



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY



SPARTAN SENIOR

A newsletter for Michigan State University Retirees

LANSING AREA LOCAL EDITION August 2011

President Simon to Speak Sept. 13

On **TUESDAY**, September 13, 2011, President Lou Anna K. Simon has graciously agreed to visit with members of the MSURA as kickoff speaker for programs held this school year. Location for this program is the MSU Federal Credit Union Headquarters, 3777 West Road, East Lansing (north off Coolidge Road). Please park in guest lots on either side of the building, since parking spaces in front of the building are for handicappers and customers. TIME: Doors open at 1:30p.m. for refreshments; program starts at 2:00 p.m.

Appointed as 20th president of Michigan State University by the MSU Board of Trustees in January 2005, Dr. Simon's key initiatives, particularly in economic development and international engagement, reflect her commitment to applying knowledge to benefit society and furthering the global common good.

Maximum attendance by MSU retirees is requested!!

Her topics will cover her current and future plans for Michigan State University, some of the most interesting challenges she has faced during her tenure as President of MSU, special and famous MSU alumni she has visited over the years, special trials and tribulations she sees for MSU in the near future, and any advice and recommendations she has for MSU retirees as they plan for the rest of their lives. There will be time for questions and answers, so bring your "nice" questions for this presentation.



Lou Anna K. Simon

When arranging speakers for Fall 2011, officers of the MSU Retirees Association attempted to get all of seminars on the second Monday of each month, but speakers have busy schedules too. **So please bear with us!** We arranged the most eminent and high-ranking University staff we could get, and now it is your responsibility to support them by attending these seminars. Looking forward to seeing you there! **(Patrick Scheetz, President, MSU Retirees Association)**

Welcome Al LeBlanc, Our new Spartan Senior Editor



Al LeBlanc

Al LeBlanc began his career as an elementary, junior high, and high school band director in Louisiana. He earned advanced degrees at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign and worked as an educational evaluation specialist at CEMREL, Inc., a federally funded research and development laboratory in St. Louis, MO. He came to MSU in 1976 and retired after 27 years on the music education faculty. During his MSU career he served as Coordinator of Evening College in Music and Associate Director of the School of Music, in charge of graduate studies. In retirement he works as a water exercise teacher and serves as manager of an LLC (Limited Liability Company) that administers his family's land interests in Louisiana.

Officers and Board for 2009-2010

President	Patrick Scheetz	517-351-7538
Vice Pres	Ron Smith	517-482-3801
Secretary	Joan Smith	517-482-3801
Treasurer	Bob Wenner	517-339-1685
Past Pres	Gale Arent	517-669-8985
At-Large	Nancy Craig	517-351-1391
At-Large	Gordon Williams	517-349-9032

Committee Chairs

Offic Mgr	Gale Gower	517-332-0194
Offic Asst	Brenda Spackman	517-651-9101
Offic Asst	John Roetman	517-349-1090
Budget	Ron Smith	517-482-3801
Historian	Milton Powel	517-351-1032
Health Info	Marilyn Rotherth	517-393-4364
Membership	Nancy Craig	517-351-1391
Computer Mgr	John Forsyth	517-332-6683
United Way	Darlene Wenner	517-339-1685

Spartan Senior Newsletter Editors

Internat/Local	Scheetz (Acting)	517-351-7538
MSU Reporter	Stan Hecker	517-337-3830
Production	Stephanie Barch	517-332-85233

Website: www.retirees.msu.edu

Webmasters	Patrick Scheetz	517-351-7538
	John Forsyth	517-332-6683

Presidential Message

by L Patrick Scheetz
 ‘Happiness after Work’ Life

Those of us lucky enough to have good retirement mentors will make the transition to life after work much easier than those without good role models. Most people learn much about life and how to live it by observing others around them, especially individuals who have gone down a similar road ahead of them. By the time we reach retirement age, we should know how mentoring works, but too frequently we forget to identify and learn from people who have demonstrated they know how to successfully live life after work.

Did you read the article about George W. Bush, the 43rd President of the United States? It was contained in *AARP Magazine*, January/February 2011 issue, pages 34+. You can read it online at: www.aarp.org/magazine/

He wrote a book, true, after leaving his Presidency, which occupied some of his time. It is called: *Decision Points*. It is very good. And he is giving speeches which are taking some his time. He is playing golf and riding his mountain bike. He thinks it is very important for those at the retirement age to continue to exercise. He has virtually disappeared from public view, refused to criticize his successor, and not weighed in on political events. And he recommends finding something where you can say “I’m helping somebody else.”

In this article, he talks about reinvention (a word he does not use), risk taking, his reputation, regrets, and retirement (which he calls “old-fashioned”). If you were writing an article about living your life following work at Michigan State University, how would it read?

Or possibly you know another MSU retiree who has successfully made the transition to life after work and would be an excellent role model for others. Get their permission, and write us about their efforts to make life fun, enjoyable, worthwhile, and meaningful. Send us a picture too.

Send your stories and pictures to: msura@msu.edu or mail to: MSU Retirees Association, 22 Nisbet Building, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824-9902. Get the story and picture printed in a future issue of this newsletter. Thank you.

Take the PATH to Better Health

This is a free 6 week workshop that helps participants with ongoing health conditions, deals with the challenges and makes them feel better.

The workshops will be held Tuesdays, Sept 13 – Oct 25, 2011 from 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. at the MSU Federal Credit Union, 3777 West Rd. Conference Room, East Lansing.

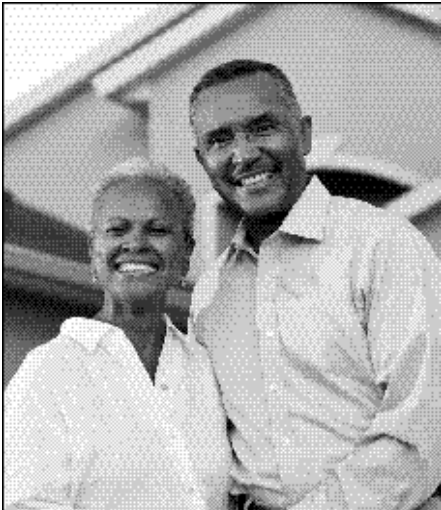
To register or more information call 517-432-3745 or email: frc@hr.msu.edu.

Partial 2011 Fall schedule of Meetings

Monday, October 10, 2011 — **Dr. Richard Merritt, MSU Entomology Professor.** His subject: “Bugs and Bodies: The Role of Insects in Crime Scene Investigation.” This is a fascinating program but not for the squeamish. (unless you have watched a lot of CSI on television.)

Tuesday, November 8, 2011 — **Bob Bao, Editor, MSU Alumni Magazine,** MSU Alumni Association. Topics covered by Bob will include the new Alumni Magazine design and how he got there,, some of the most interesting topics and alumni covered during his tenure as Editor, special and famous MSU alumni he has contacted (and there are so many), numerous MSU alumni travel experiences he has hosted, some of his MSU football bowl or MSU basketball NCAA playoff appearances, his experiences at MSU alumni pep rallies (i.e. in Albany, NY, with MSU hockey teams for Frozen Four appearances) and advice/challenges he offers MSU retirees. He may include other topics will interest MSU retirees.

Monday, December 12, 2011 — **Hockey Coach Tom Anastos** -- Location to be announced.



It Just Keeps Getting Better

MSUFCU membership has always been great, but now as Senior Class members many of the products and services we use regularly are free! All we did was contact MSUFCU and sign up.

- **Free** Checks and Money Orders
- **Free** Travelers Cheques
- **Free** Cashier's Checks
- **Free** Telephone Transfers
- **And more**

Enroll as young as 55!
Contact us today.



517-333-2424
800-678-4968
www.msufcu.org



You've worked hard on the road to retirement...

...Just like you do
manage your investments
doesn't stop there.

StraightLine is an independent Registered Investment Advisor sponsored by Michigan State University regarding Retirement and Employee self-directed management of all-in-one investment accounts. Whether your accounts trade at TIAA-CREF, Fidelity or any other provider, we offer you personal and customized investment advice to help you reach your investment goals. Let us guide you on your journey down the road of retirement.

Phone call now (517) 487-4600 available a personal consultation is an absolute today.

StraightLine <small>Investment Advisor</small>	<small>Michigan 1000 Stadium Drive Lansing, MI 48206</small>	<small>Southfield/MI 2000 Southfield Road Southfield, MI 48034</small>
	<small>(517) 487-4600 http://www.straightline.com</small>	

It Is Never Too Late

by Ed Fitzpatrick: Artist

I have always had a strong interest in art but recognized that my interest was stronger than my talents. I did take life drawing and sculpture classes while a student at Michigan State. I took sculpture classes while I lived and worked in Cincinnati. After I came to work at MSU, I took the Famous Artist's Correspondence Course but with work and family commitments, I did little painting other than that which the course required.



Following retirement, my wife Nancee and I began wintering at a retirement community in Mesa, Arizona. There I became active with the Apache Wells Artist Club and have taken painting lessons weekly and have participated in their annual Art Shows. I have been awarded a number of ribbons in the shows and have sold a number of paintings and drawings.

I have been blessed with encouraging and talented instructors and have learned a great deal from other painters in those classes. Perhaps more significantly I have had **fun**. I have also taken drawing classes and decoy carving classes through the MSU Evening College. I have found it always more important to do it; don't just think about it! I attended 7 weeklong workshops in Traverse City. I am finishing my 20th year as a Volunteer at Ingham Regional Medical Center. I retired from MSU in 1991 as Assistant Director of Career Services and Placement. I graduated from MSU in 1953 and was employed at MSU from 1959 to 1991.

Do We Know Where You Live?

MSURA, Human Resources and all at Michigan State University want to keep in touch with you. We want to send you NEWSLETTERS, BENEFIT INFORMATION and other important communications. To keep you informed, we need to reach you. To do that, YOU must notify us when you change your address or email information. Mailing notices are expensive and take time. From now on when undeliverable mail is returned to us, you will be removed from MSURA mailing lists and you will no longer receive NEWSLETTERS, BENEFIT INFORMATION and other important communications. So make sure you or your family keep us updated. (Ed)

**MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION
22 NISBET BUILDING
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
EAST LANSING, MI 48824**

Coming from MSU Human Resources this fall .

MSU Human Resources will soon launch some new online communications tools to share information with the MSU community. These new tools will include a news blog called “SourceLive” and use of the popular social media sites Facebook and Twitter. For those who are comfortable with the technologies, blogs and social media sites allow readers to interact with MSU Human Resources by commenting on stories and asking questions. While the primary target is active employees with these new tools, HR wants to let retirees who like using these newer technologies to follow the news at MSU and interact with HR using these platforms too.



Marilyn Rothert and
Brent Bowditch

What if you are not comfortable using these technologies? Don't worry! You do not ever have to use them if you don't want. In support of MSU environmental stewardship initiatives, MSU Human Resources is gradually decreasing use of print materials to communicate with current employees and increasing use of electronic messaging. However, HR knows that many retirees may not have easy access to computers or the internet, so more traditional print-based methods will be used to reach out to retirees whenever important information is available to share.

If you would like to check out the “test” version of the new SourceLive news blog and give us some feedback, please feel free to visit it at www.sourcelive.hr.msu.edu.

Whether by mail, phone, e-mail, personal visit, facebook, blog posts or carrier pigeon, I ALWAYS enjoy hearing from MSU Retirees! **(Brent Bowditch, Asst Vice President, MSU Human Resources)**

Coming Next Month!

We are adding a new section to our popular mail-in-program “We hear from Our Readers”. Have you read any good books lately that you think might be interesting to other MSU Retirees? Send us the name and a brief synopsis of no more than 4 sentences. Also don't forget to tell us all the other interesting things you are doing to stay active in retirement. Send email to: msura@msu.edu or mail to MSURA, 22 Nisbet Bldg. MSU, East Lansing, MI 48824-9902. (Ed)