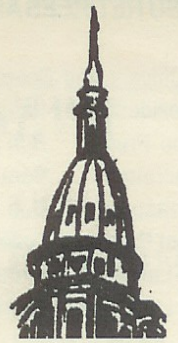


MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

SPARTAN SENIOR

A newsletter for Michigan State University Retirees



LANSING AREA LOCAL EDITION Nov/Dec 2011



**HAVE YOU RECYCLED
AT MSU LATELY?**



For those of us who have been recycling for many years, the current MSU recycling facility feels like the answer to a prayer. For a very long time the name of the game has been to sort your recyclables into several different kinds of paper, different colors of glass if the facility would even take colored glass, and very many different kinds of plastic. Life is far simpler at the university's new drop off facility at Green Way off of Farm Lane, across from the MSU Surplus Store and Recycling Center. You will no longer have to turn your basement or your garage into a multi-container sorting bin.

At the MSU drop off center, the only plastics that you will have to separate are your cloudy milk jugs and your plastic bags. Every other kind of plastic goes into one big bin. You don't need to read the little numbers in the triangle on the bottom of your plastic container. All they ask is that your plastic be clean. In the month that the university added plastics number 3 through 7 to those that it already accepted, the amount of plastic recycled increased almost four-fold. All this became possible with the development of machines that can automate the sorting process after mixed plastic is turned in by the public.

And the MSU drop off facility is very much open to the public, 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. The focus is on serving individual families that wish to recycle, but not commercial or industrial operations. All the university asks is that users do the small amount of sorting that is required, and that recycled materials be clean and free from food residue. Signs are posted at the entrance and on the various bins to guide the user. Materials currently being accepted are paper, books, newspaper, cardboard, boxboard, plastic, #2 milk jugs, metal cans and foil, and all colors of glass. A number of things are being accepted now that would have been turned away a few years ago. Learn more on the web site recycle.msu.edu, e-mail your questions to recycle@msu.edu, or call (517) 355-1723. Tours can be arranged for minimum of 6 people if you call in advance to schedule.

Ruth Daoust, manager of the Surplus Store and Recycling Center, says that the university has developed a following of committed recyclers who will come from surprisingly far away in order to take advantage of the drop off center's simpler sorting rules and the greater amount of materials that can be recycled there. One user at the drop off center on a Sunday afternoon said "This place is state of the art." (Al LeBlanc)

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

BY L. PATRICK SCHEETZ

Brent Bowditch Leaving; Tony Kleibecker Appointed Interim

Brent Bowditch has decided to return to Purdue University where he previously worked in human resources. He and his wife want to be nearer her parents who could use help in their elder years.

Brent has been an excellent friend to MSU retirees throughout his tenure on staff at MSU. He joined MSU in 2008 as Assistant Vice President of Human Resources. When I first became President of the MSU Retirees Association, he offered to meet with me and other leaders of this organization as frequently as we wished; he was an ally of ours from the very beginning.

As Brenda Spackman, a member of the MSURA Board noted about his leaving, "I am so sorry to see him leave. He really had a heart for us retirees." It would be difficult to find higher praise for any University administrator.



Former MSURA Presidents Gale Arent and Kay Butcher with current MSURA President Patrick Scheetz presenting a plaque to Brent Bowditch for his outstanding service to MSU retirees since 2008.

We have enjoyed working with Brent, and we thank him for all he has accomplished for MSU retirees. He paid attention to our needs, and he responded with caring and consideration. It is hard to see him leaving MSU, but as he said on several occasions, "We have forged a better alliance." For all his efforts, we thank him and want him to know that there will be many happy memories of working with him.

Tony Kleibecker will serve as Interim Vice President for Human Resources. He feels that it is extremely important that we keep retirees informed as to current issues, including health care.

Tony came to MSU as a student in 1972. In 1975 he joined the MSU Police Department where he served in a variety of assignments. In 2000 he retired from MSU and accepted the Chief of Police position for the City of Muskegon. In 2004 Tony was appointed as the first Director of Public Safety for the city with responsibilities for 3 city departments; police, fire and building inspections. In early September Tony returned to the MSU Police Department for a short-lived assignment, and after 3 weeks he was appointed by Fred Poston to his current position.

Tony holds a B.S. in Criminal Justice; a Master of Public Administration and has completed coursework towards a doctorate in Sociology. He currently resides in Okemos with his family.



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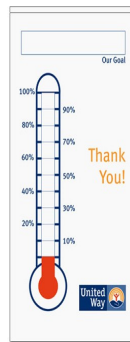
Does your memory work while you sleep?

Once again, Mom was probably on the right track. "You have to get plenty of sleep to do well in school," she said, putting you in bed before the streetlights came on. Remember?

According to an MSU study, people may be learning while they're sleeping--a form of memory that is not well understood. The findings were published in the Journal of Experimental Psychology by Kimberly Fenn, assistant professor, and Zach Hambrick, associate professor, both in the Psychology Department, College of Social Science. "We speculate that we may be investigating a separate form of memory, distinct from traditional memory systems," said Dr. Fenn, the lead researcher. "There is substantial evidence that during sleep, your brain is processing information without your awareness and this ability may contribute to memory in a waking state."

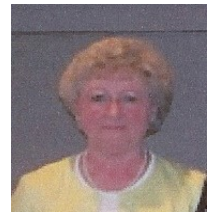
Their study, with more than 250 subjects, suggests people derive vastly different effects from this "sleep memory" ability, with some memory improving dramatically and others not at all. "You and I could go to bed at the same time and get the same amount of sleep," Fenn said, "but while your memory may increase substantially, there may be no change in mine." She added that most people in the study showed improvement. "This is the first step to investigate whether or not this potential new memory construct is related to outcomes such as classroom learning," she said. Somewhere, Mom is nodding in unsurprised agreement. **(Stan Hecker)**

Off to A Good Start



The MSU Community Charitable Campaign for 2011-12 is off to a great start! At least 30% of this year's goal has been collected in the first half of October.

I would like to Thank all of the volunteers who helped with the MSUCCC mailings. They are: Stephanie Barch, Joan Gilliland, Jim & Brenda Spackman, Pat Scheetz, Jerry & Sue Hull, Nancy Craig, Sara Stid, Ron & Joan Smith, Rebecca Baugham, Martha Davidson, Sue Byers, Cherie Blonde, Scott & Nina McMullen, Liz Thomas, Gale Gower, and Bob & Darlene Wenner. **(Darlene Wenner)**



Upcoming Meetings

Monday, Dec 12, 2011 – Hockey Coach Tom Anastos. 2:00PM Club Level of Munn Arena. Best entrance at the Club Level door on the south side of the building facing the IM Field. There will be no refreshments this time. There are both stairs and an elevator to get to this level.

January 2012 Speaker and Location TBA.

Monday, February 6, 2012 -- Dr. Charles Ballard, Professor of Economics, will speak of the state of the Michigan Economy at 2:0 PM at the MSU Credit Union. Refreshments at 1:30PM.

**MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION
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