# Angie Brown is 2019 Volunteer of the Year

ngela Brown was honored as the recipient of the MSURA 2019 Volunteer of the Year Award at the annual luncheon and meeting on May 7 at the University Club. The selection committee was comprised of Jacqueline Babcock, Roger Baldwin, Patrick Scheetz and Ron Smith.

Angela has a long history of service to the community. Her nominator first met her when she served on the MSU Community Charitable Campaign/United Way as chair of the Pace Setter Campaign. She served on the Wharton Advisory Committee and the WKAR Advisory Committee for several years.

She has been a member of The Zonta Club of East Lansing Area for thirty-seven years, serving the organization in many roles including president, secretary, treasurer and director. Angela has served on several MSU Federal Credit Union committees over the past 20 years and currently serves on the board of directors as chair. She was appointed to represent MSURA on the University Based Retirement Community.

After her retirement as director of Auxiliary Operations and director of MSU Housing and Dining, Angie added to her service role by actively participating in the MSU Retirees Association. She hardly fits the description of a retiree. On the MSU Retirees Association board, she has served retirees as vice president, president and past president. During her presidency MSURA hosted the Big Ten Retirees Association annual conference, which was very success-



Angela Brown, center, received the 2019 MSURA Outstanding Volunteer of the Year award, which was presented to her by award chair Jacqueline Babcock. Rick Vogt, MSURA president for the past two years, was on hand to congratulate Brown.

# Angie is someone you want on your team. No matter the role Angie takes on, she does a great job.

ful and well-attended.

Angie has been a good recruiter of volunteers for MSURA. She is a great leader addressing member concerns. She has served in many roles behind the scenes which include working on the golf tournament which was held for a few years to endow the MSURA student scholarship, taking minutes

in the absence of the secretary, serving on the committee to select the scholarship recipients and contacting winners and their families.

Angie is someone you want on your team. No matter the role Angie takes on, she does a great job. Angie commented that individuals don't volunteer for awards or recognition. Good volunteers care deeply about the organization and seek to add value to the retirees' experience. She added MSURA is a very special organization and the people who serve are extremely dedicated.

Congratulations, Angie, and thank you for your dedication to the Michigan State University Retirees Association.

### Baldwin honored by MSU Faculty Emeriti

Roger Baldwin was recognized by the Michigan State University Faculty Emeriti Association for his outstanding contributions to the College of Education and the university since retiring in 2017. Baldwin, formerly a faculty member in the Department of Educational Administration, received an Individual Award.

Baldwin has remained active in the college and in his scholarship, serving on dissertation committees in the Higher, Adult and Lifelong Education (HALE) program and participating in a speaker series hosted by the Center for Higher and Adult Education.

Baldwin has been involved in the Academic Advancement Network and AgeLive, a College of Osteopathic Medicine initiative for coordinating and facilitating age-related research, service and educational programming within MSU and the greater community.

He also served the MSU Retirees Association as vice president and is president-elect for 2019-2020.

#### Officers, board members elected at annual luncheon

year term as President, Roger Baldwin
 year term as Vice President, Rick Vogt
 year term as Secretary, Jacqueline Babcock
 year term as Treasurer, Dave Brower

2 year term as At-Large Board Member, **William Anderson** 2 year term as At-Large Board Member, **Michael Gardner** 

#### See you in the fall!

The next membership meeting will be on Sept. 9. Look for details in the August newsletter and in the eNotices. Have a great summer!

## Retirement is Work! By Tom and Kevin Cocozzoli





# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Roger Baldwin** 

MSURA exists to enhance the retirement years of its members and support the larger MSU community. Each year we provide many occasions for retirees to connect socially and stay up to date on developments at the university. We offer learning opportunities on important and timely subjects like healthcare and the environment and enrichment programs related to theater, music, and art. We seek to maintain a strong relationship between retirees and the university we served for many years.

The end of another academic year is a good time to take stock of what we have achieved and also look ahead to the future. Thanks to our President Rick Vogt and our MSURA board members, we had a successful year with a host of interesting speakers, performers, and tours. Let me take this opportunity to thank Rick for doing double duty both as our president and MSURA newsletter editor. Thanks also to our committees and special interest groups. Their committed service enables our completely volunteer organization to offer many enjoyable opportunities to our members.

Next year, we plan to offer a rich array of activities aligned with our core mission. These will include social events such as theater outings, athletic events, and wine tasting, engaging speakers on a host of topics, tours of intriguing campus facilities, and trips to interesting Michigan sites such as historic Detroit buildings and museums.

We hope to enlist more retirees in volunteer service too. We already offer scholarships to MSU students and plan to continue raising funds to increase the scholarship support we can provide. Next year we want to host a volunteer fair where our members can learn about diverse ways to stay engaged socially and intellectually during retirement while serving the greater good as well. We will also explore more ways MSURA members can share their knowledge and experience in service to the university and its larger community.

We welcome your suggestions for additional ways MSU-RA can enhance retirement for our members. We invite you to join us in a wide range of activities throughout the year. We also encourage you to bring fellow retirees and family members to our events. We hope to enlarge our active membership in the coming year. The more MSU retirees we engage, the better we can fulfill our mission to enrich the retirement years of our members and maintain a strong bond with MSU.

Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer. I look forward to seeing you at many MSURA events starting next fall.

# Geography professor to highlight problems allies faced on D-Day

Professor of Geography Emeritus Dr. David Lusch will present a program about the geographical considerations and limitations that Gen-

eral Eisenhower had to work with in the planning of D-Day. The event is Thursday, June 6, which is the 75th anniversary of the World War II Normandy in-



Speaker Dr. David Lusch When Thursday, June 6 at 1 p.m. Where Community Room, MSUFCU Branch, Mt. Hope & Farm Lane, East Lansing Sponsor Military History Study Group

vasion. Professor Lusch is a student of military history, and has studied this battlefield in person. This event will take place in the Community Room at the Farm Lane Branch of the MSU Federal Credit Union at 1 p.m. on Thursday, June 6, sponsored by the MSURA Military History Study Group. All members of MSURA are invited, and we also extend an invitation to all other interested persons.

#### **Bylaw Change Approved**

The MSURA membership approved the following change in the bylaws at its May 7 meeting. This change was made to be more specific as to which summer months the board does not meet

Section 2.3 Meetings. The Board of Directors shall meet monthly except in June, July and August, and at the call of the President. Although most meetings should be open, the Board of Directors may hold a closed meeting at its discretion.

#### Get ready for MSU Theater - Summer Circle Theater Productions

Summer Circle is turning 59 and is ready to make you smile. This season, June 6–22, will be devoted to comedy in its many forms: spoof, comedy of manners, commedia dell'arte and more. This summer we invite you to turn off the news, kick back and enjoy the summer with us. Because laughing matters.

As if free theatre wasn't enough... check out theatre.msu.edu to



see the special free events and programming surrounding the regular free performances of Summer Circle between the Kresge Art Building and the Auditorium Building on the MSU campus. Free parking across the

street. Come early and sit in the free Summer Circle seats next to the stage. If you are not early, make sure to bring your own chairs. Food Truck and concessions are available but feel free to bring a picnic. In addition, if it ever rains we will go inside and perform in the Fairchild Theatre. (That is also free.)

See you at the Circle!



5-Year Certificate

With terms from three months to five years, there are many options to help you make your goals a reality.

Open your Certificate today!

www.msufcu.org 517-333-2424





Federally insured by NCUA. Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 5/4/19. Early withdrawal penalty applies if funds are withdrawn prior to maturity. An early withdrawal could reduce your initial investment. Rate subject to change at any time. Dividend rates are subject to change weekly. Certificate rate is fixed for the term of the Certificate at the time the Certificate is opened. Additional deposits may not be made to Certificates, other than the 1-Year Add-On Certificate. A total of \$10,000 may be added to a member's 1-Year Add-On Certificate(s) each year. Visit msufcu.org for full details.

## **MSURA SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED**



Amanda Pohl and Kathleen Wahl

## Winners announced at annual luncheon

This year's MSU Retirees Association Student Scholarship Recipients, Amanda Pohl and Kathleen Wahl, were announced at the Association's Annual meeting on May 7.

Amanda Pohl, who has maintained a 4.0 GPA for the last three years, was pleased to receive the scholarship for her senior year. Amanda is looking forward to graduating next year with a degree in Kinesiology and continuing her education for a Master's in Physical Therapy.

Amanda's mother works in Contracts and Grants Administration at MSU.

Kathleen Wahl, a senior at Northwest High School in Jackson, is planning on pursuing a degree in Speech Pathology at MSU. She has volunteered at a handicapped riding program throughout her high school years. She is very excited to join the Spartan family.

Kathleen's mother is Licensed Veterinary Technician in the Small Animal Emergency and Critical Care Unit at MSU.

Congratulations to both of these outstanding young women.

# Changes to MSU prescription coverage for Medicare eligible individuals

Effective Jan. 1, 2020, MSU will have a new prescription drug plan for Medicare-eligible retirees and their Medicare-eligible dependents. This plan is called SilverScript™ through CVS. Non-Medicare eligible retirees and dependents will continue to be covered by MSU's current CVS Caremark prescription drug plan.

With the rising cost of health care and prescription drug coverage, it is imperative the university continues to explore strategic initiatives to provide you with high-quality, low-cost benefits. SilverScript combines a standard group Medicare Part D prescription drug plan with the CVS SilverScript plan to close the gaps between the standard Medicare Part D plan and your current coverage, much like our

health plans coordinate around the Medicare A and B plans.

You should have received a letter in the mail and email with more details about this change, including frequently asked questions.



MSU Human Resources (HR) will continue to send you more details about this change over the coming months. You can visit the MSU HR website for more information at hr.msu.edu/benefits/retirement/prescription-drug-plan.html. MSU HR will be hosting informational meetings on August 21 and September 19 at the Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center where you can get answers to your specific questions. If you plan to attend, please RSVP online at the link above.

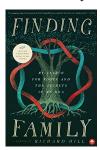
## **MSURA SPEAKER & ACTIVITIES RECAP**

# Genealogy group hosts DNA expert, author

The MSURA Genealogy Group hosted Richard Hill, DNA research adviser, at the MSUFCU Community Room on April 29.

Hill has an interesting story that began with him finding out he was adopted just a week before he was headed to MSU 40 years ago. As shocked as he was, he didn't talk to his parents about it until years later.

Over the years he has doggedly re-



searched his birth parents as well as brothers and sisters, using all the research tools available and particularly DNA testing. He is a wealth of information regarding DNA testing and which

companies are best for which area of interest the researcher is interested in pursuing.

His book "Finding Family, My Search for Roots and the Secrets of My DNA" is available on Amazon. The book includes his whole story as well as a beginner's guide to DNA testing.

Organizers were happy with a turnout of 56 guests.

# MSU music professor shares entertaining account of stage life, move to classroom

Melanie Helton, professor of voice (soprano) and director of the MSU Opera Theatre at the College of Music shared her life experiences in New York on the big stage and how she came to be a faculty member at MSU. Helton was entertaining and informative and her love for music and teaching was obvious in her presentation.

# MSURA members tour Scene Shop

More than 30 MSURA members and friends toured the university's new Scene Shop on March 25. The Scene Shop sits behind the MSU Federal Credit Union at Mt. Hope Road and Farm Lane. Led by Kirk Domer, chair of the Theatre Department, the attendees heard from graduate students involved in theatre production and David Furumoto, guest director of "The Bacchae," a Theatre Department production. Meredith Wagner explained scene design for this production while Jenna Light discussed costume design. Ray Kelley reported on lighting design, and Griffin Irish detailed sound design. In addition, Mark Willoughby, technical director at the Scene Shop, explained how this relatively new campus facility



supports the theatre staging process. MSURA members came away from the tour with a much richer understanding of the many complex tasks required to bring a theatre production to life.

## Alzheimer's disease meeting draws large crowd

A capacity crowd at the March 11 MSURA membership meeting showed there is a great deal of interest among MSU retirees in the topic of Alzheimer's disease. Dr. Scott Counts, associate professor in the Department of Translational Science & Molecular Medicine and the Department of Family Medicine in the MSU College of Human Medicine shared recent developments in the diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

Dr. Counts addressed this complex topic in a clear, well organized way that was interesting and informative. He provided an overview of dementia in its many forms. He also discussed the diagnosis of Alzheimer's and therapeutics currently in use or in development to treat this condition. Finally, Dr. Counts discussed Alzheimer's prevention and reviewed the many lifestyle choices individuals can make in an effort to reduce the likelihood they will develop Alzheimer's disease.

Dr. Counts illuminating research presentation is a perfect example of the practical, problem-solving mission of a land-grant research university in action. This presentation supported MSURA's mission to enrich the lives of our members through continuing education opportunities.

Slides from Dr. Counts' presentation are available on the MSURA website at https://bit.ly/2YJm04V

# 2019 MSURA Annual Luncheon Photo Album

More than 125 people attended the 2019 MSU Retirees Association Annual Luncheon on May 7. Provost June Yuatt spoke to the group after lunch and shared positive steps MSU has taken to provide a safer campus as well as infrastructure progress. She encouraged retirees to continue to be a part of the MSU community by volunteering and attending campus events. The scholarship winners, Amanda Pohl and Kathleen Wahl, were on hand with their mothers to meet and thank the MSURA. The annual business meeting was held, including election of board members for the 2019–2020 year. Angela Brown received the Outstanding Volunteer of the Year award and the event ended with door prizes.















# 54 RETIREES, A BUS AND A TRIP





Participants first ever MSURA day trip.
Participants first visited the W.K. Kellogg Manor where they learned about Kellogg's life and the history and architecture of the Manor, which was his summer home located on the south side of Gull Lake. Kellogg donated the property to MSU in 1952, and people who work there are MSU employees. The gardens were beginning to

full bus of retirees made history on April 29 as they

show promise, and the grounds were well manicured and cared for. Lunch was held in the large living room of the home, made cozy by the fireplace.

In the afternoon the tour continued at the Gilmore Car Museum, which was a few miles up the road from Kellogg Manor. The museum is the largest car museum in North America with nearly 400 antique and classic cars. More than 112,000 people visit the museum every year.

These two places together created a perfect day trip as they are just over an hour away from East Lansing, located just north of Battle Creek.

MSURA plans to organize more bus trips in the coming months. Look for information in future eNotices and newsletters.







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

## In Memoriam

Bruce T. Allen	3/5/19	Donald Lusch	3/5/19
Pamela A.B. Bishop	3/4/19	George T. Mansell	3/31/19
Ivonne Bragg	4/23/19	Gloria J. Richards	2/27/19
Rimitia Brown	4/21/19	Alvin L. Rippen	4/6/19
Suzanne Byers	3/14/19	Beatrice Terry	3/19/19
Wilbur G. Campbell	4/26/19	Jack Waterstradt	3/29/19
<b>Doris Cuthbertson</b>	4/13/19	Donald J. Weinshank	5/4/19
Emily Henderson	4/14/19	Robert Wilkinson	5/4/19
Johnnie Hornbuckle	3/26/19	Dora L. Williams	5/7/19
Donald L Irish	3/21/19	William R. Wiseman	3/20/19
Michael Kalso	3/12/19	Karen Woehlert	3/2/19
Robert Kever	3/16/19	Anthony S. Wojcik	4/12/19
John E. Kraeer	4/17/19	Adam Zutaut	4/2/19
Melvyn L. Lacy	4/18/19		



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



#### Lessons on Investing - Did you know?

StraightLine is a fiduciary that was chosen by MSU to provide professional advice and management to both employees and retirees at MSU. Our experienced advisors and dedicated research staff allows us to offer unbiased information to the MSU faithful. We present the following for your review:

#### **Straight to the Point**

Market Update - Markets have continued to do well in recent weeks but have faced some more recent challenges as negotiations around trade and tariffs has stalled a bit. Until recently it appeared that US and China were nearing a solution, however, as negotiations are, the end point is still a ways away. That said, it is in both countries' interest to get it done. The economic news has been mixed globally but the data has improved and we saw positive results in Q1 GDP from the US, Eurozone, and China, which provides the impetus for gains for the remainder of the year.

Investment Implications - Both stocks and bonds have done well this year, and while a pullback in both areas is possible we don't see any reason to change the equity/fixed income balance. While the economic data has been less than stellar, it still points to growth in equities so any market correction is an opportunity to search for undervalued, quality positions. We continue to hold a negative view towards most areas of the bond market/fixed income, believing that investors aren't being rewarded for taking much interest rate or credit risk. We continue to expect gradual economic improvement, higher stock markets, and eventually higher bond yields as well.

Our quarterly newsletter (StraightTalk) walks through the macro information that we are utilizing in respect to our near term strategy. Please contact us if you are interested in receiving these newsletters or discussing our macroeconomic views.

#### From StraightLine Higher Education Services



Headquarters 165 Kirts Blvd, Suite 100 Troy, MI 48084

East Lansing Office 2911 Eyde Pkwy, Suite 100 East Lansing, MI 48823 (877) EDU-403B info@straightline.com www.straightline.com



**SPARTAN SENIOR NEWSLETTER** MSU Retirees Association, Suite 22 Nisbet Building, MSU, 1407 Harrison Road, East Lansing, MI 48823-5239 • **Phone** (517) 353-7896 • **Email** <u>msura@msu.edu</u> **Editor** Rick Vogt (517) 242-1324 • **Website** <a href="http://retirees.msu.edu">http://retirees.msu.edu</a> • **Facebook** <a href="https://www.facebook.com/MSURetirees">https://www.facebook.com/MSURetirees</a> • **Change of address or MSU benefit questions**, contact MSU Human Resources at (800) 353-4434