



UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS VIA ZOOM

Senior Executive Chef to headline April meeting

Kurt Kwiatkowski is the Senior Executive Chef of the award-winning Culinary Services Residential Dining in the Division of Residential and Hospitality Services at Michigan State University (MSU).

As the Senior Executive Chef, he sets the standards for the all menus in MSU's residential dining halls, monitors and upholds food standards, runs the research and development of new menu items and recipe development, and develops culinary training for all full time and management staff. Chef Kurt is responsible for the culinary vision, systems and strategy for almost 40,000 meals per day. He cites solid culinary fundamentals and local/state partnerships



Kurt Kwiatkowski

When Monday, April 11, 2022 **Time** 2 p.m.

How to Join See E-Notice for sign in info or visit <https://retirees.msu.edu/>

as one of the keys to MSU's success.

Chef Kwiatkowski sees the importance of fundamentals and technique in cooking. He has worked in kitchens for more than 35 years, including chains such as Paragon Restaurant Group, Morrison's Restaurant Group and the Ritz-Carlton.

He holds a bachelor's degree in Food Systems Management and Economics and a master's degree from The School of Hospitality Business, both from MSU. He was also a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America CEIP program.

Haller to address retirees at May 2 Annual Luncheon

- Annual Luncheon
- Monday, May 2
- University Club
- 11:30 a.m. Registration
- 12 p.m. Luncheon
- See registration form on p. 5
- Register by March 31

Alan Haller, MSU's Athletic Director, will speak to MSURA members at the Annual Meeting and Luncheon at the University Club on Monday, May 2, 2022.

A professional administrator with more than 20 years of experience in athletics, law enforcement and higher education, Alan Haller was appointed Vice President and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics on Sept. 1, 2021, by Michigan State University President Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D.

A former MSU football player and member of the track and field team as well as a former cornerback in the NFL, Haller joined MSU Athletics in 2010, following a 13-year career with the MSU Department of Police and Public Safety. In 2015, Haller was promoted to Senior Associate Athletic Director, and added Chief of Staff to his title in 2017. In 2019, he was promoted to Deputy Athletic Director.

A former Spartan football letterwinner, Haller's relationships with current and former student-athletes



Please see HALLER, page 4

MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS AND BOARD FOR 2021-2022

President	Rick Vogt	517-242-1324
Vice President	Neelam Kher	318-730-4394
Secretary	Kate Wight	248-563-3210
Treasurer	Dave Brower	517-282-4883
Past President	Roger Baldwin	517-599-3395
At-Large	Mike Gardner	517-290-7090
At-Large	William Anderson	517-290-7750
At-Large	Jacqie Babcock	517-282-6861
At-Large	Bruce Smith	517-323-9579
Office Manager	Elizabeth Thomas	517-351-7611
Asst. Office Manager	Gayle Gower	517-332-0194

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Awards	Jacqie Babcock	517-282-6861
Budget	Dave Brower	517-282-4883
Communications	Rick Vogt	517-242-1324
Information Tech	John Forsyth	517-332-6683
Membership	Nancy Craig	517-351-1391
Nominations	Dave Brower	517-282-4883
Program	Rick Vogt	517-242-1324
Scholarship	Angela Brown	517-974-1770

SPARTAN SENIOR NEWSLETTER

Editor	Rick Vogt	517-242-1324
Newsletter Designer	Cheryl Pell	517-214-4845
Underwriting Manager	Jacqie Babcock	517-282-6861
Mailing Labels Manager	John Forsyth	517-332-6683

WEBSITE

Webmaster & Facebook Manager	Anders Johanson	517-974-8994
E-Notices Manager	Rick Vogt	517-242-1324

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Photographer	Bruce Smith	517-323-9579
MSU Shares	Darlene Wenner	517-339-1685

WELCOME NEW RETIREES!

Are you a new retiree? **Welcome to the MSU Retirees Association!** We publish this newsletter seven times a year to keep you informed about membership meetings, campus issues surrounding retirees and more. You'll also receive two E-Notices a month. Please get involved by coming to a membership meeting, hosted via Zoom until further notice. They are normally held the second Monday of every month, September to April. If you would like to receive a paper copy of the newsletter, please email msura@msu.edu.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rick Vogt

Good news! Spring has arrived and COVID news continues to improve. We are hoping and planning to return to in-person events with the May 2 Annual Membership Meeting/Luncheon at the University Club. Work is progressing to broadcast this event using Zoom, giving people options for attending.

We are asking people to be vaccinated and boosted when attending events in-person. We will follow MSU event attendance requirements on the day of the event. Your safety is important to us. We ask everyone to make good decisions for their safety and that of others.

The MSURA Board is planning outdoor social events that will be taking place over the summer. These events will be announced in the newsletters, E-Notice emails, Facebook page and on the website. We hope you can attend and enjoy some time with friends.

Dan Chegwiddden passed away in January. Dan served on the MSURA Board as MSU Advancement's liaison and as a volunteer in his retirement. He helped create the MSURA Endowed Student Scholarship and with its fundraising efforts. He had that Spartan Will spirit.

Janet Munn passed away in February. She quilted and donated quilts for various charitable causes, including the MSURA Endowed Student Scholarship fundraising efforts. She was a member of the MSURA Quilting special interest group. She was a true Spartan.

The Scholarship Selection Committee is meeting soon to choose this year's MSURA Endowed Student Scholarship winners. This year's winners will be announced at the Annual Membership Meeting/luncheon on May 2. Three \$2,500 scholarships will be awarded. Thank you for your donations to fund these scholarships. Be sure and remind your family members to apply for the scholarship. They can apply each year they are attending MSU either as an undergraduate or graduate student.

Thank you to Pam Marcis for her many contributions to MSURA and to Jacqie Babcock for replacing Pam as an at-large board member.

Best wishes to you and your family.

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.

Alan Anderson	1/6/22
Susan Bannen	12/22/21
Larry M. Barnum	1/15/22
H. Daniel Chegwidan	1/14/22
Harriet Dhanak	1/20/22
Jay Jensen	1/28/22
David Katz	1/27/22
Vada Kenney	11/17/21
Helen Rachel Mull	1/31/22
Judith P. Skea	12/27/21
Robert Summitt	1/9/22

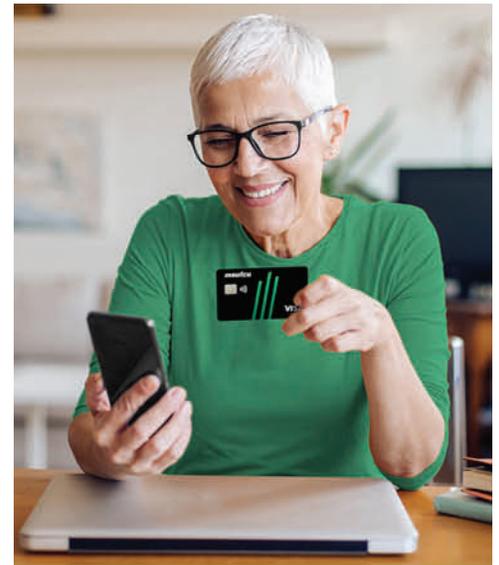
Humana Mail Order Pharmacy, Specialty Pharmacy to receive new name

Watch your mail for important information from Humana Pharmacy regarding a new name coming in June 2022.

The new name will be CenterWell Pharmacy and CenterWell Specialty Pharmacy.

With the new CenterWell Pharmacy and CenterWell Specialty Pharmacy, the change includes the opportunity for more support and personalized care, such as 24/7 phone access to pharmacists, live chat during normal business hours, and improved, simplified ordering and more.

There is nothing new you need to do when using Humana Pharmacy. Just watch your mail for more information from Humana Pharmacy on the timing of the name change, a number and a website to learn more about the enhanced services.



Achieve More with Cash Back

The possibilities are endless when you receive 3% cash back on groceries; 2% on gas, travel, and universities; and 1% on everything else with MSUFCU's Visa Signature® Credit Card.

Get more cash back today!

msufcu.org/visasignature
800-678-4968

msufcu
MSU FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Visit msufcu.org/visasignature for full details.

Watch for E-Notices from us

Want to get our E-Notices? MSURA's e-Notices are published twice each month and are sent to your email address. To SUBSCRIBE, UNSUBSCRIBE, or CHANGE an email address for delivery of E-Notices, please email: MSURA.List.Manager@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATES

May 2 — Annual Luncheon
July 18 — Social event at Newman Lofts
August 19 — Lugnuts game

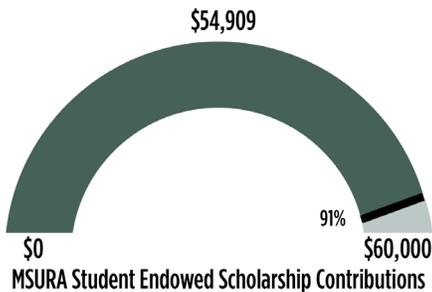
Please attend the Annual Luncheon on May 2. See the reservation form on page 5. Registration deadline is March 31.

SCHOLARSHIP UPDATES

LET'S HELP MORE OF OUR SPARTANS



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.



These scholarships are reserved specifically for the children or grandchildren of MSU retirees or current MSU employees.

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 any gift amount you wish.
- Click on "Proceed to Checkout."
- Complete donation.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US ENDOW ANOTHER SCHOLARSHIP!

HALLER, continued from p. 1

continues to be an important asset for the athletic department and the overall well-being of the student-athletes. He also helps manage student-athlete conduct and accountability.

Prior to his appointment in athletics, Haller was a 1st Lt. for the MSU Police Department and served on the force for 13 years. While there, Haller was in charge of the Uniform Division, which is the largest component of the department.

Haller holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Michigan State and a master's degree in human resources from Central Michigan.

In addition to listening to Alan Haller, attendees will enjoy good fellowship, help elect officers, meet the scholarship winners, celebrate the volunteer(s) of the year and more. Please go to page 5 to fill out the reservation form. The deadline for reservations is March 31.

Are you a good writer?

The Spartan Senior Newsletter is looking for some retirees to do some writing.

Of course, this doesn't mean you'd need to write seven articles a year, but maybe one, and if you're having fun, maybe two.

If this is something you might be interested in, please contact newsletter editor Rick Vogt at vogtrick@comcast.net.



Spartan Senior Newsletter looking for stories. Got one?



Got an idea for a story in the Spartan Senior Newsletter? Are you doing something interesting that you'd like to share with fellow retirees? Email your idea to newsletter editor Rick Vogt at vogtrick@comcast.net.

MSURA ANNUAL LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

MONDAY, MAY 2, 2022
UNIVERSITY CLUB, 3435 FOREST ROAD, LANSING
Registration begins at 11:30, Lunch begins at 12:00 noon

Name _____

Meal Choice Combo Entrée Flank Steak & Chicken
 Vegetarian Pastry Puff

Significant Other/Spouse Name _____

Meal Choice Combo Entrée Flank Steak & Chicken
 Vegetarian Pastry Puff

Both choices come with rolls, salad, beverage and lemon wedge cake.
Cost per person: \$28 — includes cost of the luncheon, tip and tax.

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Email Address _____

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

Combo Entrée is served with chef's selection of vegetable and potato or rice.
Vegetarian Pastry Puff is served with lemon beurre blanc sauce.

If a dietary supplement is needed, please email Pam Marcis at pamela.j.marcis@gmail.com before March 31, 2022.

The location of the luncheon has changed to the **University Club Ballroom** on the lower level. An elevator is available.

MSURA is following MSU Covid protocol. Email pamela.j.marcis@gmail.com by Monday, April 25, 2022, to cancel your reservation due to health/safety concerns.

Mail this form before March 31 with check payable to MSU Retirees Association to:

Dave Brower, MSURA Treasurer
1407 S. Harrison Ave.
Suite 22 MSU
East Lansing, MI 48823

Retirees are invited to attend Age Alive Research Forum

The 2022 AgeAlive Research Forum will be held April 21, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the MSUFCU HQ1 on West Road in East Lansing.

This free event invites campus and community partners, and MSUFCU members to learn about various projects and research happening across campus



and Michigan that address issues of aging.

The event will include a dynamic keynote speaker, Paula Cunning-

ham, AARP Director for the State of Michigan, and former President of Lansing Community College.

As in past Forums the highlight of the event will be the “Aging Research Gems” Panel Presentation. The panel features MSU faculty and students who are conducting research on a wide range of thought provoking, unique, topics from the basic sciences of geriatric

medicine and nursing to college student caregivers and public health.

Stimulating discussions will be held about the pillars of successful aging and Age Friendly Universities and the steps MSU is taking to create robust Lifelong Learning opportunities to fulfill the International Age Friendly University criteria.

Based on current COVID pandemic protocols, the event will be a hybrid of in-person and Zoom presentations. Yet, at this time masks will not be required by the MSUFCU.

Registration information will be available by March 21, 2022. Visit <https://www.agealive.org/>.

We are excited to host MSU and Community Agencies as Resource Tables to share their volunteer opportunities and agency information.

Additionally, attendees will see a video performance from the Prime Time Ukulele Strummers and the Zahrah Resh Butterfly Flower Garden Installation and will receive a light breakfast and lunch.

Learn more from our pharmacists

Sign up for our newsletter at pharmacy.msu.edu



Get at-home COVID tests through the MSU Humana Plans

Effective January 15, 2022, through the end of the public health emergency, the federal government issued new requirements for the reimbursement of at-home COVID-19 tests. For Retirees and enrolled eligible dependents and family members, reimbursement differs based on your Medicare eligibility status.

Individuals enrolled in the Humana MSU Non-Medicare PPO Plan will have two options to get COVID-19 test kits at no-cost through Humana.

Option 1: Get reimbursed for COVID tests purchased on or after Jan. 15, 2022:

1. Purchase your test kit and keep your itemized receipt
2. Complete all information requested on the Health Benefits Claim Form
3. The Health Benefits Claim Form may be accessed online at Coronavirus Benefit Resources (msu.edu) or by calling Humana at 800-273-2509.
4. Mail the completed form with the original itemized receipt to the address on the back of your member ID card as soon as possible
5. It can take up to 30 days to process your claim, and the reimbursement will be sent as a check to the home address Humana has on file
6. Note that reimbursement will include the test kit only. No shipping fees will be covered by Humana.

Option 2: Purchase at-home, over-the-counter test kits at a network pharmacy counter with your Humana ID card on or after Jan. 15, 2022:

1. Take the kit(s) to the pharmacy counter for check-out
2. You will be asked to provide your Humana ID card
3. The pharmacy staff will process your purchase and receive payment directly from Humana. You will owe zero dollars for up to 8 test kits, per member, per month

Please Note: The tests must be FDA Authorized. Qualifying tests include over-the-counter antigen and molecular tests.

Find out more information by calling Humana at 800-273-2509 or on the Humana website at www.humana.com/coronavirus/coverage-faqs.

When a member is on Medicare, there is NO coverage or reimbursement for self-purchased test kits

through Humana because of Medicare rules. However, there are still two options to access test kits at no cost.

Option 1: Humana Medicare members have access to 4 free COVID test kits per family through the federal government. To order those kits go to www.covidtests.gov.

Option 2: The Department of Health and Human Services is providing up to 50 million free, at-home tests to community health centers and Medicare-certified health clinics at no cost to you. To learn more about this program access the official web site of the U.S. Health Resources & Services Administration at www.hrsa.gov/coronavirus/testing-supplies.





Summer Circle Theatre on the banks of the Red Cedar in 1986.

Summer Circle Theatre celebrates 60 years

Summer Circle Theatre is more than theatrical entertainment. It is part of the fabric of our community; it is a tradition for families and friends who gather in the SCT courtyard to enjoy theatre in a relaxed outdoor setting. Though a recent addition to SCT, the merits and importance of Kids Camp to the East Lansing community are also apparent. Each year that camp has been offered, enrollment has been filled within a few hours of registration opening. SCT company builds community—the central goal of theatre itself.

Rob Roznowski
Director of Summer Circle Theatre

Since 1960, Summer Circle Theatre has headlined the unofficial start of summer on campus. The 60th birthday celebration of this much loved community event was postponed for two years due to COVID-19, but Summer Circle Theatre is now poised to celebrate their 60th season in June 2022.

The history of SCT begins in the 1950's when Dr. John Dietrich, Chair of the Department of Speech at MSU (there was no Department of Theatre!) asked faculty members Frank Rutledge and Edward Andreasen to work on a concept based on a successful summer theatre program at Ohio State University where he had been previously. MSU donated space in Demonstration Hall, which was converted to workable theatre space. In 1961 the first play, Noel Coward's *Blithe Spirit* was performed.

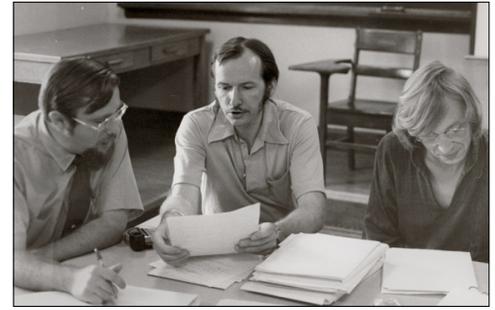
Innovation was an important part of Summer Circle Theatre. In 1964, the arena theatre was redesigned as a three-sided thrust stage with a balcony allowing for more variety in plays. This stage design is seen today in the construction of the stage in the Pasant Theatre in the Wharton Performing Arts Center on campus.

In 1968 the Department of Theatre was created within the College of Communication Arts with Professor E.C. Reynolds serving as the department's first chair. John Baldwin received a grant from the Wolfram Foundation to support

Please see **SUMMER CIRCLE THEATER**, page 9



The original Summer Circle Theatre was located in Demonstration Hall.



Frank Rutledge, center, and two others were tasked with creating a summer theatre program, which became the Summer Circle Theatre. During his tenure, Rutledge served as technical director, scenic designer, play director, director of theater production and professor of theater. He also did two stints of chairing the Department of Theatre. Rutledge joined the faculty in 1959 and retired in 2007. He died in 2008 at the age of 72.

SUMMER CIRCLE THEATRE, cont. from page

a company of students to perform in rotating repertory – Summer Circle Theatre. Six shows were presented on a rotating basis three days a week during the three-week summer program. Included was a show for children presented every morning and a different show for adults presented every night. They presented Jules Goodman’s “Treasure Island” and Archibald MacLeish’s “J.B.” In 1971, the Department of Theatre was moved to the College of Arts and Letters, which combined all the arts programs under one administrative umbrella.

In 1970 Summer Circle was in debt in spite of charging for admission in earlier years in the indoor space. The Provost Office absorbed the debt and SCT became a separate entity within the Theatre Department. Frank Rutledge, Gretel Geist and John Baldwin made the decision to move Summer Circle Theatre outdoors into the Kresge Sculpture Court, change the name to Summer Circle Free Festival Theatre, and make SCT free to attend. Frank Rutledge commented “since we have no money, we’ll make the plays free; if the plays are free, the public

can always leave; if the audience can leave, then we can do whatever we please. Is this the way to attract people?”

People heard about the plays through sandwich boards along Auditorium Road or word of mouth. Crowds continued attending and brought folding chairs or sat on the ground. Groundskeepers complained about damage to the landscape due to so many in attendance and in the summer of 1973, wooden bleachers were set up to keep the audience out of the flower beds. By 1981 the wooden bleachers had fallen into disrepair and new fiberglass bleachers replaced them. The new bleachers didn’t fit in the Kresge sculpture court, however, so the summer season moved to the banks of the Red Cedar River.

In 1988 SCT changed its name once again to Summer Circle Free Festival of the American Theatre. This was to accommodate two special seminars in American dramatic literature and American theatre history taught jointly by the Departments of Theatre and

American Studies. From 1988 to 1994 SCT had an emphasis on American theatre as a result. In 1993 the theatre group moved to higher ground facing the Red Cedar River behind the Auditorium due to issues with wet grounds close to the water. To accommodate more variety in productions the emphasis on American theatre was also dropped and Summer Circle Theatre became the name we celebrate today.

In spite of large attendance and popularity, SCT still did not have secure funding. In 1995 the Friends of Summer Circle Theatre was formed to help raise funds in partnership with the Department of Theatre. A community-based organization, Friends of Theatre at MSU continues to help raise funds and community awareness. Local businesses have also helped with support and in-kind donations. The East Lansing Rotary has recently announced funding and volunteer assistance for the 2022 season. Friends of Theatre has also initiated an endowment in celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Summer Circle,

Please see SUMMER CIRCLE THEATER, page 10

SUMMER CIRCLE THEATRE, cont. from p. 9

the Diamond Anniversary Fund, with the goal to secure long-term financial stable funding for Summer Circle Theatre. (<https://givingto.msu.edu/gift/>)

Summer Circle Theatre has received several awards. In 1991, as a special tribute, the Dean's Community Council gave the program, represented by Frank Rutledge and Gretel Geist, the Apollo Award for enhancing the mission of the college in the community. In 2012, Summer Circle Theatre received the City of East Lansing Crystal Award for its dedication to enhancing the East Lansing community by creating a healthy and vibrant community as an inspiration to others.

In July 2013, the Department of Theatre and the Friends of Theatre at MSU launched a major fundraising campaign for a permanent home for Summer Circle Theatre. Lead donors, Sam and Mary Austin, were motivational with a proposal to the chair, Dr. George Peters. The space between the Auditorium Building and the Kresge Art Center (former home of SCT from the 1970s) was identified as the perfect location. Other past and current faculty joined to support the project: Gretel Geist Rutledge, former costume faculty and widow of the late Frank Rutledge (co-founders of Summer Circle Theatre); Linda Nelson, retired faculty from the Department of Human Development and Family Studies; Selma Hollander, alumna of the Department of Art, Art History and Design and widow of the late Stanley Hollander, a faculty member in the College of Business; Jane Vieth Suits (and Alan P. Suits), a faculty member in the Department of History. The Friends of Theatre at MSU also raised over \$100,000 toward the \$1.15 million project.

Submitted by Jacqueline Babcock (Excerpted and Edited from information available on the MSU Department of Theatre website.)



An aerial view of the current Summer Circle Theater venue, inaugurated in 2014.



An early production at SCT.



Ribbon cutting in 2014.



East Lansing summer evenings are perfect for a trip out to MSU's Summer Circle Theatre.

2022 Summer Circle Theatre

All of the MAINSTAGE shows are at 8 p.m. except for Sundays, which start at 6:30 p.m.

PIPPIN

by Stephen Schwartz & Roger O. Hirson
June 9-12
(For all ages)

DISTRACTED

by Lisa Loomer
June 16-19
(Profanity and adult themes.
Ages 13 and up.)

COMEDY TITLE TBD

June 23-26
(For all ages.)

WHITE RABBIT, RED RABBIT

by Nassim Soleimanpour
June 17, 18, 24, 25 at 10 p.m.
(Adult themes)

Summer Circle Theatre alums share memories and moments



SUMMER CIRCLE THEATRE

Summer Circle Theatre has a loyal group of alumni. Some of their remembrances and how this impacted their MSU and life experiences appear below.

Jeanie Croope: In 1969, the summer I graduated from high school and before I entered MSU as a theatre major, I remember seeing “Can Can” at Summer Circle’s then performance space in Demonstration Hall. It was my first Summer Circle



experience. The experience it provides students -- the future actors and technicians of tomorrow’s theatre -- is valuable. Summer Circle is something for which the MSU community should be very proud.

Sarah Goeke: I performed all three summers while teaching summer school at MSU during my master’s program. I directed for the first time on that stage and in my final year started a free summer theatre arts program for kids. I still



perform, direct, teach, and work in non-profit and my experience at Summer Circle was a springboard into my multifaceted life as an artist. Nothing compares to the absolute joy of creating community driven and consumed theatre.

Jean and David Wolski: I earned my PhD and David his MFA in Lighting/ Scenic design at MSU. One of the significant aspects of our time at MSU was Summer Circle. Everyone in SCT chipped in to make this unique gem of an experience a success. One evening a storm popped up, delaying the start of the show. The audience stayed



put until the rain passed and then helped the company wipe down the stage and props, to prepare for the performance. I wouldn’t call what we did with Summer Circle “work.” It was pure joy. David and I taught at Eastern Illinois University and we talked about our experience at MSU so much that we had graduates from EIU find their way to MSU – and, Summer Circle. Summer Circle provided an opportunity to grow not only as artists, but as part of a community. Note: Jean Wolski currently serves on the Board of Directors for the MSU Friends of Theatre.

Angie Wendelberger: I performed and costume designed for Summer Circle in my undergrad 1996-2000, I then performed and designed during my graduate career at MSU 2004-2007 and now I am an Artistic Associate for Summer Circle Costume Shop Supervisor. Summer Circle is all about community.



The company of actors, designers and technicians become a community by working so close together and the community around us all comes together to celebrate theatre. Most of my best memories of MSU are linked to Summer Circle.

Larry and Linda Stone: Linda and I were married in 1965 (we met backstage on “Of thee I Sing” in 1963). Frank Rutledge, called us one day in the summer of 1967. He was directing “Once Upon a Mattress” and asked for our help. Linda and I would arrive about 15 minutes before the end of the show and stand in the dark holding our three-month-old son. As the show ended the lead would come backstage, grab our son and go back for the curtain call with him in her arms! I can still hear audience members saying, “It’s a real baby!” No crying at any performance. Just an example of how creative Frank was.

The Stones went on to create a fellowship in honor of the 60th Anniversary of Summer Circle Theatre and Kirk Domer, Chairperson of the Department of Theatre in 2020. They are quoted as saying “Give to what you love, and you will see that return tenfold over your lifetime.”



Jean Lyle Leopard: Performing in Summer Circle was my first paid acting gig. The stage down on the river, the bleachers, the bug spray, and the long hours together make a family out of the company, and that’s one of my lasting memories. In Rep, all the company is focused



on getting a show on its feet, dressed, constructed, painted, lit, etc. I’m so grateful for it.



**1407 Building, 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 - The Russian conflict and inflation continue to dominate headlines, and unfortunately, there is no immediate good news to report on either. It is unlikely that full-scale warfare is going to break out between Russia and the West, but the actions taken by Putin have tensions at high levels. We have already seen significant economic sanctions on Russia from both the US and much of the world - and we will likely see more. In the short-term this could add to inflation pressures, most directly around energy prices. Closer to home, the heightened risk and general negative sentiment could push the Fed to move more cautiously in their upcoming meetings. We also have to consider the fact that financial conditions have tightened considerably in recent months. The Fed knows the power of their words and just by positioning themselves more aggressively we have seen bond yields rise and equity markets reprice to new expectations. If anything, markets may be expecting too much tightening, and later in the year, we could see a dovish pivot which could be good for stocks.

Investment Implications - Looking more closely at markets, we do not believe that the Russia situation will lead to a large drop in stocks from these levels. Investors have already dealt with their share of issues to start the year and sentiment has swung decidedly to the negative side. Somewhat counterintuitively, this can actually be an important indicator of upcoming positive results. No one can say exactly how all of this will play out or what further actions will be taken, but these factors, combined with the likely slowing of rate increases by the Fed, significantly improve markets' ability to find more stable footing throughout the year.

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.



Headquarters
165 Kirts Blvd, Suite 100

East Lansing Office
2911 Eyde Pkwy, Suite 100

(877) EDU-403B
info@straightline.com



SPARTAN SENIOR NEWSLETTER MSU Retirees Association, 1407 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing, MI 48823

Phone (517) 353-7896 • **Email** msura@msu.edu • **Editor** Rick Vogt (517) 242-1324

Website <http://retirees.msu.edu> • **Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/MSURetirees>

Change of address or MSU benefit questions, contact MSU Human Resources at (800) 353-4434