



MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION

SPARTAN SENIOR NEWSLETTER

June — July 2022

VOL. 43, NO. 7

Annual Meeting features Alan Haller, awards

More than 100 people gathered at the University Club on May 2 for the MSURA Annual Meeting and Luncheon.

Rick Vogt, president of MSURA kicked off the program with introductions of special guests.

Vice President Neelam Kher introduced the guest speaker, Alan Haller, MSU's Vice President and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics and Athletic Director. He shared about his life growing up in the Lansing area, plans in the works in the athletic department and numerous fun and heartwarming stories. He also answered some questions.

MSURA is grateful to Haller for addressing the retirees at its annual

meeting, the first one since 2019.

Other highlights included the introduction of two of this year's four scholarship winners (pages 10–11); the announcement of this year's Volunteer of the Year awardee (see story below); the winner of the Big Ten quilt drawing (open to people who donated \$25 or more to the scholarship fund, page 8); a thank you to a journalism student who wrote for the newsletter this year (page 4); the drawing for a door prize donated by MSUFCU (won by Paul Gadola); and the election of board members.

Bruce Smith and William Anderson were reelected at-large board members and Rick Vogt will continue as president.



To hear AD Alan Haller's remarks and the rest of the meeting, please go to <https://tinyurl.com/3w8mrn3b>.



Johanson awarded Volunteer of the Year

Following are the remarks given by Jacquie Babcock, awards chair, at the Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon on May 2, at the University Club when she introduced the 2022 Volunteer of the Year.

It is a great pleasure to announce this year's Volunteer of the Year Award recipient, Anders Johanson.

One thing about being connected to MSURA is the realization of the impact so many people have had on MSU and we can celebrate the fact that those skills translate to a successful and productive retirement, as well. We are still learning from each other and about what MSU has

to offer. The career of today's recipient reminded me how far we have come with technology. I started my career at a time when we were not so advanced in our work settings. I remember thermo-faxes, mimeograph copies and Selectric typewriters with little balls dancing around. Today's world is computers, phones in our pockets and Zoom meetings.

Anders Johanson worked in Applications Programming where he retired in 2005. Applications Programming was housed in the Computer Center and offered pro-

Please see JOHANSON on page 3

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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

SAVE THE DATE

StraightLine Financial Planning Seminar
June 16, 2 p.m. via Zoom

Watch your E-Notice for sign in info.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rick Vogt

We had a great turnout for the Annual Meeting Luncheon, May 2. Thank you for attending. Thank you also to Annual Meeting and Luncheon Committee co-chairs Pam Marcis and Liz Thomas.

Thank you to our guest speaker, Alan Haller, MSU Athletic Director. It was fun, entertaining, interesting and informative. Thank you, AD Haller.

Four \$2,500 MSURA Endowed Student Scholarships were awarded. We have made good progress in fundraising for the MSURA scholarship and are within a few thousand dollars of achieving the goal to endow a third annual \$2,500 scholarship. Thank you to Roger Baldwin for chairing this effort.

Thank you and best wishes to Alaina Raybon, MSU School of Journalism recent grad, for writing for this newsletter this year.

Thank you and congratulations to Bruce Smith and Bill Anderson, who were re-elected as at-large board members.

Congratulations to Anders Johanson, this year's Volunteer of the Year.

We have a couple of outdoor social events planned this summer. I hope you can join us. Planning is in the works for next year's programs, tours and social events. Look for announcements in the August-September newsletter and future E-Notice emails.

Go Green!

WELCOME NEW RETIREES!

Are you a new retiree? Welcome to the MSU Retirees Association! You are already a member. There are no membership fees. 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. They are normally held the second Monday of every month, September to April, at the MSUFCU branch on Mt. Hope and Farm Lane. Consider attending our special events, like a picnic at Newman Lofts (see page 4) or a Lugnuts game (see page 3). If you would like to receive a paper copy of the newsletter, please email msura@msu.edu.

JOHANSON, cont. from page 1

programming and consulting services for MSU departments, which made a big difference for a lot of people around campus. Andy Johanson was the manager. AP did a lot of different types of programming starting with Fortran and Cobol on the mainframe computers, morphing into personal computers using Foxpro, Access and Basic, and finally creating websites.

Anders created a program for data input which had previously been done on keypunch machines. He wrote a program that had all the features of a keypunch machine that helped the data input staff transition to the computer world much easier. Andy's work provided information and training that improved people's lives. One project was mentioned specifically because the application helped saved lives in Iraq and Afghanistan. There was a long list of similar projects that made a difference in people's lives and Andy continues to do that for MSURA.

A quote from a colleague was that she realized how lucky she had been because Andy encouraged his employees to open doors for themselves and achieve some pretty "cool" things. That's how MSURA feels about Anders, too – he does some

pretty "cool" things for us.

Andy and his significant other spend their winters in Florida and a lot of his time in Florida is spent on the golf course. He is also a hockey fan. In spite of his long distance winter home he has played a key role in managing the MSU Retirees website for 16 years and Facebook pages for many years. In addition he has served in the role of MSURA E-Notices manager and he is currently part of the Zoom Team. The Zoom Team has been working diligently to bring monthly MSURA meetings to our membership for more than two years of the pandemic. Andy works mostly behind the scenes ensuring communications with retirees are up to date and timely. His contributions and service to the retirees, Board, and Communications and Technology committees have been a major contribution to reducing costs and improving service to retirees.

This year's selection committee members were Neelam Kher, Cheryl Pell and Rick Vogt.

Congratulations to Anders (Andy) Johanson for being named this year's Michigan State University Retirees Association Volunteer of the Year.

Join the MSU Retirees Association at a Lugnuts Game on Friday, Aug. 19, 7:05 p.m.



Deadline for registration is July 15. Cost is \$39. Includes all you can eat in the Clubhouse. Bar available throughout the game. Fireworks. Group raffle. Space is limited. Find the link to the registration form on this page: retirees.msu.edu.



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Join us for a cook out!

It's a cook out! Enjoy the view of campus and city views from the sixth floor patio of the Newman Lofts.

We will have MSU chefs grilling hot dogs. Lunch is being underwritten by Newman Lofts and MSURA so there is no charge to attend. Enjoy friends and decorate your own cookie with ingredients from MSU Bakers.

**July 18, Noon
Newman Lofts,
200 Albert Ave.
East Lansing**

On a sunny day, bring a hat and sunglasses as the deck has limited cover from the sun. In the event of rain we will be inside the Club Room.

You must register to attend this event so we can plan food and seating.

Space is limited so register by June 30, please!

Email Pam Marcis, pamela.j.marcis@gmail.com with your reservation. Directions to Newman Lofts and the sixth floor space will be sent closer to the event.



Photo from last year's Newman Lofts event

Faculty Emeriti Association Corner

In April Provost Teresa Woodruff asked the Steering Committee of the Faculty Emeriti Association to comment on three proposed changes to policies related to emeritus status at Michigan State University. The first change would require a written recommendation from a unit head to grant emeritus status rather than emeritus status being automatic, the second would establish procedures including a time limit for appealing denial or revocation of emeritus status, and the third change would use the single title emeritum rather than emeritus or emerita.

On the recommendation issue, the form and criteria for awarding were not clear. The Steering Committee was advised that small numbers of individuals had either been denied or had emeritus status revoked for cause, so the proposal did not seem to add operational capability. It recommended the current protocols could remain in place for those with official retirement status and in good standing.

The committee suggested that any time limit on appeals be long enough to accommodate travel and other demands on an individual's schedule as well as possible complexity of issues. The group preferred the current titles but suggested that if a new title were introduced then a person could have a choice of titles.

Faculty Emerita Association Steering Committee Report
<https://facultyemeriti.msu.edu>



Alaina Raybon, left, and Cheryl Pell, right.

Student writer recognized for contributions

Alaina Raybon was honored at the Annual Meeting & Luncheon for her work with the Spartan Senior Newsletter. She is the first MSU student to write for the newsletter. Raybon worked closely with Cheryl Pell to produce feature articles while pursuing her journalism degree. She graduated this spring and is headed to an internship in Costa Rica this summer to mentor young women athletes. Raybon was a team captain of the Women's Gymnastic team, and was awarded Academic All Big-10.

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.

Emma Jane Arnold	4/10/22	Julius Kovacs	2/12/22
Gipsie Dannette Bogle	3/20/22	Helen J. Krebs	3/21/22
Terry Bray	2/15/22	Margaret E. Lynch	3/27/22
Betty Brewer	3/16/22	James L. McKillips	2/19/22
John Brick	3/14/22	James E. Mulvany	4/15/22
Howard Brighton	2/20/22	Janet Louise Munn	2/19/22
Dorit Card	2/1/22	Charles Peebles	2/28/22
Francisco Roberto Cervantes	2/9/22	Charles O. Press	3/8/22
Stanley R. Crouch	3/9/22	Richard James Reid	2/20/22
Calvin Dickerson	2/21/22	John Revitte	4/20/22
Rheta Difranco	2/2/22	Rachelle Schemmel	1/15/22
John Ferris	3/9/22	Richard J. Strong	2/26/22
Maxine S. Ferris	4/18/22	Otto Suchsland	2/18/22
Roy Joseph Gerard	4/17/22	Walter Thompson	3/24/22
Mary Goins	3/25/22	Peggy H. Vuylsteke	3/2/22
Rose Goldner	4/13/22	Carol S. Wainright	2/5/22
Margaret L. Graham	4/5/22	Robert Wasserman	3/2/22
Joseph Hanna	2/9/22	Clifford Welsch	2/3/22
Rita Hodgins	3/29/22	James J. Wiesing	3/19/22
Beverly S. Holland	3/16/22	Joan Witter	2/4/22
John C. Howell	1/31/22	Kay M. Wood	1/21/22
Henry A. Huber	3/8/22		

Join free activities taking place on campus

Looking for some fun things to do on campus this summer? Here are a couple of ideas.

Sunday, June 12

1-1:30 p.m.

Learn more about the Broad Museum's design and the Pritzker Prize-winning architect behind it through this 30-minute tour led by Michelle Word, Director of Education. All ages are welcome. Registration for this free event is required. Questions? Call 517-884-4800. Register here: <https://50807.blackbaudhosting.com/50807/Architecture-Tour>

Thursday, June 16

12:10-12:50 p.m.

Meet at the Beal Botanical Garden Shed to learn about native plant strategies for attracting great insects. Whether it's butterflies or mosquito eaters, join Beal Garden curator Peter Carrington to learn about a host of insects that can make outdoor life more interesting, colorful and safe. Questions? Call 517-884-0901.



MSURA Officers and Board Members

Board members gathered for a photo at the Annual Meeting and Luncheon, their first photo in two years because of the pandemic. Front row: Bruce Smith, Liz Thomas, Neelam Kher, Jacqie Babcock; Pam Marcis, Mike Gardner and Angie Brown. Back row: Rick Vogt, John Forsyth, Anders Johanson, Dave Brower, Roger Baldwin and Bill Anderson. Missing from the photo: Kate Wight and Cheryl Pell.

A peek at the Annual Meeting & Luncheon 2022

More than 100 people attended the Annual Meeting & Luncheon on May 2 at the University Club. There were smiles everywhere as people caught up with friends they hadn't seen in a couple of years. Guest speaker Alan Haller, MSU Athletic Director, spoke to the attendees. Scholarship winners were introduced along with the Volunteer of the Year Award winner Anders Johanson. The winner of the Big Ten quilt was named. A door prize was delivered. A student writer was thanked. Elections were held. It was a good day.



SCHOLARSHIP UPDATES



At the Annual Luncheon and Meeting, Roger Baldwin, former MSURA president and current scholarship fund chair, shared good news with attendees. We are less than \$5,000 away from meeting the goal of \$60,000. The funding will permanently secure funds for another scholarship winner. The drive for the endowed scholarship started in April 2021, and it ends in April 2024.



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 to do so.

Mail

Make checks payable to Michigan State University with MSURA Endowed Student Scholarship written in the memo line.

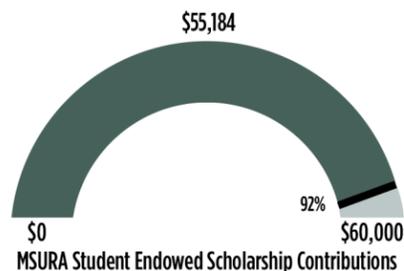
Mail to:

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!



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



Quilt winner name drawn from contributors

Folks who donated at least \$25 to the scholarship fund from April 1, 2021, to March 31, 2022, were automatically entered into a drawing for an amazing Big Ten quilt, crafted by Janet Munn of East Lansing. The winner of the quilt was Susan Cunningham, a physician who worked in Olin Health Center. Congratulations, Susan!

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.



Subscribe to E-Notices to keep in the know

MSURA communicates via email to retirees throughout the year about various topics and events. If you do not receive our E-Notice emails and would like to, please provide us with your email address and we will add you to the recipient list. Email us at msura@msu.edu with your name and email address with the subject line, "Subscribe to MSURA E-Notices."



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Medical bill from a service provider doesn't look right?

Medical providers work with many different insurance companies and sometimes make mistakes. This article is to give you information about what you can do if you do not understand a charge and you are uncertain of the Humana Coverage and Benefits.

What should I do if I receive a medical bill from a provider that doesn't look right to me?

If you receive a bill for services from a doctor's office, hospital or other providers that is for more than what you were expecting, before paying the bill contact the provider's office listed on the invoice to confirm that they are billing the Humana insurance correctly.

What should I do if I disagree with the Humana SmartSummary (Medicare Advantage Plan) or Summary of Benefits (Non-Medicare Plan)?

You may contact Humana and speak to a Customer Care specialist for both the Medicare and non-Medi-

care plans at 1-800-273-2509, Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. EST. At the conclusion of the call Humana will provide you with a customer service number, take note of that number in case you need it later.

What if I have reached out to both the provider and Humana and I still do not agree with the charges?

If you disagree that the service should have been covered, the provider does not think there is an error in billing, and Humana is indicating that based on the billing, it is not a covered benefit, you may contact MSU Human Resources for assistance at SolutionCenter@hr.msu.edu or call 1-517-303-4434 (toll-free at 1-800-353-4434) Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.—5 p.m. EST. Provide MSU Human Resources with the customer service number you were given and they will work with Humana and you to understand the situation and an appropriate resolution.

Message from MSU Human Resources

Ten years. Always free.

Celebrate the MSU Broad's 10th anniversary, iconic architecture, and artwork within! **We're open Thursday-Sunday, 10am-6pm.**

broadmuseum.msu.edu // @msubroad

Meet the 2022 scholarship winners

The MSU Retirees Association gives endowed scholarships every year to deserving incoming or current students. The student needs to be a child or grandchild of an MSU employee or retiree. Read more about this year's exceptional recipients.



JILLIAN DEMPSEY

JILLIAN is from Long Beach, California, and this is her second time receiving the MSURA scholarship. She'll be a senior this fall. Her grandfather, Peter Marabell, was an English professor.

- **Major:** Marketing
- **Plans after graduation:** I plan to continue my education at MSU by dual enrolling in the Master's of Science in Market Research. After completing my masters, I hope to work for a supplier side market research firm and further build my foundational skills in data analytics.
- **What do you like about being a student at MSU?** I love how many smaller communities there are at MSU that make it feel like a home and, of course, I love our school spirit and passion for our sports teams.

Please see JILLIAN on page 11



EMILY ECKHOUT

EMILY is from Rochester Hills and she'll be a senior at MSU this fall. Her grandfather, Roger Haut, was a professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Orthopaedic Surgical Specialties.

- **Major:** Neuroscience and Human Biology with a minor in Spanish
- **Plans after graduation:** I plan to go to medical school.
- **What do you like about being a student at MSU?** I like being an MSU student because it pushes me out of my comfort zone to grow both academically and socially. MSU challenges me to be a better student and human being.
- **What do you enjoy during your free time?** In my free time I enjoy hanging out with my friends. I love going out

Please see EMILY on page 11

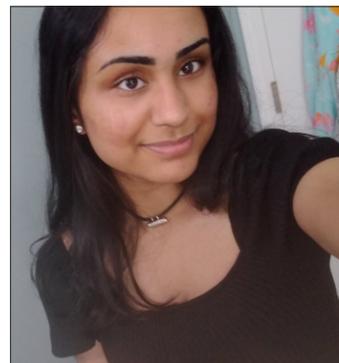


RYAN JORDAN

RYAN is from Haslett and he'll be a freshman at MSU this fall. His grandmother, Delores Williams, was an extension agent for Wexford county, and his mother, JuliAnn Jordan, is a graduate assistant and an adjunct at the English Language Center.

- **Major:** Music Education
- **Plans after graduation:** I plan to teach and inspire the next generation of musicians the same way that my numerous music teachers have inspired me.
- **What do you think you will like about being a student at MSU?** I think I will like the atmosphere provided by a friendly campus of faculty and students, the high grade instruction, and the excellent opportunities.
- **What do you enjoy during your free time?** All of my free time is taken

Please see RYAN on page 11



ADITI MISHRA

ADITI is from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and she'll be a freshman at MSU this fall. Her father, Ashok Mishra, works in Information Technology.

- **Major:** Accounting
- **Plans after graduation:** I plan to become a CPA.
- **What do you think you will like about being a student at MSU?** All the fun events and things MSU has to offer for students.
- **What do you enjoy during your free time?** I like spending time with friends, shopping and listening to music.
- **What else would you like to tell our readers?** I might switch majors and go into supply chain management!

JILLIAN, cont. from page 10

- **What do you enjoy during your free time?** I enjoy dancing, watching movies, trail running, and learning about spirituality.
- **What else would you like to tell our readers?** I'm very grateful to be a Spartan and being back in person this year has really showed me the amazing network at my disposal. I am very excited to learn more about myself and discover more passions while in East Lansing. I am also very eager for more Spartan basketball! Go green!

EMILY, cont. from page 10

to dinners and trying new cuisines (huge foodie). I enjoy playing sports such as basketball, soccer, and volleyball. In my free time I also work as a server at a restaurant and work as an Undergraduate Learning Assistant.

RYAN, cont. from page 10

- up by building relationships and music related activities (jazz band, classical band, marching band, trombone quartets, brass quintets, trombone solos, mixed choirs, men's choirs, barbershop quartets, small groups, solos, and others).
- **What else would you like to tell our readers?** I would like to add that I am very thankful to receive this scholarship and that I will do my absolute best to make sure it doesn't go to waste by being the best student I can be.



Please consider helping MSURA create another endowed scholarship. See how on page 8.



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.

PRESCRIPTIONS IN A SNAP WITH MSU PHARMACY

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**HAPPY
SUMMER!**

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 - Investors remain focused on the macro events that have been driving market moves for most of the year. Inflation remains a concern, and an unexpected decline in Q1 GDP only adds to growth fears for investors. However, we continue to see signs of strong underlying demand, and a position of relative strength on both the part of consumers and companies. These have us less worried about the economy than many others. The GDP decline was entirely driven by trade, as imports rose in the first quarter. Consumer demand and business investment both showed solid growth. Supply constraints continue to be the biggest challenge and source of inflation. These have been exacerbated recently by China’s zero covid policy and the war in Ukraine.

Investment Implications - Recent weeks have provided an important reminder; the best days for markets are generally clustered around the worst days, as we have seen with the many +/- 1.50% moves in the S&P 500 recently. This feels like it is going to be more of a drawn out correction period for markets, as opposed to the larger sudden decline we saw during the initial wave of covid. Time seems to be the only thing that will cure what currently ails the global economy and markets. Until investors feel more comfortable with the outlook, we are likely headed for more of the same, volatility. That being said, patient long-term investors will be rewarded by buying great companies at attractive valuations, setting the stage for the next bull market run in stocks.

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.

From StraightLine Higher Education Services



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>

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