WELCOME TO THE MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL LUNCHEON & 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

May 7, 2024
University Club, Michigan State University
Welcome and thank you for attending the 2024 MSU Retirees Association Annual Meeting and Luncheon. Today we recognize all MSURA members, the MSURA board, committee members and volunteers, past presidents, supporters in underwriting, MSU administration and all of our friends and colleagues in attendance. What an amazing year this has been for the MSU Retirees Association. I want to thank the membership for allowing me to serve as President during this 75th year, but I also recognize and celebrate that this organization is a mosaic of all members and leadership both present and past. As you view this special booklet in recognition of the MSURA, I hope you have a sense of pride and ownership in your MSURA.

Retirement is not a stopping point. It is a new adventure with lots of opportunity. The MSURA board recognizes that not all retirements are the same. What we do have in common is a desire to contribute to the enhancement of all retirees’ experience.

Research has shown that social connection and purpose strengthens us all in retirement. The idea of social connection was severely tested during the pandemic years, but MSURA learned, improvised and endured. Zoom became our communication vehicle. Today we continue to provide a hybrid experience for our members and videotaping for later viewing which fits into everyone’s schedule. Communication is critical to an organization. A dedicated communications team provides a newsletter and more frequent e-notices each month, as well as maintains a Facebook page and webpage. And, we cannot forget our faithful and longstanding underwriters who help fund the newsletter and some programming.

"75 years as an organization is an amazing record and we are still going strong.

BOARD MEMBERS 2023-2024

Above, left to right: Pam Marcis, Chris DeFouw, Bruce Smith, Elizabeth Thomas, Dan Mackey, Angela Brown, Dave Brower, Michael Gardner, Rick Vogt, Roger Baldwin, Jacqueline Babcock, John Forsyth.
PAST PRESIDENTS

Jacqueline Babcock  2023-2024
Rick Vogt  2021-2023
Roger Baldwin  2019-2021
Rick Vogt  2017-2019
Angela Brown  2015-2017
L. Patrick Scheetz  2014-2015
Ron Smith  2012-2014
L. Patrick Scheetz  2010-2012
Gale Arent  2009-2010
Kay Butcher  2007-2009
Don Jost  2005-2007
Jerry Hull  2004-2005
W. Fred Graham  2002-2004
Mary Zehner  2001-2002
W. Fred Graham  2000-2001
Velmer Oakley  1998-2000
Fred Wickert  1997-1998
Donald Polin  1995-1997
Clarence Hansen  1993-1995
Harold Davidson  1991-1993
Robert Angell  1987-1989
Noel (Pat) Ralston  1985-1987
Walker Hill  1983-1985
J. Geoffrey Moore  1981-1983
Katherine Hart  1980-1981
Paul Sweany  1979-1980
Luella Hamilton  1978-1979
Margaret Thorp  1977-1978
Randolph Webster  1976-1977
Leo Haak  1975-1976
Merrill Pierson  1974-1975
James A. Porter  1973-1974
Gerald F. Knapp  1972-1973
Howard McColly  1971-1972
Robert J. Coleman  1970-1971
L. A. Wolfanger  1969-1970
Ira Bull  1968-1969
E. M. Banzet  1967-1968
Donald Stark  1966-1967
Ernest Wheeler  1965-1966
L. H. Searl  1964-1965
C. F. Rhodes  1963-1964
Jack Heppinstall  1962-1963
H. D. Hootman  1961-1962
Robert Linton  1960-1961
Norman Kunkel  1959-1960
Nevels Pearson  1958-1959
V. A. Freeman  1957-1958
E. A. Bessey  1956-1957
L. C. Plant  1955-1956
Leroy S. Foltz  1954-1955
H. H. Musselman  1952-1954
Leroy S. Foltz  1951-1952
Charles W. Chapman  1949-1951

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARDEES

2023  Dave Brower  2007  Gary Stone
2022  Anders Johansen  2006  Richard Reid
2021  Cheryl Pell  2005  W. Fred Graham
      Rick Vogt  2004  Stephanie Barch
      Judy Bukovac
2020  Pam Marcis  2003  Charlie Downs
      Elizabeth Thomas
2019  Angela Brown  2002  Velmer Oakley
2018  Al LeBlanc  2001  Lorraine Demorest
2017  Patrick Scheetz  2000  Rosemary Pavlik
2016  Kay Butcher  1999  Harold Davidson
      Gale Gower
2015  Brenda Spackman  1998  George Dike
      Donald Gregg
2014  J. Gordon Williams  1997  Noel (Pat) Ralston
2013  John Forsyth  1996  Russell Hill
2012  Marlene Wamhoff  1995  Clella Dickinson
2011  Bob Wenner  1994  Walker Hill
      Darlene Wenner
2010  Jerry Hull  1993  John Roetman
2009  Nancy Craig
2008  Frederick W. Kletke  1992  Ruth Jameyson
      Mary B. McCartney

FROM THE PRESIDENT, cont. from the previous page

This 75th year, in particular, MSURA has striven to provide a variety of programming. These have included monthly speakers, tours, day trips, and lunches on a variety of topics. As an organization, we have partnered with other units on campus and in the community. MSURA is also a member of the Big Ten Retirees Association, which meets twice a year virtually and in-person. Other Big Ten retiree associations are struggling with the same questions, but the discussions are always interesting with new ideas and possibilities.

The MSURA board works to maintain a relationship with many units on campus, which has helped us maintain important benefits like health insurance, campus parking permits, car rental benefits, MSU Pharmacy information, Computer Center Help Desk assistance, discounts on campus and office space for MSURA. In return MSU retirees give back to the MSU community with thousands of hours of volunteer work, monetary donations and support of MSU programs and events.

One of the most popular and enduring efforts as an organization is the endowed scholarship program. Members of MSURA have donated funding for three endowed scholarships that are designated for children or grandchildren of MSU employees or retirees and work continues to raise a fourth scholarship. This is a legacy that will endure for many generations of MSU families and students.

75 years as an organization is an amazing record and we are still going strong. What will MSURA look like at 100? That is up to all of us. If a few can give some time, send in ideas, help with funding as able, offer to serve on the board, we will see 100 and beyond. After all, Spartans WILL. Go Green!
1949: MSU Retirees Association was formed. Seven retirees gathered to discuss formation of an organization of retired Michigan State College staff. They met a week later with 16 people. Two days later they decided eligibility would be any man who has retired from MSC and the purpose of the organization would be social and service. Dues were 50 cents a year.

1950: “Retirees Club” was the original name of the organization.

1975: Women were invited to become members of MSURA.

1980: First MSURA newsletter was published.

1980: A Retirees Service Corp was created to use 1) the expertise of retirees constructively and 2) to assist MSU in a time of budget constraints in either volunteer or paid positions.

1981: A dental insurance plan was established for retirees and their spouses.

1981: MSURA was provided office space in the MSU Human Resources building.


1993: “MSURA Spartan Citizen Award” was created. This award is now called “Volunteer of the Year Award.” See list of previous winners in this booklet.

1994: The organization’s name was changed to “MSU Retirees Association.”

1997: Retirees may now enroll their same-sex domestic partner for benefits.

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2004: MSURA website created.

2009: The MSURA Board voted to incorporate (501c5) the Association.

2009: E-Notices (emails) were introduced to keep members informed of events and announcements.

2010: Established a Facebook page for MSU Retirees Association, which currently has 870 followers.

2015: Eliminated newsletter fees and replaced revenue with underwriter funding.

2015: MSURA Endowed Student Scholarship established. First scholarship endowed 2015.

2015: The MSURA/StraightLine Golf Outing Fundraiser effort from 2015 to 2017 raised nearly $92,000 for scholarships.

2016: First MSURA Endowed Student Scholarship of $2,500 awarded.

2019: Recordings of MSURA meeting presentations made available on website for the first time.

2022: Retirees had a presence in the Homecoming Parade and in 2023, we built a float complete with banners, music and retirees.

2024: Since 2014, retirees have donated an estimated $34 million to the University.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS 2016-2023

If you have contributed to the scholarship fund, these are the students you have helped. Thank you to the retirees who have worked hard to set up the scholarship fund and to all of you who have donated.
MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON
CELEBRATING 75 YEARS
University Club Ballroom – May 7, 2024

11:30 a.m. — Registration
12 p.m. — Luncheon

Welcome — Jacqueline Babcock, President
Acknowledgment of Special Guests and Past MSURA Presidents
Moment of Remembrance
Remarks — President Kevin M. Guskiewicz, Ph.D.
Guest Speaker — Michael Garland

MSU Endowed Scholarship Awardees for 2024-2025 — Angela Brown, Chair
Recognition of Student Writer for Spartan Senior Newsletter — Cheryl Pell
Election of Officers — Jacqueline Babcock, President
Presentation of Volunteer of the Year Award — Bill Anderson, Chair
Door Prize Drawings — Pam Marcis

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO
StraightLine — Underwriting the Luncheon
MSUFCU — Door Prize
MSU Culinary Services — Eat at State Meal Tickets
Mary and Warren Faloon — Michigan Mints by Hanover Chocolates
John Forsyth, Bruce Smith, Rick Vogt — Technology
Pam Marcis and Elizabeth Thomas (Co-chairs), Chris DeFouw, Mary Faloon,
Cindy Roach, Jeanette Robertson, Joni Smith, Kate Wight — Luncheon Committee
Sparty — Go Green!
You — MSURA Members and Guests for your Attendance Today

GUEST SPEAKER: MICHAEL GARLAND

Michael Garland, a 23-year assistant coach to Tom Izzo, played a significant role in helping 18 former Spartan players develop what he refers to as a transcendent championship mindset. This mindset played a crucial role in their development as NBA players.

Garland believes that he was successfully able to convey the essence of the transcendent mindset to these players through the building of meaningful relationships. He believes that cultivating meaningful relationships is a crucial element for sustained success, growth and happiness throughout our lives.

As a retiree, he regularly addresses groups, individuals and organizations of all ages on the significance of nurturing meaningful relationships. Garland has also authored a book titled “Agoge,” in which he draws comparative analogies between basketball and life. He shares previously undisclosed stories known only to Spartan basketball players and coaches to vividly illustrate the meaning of his analogies to the reader.

“Agoge” is available here today before and after the luncheon or can be ordered online at maximumexecution.com.
The first newsletter, 1980

The newsletter became smaller in 1995

And then back to its original size

NEWSLETTERS THROUGHOUT THE YEARS
WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION ON THIS MILESTONE ANNIVERSARY! MSU IS THE LEADING GLOBAL PUBLIC RESEARCH UNIVERSITY IT IS TODAY THANKS IN PART TO OUR RETIRED FACULTY AND STAFF MEMBERS AND THEIR YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE. I AM GRATEFUL TO THE ASSOCIATION FOR ITS CONTINUING SERVICE TO RETIRED MEMBERS AND SPOUSES.

SINCERELY,
KEVIN M. GUSKIEWICZ
MSU PRESIDENT

CONGRATULATIONS ON 75 YEARS!

Thank you, MSU Retirees Association, for your dedication to community and providing lifelong belonging and connection between our retirees and the university.

With Gratitude,
Christina K. Brogdon,
Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer

CONGRATULATIONS ON 75 YEARS, MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION!

547 E CIRCLE DR, EAST LANSING, MI

MSU Department of Theatre

Congratulations on 75 Years, MSU Retirees Association!

HAPPY 75TH ANNIVERSARY!!

What a great achievement for MSURA! Congratulations to all the members and volunteers for keeping the connections with MSU and one another strong and vibrant!
The longevity of this group is a testament to the wonderful employees of Michigan State University over the years. We are honored to support such a fine organization, your membership and mission.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THEATRE.MSU.EDU