



# MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION

## SPARTAN SENIOR NEWSLETTER

November - December 2021

VOL. 43, NO. 3

### THANKS, FRIB!

Many thanks to the staff of the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams.



Zachary Constan, outreach coordinator for the FRIB, took 119

seniors on seven different tours on several different days in October. His lively and often humorous presentation left retirees informed and impressed.



#### UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM

### PLEASE NOTE:

The original speakers scheduled for both November and December had to decline, and we were fortunate to find other excellent speakers to fill in on short notice. We are looking forward to meeting in person again starting in November and to broadcast these

meetings live using Zoom. We ask people to wear a mask and encourage people attending to be vaccinated. Watch the E-Notice emails for Zoom meeting information and confirmation we are meeting in person.

### Nov. meeting to feature AgeAlive director

You have probably heard of AgeAlive, but on Nov. 8, you'll have an opportunity to learn much more about it. Clare Luz, Ph.D. and director of MSU AgeAlive, will provide a brief overview of the program's history and mission.



Clare Luz

AgeAlive has grown dramatically over the past two years and has made notable contributions to campus and community life. It facilitated MSU's designation as an Age-Friendly University, an international mark of distinction and now, in partnership with others, is leading efforts for MSU to have a coordinated Lifelong Education program. Luz is an associate professor in Family and Community Medicine in the MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine and the founding director of AgeAlive.

Join us in person or via Zoom to hear about more about AgeAlive, including its MSU aging-related research, other exciting initiatives and ways for others to get involved.

**When** Monday, Nov. 8, 2021 **Time** 2 p.m., Social time at 1:30 p.m.  
**Where** Community Room, MSUFCU Branch, Mt. Hope & Farm Lane, East Lansing & via Zoom. Watch E-Notice for sign in info or visit <https://retirees.msu.edu/>

### Prepare for fun at Dec. meeting

Rich and Linda Triemer formed their entertainment company, More Than Magical, LLC, after they retired, and they spend their time making people smile. They provide magic, balloon twisting and face painting, and we'll be able to watch them in action at our Dec. 13 meeting, which will be in person at the MSUFCU Community Room and on Zoom as well.



Rich Triemer



Linda Triemer

Rich began his career as a plant biologist at Rutgers University after graduating from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In 2002, he was recruited to Michigan State where he served as professor and chair of the Department of Plant Biology until his retirement in 2017.

Linda graduated from the University of Illinois School

Please see DECEMBER MEETING on page 6

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# Faculty Emeriti Association Corner

This is a new section of the MSU Retirees Association newsletter. A special thanks to the newsletter editors for making this space available.

Some might not be aware of the Faculty Emeriti Association (FEA) and its activities. The association was created by the Office of the Provost in 2004 and continues today with the goal of utilizing the knowledge, expertise and experience of retired faculty to support and enhance academic programs.

The FEA activities are coordinated by a steering committee composed of nine to twelve retired faculty representing the various colleges and a representative from the provost office. The current members are John Baker, John Forsyth (Secretary), Bernard Gallin, Charles Gliozzo, Steve Harsh (Chairperson), Richard Hula, Cindy Leverich (provost Office representative), David Long, Richard Simons, Gary Stone and Jane Vieth (Vice Chairperson).

The FEA has several ongoing activities including our lecture series which are often announced in this newsletter and in the MSURA eNotices. We have awards for retired faculty making significant contributions to an academic unit and to units supporting retirees, are involved with the MSU voice library to capture MSU history and have seats on key university committees. More recently, we surveyed retired faculty to learn their relationship with the university identifying their involvement and issues they may have. In future newsletters these activities will be discussed in more detail. If you would like more information on the Faculty Emeriti Association and its activities, please visit our website: <https://facultyemeriti.msu.edu/> —Steve Harsh, Chairperson, Faculty Emeriti Association Steering Committee



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Dec. 15** — StraightLine financial planning event, 2 p.m. Watch your E-Notice for Zoom Instructions

**May 2** — Annual Luncheon and Meeting at the University Club. Guest speaker will be Alan Haller, MSU's new athletic director.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Rick Vogt**

**H**appy holidays to you and your family. There is a lot to be thankful for this year.

2021 has been a challenge, and 2022 is looking to be a return to normal. We are going to start meeting in person again in November and hope to have other in-person events announced for 2022 soon. Watch future newsletters and emails for announcements.

Retirees have been happy with us broadcasting the presentations using Zoom and making the recordings accessible on the retirees website, at [retirees.msu.edu](https://retirees.msu.edu). So, we plan to continue to broadcast and record the meetings. Doing so presents some challenges for us, so please bear with us while we work through issues of broadcasting a live presentation with an audience. A big thank you to our volunteers who are working to make this happen, John Forsyth, Anders Johanson, and Bruce Smith.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving I want to thank our presenters, underwriter organizations, volunteers and donors for financial support, sharing their time, talents and commitment to the MSU retirees. Thank you. We very much appreciate it.

If you would like to donate to MSU Retirees Association, you may do so through <https://givingto.msu.edu/gift/>. Enter "Retiree" in the "Area of Support" box to select MSU Retirees Association. Then, follow the giving instructions to make your donation.

If you're interest in volunteering, give us a call 517-353-7896 and leave your name and telephone number and we will call you back.

Thank you. May your holidays be filled with good times and memories this holiday season.



Please support our sponsors. They do a lot to help us defray the cost of printing and mailing this newsletter and other MSURA activities.



Walking on campus sometimes involves a photo taken at the Sparty statue.



Melony Peabody, Pam Marcis, Angela Brown and Cheryl Pell helped MSURA office manager Liz Thomas (center) get out a mailing to about 750 new retirees in late October. The packet includes a welcome letter, an interest survey and a brochure.

## Join the MSURA walking group for fun, camaraderie, fitness

With the weather getting colder, retirees may be looking for ways to take their exercise indoors. If you live in the Lansing area, consider joining the MSURA Walking Special Interest Group (SIG). The group is comprised of a number of men and women retirees. It's a great way to get a walk in and at the same time visit with fellow retirees who like to walk also.

Participation in a walk is optional. The group uses text messaging to communicate and announce walking location and time to fellow walkers. Those who can join the walk simply reply to the text message. The group has a scheduled walk on Friday mornings at 10 a.m. on campus. If weather permits the group walks the river trail or in Jenison if the weather isn't conducive. Walks last about an hour. Attendees park in the Jenison Field House west parking lot. Members can set up walks as well by putting an announcement in the group text asking others to join in. Anyone can suggest a walk.

Making new friends and visiting with old friends while getting exercise makes for a good New Year's resolution, too.

Interested in joining? Contact Rick Vogt at [vogtrick@comcast.net](mailto:vogtrick@comcast.net) or give him a call at 517-242-1324.

# 3%

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# Mary Hill devoted her career to serving students

## SPARTAN SPOTLIGHT



BY ALAINA RAYBON

Alaina Raybon is a senior in the School of Journalism and hopes to be a sports broadcaster when she graduates. She is also a member of the MSU gymnastics team. Raybon is the first MSU journalism student to write articles for the MSURA Spartan Senior Newsletter, and we hope to find more students to write in the future.

**A** career dedicated to serving, Mary Hill devoted her time and passions to Ford Motor Company, MSU and her community, cooking for thousands and serving for more than 30 years.

Mary Hill got her start in cooking at just 11 years old. Her parents owned a few restaurants, and she began cooking with them. She grew up in Detroit, but later, after being laid off from Ford, she moved to Lansing to take her children away from the Detroit school system. A single mother to two sons and a daughter, Hill worked to serve them in any way she could.

“The move was an adjustment, but I knew I was doing this for my kids,” she said.

While in Lansing, a family acquaintance that worked at MSU called and asked her about applying for a temporary job as a chef in one of the MSU dining halls. She hesitated because she wasn’t sure she’d be equipped for the demands of the job, but her friend encouraged her to apply. Later, she was offered a full time position.

“MSU was very good to me,” she said. She said that the job was more reliable and more stable, which was better for her children.

Hill loved the challenge of cooking for thousands, but what she loved most was connecting with the students, getting to know them and listening to their stories. She said that they used to have parties and invite the students and on-calls, where they would make rewards, have dinner and show their appreciation for those that she worked with. The students loved Hill, they even called her a “firefighter” — always fixing problems that arose and looking after them in the halls.

“I was like their momma, their on-campus momma.”

Hill cooked in Holmes Hall for 20 years until she left to work on the housing side as a desk supervisor, secretary and a guest service specialist. From there she went to the central administration offices in Wilson Hall/West Circle where she stayed until she retired in 2011.

Hill continued to serve her community, something she was passionate about. After retirement, she spent time volunteering, cooking for culinary ministry and working for a mobile food pantry. Her time serving came



**“Take time for yourself and do whatever it is you want to do — what you couldn’t do when you worked,”**

— Mary Hill

to a halt in 2017, after being diagnosed with breast cancer.

“That hurt me because that was a passion of mine,” she said. “I felt so limited. I just want to help people.”

For health reasons, Hill doesn’t spend much time making her tomato bisque and clam chowder soup, which everyone loved. She is now almost five years into remission and advises people to just be present and enjoy life.

“Take time for yourself and do whatever it is you want to do — what you couldn’t do when you worked,” she said.

Hill loves spending time with her family, as she now has seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. A talented “Words With Friends” player, she enjoys working on crossword and jigsaw puzzles. She resides in Lansing with her husband of 32 years.

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# SCHOLARSHIP UPDATES



The board of the Michigan State University Retirees Association announced the start of a three-year fund drive to support scholarships for students in April. This effort will extend from April 2021 to April 2024. With support from MSU retirees and friends, our goal is to raise \$60,000 to increase our current scholarship endowment. \$60,000 is the amount we need to permanently secure another MSURA scholarship on an annual basis. These scholarships are reserved specifically for the children or grandchildren of MSU retirees or current MSU employees.

## MSURA Endowed Student Scholarship applications now being accepted

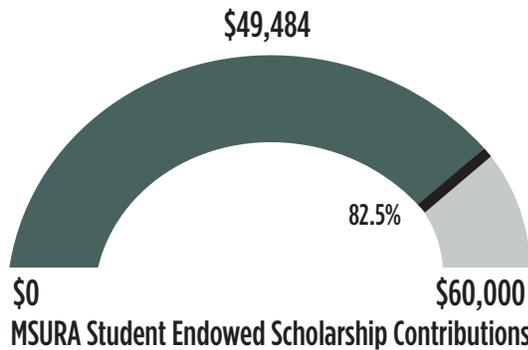
Scholarship applications are now being accepted for a \$2,500 MSURA Endowed Student Scholarship for school year 2022-2023 by the MSU Admissions Office. Scholarship awards will be announced in the spring of 2022. Please let your children and grandchildren know about this opportunity and encourage them to apply for the scholarship at <https://scholarships.msu.edu/>.

### DECEMBER MEETING, continued from p. 1

of Public Health with a PhD in environmental science and epidemiology, and a postdoctoral fellowship in epidemiology at the former Chemical Industry Institute of Toxicology in Research Triangle Park, NC. She had a successful career as a scientist and research administrator, retiring from the Van Andel Research Institute in 2012.

Rich (a.k.a. Professor Magic) started doing magic at the age of seven and has enjoyed teaching magic and entertaining kids, teens and adults ever since.

Linda Triemer (a.k.a. Klinker the Clown) got her start making balloon creations as the Magic Princess assisting Professor Magic more than 20 years ago. Clown school came after retirement as well as more continuing education at clown conventions, workshops, and local clown 'alley' meetings. She currently holds the title of "All Around Clown" awarded by the World Clown Association after competing at their last in-person convention in 2019.



## HOW TO DONATE TO THE MSURA ENDOWED STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

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 <http://givingto.msu.edu/gift/>.
- Type in "MSURA Endowed Scholarship Fund" for Areas to Support.
- Click on "Add to Cart."
- Enter your gift amount.
- Click on "Proceed to Checkout."
- Complete donation.

# 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.

Keith Adler	6/23/21
Noah Alonso	7/4/21
Harriet E. Ashbay	7/6/21
Samuel A. Baker	7/26/21
Carmen G. Banda	9/17/21
Robert F. Banks	7/22/21
Kenneth Bloomquist	8/6/21
Dorothy Boettger	6/17/21
Ivan Borton	9/25/21
Jeanne Brown	8/15/21
Ronald E. Claffin	8/2/21
Joseph Clayton	7/24/21
William Coté	8/30/21
John S. Duley	7/15/21
Ruth Duncanson	9/16/21
Joe Dunn	8/11/21
Gail L. Edwards	6/30/21
Carolyn G. Falsetta	7/22/21
Harold R. Ferris	9/17/21
Laurel Jean Fitch	7/15/21
Kenneth Gallagher	8/6/21
James M. Gilmore	9/13/21
Jean Graham	9/10/21
Richard Graham	6/1/21
W. Fred Graham	6/12/21
Robert Lee Griffin	9/30/21
Larry J. Gut	9/6/21
John Hawkins	9/8/21
Bernard V. Jorae	9/30/21
Randall Kaiser	6/29/21
Elise Kaufman	8/25/21
Rebecca M. Manty	7/22/21
Beverly McKane	8/13/21
Susan Lee Merkle	9/10/21
Andrew Michelakis	6/28/21
Patricia A. Miller	8/2/21
Joanna Murray	8/22/21
Frances Kay Pasch	7/16/21
Ralph A. Pax	7/2/21
Edward A. Poole	7/4/21
Arnulfo Rodriguez	8/2/21
David C. Shumaker	7/28/21
Michael T. Weber	9/6/21
Beverly Wilkins	7/9/21
Kendall Wyeth	8/21/21



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### **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** - Much of the more recent trends in markets have remained intact. Over the past several months we have seen relative outperformance of US stocks, led by large-cap growth. This has come during a period of rising COVID cases, with the Delta variant outbreak, falling bond yields, and in some cases, peaking economic data. As we move into the end of the year, however, we are starting to see signs of these trends reversing. Bond yields are off their lows and have plenty of room to move higher. Small-cap stocks and international equities have gained some momentum in recent weeks while cyclical sectors such as energy and financials have shown renewed signs of life.

**Investment Implications** - Our expectation for 2021 has been that the global economic recovery would lead to rising bond yields and higher stock markets (favoring economically sensitive areas). While this has largely been true, the Delta Variant has slowed the narrative - particularly in the middle of the year. After all of the noise, we expect that 2021 may very well end as it started, with another rally in cyclical stocks, waning COVID worries, and bond yields moving higher. We continue to advocate for a “barbelled” portfolio approach, which includes a mix of long-term growth and short-term cyclical rebound stocks on the equity side and a mix of short and long maturity bonds on the fixed income side.

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

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