



# MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION

## SPARTAN SENIOR NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2016

VOL. 37, NO. 7

### MSURA Lugnuts night is June 24

Game starts at 7:05

Sit with the Lugnuttiest of the MSURA retirees, friends and families! You will pick up your tickets at the Will-Call window of Cooley Law School Stadium on the night of the game. It's Freebie Friday, and Seniors eat free! Adults 55 and over will receive a voucher for a free hot dog, chips and a drink. Go nuts!



#### TICKET ORDER FORM

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JUNE 3

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

# of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$11 each  
= total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form and a check made payable to MSURA to

**MSURA**  
**22 Nisbet Building**  
**1407 S. Harrison Road**  
**East Lansing, MI 48823**

If you have questions, please email Nancy Craig at [craign@msu.edu](mailto:craign@msu.edu) or call 517-351-1391.



Kay Butcher



Gale Gower

### Kay Butcher & Gale Gower are 2016 Volunteers of the Year

Kay Butcher and Gale Gower were named Volunteers of the Year for 2016 and received plaques at the May luncheon of the MSU Retirees Association.

Amanda Kay Butcher served as office manager, vice president, and president of MSURA in previous years. She held several positions of responsibility in her career at MSU, and also served as president of the MSU Administrative Professionals Association. She has been honored in the Lansing Women's Bowling Hall of Fame, and has served as secretary-treasurer of the bowling association.

Gale Gower worked on the MSU campus for 24 years, starting in Career Services, and ending her career as Assistant Director of Student Employment. She has served as office manager for the MSU Retirees Association and still volunteers in that office. She now serves the association as secretary. She is an avid gardener, and is now working to increase the number and variety of native plants in her yard. Board members who have worked with her over the years remark about her humility and quiet competence. It is people like Kay Butcher and Gale Gower that keep this association going and make all of us happy to be a part of it.

*Al LeBlanc, Editor*

### Thoughts on the Old Newsboys fund raiser

You might wonder why I am writing this Old Newsboys item in May and not in December when they have their one-day sale of the Lansing Spooft Journal. Well, the Old Newsboys Association is still going to have their sale in December—December 1, 2016, in fact.

The reason I am writing is to remind us all, me included, of how very lucky we are. As you will all recall, the end of April and the first part of May this year were very wet and rainy. I accidentally stepped into a puddle one day and my shoes were soaked. It's not a great thing to happen and can be very uncomfortable, but it was not really a problem for me because I could go home and put on another pair of shoes. What would I do, though, if I didn't have another pair of shoes to put on? What if

that was my only pair of shoes?

We forget how fortunate we are and how fortunate mid-Michigan is to have the Old Newsboys program. Old Newsboys provides shoes and socks to needy children in Lansing and areas within a 25-mile radius.

By contributing to Old Newsboys, we are helping our people in our community. And the money stays in our area. I really need your help this year. It is such a small time commitment. If you can't help sell, please consider buying a paper in December. We really do need to help this organization that is in our community. For your information, Old Newsboys helped over 7,000 young people with shoes or boots this past year.

*Brenda Spackman*

## MSU Recycling Q and A

**Q: Plastic bags:** Is it OK to put big, thick plastic bags in the plastic bag bin? I'm talking about the bags that a 40 pound load of water softener salt would come in. Most of what I see in that bin is the thin bags that you get at the grocery store or discount store.

**A:** We only accept clear or translucent plastic bags for recycling. Thicker bags like salt bags or cat litter bags are not accepted.

**Q: Plastic things with small metal parts inside:** When I get ready to recycle the plastic container for window cleaner, body lotion, or similar products, there is usually a spray or dispenser mechanism that is mainly plastic but has a metal spring inside. And the mechanism usually looks like it has more than one kind of plastic. Should I throw these mechanisms away or put them in with my mixed plastic recycling?

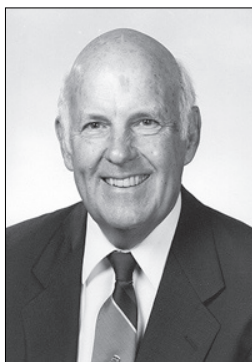
**A:** As for plastic with small metal parts inside, because it is more than one material, it can't be recycled (unless you were to separate each part).

**Q: Plastic bottle caps:** It looks like the caps on my plastic bottles are always made of a different kind of plastic that what was used to make the bottle. Would it help you if I removed these caps before recycling the bottles? I have been removing them but also putting them into the recycle bin; should I just remove them and discard them?

**A:** We can accept the bottle caps as well—no need to remove them! You can continue to recycle them in the Mixed Plastics 1-7.



## Gordon Guyer, former president of MSU, dies at 89



Dr. Gordon Guyer  
1926-2016

Dr. Gordon Guyer, the 18th president of MSU, died at age 89 on March 30. Guyer earned all three of his degrees at MSU, and joined the faculty in 1953. He was president in 1992-93, and led the academic calendar change from quarters to semesters. Guyer authored more than 70 papers on aquatic ecology, insect control technology, integrated pest control, public policy and international agriculture. While serving as president, he named Lou Anna K. Simon as interim provost and appointed Tom Izzo as men's basketball coach. Commenting on his life's work, Simon said that he was known and respected in every corner of the state.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Angela Brown

2015-16 was a very busy year. Many successes were achieved this year and we have much to be proud of. We hosted the Big Ten Retirees Association conference, the Through the Banks of The Red Cedar screening and reception, toured the MSU Gardens, WKAR Studios, and Bott Nursing Building, held the first annual MSURA/Straightline Student Scholarship golf outing and enjoyed many wonderful speakers. The major achievement was raising sufficient funds to endow the MSURA Student Scholarship fund. The first two recipients of the scholarship were honored at the annual May luncheon—Amanda Pohl from Portland High School and parents Julie and Steve Pohl along with Mallory O'Brien from Holt High School and father Terrance O'Brien were in attendance. Amanda and Mallory will be featured in a future newsletter. Bill McHarris entertained luncheon guests with ragtime favorites. Plan to attend next year's luncheon and join the fun.

Officers and new Board members were elected at the annual meeting. Angela Brown, President; Rick Vogt, Vice President; and Dave Brower, Treasurer, will serve a second term. Newly elected Board members-at-large are Bruce Smith and Pamela Marcis. Patrick Scheetz, Past President; Gale Gower, Secretary; Liz Thomas, Office Manager; Mike Gardner and Nancy Craig, Members-at-large, will continue on for another term. Congratulations and thank you to everyone. A special thank you goes out to Louise Selanders and Jerry Hull for their service on the Board. Jerry has served in a number of capacities, including President.

Thank you for your support this year. I have truly enjoyed serving as your president. MSURA is an outstanding organization dedicated to supporting MSU retirees and friends. Become an active member and plan to attend events, tours, golf outings, speakers meetings and luncheons. Many exciting events are planned for next year. Consider volunteering in the office or at an event. We need your support.

Have a wonderful, safe summer.

## Check out this MSURA site

Have you been to this retirees page online lately? You'll find lots of helpful information listed along with links to important sites. Check it out!

<http://retirees.msu.edu/other.html>



## Share Your Knowledge

**85%**  
of grandchildren  
age 18-24 want to have  
conversations with their  
grandparents about money  
and savings.



Your grandchildren are listening. Share your financial experiences with them, including your MSUFUCU membership.

Family members of MSUFUCU members are eligible to join.

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



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## Plans afoot for Second Annual Golf Outing to benefit MSURA Scholarship Fund

Plans are now underway for the second annual golf outing, which is the main activity for funding the new MSURA scholarship program. This event is cosponsored by the MSU Retirees Association and StraightLine Financial Advisors. The outing takes place under the overall leadership of past president L. Patrick Scheetz and Steve Mosshart of StraightLine, with board members Mike Gardner serving as coordinator of volunteers and Jacquie Babcock as coordinator of sponsors. The organizers have issued the following announcements for our membership:

**Golfers are Needed** • Please complete the registration form here and return it to the MSURA. For any questions, please contact Patrick Scheetz at (517) 351-7538 or email [Scheetz@msu.edu](mailto:Scheetz@msu.edu)

**Sponsors are Needed** • Sponsorship packages are available at \$10,000, \$3,000, \$2,000, \$1,000 and \$500 levels. Help is needed from MSU retirees to contact potential sponsors. Personal appeals are most successful. Contact Jacquie Babcock at (517) 282-6861 or email [jbabcock@msu.edu](mailto:jbabcock@msu.edu) to help.

**Donated Gift Items are Needed** • Each golfer will get a goodie bag full of items donated by local businesses and vendors. If you know potential donors of gift items, please ask them personally to support this event. A donated items form here is needed for each item collected. Contact Nancy Craig at (517) 881-1962 or email [craign@msu.edu](mailto:craign@msu.edu) to offer help or to confirm collected donations.

**Volunteers are Needed** • To volunteer, please contact Mike Gardner at (517) 339-3619 or email [gardnerm24@hotmail.com](mailto:gardnerm24@hotmail.com) Mike needs 15 to 20 volunteers for this event.

Date: **Tuesday, September 20, 2016**

Location: **MSU's Forest Akers Golf Course West**

Registration and practice: **10:00 a.m.**

Lunch: **11:00 a.m.**

Shotgun start: **12:00 noon**

Download the brochure [here](http://retirees.msu.edu/Golf%202016%20Brochure%20Draft.pdf). <http://retirees.msu.edu/Golf%202016%20Brochure%20Draft.pdf>

Download the registration form [here](http://www.retirees.msu.edu/Golf%202016%20Registration%20Form.pdf). <http://www.retirees.msu.edu/Golf%202016%20Registration%20Form.pdf>

Download the donated items form [here](http://www.retirees.msu.edu/Golf%202016%20Donated%20Items%20Form.pdf). <http://www.retirees.msu.edu/Golf%202016%20Donated%20Items%20Form.pdf>



## MSURA considering new logo

The MSURA Board is going to consider a possible new logo for the association to go along with the new masthead that has just been adopted for the Spartan Senior newsletter. Please contact our design and production specialist Cheryl Pell at [pell@msu.edu](mailto:pell@msu.edu) by August 1, 2016, with any suggestions or input you would like to offer.



Current logo

**MSU Retirees Association  
Suite 22 Nisbet Bldg.  
1407 S. Harrison Road  
East Lansing, MI 48823-5239**



Have a wonderful summer!

### **Lessons on Investing – Did you know?**

StraightLine is a financial education and management company that was created to be a fiduciary. A fiduciary ALWAYS acts in the best interest of its clients – a rarity in the financial services industry. Many firms do not accept or abide by this standard. Be sure to ask your advisor if they do!

### **Straight to the Point**

**Market Update** - After a horrendous start to the year, markets managed to rally from mid-February through late April. Domestic stocks came within a few percent of their all time highs, set last May. More recently markets have been choppy, as they've neared upper bound resistance and some of the same global growth concerns we saw earlier in the year have resurfaced. This is not surprising, as we've expected markets to remain volatile, even as they potentially move higher. With summer on the horizon, we enter a period of lower trading volumes and seasonal weakness in stocks. In addition, the pending elections are likely only going to fuel market volatility in the coming months.

**Investment Implications** - Through the ups and downs we've seen thus far in 2016 there has been a reversal in underlying market leadership. As we've expected, energy and industrial stocks have been among the better performers. Meanwhile, recent market darlings in the technology and healthcare sectors have been among the laggards. In the short-term we continue to favor the better "value" plays in the market, while also advocating for alternative strategies that can diversify portfolios and/or mitigate any market volatility.

Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns about your investments.

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