



Michigan State University Community Club

October 2024 Newsletter



A Message from Your President:

It was great to see so many friends and new faces at the Fall Welcome Reception! Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to help organize this event. We had a great turnout with 65 members and guests attending.

We were able to provide \$3,000 scholarships to eight students this year, and two of our scholarship recipients were present at the reception to meet us. According to the MSU Office of Financial Aid, the sample Freshman budget for a Michigan resident student is \$16,526 for tuition and fees, plus \$12,564 for food and housing. Of course, students also need to buy books, supplies, etc. Wouldn't it be great if we could increase the amount of each scholarship we award or increase the number of scholarships we are able to give each year! Information on this year's recipients is in the "MSUCC Endowed Scholarship Funds" article on page five of this newsletter. Also included is information on how you can donate to our scholarship endowment funds.

I hope to see you at the annual October "Tailgate" membership meeting on October 18!

Nancy Craig
MSUCC President



Mark your calendar:

Friday, October 18 - Annual Tailgate with MSU Sports Theme
Program by Todd Edwards, Executive Director
Student Athlete Support Services at the Smith Center on campus
1:00 - 3:00 PM, MSU Federal Credit Union Community Room
Farm Lane and Mt. Hope Road

Friday, November 15 - General Membership Meeting
Program by Charles Ballard, Ph.D.
"The Election is Over. Now What?"
1:00 - 3:00 PM, MSU Federal Credit Union Community Room
Farm Lane and Mt. Hope Road



We recently lost two members of our MSUCC family. Sympathy cards have been sent from the Club, but you may wish to send your own card or note of condolence.

Rose Ann Swarz, former long-time active member of MSUCC, passed away on August 11. Cards and notes of sympathy may be sent to the family c/o Gorsline-Runciman Funeral Home, 1730 East Grand River, East Lansing 48823.

Dick Hill, husband of member Alice Hill, passed away on September 5. His life will be celebrated on Saturday, October 26. Alice's address is 7987 Ashbrook Drive, Haslett 48840-1037

Fall Welcome Reception

September 20, 2024

2024-2025 MSUCC President Nancy Craig presided over the reception program. Our annual Fall Welcome Reception was held at the University Club.

Nearly 60 members and guests attended, including two of our 2024-2025 endowed scholarship recipients, who were introduced by Jacqueline Holecek, Co-Chair of the Endowed Scholarship Committee.

Members enjoyed light refreshments and the time to reconnect with long-time friends, meet guests and new members, and visit with the representatives of our interest groups at the sign-up tables.

Sincere appreciation goes to all the Board members who assisted Nancy in the planning and execution of the reception, and to the catering staff at the University Club, who keep such detailed records of our past events.

We look forward to another successful year of programs, activities, and events!





Members and guests visiting and enjoying light refreshments of fruit, cookies, coffee, and tea, after taking time to wander past the interest group tables and sign up for the various groups in which they wish to participate. Representatives of all 16 of the MSUCC interest groups were on hand to answer questions and encourage participation in their activities.



Kay Hillberg, Chair for the Afternoon Bridge Interest Group, at a sign-up table.



Dottie West, Membership Chair, relaxing before the reception.



Endowed Scholarship recipients Joseph Tietz (whose major is Games and Interactive Media) and Sophie Kelly (who has majors in both Neuroscience and Psychology) with Scholarship Committee Co-Chair Jacqueline Holecek.



Candy Boldrey, MSUCC Greeter, at the name tag table.



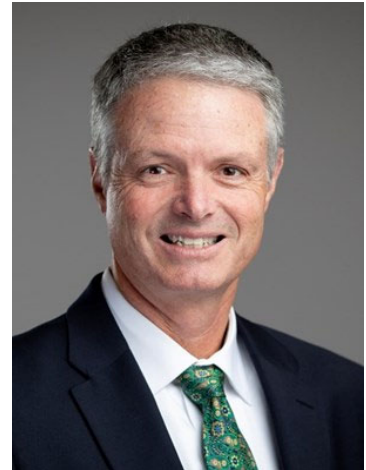
Assistant Treasurer Helen LeBlanc, accepting membership dues.



Parliamentarian Cele Friestater and Chair of Interest Groups Jacquie Foss, longtime MSUCC friends.

A Preview of the October 18 Tailgate Speaker

Todd Edwards is in his 36th year overall in intercollegiate athletics, his 21st year at MSU, and his 8th year as the Executive Director of Student-Athlete Support Services (SASS). This appointment followed a long stint serving as Director of Academic Services for MSU Student-Athletes as well as Head Academic Coordinator for the Spartan football program. He oversees academic services for MSU's 23 varsity sport programs, which includes detailed monitoring of degree progress and eligibility. The SASS unit also coordinates career services and community outreach for all Spartan student-athletes.



This past academic year saw ALL TEAMS achieving a 3.0 semester GPA for the first time ever. Five programs posted their highest cumulative GPA in program history (field hockey, football, men's soccer, rowing and women's cross country). Football, ice hockey, men's soccer and rowing also posted their highest semester GPA in program history. This success is due to the efforts of the student athletes, of course, but also to the academic advisors and other SASS people who work with MSU's student athletes daily.



MEMBERSHIP

A Message from the MSUCC Registrar

Greetings, Members,
As Registrar for the MSU Community Club, one of my tasks is to compile the directory of our membership, which includes the names and contact information for all of our members. Proofreading 280+ entries is a challenge even for this retired school teacher!

I'm asking for your help. Please, take a look at YOUR entry from last year's directory (2023-2024 with a green cover). If any of the information should be changed or corrected, your assignment is to send me an email (jpbrock@mac.com) with "MSUCC Directory Change" in the subject line. If calling or texting works better for you, I can be reached at (517) 282-7873. Please contact me before October 18, when the directory will go to the printer.

If your entry is just the way you want it, you have no homework!

Thank you so much!
Janet Brock

MSUCC Endowed Scholarship Funds

MSUCCC has three endowed scholarships - the general endowment fund (established in 1999 and first awarded for 2004-2005), the Irene Arens Endowment Fund (first awarded for 2006-2007), and the Karen L. Harsh Endowment Fund (first awarded for 2015-2016). The Arens and Harsh funds have sufficient interest income to gift one scholarship a year. The Club's general endowment funded six scholarships this year.

The Scholarship Committee (Co-Chairs Jackie Holecek and Joanne Schutz, and committee members Mary Ann Dunn, Karen Harsh, and Grace Nicodemus) worked with the MSU Financial Aid Office to find qualified and deserving students for the 2024-2025 academic year scholarships. The following students will each receive a \$3,000 award:

Sophie Kelly
Michael Kleinbriel
Joseph Tietz

Kera Volkmer
Hazel von Maur

Lindsay Yucha
Khatera Shamszai (Arens)
Katlyn Cunningham (Harsh)

Majors: Neuroscience and Psychology
Major: Games & Interactive Media
Major: Games & Interactive Media, specializing
in people on the autism spectrum
Major: Pediatric Nursing
Majors: Nursing and Spanish with a minor in
Environmental & Sustainability Studies
Major: Media & Information
Major: Nursing
Major: Veterinary Nursing

To donate to any of our MSUCC Endowed Scholarship Funds, call (800) 232-4678 or (517) 884-1000 and explain which of the endowment funds you wish to support. Have your credit card number handy to make your donation.

The Scholarship Committee needs more members to serve on the committee and help with the selection process. Theirs is an important job, and they are an enjoyable group to work with. Please contact one of the Co-Chairs below if you have questions or might be interested in supporting your Club in this way.

Jackie Holecek
Joanne Schutz

jdholecek@hotmail.com
jajoschutz@gamil.com

(517) 290-4322
(517) 285-3969



Interest Group Activities for October



Afternoon Bridge - Chair Kay Hillberg

hillbergk@hotmail.com 881-4298

We play at 1:00 PM on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at Schuler's in Meridian Mall. Some of us have lunch together at 12:15 before we play. Our next play dates are October 14 and 28.



I will send an eMail reminder before each play date. If you are not on our list but would like to play, we would love to have you join us. Please contact me.
Kay

Creative Writers - Co-Chairs Lyn Farquhar

farquha1@msu.edu 349-9569

Kathy Esselman

esselmank@comcast.net 974-1834

We met at the East Lansing Public Library on October 2. Kathy Esselman had purchased and provided lunch for the whole group from Grand Traverse Pie Company, with coffee, tea and water included. Attending the meeting were Kate O'Neill, Kathy Esselman, Dee Williams, Jill Campbell, Linda Nuttal, Jacquie Foss, Cele Friestater, Jean Christensen, Jo Brown, Marty Liphard, Lyn Farquhar and a guest, Cheryl Smith. The group will next meet on November 6th at ELPH starting at 12:30. However, beginning in January, the time of the meetings will change to 1:00 to 2:30.



Two readers presented, Kathy Esselman and Kate O'Neill. Kathy's reading was titled: "Reverse Racial Stereotyping on the Detroit Pistons." Kathy's professional work is on popular culture, including sports. The reading provided the history of the NBA in which mainly black players were invariably directed by white coaches. The group was impressed with the insightful work which included comparisons of players to the mythic characters in southern folklore. The discussion highlighted the recent changes that have taken place, mostly in the NCAA, and hopes for more equality in the future.

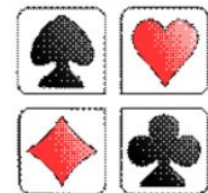
Kate's reading was entitled "Starting Out at the LSJ." She related her history of becoming a theater critic for the Lansing State Journal. Originally, Kate's reviews were done on a Selectric typewriter. Over time she was introduced to the computer, although in those early days she had to go to the Newsroom to type her pieces on the terminals there. Later she purchased a computer and a printer which at the time cost \$2,000. The group was charmed by the piece which showed both the stages in written journalism that paralleled the times in Kate's life as a young married woman, when she adopted her children, launched her career and her eventual success.

Lyn

Dinner & Bridge - Chair Joy Jacobs

jacobsj@msu.edu 675-5590

We meet on the first Friday of the month (September through June, except January) at 5:30 PM in the University Club "Mingle" restaurant for dinner, then we play bridge in a private room until about 10 PM. Our next get-together will be October 4.



This group was started over 50 years ago by MSUCC members and their husbands, back when the men all wore suits and ties and the ladies dressed for dinner at the U Club. We have evolved to include many MSUCC single members who partner with other members, and our "dress code" is much more relaxed. If you are interested in joining us, please email me.

jj

Evening Novel Discussion - Chair Janet Brock jbrock@mac.com 292-7873

Welcome to the Evening Novel Discussion Group. Join us this year for friendly, lively, and provocative opportunities to delve into the world of good literature. This group reads novels that are available in paperback in book stores, through the library, online, and as audio recordings. Meetings are on the second Wednesday of the month, September through June. We begin socializing at 7:30 PM, followed by book discussion promptly at 8:00 PM. We usually adjourn by 9:30 PM.



We started a hybrid approach to meetings last year and plan to continue. Fall and Spring meetings are in members' homes, with a Zoom link available to members who want to attend the live meetings online. During Winter months, we will switch to an all-Zoom format. A link will be sent prior to those meetings via email.

Our organizational meeting will be Wednesday, October 9. There is no book to read for this meeting, but our focus is selecting books, discussion leaders, and homes for our in-person meetings. By mid-September, members will receive a list of 20 books that have been suggested by others in the group. Members who recommended the titles may give a short pitch for each book at the meeting. A mail-in ballot will be provided to members who are unable to attend. Please contact me if you have questions.

Janet

Family Links - Co-Chairs - Sandy Gebber sanrosgeb@gmail.com 351-9318
Laurie Koochesfahani koochesf@comcast.net 349-3135

The Family Links Genealogy Interest Group will meet Tuesday, October 15, to share the research we have done over the summer, and also will decide what to plan for future meetings.

We will meet at the East Lansing Public Library, as usual, but the meeting will be from 4:00-5:00.
Sandy and Laurie



Advanced German Conversation - Chair Helen LeBlanc helen_48895@yahoo.com 655-6454

We meet at 2:00 PM on the first and third Thursdays of the month. The meeting on the first Thursday is by Zoom, because our membership ranges from California to southern France. On the third Thursday we meet in member's homes and share wonderful desserts, or we meet in a coffeehouse or restaurant. We converse only in German, and discuss topics from politics to current movies. Please contact me if you are interested.



Helen

International - Chair Jean Friend friend.jean@att.net 285-5469

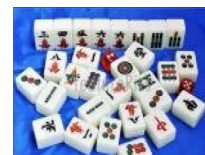
We will meet at 1 PM on October 16 at the East Lansing Library. Our topic will be "MSU Study Abroad: How it changed to meet the times".

You may have grandchildren who will study abroad; learn how your student is kept safe and the importance of studying abroad in the world economy.
Jean



Mah Jong - Contacts -Kathy Jacobs khjacobs@hotmail.com 332-2737

If you are interested in learning Mah Jong, another class will be started soon. Classes meet from 1 to 3 PM on four consecutive weeks at The Arty Party Studio, 2122 Hamilton Road, Okemos. Please contact our instructor, Vivian Dwyer, at paintviv@comcast.net or 517-582-1280 with questions. All materials are provided - cost \$25.



Kathy

Morning Eclectic Readers - Chair Babs Krause

krauseb02@comcast.net 337-2713

We meet the fourth Friday of the month at 10 AM. If you'd like to join us, please get in touch with me.

Babs



Out-to-Lunch Bunch - Chair Kathy Esselman

esselmank@comcast.net 974-1834

Babs Krause will host at P.F. Chang's Asian and Chinese Restaurant on Friday, October 11, 2024, at 11:30 a.m. The restaurant is located at 2425 Lake Lansing Road at the entrance to Eastwood Mall. There is adequate parking. Guests can be dropped off at the front door.

If you would like to come, please call Babs at 517-337-2713 or email her at krauseb02@comcast.net. If you are interested in joining the Out-to-Lunch Bunch, please call or email me.

Kathy



Quilters - Chair Martha Schwab

mmschwab17@gmail.com 676-7011

The MSU Spartan Quilters had their first meeting of the academic year on Wednesday, Oct. 2. At this meeting we did Show & Tell from the summer months and introduced our project for this year – a Civil War quilt. We will intersperse other small projects during the year.

We welcome all newcomers whether you are a beginner quilter or an experienced one. We enjoy friendship, support, and the expanding of our skills in quilting. Please join us for fun, inspiration, and learning.

Martha



Sequence - Chair Grace Nicodemus

revgrace@icloud.com 831-747-4222

Come join in the fun and excitement of a game of Sequence. You can be a winner even if you have never played before. It is so simple and easy. We can handle up to 16 players at a time. We meet at Coral Gables on the third Wednesday of each month. We have lunch at 11:30 AM and start playing at 12:30 PM. We next meet on October 16th. Hope to see you there! Please RSVP to me so that we can plan the number of players.

Grace



Tennis - Chair Phylis Floyd

floyd@msu.edu 980-2526

Shelly Kindig, the tennis pro at Court One North, has assumed direction of our drills on Mondays and Fridays at 9:00 AM.

We have changed location to Court One North, 1609 Lake Lansing Rd., Lansing. Telephone: 517 372 9531. Cost is \$9 for members of Court One, or \$10 for non-members.

Please call Court One the day before to assure sufficient numbers. Contact me if you're interested in joining!

Phylis



Visual Arts - Chairs Gwendolyn Taylor

gmtaylor22@gmail.com 285-6894

Carmen Dykema

carmendykema@gmail.com 230-3046

This group actively shares a common interest in the visual arts. Through a series of "field trip" experiences to select art spaces (museums, galleries, installations, artist talks, and more), this interest group offers members an opportunity to expand their



ability to “see” art from multiple perspectives. The experiences both challenge and encourage us to reframe how we think about art. Just what have we been missing as we view an artwork? How does the world of art look when we intentionally widen our perception and context of an artist’s rendering?

If you are interested in shared learning, exploration, and inspiring conversation about the endless dimensions of the visual arts, this is a perfect opportunity to join fellow enthusiasts. Together, let’s explore the depth and intention of the artist’s creativity. Let’s broaden our understanding of how or why a particular exhibit is curated, or even expand our understanding of Digital Art.

If your curiosity is peaked, join us in going behind the scenes to experience new ways of enjoying the world of Visual Arts.
Gwen and Carmen

Women’s Night Out - Chair Jean Zwier

zwierjlmr@gmail.com 898-6254

We didn’t go to Altu’s Ethiopian Cuisine in September, so we are going this month. The date will be Thursday, October 17, at 6 PM.

I’ve sent an email message to all those on last year’s list and to new members who signed up at the Fall Reception.
Jean



Women’s Sports Supporters - Chair Joy Jacobs

jacobsj@msu.edu 675-5590

This group has never met in-person, but we connect through our love for MSUCC and MSU women’s sports.

Athletics Department emails about ticket availability and cost, announcements about the teams, and other information are forwarded to group members.

In August, the Fall sports schedules were sent to the list of last year’s WSS group and the women’s basketball schedule will be sent soon. If you’d like to be on our list, let me know, and I will send you the same information.
jj



From the MSUCC Newsletter Editor:

If you have questions, concerns, or suggestions for newsletter articles, please email me at jacobsj@msu.edu

Have a great October!

jj