



SPARTAN SENIOR

A newsletter for Michigan State University Retirees

April 2015, Vol. 36, No. 6

Make Your Reservation Now for Our May Luncheon Featuring Local Song Leader Sally Potter

Use the form below to make your reservation for our annual luncheon on May 4, 2015 at Kellogg Center. Entertainment will be provided by Sally Potter, a local singer, song leader, producer, public school teacher, and community cheerleader. Sally's "day job" is to teach economics and U. S. history at Williamston High School. Her grandmother Lilian Paulson Potter was an opera singer and church choir director, while her uncle Brian Stanley played Dixieland clarinet with Bob Scoby in Chicago in the 1950's. She was featured in the New York Times in 2008 in an article describing the singing community that she has created. She sings in the Arts Chorale of Greater Lansing, produces monthly and annual singing festivals, and has released a music CD. Learn more at <http://www.sally-potter.com/index.htm>. This luncheon is the annual business meeting of the MSU Retirees Association, and officers and board members for the coming year will be elected.



Sally Potter

MSURA ANNUAL LUNCHEON RESERVATION
May 4, 2015, KELLOGG CENTER LINCOLN ROOM,
Registration Begins 11:30, Lunch Begins 12:00

Name _____

Meal Choice: _____ Parmesan Crusted Turkey Breast _____ Orecchiette Pasta

Spouse / Guest _____

Meal Choice: _____ Parmesan Crusted Turkey Breast _____ Orecchiette Pasta

Both choices come with rolls, salad, beverage and carrot cake.
\$23.00 per person includes cost of the luncheon, tip, tax and parking.

Address _____

Email Address _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ for _____ reservation(s)

If dietary supplement is needed, call Gale Gower (517-332-0194) before April 24.

Clip and mail this form with check payable to MSU Retirees Association **BEFORE APRIL 24** to: David Brower, MSURA Treasurer, Suite 22 Nisbet Building, MSU, 1407 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing, MI 48823

What is orecchiette pasta anyway? It is pasta shaped like little sea shells, and will be served in vegetarian style with broccolini, feta cheese, black olives, and roasted garlic tomato sauce.

Volunteers needed for the positions of Spartan Senior Newsletter Editor and Underwriting Manager.

It has been a pleasure to serve the MSU Retirees Association for the last four years as Editor of the Spartan Senior newsletter. However, my mother passed away in 2012 and I am serving as Personal Representative/Executor of her estate which is still being probated in Michigan and Louisiana, and I serve as manager of an LLC that takes care of family business interests in Louisiana. I need to free up more time to spend on family business matters and have decided to step down as Editor at the end of the present publication year. The association is now looking for a new Editor and also for an Underwriting Manager, whose work would relieve the Editor of having to arrange all underwriting as well as producing the newsletter. This would be a wonderful way to serve our association. Anyone interested in volunteering for one of these positions should contact L. Patrick Scheetz, President, at scheetz@msu.edu or 517-927-0852, or Vice Pres. Angela Brown at browna@msu.edu. —**Al LeBlanc, Editor**

President's Message:

Successful Retirees Remain Engaged

This column is a collection of issues which came to mind this month, so please bear with me. During retirement years, there are many things one can do to remain active and offer productive support to those around us.

Volunteering is one. For me, the R. J. Scheffel Memorial Toy Project helps others, and through them, our local community is a better place to live. Details about this project are contained on this website: <http://scheffel-toys.org/> More than 10,000 wooden toys, memory boxes, and games are hand crafted by 35 volunteers, and they are given to children who are disadvantaged, homeless, needy or in crisis. Donations are accepted.

Genealogist – Who else in your family is older than you or remembers more about your family history than you do? My tools include access to the ancestry.com website with Family Tree Maker loaded on my home computer. Between them, my Scheetz Family Tree on ancestry.com contains more than 32,000 records. It is very easy to share branches of this tree with family members as pdf files. Ask a computer techie how to do it. As family members get older, they become more interested in genealogy. Who better than you to lead the way!

iPad Training – Apple stores or Verizon retailers offer free classes for new users. Yes, we of the MSURA are searching for a new leader of our iPad interest group. No one has volunteered yet. Online manuals give iPad training for seniors and elderly, or whatever you call yourself these days. Apple products are highly intuitive and make the experience of learning for seniors most enjoyable. Begin with email tasks and internet browsing. But the key to learning is NOT listening to lectures. Rather it is enjoying the "experience" around iPads. Touch your iPad, play with it, and interact with it and reach out to others. You may practice with an email message to me. When you hit roadblocks or have questions, ask for help.

Donations to the MSU Retirees Association are as supportive of your organization as newsletter subscriptions, and you get credit for a contribution to MSU University Advancement. MSU retirees and their spouses are automatically members of the MSURA for life. There are no dues, but donations help to make MSURA better. To make a donation online, go to: www.givingto.msu.edu/gift/ Search for: MSU Retirees Association, and make your donation. **Or** go here for a [donation form](#). —L. Patrick Scheetz



L. Patrick Scheetz, Photo by Etta Abrahams

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.25

OF A PERCENTAGE POINT
MORE ON
CERTIFICATES

Open an MSUFCU Certificate with a term of one to five years and receive an additional .25 of a percentage point added to the APY. Plus, your funds are insured up to \$250,000 by the NCUA.

Hurry! This limited-time offer ends April 30, 2015.

www.msufcu.org
517-333-2424



Good Discounts Now Available on Hearing Aids

MSU Retirees now have access to a discount program for hearing aids available through BCBSM and/or VSP vision coverage. The program offers lower prices and discounts on various hearing aid models and local professional services as well as extended warranties. For more information, call Tennille Brown, Customer Service Representative at 1-866-581-9464 Ext. 1146. She is available 9-5:30 EST. Products and services can also be seen on the web at www.truehearing.com.

For Your Calendar

Taste of the Town annual fund raiser of the MSU Community Club will be Saturday, April 11 from 5:30 to 7:00 PM at the Henry Center on Forest Road. Proceeds go toward the group's endowed scholarship to MSU. Tickets are \$ 30.00 each, of which \$ 18.00 may be treated as a tax deductible contribution. Contact Gretchen Forsyth at 517-332-6683 for tickets or additional information.

MSURA Night Out at a Lansing Lugnuts Game is set for June 19 at a cost of \$ 11.00 per ticket. Additional information will follow.

United Way Update

Our United Way chair Darlene Wenner has reported that this year's fund raising totaled \$ 63,098.00 with 241 donors, up from \$ 59,856.00 with 234 donors last year. She thanks our donors and all those who volunteered to stuff envelopes and staff the call center for United Way this year.

University Retirees Donate to MSU

Our Treasurer Dave Brower reports that university retirees have now donated a total of \$ 22,818,672.08 in gifts and pledges made to MSU since 2010.

We Thank Lana Dart

We thank Lana Dart for her recent contribution to the MSU Retirees Association. All contributions are used to support communication with retirees and the association's efforts on behalf of retirees.

Florida Chapter Meets, Elects Officers

The Florida chapter of the MSU Retirees Association held its annual meeting and elected the following officers to two year terms: President: Walt Hapkiewicz; Vice President: Bruce Benson; Secretary: Gene Garrison; and Treasurer: Marsh Hestenes.

News from Special Interest Groups

The Opera Special Interest Group recently met to hear previews of Bela Bartok's *Bluebeard's Castle* and Tchaikovsky's *Iolanta*, presented by Mark Johnson and Al LeBlanc, Professors of Music Emeritus.

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1407 S. HARRISON AVE
EAST LANSING, MI 48823-5239**

PERSONAL EDUCATION SERIES

StraightLine has been on campus since 2008 assisting *Michigan State University* Retirees and Employees by providing unbiased fiduciary education, advice & management for your retirement accounts. Our programs are intended to dramatically improve participant outcomes - our goal since beginning to work with MSU.

Some of these programs include:

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(*Finding gaps in your current portfolio & redesigning it to meet your goals.)

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