



VOL 5, ISSUE 2

FALL 2019

NEWSLETTER OF THE MSU ALUMNI CLUB OF BENZIE COUNTY – BOX 46, FRANKFORT, MI 49635

## EDITOR'S LETTER

Hello, Everyone. It appears fall has found us, and with the cool temperatures and falling leaves, a bit more quiet life. I do remember vividly the trips across campus to class in the chilled morning air with the turning leaves gleaming in the morning sun, and the comfort of an extra blanket on the dorm bed. Some things don't change. Of course, there is a sense of renewal on campus, though, for despite all of the challenges the University is facing, there are still eager students studying to make the world better, with faculty and staff who provide guidance and leadership. I call that hope.

And, the Board and Committee Chairs of the Benzie Spartans are looking for your ideas for renewal and guidance. Our Board President, Cheerleader, and Enthusiasm Producer Paul Sadows has had to step down from the Board for Health reasons. We, of course, are thrilled Paul is doing well and enjoying life, but he has left a void greater than an empty seat. Paul did so much for the Board during his Presidency – more than chairing meetings and sending out agendas. He has made it fun for Board members and reminded us constantly of why we all are involved; that is, to help fund students' dreams for the future. You will see Paul at events, I am sure. Yet, his many contributions will be missed. His position has not been filled.

(See page 2)

## **ANNUAL MICHIGAN STATE – MICHIGAN FOOTBALL GAME WATCH**

**THE ANNUAL MICHIGAN STATE – MICHIGAN FOOTBALL GAME WILL AGAIN BE HELD AT THE GARDEN THEATER ON SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16 AT NOON. DOORS WILL OPEN AT 11:00 A.M. THE GAME IS FREE, DONATIONS RECOMMENDED. THOSE UNDER 16 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY ADULT. SEE MORE INFORMATION INSIDE.**



(Con't from page 1)

As you may have noted, but perhaps politely not said aloud, our Board is aging. And I say that with the utmost respect and admiration. This means that current members will slowly be leaving the Board as their terms end. There are not Benzie Spartans beating down the door to join the Board, either. This leaves us (you, too) with decisions to be made as to how the Benzie Spartans move forward. NOTE: the endowment will continue, no matter what, and the earnings will continue to fund local scholarships as they have been. But what we are not sure of is how we will continue to have events without people willing to help, and how we will find people willing to serve on the Board or volunteer for events. With family, and work, and life in general, finding time for 'one more thing' is difficult.

Nothing needs to be decided today. But we are looking for your ideas, and will be seeking them in a more formal setting as spring comes around. Meanwhile, many of the Board members are headed south for the winter, but I will be around (although I'm no longer on the Board, I'm keeping my hand in as Communication Chair). Let me know if you want to have coffee and discuss your ideas.

In the meantime, please read about upcoming events, especially the Annual Michigan State – Michigan Football Watch and the Day of Giving.

Go Green,  
Maggie VanHaften  
Communications Chair

## GIVE GREEN DAY

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2019** – put that date on your calendar, set up a reminder on your phone or computer, or put a sticky note on your bathroom mirror. That is **Give Green Day**, one day when Spartans world-wide give back to MSU.

For the Benzie Spartans, it is a 24-hour period to focus on giving to the Benzie Spartan Endowment. Our goal for that day is \$2,500 in donations for our endowment fund. If we reach it, our endowment will get an as yet undetermined additional contribution from MSU.

Contributions can be made three ways:

- On-line to our Endowment Link – <http://giving.to.msu.edu/gift/?sid=3451>  
This link will take you directly to the Benzie Spartan Endowment page. To be included in our Give Green goal, these contributions must be made between 12:00 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. December 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- By phone at (517) 355-7759 - Specify that your donation goes to the MSU Alumni Club of Benzie County Spartan Endowment – #AF010979
- By mail, using the attached form. Checks not accompanied by the form will not be included in Give Green Day totals.

Most of you know a current or past scholarship recipient, and therefore know how much a scholarship can help them navigate college expenses - you really are contributing to the future. Give Green is a great way to do it. We hope you will join us on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## TAX-WISE CHARITABLE GIVING FROM YOUR IRA

If you are 70.5 years or older and have a traditional IRA (Individual Retirement Account), you will have noted that you must take a Required Minimum Distribution each year. Since your original contributions to your IRA were not taxed when you added the money into it, it is taxed when you receive your RMD. One way to avoid that tax is to have your RMD donated directly to a qualifying charity, like the Benzie Spartan Endowment. If it is transferred to your own bank account, it will probably be taxed. You can transfer up to \$100,000 annually and avoid added taxes, and help provide scholarships to local students. We are not financial advisors, so check with your own financial advisor or contact the MSU Office of Gift Planning – 800-232-4678 – for additional information.

## MICHIGAN STATE – MICHIGAN FOOTBALL GAME WATCH

We will once again hold the popular Michigan State – Michigan Football Game Watch at the Garden Theater in Frankfort **at noon on Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>**. The doors will open at 11:00 a.m. The event is free but donations are appreciated since this is a fund-raising event for our scholarship endowment. All are welcome, especially our Wolverine friends. Those under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Yes, it hasn't been the greatest start for our Guys in Green, but Spartans are not fair-weather fans and we have been known to bring about an upset. Please don't let some losses keep you away.

As in years past, there will be beer from Stormcloud and wine for sale, as well as pizza from Papano's . The concession stand will be open There will be a game board and 50/50 raffle.

Which team will have the most fans? Come out and see, and enjoy an afternoon of friendly rivalry with great people – all for a good cause

## SPECIAL APPRECIATION – PAUL SADOWS

As noted in the Editor's Letter on page one, our beloved President, Paul Sadows, has had to step down from the Board for health reasons. Paul brought enthusiasm, excitement, and a 'we can do anything' perspective to the Board, and the Club. What a great leader through many changes on the Board. He is the embodiment of a Spartan through and through, whether chairing a meeting, participating in a fund-raising event, or working during the Global Day of Service (below). We will miss his

leadership. We suspect you will see Paul and Judi at future events; take a minute and thank him.



## **BEACH BASH FOLLOW-UP**

About 45 Spartans had a great time at our Annual Beach Bash on August 8. The food was great and the company even better. Blissfully, the weather cooperated. We had great donations for the silent and live auctions and raised about \$1500. Thanks to Paul and Judi Sadows for donating the meat and condiments. Special thanks to the MSU Federal Credit Union for once again underwriting the event.

## **STUDENT UPDATES**

Peyton Burch (2019 Blewett Scholarship – “I got a job working at the plant science greenhouses a month ago. I mainly just water the experiment plants and help graduate students with their projects. I enjoy it so far. My classes are going well, I am really enjoying them.”

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- MSU v Michigan Football Game Watch (in case you missed the announcements) – at noon on Saturday, November 16, Garden Theater in Frankfort. Doors open at 11:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, December 3, 2019 – MSU Day of Giving – see article for additional information
- MSU Global Day of Service – April 18, 2020 – details to be announced.

## **CONTACT US**

**Our website - <http://msubenziealumni.org/>**

**On Facebook – “Like” Benzie Spartans**

**E-mail - [benziemsuac@msubenziealumni.org](mailto:benziemsuac@msubenziealumni.org)**

**Mail – Benzie Spartans, P.O. Box 46, Frankfort, MI 49635**

## **BENZIE SPARTANS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT

Vacant

VICE PRESIDENT

Barbara Johnson (M.A. '68)

TREASURER

Flint Watt (B.S. '68, M.B.A WMU '75)

SECRETARY

Joyce Kirshner (B.A. '64, M.A. '90)

### MEMBERS AT LARGE

Joanne Herban Snow (Saginaw Business School '63)

Dr. Susan Kirkpatrick (B.S '70, M.A. '75. PhD '84

Elaine Vanderberg (B.A. '52)

Bruce Wilde (B.S. '68, MS '71)

John Witt (B.S. '57, PhD '61 University of Illinois)

### COMMITTEES

ENDOWMENT CHAIR

Dr. Alan Flory (B.A. '73, D.V.M. Minn.)

COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR

Maggie VanHaften (B.A. '73, M.A. '77)

## NOTES

### E-MAIL ADDRESSES:

It saves us money if we can send you newsletters and updates through e-mail, so if you received this copy of the "Benzie Spartan" by mail and are willing to give us your e-mail address, you can send it to: [benziemsuac@msubenziealumni.org](mailto:benziemsuac@msubenziealumni.org).

### DO YOU KNOW...

A student interested in going to MSU who might want to talk to a current student or learn about options? Let us know. We will be happy to connect them with the appropriate people.





### My/Our Information

Please update and confirm your contact information

Name _____		Spouse Name _____
Address _____		
City/State/Zip _____		
Home Phone _____	Mobile Phone _____	Email _____

### I/We Would Like to Support MSU With a Gift of:

\$100 Spartan Loyal    \$500 Spartan Proud    \$1000 Spartan Strong    Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### My/Our Gift Supports:\*

MSU Alumni Club of Benzie County Endowment Fund (AF010979) _____	Amount \$ _____
Other _____	Amount \$ _____
Other _____	Amount \$ _____
Other _____	Amount \$ _____

\*If no preference is chosen, your gift will be split equally between the designations above.

### Easy Ways to Give

<b>ONLINE</b>	Make a one-time or recurring gift* online at <a href="http://givingto.msu.edu/3451">givingto.msu.edu/3451</a>
<b>CREDIT CARD</b>	<p>Choose your credit card option:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Monthly gift:</b> I/We authorize Michigan State University to charge my credit card in the amount of \$ _____ per month on the 15th of every month*</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>One-time gift:</b> This is a one-time gift of \$ _____</p> <p>Card# _____ / Exp. Date (mm/yy) _____</p> <p>Print Name on card _____</p> <p>Signature _____ Date _____</p>
<b>CHECK ENCLOSED</b>	<p>Check payable to Michigan State University</p> <p>Mail to: University Advancement, Spartan Way, 535 Chestnut Rd. Room 300, East Lansing, MI 48824</p>
<b>MATCHING GIFT</b>	Your employer may match your gifts. To learn more, visit <a href="http://givingto.msu.edu/matchinggift.cfm">givingto.msu.edu/matchinggift.cfm</a>
<b>QUESTIONS?</b>	Please contact the Annual Giving Team at <a href="mailto:msuannualfund@uadv.msu.edu">msuannualfund@uadv.msu.edu</a> or (517) 884-1000

\*Recurring gifts must be \$5 or greater per month. To change your recurring gift amount or to stop your gift, please contact University Advancement at (517) 884-1000.

Thank you for your **generous support!**

