Listen to the sound.' They have sounds. 'See the view', whatever it is. I think that there's an immediacy there that just tears at your heart."

In addition to reading poetry, the couple leaned on the support of their family and friends, who would stay with Greenberg while Abrahams continued to live out her love for travel.

"I went to Machu Picchu and the Galapagos. I went to India, I went to Tanzania, I went to Spain and Portugal," Abrahams said. "I was able to get members of my family to come, even though they live far away — that is Herb's kids, but I see them as mine — and they would stay with him for the time I was gone. That was great."

One of Abrahams' favorite moments of support was when her son Jonas put on a concert for Greenberg. Greenberg wanted to attend the 100th anniversary of Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blues, performed by the Lansing Symphony Orchestra, but was unable to do so.

"He completely set up our living room as a kind of cabaret, and put in string lights," Abrahams said. "He

got a combo together of a bassist, a drummer and a pianist, and he was on the saxophone. He invited a whole bunch of our friends and set up chairs and everything, and got some of his friends to do hors d'oeuvres. He gave a concert for my husband there for an evening. That was very moving."

The concert was held in December 2024, and Greenberg passed away in May 2025.

Greenberg's disease and their time together taught Abrahams that she had been living her life right: She prioritized spending time with people she loved, but also being true to herself. She stayed active in her community and personal life.

Abrahams also leaned on other people when she knew she needed help, highlighting her value placed on connection, even with strangers.

"It's really important to have friends and to create and to make new friends," Abrahams said. "It keeps us in touch with the world. Regardless of what we're experiencing, if we don't have that ability to be in touch with the world, we're going to just disintegrate."

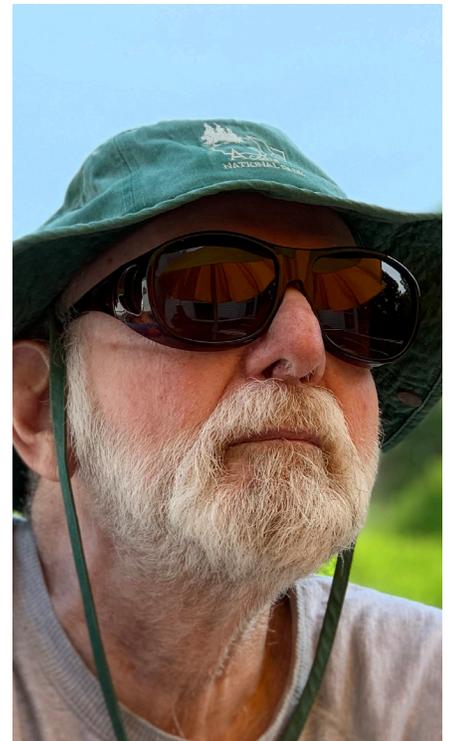
She said her father was the kind of person who would reach out to others, something she's modeled in her life, without even realizing it at first.

Abrahams' extroverted nature is something that brought her and Greenberg together, back in 1968. The two shared interests in literature and poetry due to their academic background, but also social issues.

The couple balanced each other out, Abrahams being an extroverted spirit and Greenberg being a more introspective one. They complemented each other well and supported each other from their time as a young couple teaching at MSU, to the time they returned to East Lansing.



Etta Abrahams



Herbert Greenberg

# MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY RETIREES ASSOCIATION

Join us for fun, fellowship,  
learning and advocacy

**A**s a retiree of Michigan State University or the spouse or partner of an MSU retiree, you are automatically a member of Michigan State University Retirees Association. You are welcome to participate in as many of our activities or programs as you wish. Membership is free.

## THE MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION

- Advocates for MSU retirees regarding health and retirement benefits.
- Provides a liaison between MSU retirees and the University administration.
- Keeps members informed about changes in benefits.
- Maintains a community of fellowship among MSU retirees.
- Promotes mutual interests among MSU retirees.
- Offers social, recreational and educational opportunities.
- Facilitates MSU retirees' involvement in University and community activities.
- Awards MSURA endowed scholarships with donations from members.
- Continues to serve MSU in many ways

## WHAT WE DO FOR YOU

- Host monthly meetings with speakers on a variety of interesting topics

*Details at [retirees.msu.edu](http://retirees.msu.edu). Meetings are usually the second Monday of each month, September through April. Fellowship begins at 1:30, and the speaker begins at 2 p.m.*

- Plan day trips to points of interest
- Sponsor special interest groups
- Arrange for campus facility tours
- Organize outings to Lugnuts games
- Share volunteer opportunities
- Alert you to issues important to MSU retirees
- Celebrate with an annual luncheon/Volunteer of the Year Award
- Convene a volunteer fair
- Schedule theatre outings and other social events



The annual luncheon is held every May and features board elections, recognition of the Volunteer of the Year and a speaker.

Membership meetings are the perfect time to catch up with former co-workers and make new friends.



MSURA recruits top-notch speakers for its membership meetings, like Shawn Turner, WKAR Vice President for Strategic Infrastructure Planning and Facilities.



## JOIN AN INTEREST GROUP



Interest groups appeal to many retirees. Members of the Amateur Radio group are in the top left. Some Genealogy members are in the top right. The bottom photo includes several members of the Travel group.

### INTEREST GROUPS INCLUDE

- Amateur Radio
- Genealogy
- Knitters
- Military History
- Quilters
- Travel Discussion
- Walking
- Chasing Vintage Vehicles (NEW!)

## CONTACT US

### MSU Retirees Association

Michigan State University  
1407 S. Harrison Road, Suite 22  
East Lansing, MI 48823-5239

**Phone** 517-353-7896

**Web** [retirees.msu.edu](http://retirees.msu.edu)

**Email** [msura@msu.edu](mailto:msura@msu.edu)

**Facebook** [facebook.com/MSUretirees](https://facebook.com/MSUretirees)

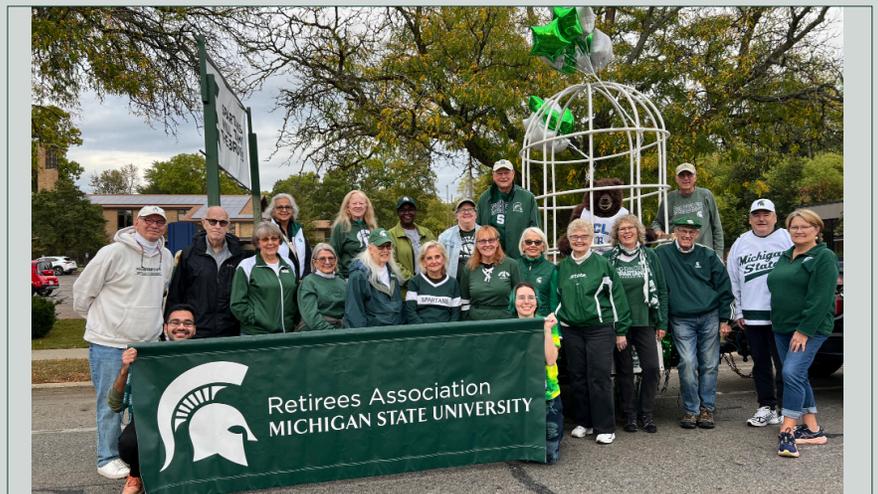
Your MSU email will be used for your electronic newsletter delivery and for E-Notices. If you plan to use a different email address, please send your preferred email address to the address above. If you wish to receive the newsletter by U.S. mail, please send your name and complete address to the MSURA office.

MSURA encourages members to make an annual financial, tax-deductible donation to Michigan State University and designate your gift to the MSU Retirees Association, Account #AB272. Your gift will count toward your University donor society and will help MSURA pay for program services, materials, mailing and office expenses. To make a donation by mail, make your check payable to Michigan State University, enclose your name and full address, and mail to

University Advancement  
535 Chestnut Road  
Room 300  
Michigan State University



## HAVE SOME FUN!



MSU Retirees enjoy lots of activities throughout the year. In the summer, they always get a chance to attend a Lugnuts game and some even get a chance to meet the Big Lug himself. For the last three years, retirees have built a float to be a part of the MSU Homecoming Parade. It's a lot of fun, and participants enjoy walking or riding in the parade and passing out candy to all the children lining the parade route.

## Credit card payments now accepted for MSURA events

A credit card option is now available for MSU Retirees Association events that require payment. This results from MSURA's recent Affinity Group arrangement with the MSU Alumni Office (MSUAO). While retaining our independent status, MSURA is now able to collaborate with MSUAO, taking advantage of several key services made available to Affinity Groups. Among these is use of their online Eventbrite event registration system, which supports credit card payments, as well as follow-up communications with attendees.

Check the registration form instructions and articles about the event for details on how to access the online Eventbrite registration system and pay with a credit card. Mail-in registration forms, with a check, will continue to be accepted.

During the coming months, MSURA will explore the benefits of using other MSUAO support to update and maintain our website. MSURA will also explore use of their technology for communications with members. Since MSURA is an all-volunteer organization, this approach will allow us to better support you, our members, without overburdening our key volunteers to maintain the infrastructure needed.

We are excited about this new collaboration with the MSUAO.

### RECEIVE CAMPUS EMERGENCY MESSAGES

You can subscribe to the Michigan State University Alert System to receive text messages when emergency issues arise on campus. All you need to do is send a text to 888777 with the message "MSUALERT" (all caps).

### ANNUAL LUNCHEON, cont. from page 1

He is regarded as one of college athletics' top fundraisers. Since he arrived at MSU, he has spearheaded the "For Sparta" campaign, aiming to elevate facilities and NIL opportunities, bolstered by a significant \$400 million commitment. He established Spartan Ventures to involve private investors in athletics.

Batt has also provided national leadership in collegiate athletics, having served on the House Settlement Implementation Committee charged with guiding the post-settlement era structures, rules and operating principles. He also currently serves as chairman of the board of the College Football Hall of Fame in Atlanta, Georgia.

A member of the 2001 NCAA championship men's soccer team at North Carolina, Batt earned a bachelor's degree in journalism and mass communications and a master's degree in sports administration from UNC.

Batt and his wife, Leah, have two sons.

Accompanying Batt will be Jacob Kirkham, who is the executive senior associate athletics director of development. He leads fundraising efforts for sports and

supervises the Spartan Fund staff.

Kirkham joined MSU in 2023 coming from Oregon State University Foundation where he was the associate athletic director and executive director of major gifts and senior director of development.



Jacob Kirkham

Kirkham earned his bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Utah and his master's degree in sport administration from Ohio University.

He and his wife, Whitney, have four children.

In addition to the speakers, attendees will enjoy good fellowship and food, help elect officers for 2026-2027, meet the MSURA scholarship winners and celebrate the volunteer of the year.

The deadline for reservations to the luncheon is April 25. The registration form can be found on page 9.

You may mail in your registration with your check or use Eventbrite if you wish to pay with a credit card. Use this address: [https://MSURA\\_annual\\_luncheon.eventbrite.com](https://MSURA_annual_luncheon.eventbrite.com).

### COACH FRALICK, cont. from page 1

She is the first MSU women's basketball coach to make the NCAA Tournament in her first season and the sixth coach in Spartan women's history.

Before she arrived at MSU, she coached women's basketball at Ashland and Bowling Green. An Okemos native, she played high school basketball as well as soccer and softball.



## NEW INTEREST GROUP!

# Like classic cars? You'll love "Chasing Vintage Vehicles"

If you have an interest in vintage, classic, or hot rod cars and motorcycles, you are invited to join us as we tour Michigan's excellent vintage car museums and auto shows. There are several car museums

in the area, and during warmer months, an endless offering of quality car shows throughout the state. Vintage cars are not just machines; they are memory vaults on wheels for seniors. They allow us to

reminisce to days of our youth.

The goal of the Chasing Vintage Vehicles Interest Group is to identify area car museums and shows to view and

learn about the cars of yesterday. We will announce upcoming events in MSURA publications and at monthly meetings.

Some examples of area car museums include the Gilmore Car Museum (Hickory Corners, MI); Stahls Motor and Music Experience (New Baltimore, MI); the R.E.oldsTransportation Museum (Lansing, MI) and the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum (Ft. Wayne, IN). As for car shows, examples include the Westphalia Cruise (Westphalia, MI), Back to the Bricks Car Show (Flint, MI), the Frankenmuth Auto Fest (Frankenmuth, MI), and the Woodward Dream Cruise (Detroit). The final selection of events will be made by the group members.

Interested in joining the group? Send an email to Bill Anderson at [ander113@msu.edu](mailto:ander113@msu.edu) or call him at (517) 290-7750.



**BREAST CANCER**

## Are you at risk?

When breast cancer is found early, it may be easier to treat.<sup>1</sup>

**Schedule your exam today.**



**Evaluate your risk and learn more about warning signs. [Click here →](#)**

.....

**[Myths and facts about breast cancer →](#)**

# Humana

Y0040\_GHHMQQEN\_C

## Breast cancer is one of the most common types of cancer in women.

Each year, about 240,000 women—and about 2,100 men—are diagnosed with the disease, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.<sup>2</sup> Many risk factors, such as your genes and family history, cannot be controlled. However, a healthy diet and a few lifestyle changes may reduce your overall chance of cancer in general.<sup>3</sup>

Some people do not have any signs or symptoms at all.<sup>4</sup> **This is why it's important to have regular mammograms** to help find cancer early, when it's easier to treat.<sup>5</sup>

### Source:

1. "Breast Cancer Screening (PDQ)-Patient Version", National Cancer Institute, Last accessed August 9, 2024, <https://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/patient/breast-screening-pdq>.
2. "Breast Cancer Awareness", Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Last accessed August 9, 2024, <https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/features/breast-cancer.html>.
3. "Breast Cancer Risk and Prevention", American Cancer Society, Last accessed August 9, 2024, <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/breast-cancer/risk-and-prevention.html>.
4. "What are the Symptoms of Breast Cancer?", Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Last accessed August 9, 2024, <https://www.cdc.gov/breast-cancer/symptoms/>.
5. "What Is Breast Cancer Screening", Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Last accessed August 9, 2024, <https://www.cdc.gov/breast-cancer/screening/>.



# MSURA RETIREES ASSOCIATION NIGHT!

## Lansing Lugnuts vs. Peoria Chiefs

### Saturday, August 22, 2026 @ 7:05 p.m.



### JOIN THE MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION FOR SOME FUN AT THE BALLPARK!

- Post-game LAFUCU Fireworks
- Group recognition on the scoreboard and public address system during the game
- Group Raffle: One lucky member from our group will win a special prize, which is announced in the 7th inning via the Big Screen

#### Clubhouse Seats

**\$47** Clubhouse access with full meal (alcoholic beverages not included)

For more information, contact:  
Dave Brower at [brower@msu.edu](mailto:brower@msu.edu)



#### TICKET ORDER FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

# of tickets at \$47 \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this form with payment to:**

**MSURA**

**1407 S. Harrison Road, Suite 22**

**East Lansing, MI 48823**

If you would rather pay by credit card, please visit our EventBrite registration form at [https://MSURA\\_Lugnuts.eventbrite.com](https://MSURA_Lugnuts.eventbrite.com)

**Note:** Tickets can be picked up from the Will Call Window at the Box Office on game day.

**Order Deadline: Friday, July 31, 2026**

# MSURA scholarship built on Spartan legacy, generosity and growth

By Marco Schimizzi

**W**hat began as a simple idea among Michigan State University retirees has grown into a lasting source of support for Spartan families.

The Michigan State University Retirees Association (MSURA) Endowed Student Scholarship Fund traces its origins back to 2014, when MSURA members began discussing how they could continue making a difference for the university community long after retirement. At the time, MSURA was led by President Chuck Webb, a longtime MSU administrator and former vice president for development, who helped champion the early vision for the scholarship.

Many of the retirees involved were MSU alumni themselves and shared a common belief that supporting future Spartans was one of the most meaningful ways to give back to the institution that shaped their careers and lives. In 2015, that vision became reality with the establishment of the MSURA Endowed Scholarship Fund. Designed to support the children or grandchildren of current or retired MSU employees, the scholarship quickly became a reflection of what MSURA stands for: community, legacy and investment in the future.

The scholarship is funded entirely through contributions from MSURA members and supporters. Because it is an endowed fund, the principal investment remains intact while annual earnings provide scholarships each year. This structure ensures that the impact of the scholarship continues for generations of Spartan students.

From the beginning, the scholarship was about more than financial assistance. It was about helping students with deep family ties to the university pursue an MSU education with greater confidence and opportunity. Over time, that mission resonated with retirees and supporters across the Spartan community.

The scholarship's growth has been steady and significant. In its early years, donors worked to build the

endowment into a sustainable source of annual support. As contributions continued to grow, so did the scholarship's impact.

A major milestone came during a three-year fundraising campaign launched in March 2021. What began as an effort to fund an additional scholarship gained momentum quickly, with members and supporters rallying behind the cause. By early 2023, donations and pledges had already exceeded expectations, allowing MSURA to expand the program further.

Today, that vision has become reality. MSURA now provides four scholarships annually. Our next goal is to increase these four scholarships to \$3,000 each.

To date, the MSURA Endowed Student Scholarship Fund has supported 28 scholarships, providing \$70,000 in scholarship support to Spartan students and their families.

That growth has translated into meaningful support for recipients across a wide range of disciplines and life experiences. For many students, the scholarship has eased financial pressure while also reinforcing their family's connection to Michigan State.

"I like being an MSU student because it pushes me out of my comfort zone to grow both academically and socially," said scholarship recipient Emily Eckhout. "MSU challenges me to be a better student and human being."

For others, the support has served as both encouragement and affirmation. Ryan Jordan, a music education student and scholarship recipient, shared, "I am very thankful to receive this scholarship and I will do my absolute best to make sure it doesn't go to waste by being the best student I can be."

Those reflections speak to the heart of the scholarship's purpose. It is not only an investment in tuition bills or classroom success. It is an investment in students who carry Spartan values forward.

As the scholarship continues to grow, so does its legacy. What started as a thoughtful idea among retirees has become a powerful example of Spartans supporting Spartans. With four fully endowed scholarships now awarded each year, the MSURA Endowed Student Scholarship Fund stands as a lasting testament to generosity, tradition and belief in the next generation.

These are the Spartans you have supported  
with your donations to the MSURA  
Scholarship Fund since it began in 2016.  
Thank you!



BRYNA ADAMS



ANDREW CONSTAN



JILLIAN DEMPSEY



EMILY ECKHOUT



HUDSON GOETHALS



TRINITI HALBEDEL



ANNIE HEEDER



MARSHALL HUDSON



RYAN JORDAN



TYLER KROLL



TAYLOR LITTLE



ADITI MISHRA



RUBEN MORILLO



AUBREE MUETHEL



MALLORY O'BRIEN



KORTNEY OSBORN



AMANDA POHL



RYAN PRIESS



CALLAHAN RIGGS



NATHANIEL TORRENCE



HAZEL VON MAUR



KATHLEEN WAHL



CLAIRE WEESSIES



RUBY IDA MAE WILSON



CONNOR WOODSTOCK

“I am very thankful to receive this scholarship and I will do my absolute best to make sure it doesn't go to waste by being the best student I can be.”

—Ryan Jordan

HOW TO DONATE TO THE MSURA  
ENDOWED STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

If you're interested in giving to the MSURA Endowed Student Scholarship Fund, here are two ways do so.

**Mail**

Make checks payable to Michigan State University with MSURA Endowed Student Scholarship written in the memo line.

Mail to:

University Advancement  
535 Chestnut Road, Room 300  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, MI 48824

**Online**

- Go to <https://givingto.msu.edu/gift/>
- Type in “MSURA Endowed Scholarship Fund” for Areas to Support.
- Click on “Add to Cart.”
- Enter any gift amount you wish.
- Click on “Proceed to Checkout.”
- Complete donation.

Be sure your MSU student  
applies for the scholarship

Be sure to have your incoming or current MSU student apply annually for this scholarship. Deadline is March 1. Scholarship applications are reviewed by a committee of volunteers. Scholarship winners are selected in April and announced at MSU Retirees Association Annual Luncheon in May. Scholarships are awarded for Fall and Winter semesters. Questions? Email us at [msura@msu.edu](mailto:msura@msu.edu).

# Join your fellow retirees at Brody Hall for lunch

## BRODY LUNCH DATES

April 10  
May 8  
June 12

Please join your fellow retirees for lunch at Brody Hall. There is no program at these events. This is just time to meet and socialize with your friends and meet some new ones. Plan to attend and invite your friends as well. Luncheons are held on the second Friday of the month at MSU Brody Hall from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### Purchasing your meal

Meals can be purchased in advance for a discounted price at [EatAtState.msu.edu](https://EatAtState.msu.edu) or in person. Also daily menus are available on the [EatAtState.msu.edu](https://EatAtState.msu.edu) website. Prices at the door: Lunch or Dinner: \$14 plus sales tax. Debit & credit cards accepted. If purchased in advance on the website, \$9.50 per meal plus sales tax, 10 meal minimum purchase.

Purchased meals on the <https://eatatstate.msu.edu/diningplans> website are placed on your MSU ID card. If you need an MSU Retiree ID card, you can get one at the MSU ID Office located in the MSU International Center.

### Location of the luncheon

The Brody Hall Cafeteria is located on the second floor. An elevator is located near the front entrance that will take you up to the cafeteria. Stairs are also available.

### Parking

If you need a MSU Retiree Parking Permit, you can order one for free on the MSU Parking Office website at <https://parking.msu.edu/>. Retiree Parking Permits are virtual now. No sticker! Your license plate number is used to determine your parking privileges instead of the sticker. You will register your car(s) license plate with the MSU Parking Office. You can switch parking privileges between cars as needed online or by calling the MSU Parking Office. From the menu at the top of the page, select "Permits" and "Retiree." Follow the instructions to order your permit. Note: You will need to know your MSU NetId and password. If you do not know our MSU NetId and password, contact MSU IT Services Help Desk at 844-678-6200 or 517-432-6200.

## MSU's home for 90-day prescriptions

- Save money by getting 3-months of medication for the cost of only 2 copays\*
- Have multiple prescriptions? Ask how to combine our 90-day service with SyncRx to reduce your trips to the pharmacy even more!\*

\*Some exclusions apply



4660 South Hagadorn Rd., Suite 100, East Lansing, MI 48823 | 517-353-3500 | [pharmacy.msu.edu](https://pharmacy.msu.edu)

## WINE TASTING, cont. from page 1

Nicholas Crosser will be our host. His interest in wine goes back as far as he can remember. When most families were vacationing at Disney World the Crosser family vacations stretched from the vineyards of Tuscany to the ports of Portugal. As a representative of Vintage Wine Company, he has the pleasure of sharing some of his favorite bottles and stories.

Vintage Wine Company began when Tony Giorgio turned his love of wine into one of Michigan's premier wine distributors. What started in 1978 with a handful of Italian and German wines has grown into a broad portfolio that the company represents throughout the state of Michigan.

## Faculty Emeriti Association, looking for volunteers

The MSU Faculty Emeriti Association has a few openings on the Steering Committee. The Lecture Series, the newly formed Continuous Learning Collaborative and the Voice Library are areas where additional members are needed. If you are interested or think you might be interested, send an email to Steve Harsh at [harsh@msu.edu](mailto:harsh@msu.edu).

## Faculty Emeriti Association hosts lecture series

The FEA hosts a lecture series. Details are available on this website.

<https://facultyemeriti.msu.edu/lecture/index.html>

## MILITARY HISTORY, cont. from page 1

chose to ignore the base commander's orders to destroy everything in the photo lab and brought home over 1,800 photographs and photographic negatives, plus about 12,000 feet of 16mm movie film of events around the base and on combat missions.



Eric D. Zemper



First Lieutenant  
Duane Zemper

This treasure trove of historical documentation was inherited by his eldest son, Eric D. Zemper, after Duane Zemper died in 2016. Since then Eric has been organizing, scanning and digitizing to archival quality all these materials, and making them available to museums and other interested groups across the country.

The material presented on April 14 will include a few minutes of video from the movies brought back by First Lt. Zemper, showing activities on the ground at the base and in the air on missions. Also shown will be an 18-minute video produced by the University of Michigan Flint PBS station about Zemper's experiences in WWII, which won a regional Emmy for best historical documentary in 2007. In addition, there will be another 30-minutes of interviews with Zemper that were not included in the PBS video.

# In-network vs. out-of-network care

Choosing an **in-network provider** usually means paying less. These providers have contracts with your health plan, which can result in lower negotiated rates, reduced copays and deductibles, higher coverage and more predictable billing.

Seeing an **out-of-network** provider can cost more. Without a contract in place, you may face higher charges, limited coverage and additional bills if the provider charges more than your plan allows.

In general, staying in network helps keep your out-of-pocket costs down.



### Need help or have questions?

Contact Personify Health Member Services at **855-469-1245**.



Scan the QR code to download the app, or visit [login.personifyhealth.com](https://login.personifyhealth.com), and select **Create Account**.

Tell us your name, group ID and member ID (see your health plan ID card). Then agree to the rules, data collection and privacy policy. Next add your email, make a password and customize your experience. You can set your interests, connect a tracking device, explore your benefits and more.

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Retirees Association  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

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1407 S. Harrison Road  
East Lansing, MI 48823-5239



HAPPY  
SPRING!

## Straight to the Point

**Market Update** - Where do we begin? The start of 2026 has packed an entire year's worth of news into two months. We have seen regimes shift, regional conflicts escalate, and a cooling of the software sector. With a new Fed, and a potential change in monetary policy on the horizon and mid-term elections approaching, the "wall of worry" feels steeper than ever. But there is another side to this story. Amidst the noise, we are also in the middle of a once-in-a-lifetime technological sea change. While we witness fleeting periods of hype, we believe that over the long run AI will transform the entire economy. Through this period of transition, our role is to keep a steady hand on the wheel, separating temporary headlines from long-term opportunities. We stay tuned in so you do not have to—resting on the belief that even in a changing global order, discipline and perspective prevail.

StraightLine is a fiduciary that provides professional financial planning and account management.  
Our advisors and research staff allow us to offer plan specific information to the MSU faithful.

*Please contact us if you are interested in receiving these newsletters or discussing how we can assist with your financial strategy.*

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