



VANGUARD

Volume 71, Issue #3

Winter 2022



Pack your bags. The MARSP

Travel Program

is here!

Look inside for information on trips to Coastal Maine, United States National Parks, and Ireland!



President's Message

Starting Fresh

By Steve Gordon
MARSP President
sgordon9430@charter.net

So 2021 came and went, and it did not really care what we thought returning to normal should be like.

So what about 2022? Well, we all are better at connecting online, and if we choose carefully who and what groups to connect to, it can be very positive. This past fall, I joined a Garlic Growers group on Facebook. Yes, I know that very few of you will find that exciting, but I do, and I have learned a lot about growing garlic. I enjoy connecting with this group with no politics or Covid discussions, just garlic. We will have about 3000 garlic cloves planted in our garden for 2022, and if you need some, we will have them at the farmers markets this summer.

Look for groups that can help you with your interests or hobbies. Find a group that will help you get outdoors more in 2022. We all need that: We all know the benefits of being outdoors, but sometimes we need to be reminded. Those benefits include lower blood pressure, reduced stress, improved mood, decreased anxiety and

depression, better focus, and even quicker healing. If you are interested, look into Forest Bathing, also known as Forest Therapy (or shinrin-yoku), which means taking in the forest atmosphere in all of one's senses. Not simply a walk in the woods, it is the conscious and contemplative practice of being immersed in the sights, sounds, and smells of the forest. Get out and smell the trees!

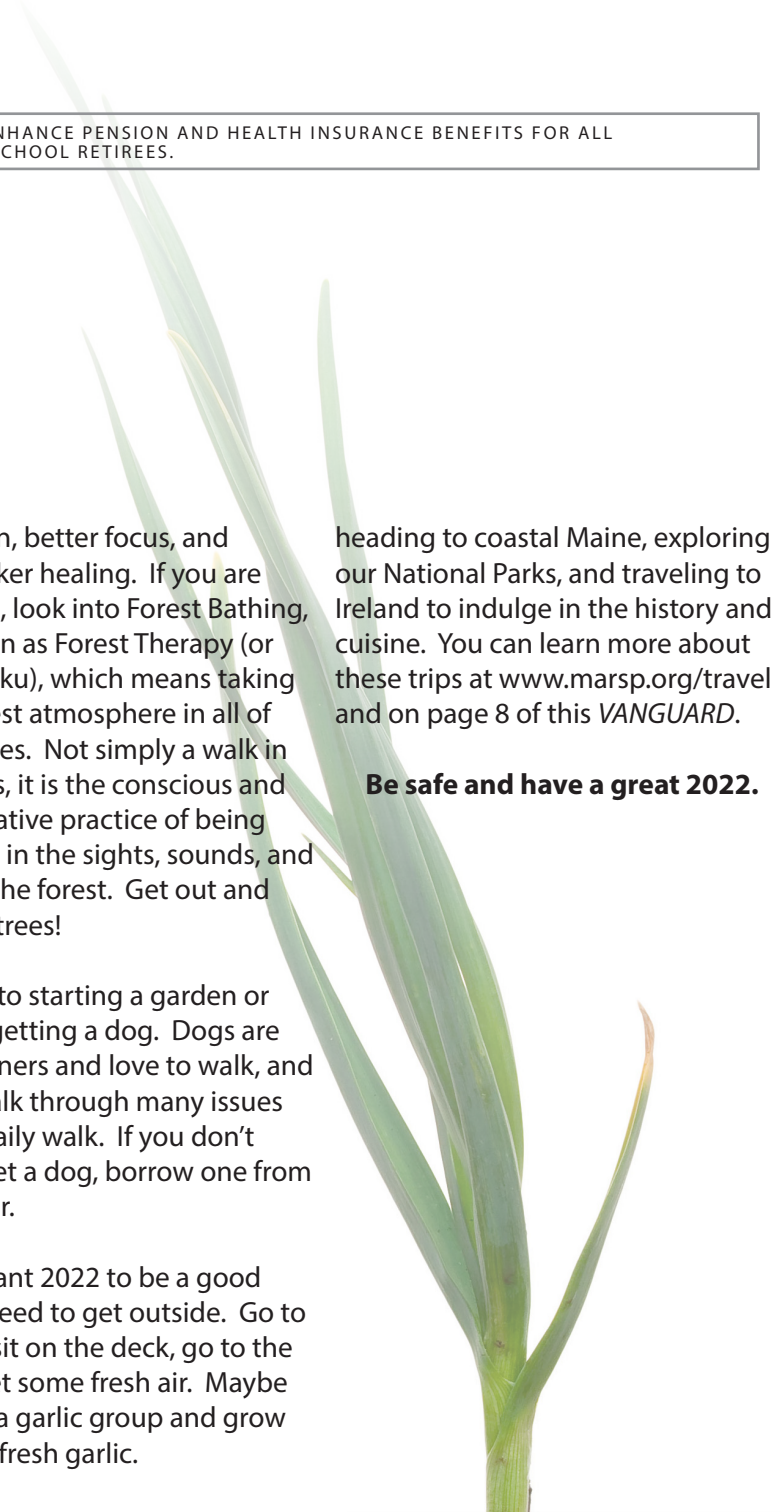
Look into starting a garden or consider getting a dog. Dogs are great listeners and love to walk, and you can talk through many issues on your daily walk. If you don't want to get a dog, borrow one from a neighbor.

If we want 2022 to be a good year, we need to get outside. Go to the park, sit on the deck, go to the woods, get some fresh air. Maybe even join a garlic group and grow your own fresh garlic.

For those interested in BIG adventures, consider the MARSP Travel program. For 2022, the MARSP travel program will be

heading to coastal Maine, exploring our National Parks, and traveling to Ireland to indulge in the history and cuisine. You can learn more about these trips at www.marsp.org/travel and on page 8 of this *VANGUARD*.

Be safe and have a great 2022.



Don't Miss Out!

If you do not receive emails from MARSP and would like to be added to our mailing list, please email staff@marsp.org.

Find us on social media



facebook.com/miMARSP



twitter.com/miMARSP



Executive Director's Message

Carpe Diem - Seize The Day

By Royce C. Humm

Executive Director
staff@marsp.org

Once upon a time, I spent a portion of my life coaching high school athletics. I had the opportunity to coach Track and Field as well as Cross Country. I really enjoyed it. I was very fortunate to have a great group of student-athletes, assistant coaches, and supportive parents. Of course, it also came with plenty of challenges (as you can probably imagine).

I can look back now and see that we came a long way in a relatively short period of time. We started off as a small group that wasn't all that successful and we turned into a consistent title-winning force. Of course, when an athletic program makes such a positive shift, the questions start pouring in about how we were able to make such a change in our outcomes.

While it was honestly a combination of factors, I do believe that there was one core change we made that helped us in our transformation journey. Instead of thinking of workouts as something we 'had to do,' we started thinking about them as something we 'get to do.' I know...it seems like a small change to a vocabulary that wouldn't really make a difference, but it did.



For example, in the early days of the cross country program, I wouldn't allow the athletes to run more than a mile. It made for relatively short practices but it left them wanting to do more. The way the workouts were structured had each individual running certain distances in a certain amount of time (each distance and time tailored to the current skill and capacity of the individual). If they were not able to do it, they would stay at that step in the program until they were 'ready for the opportunity to do more.'

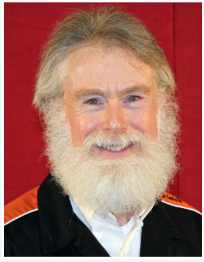
From there, the vocabulary change started. Student-athletes would seize the opportunity to achieve more. They were excited as they left practice that they 'get to' run further and faster the next day. Of course, when they shared this excitement with their friends in other sports, they looked at them with disbelief at

the excitement of 'getting to' run more...

I encourage you to consider what you 'get to' do that is ultimately best for you. It may include some goals you have for your health. It may include everyday chores or errands. It may be something big or small, but consider changing your mindset about 'having to do it' to 'getting to do it'.

While we are on the topic, I would encourage you to consider our Early Renewal Program. You would 'get to' ensure your membership is renewed and not have something come up later in the year that causes you to forget or delay renewing. Those who renew early are also entered in a drawing for a \$100 dollar gift card! Renewing early also helps our organization by reducing the number of memberships that need processing all at once. Renewing early benefits you individually and the organization as a whole. You can renew early using our website, by calling the state office, or by mail.

I would also like to direct your attention to the opportunities in our **Travel Program** outlined on Page 8. We are only just getting started, but we have three trips planned for later in 2022. We'll have a limited number of available seats, so you'll want to be ready to sign-up! If the 2022 trips don't work out for you, please know that we will have more trips coming in 2023 and beyond, so stay tuned!



The Bottom Line

Make History

By Hess Bates, MARSP Treasurer

hessbates@att.net

History is made by the quick and strong, the agile and inventive. History is made by those with foresight and fortitude, ambition and wisdom, those willing to set the new course. History is made by those who face the challenges that await the early bird and accept the risks of being the early worm. By those who see the gauntlet and pick it up. History is also made by those with more modest talents. Those who rise a little later walk a little slower and turn slowly away when the gauntlet is thrown. History is made by the multitudes who quietly till the soil of life, planting seeds less flashy but no less important.

History's stories are both big and public, tiny and private. Everyone knows the big stories; we learn about those in school. No one knows about the tiny ones apart from those who lived those events. That second set, those infinite and infinitesimal bits, are the more interesting and more important as they add one to another, finally coming to make up almost all of human history. The myriad day-to-day decisions that lead to doing this or not doing that. These little historical bits are the tiny but still-significant molecules of life. These baby steps move the train of human experience forward or backward a millimeter at a time. Contrary to what might be thought, it is easy to make history; we all make it every day.

The shopping trip that ends by rescuing a kitten or ignoring a lost dog. The decision to take the altruistic gamble that improves someone else's life or to be miserly selfish. The warning that keeps a friend out of the poison ivy or the momentary lapse that leads to a broken plate. Passing a Jackson and a smile of thanks to the outta luck vet who stands on that corner or sneaking a glass of wine while a spouse is out. Every act of good or ill, every decision made, and every decision put off until another time puts one more tiny historic block into place.

We contribute our parts of history's story with either care and forethought or with lazy indifference, but always with the same far-reaching effect. We build reality, constructing history bit by tiny bit, putting together the motes of life and time that will lead to distant events.

Make history today; renew your MARSP membership...and then go rescue a kitten.



HEY!

EARLY BIRD, IT'S TIME TO GET YOUR WORM.

Renew your MARSP membership before March 31, 2022, and you will be entered to win a \$100 VISA gift card!

Renew today by mail, online or by phone.



MAIL

Step 1 - Cut out MARSP membership form located on the back of this *VANGUARD*.

Step 2 - Include a check or credit card number for \$35 (state dues) + your chapter dues (chapter dues can be found at www.marsp.org/dues)

Step 3 - Mail invoice and check or credit card number to:

MARSP
PO Box 23214
Lansing MI, 48909



ONLINE

Step 1 - Visit www.marsp.org/renew

Step 2 - Login to your online MARSP Account

Step 3 - Click "My Profile" and then "Membership"

Step 4 - Click "renew" and complete checkout process.



PHONE

Step 1 - Call MARSP

888-960-4022
M-F 7:30am-4:00pm EST

WELCOME TO THE TEAM!

Delicia Lockhart Administrative Assistant



Please help us give a warm MARSP welcome to Delicia N. Lockhart, our new administrative assistant. Delicia's background, professional experience as an administrative assistant and passion for all those who are and have been involved with education make her the ideal addition to our team.

Delicia comes to MARSP with more than 20 years of experience in higher education at Lansing Community College (LCC). She enjoyed interacting with students, faculty, and staff members. She was an administrative assistant within many different departments, such as; the

President's office, Office of Strategic Initiatives (where the Early College at LCC was developed in partnership with the Lansing School District), and The Student and Academic Student Division where she interacted with the students on a daily basis. She has great passion for education and helping others.

"I am a proud member of the MSPERS retirement community. It has given me a sense of pride and security over the years to know that I am a part of a wonderful community that protects the benefits and pension for all school personnel."

"I enjoy my career as an Administrative Assistant, it allows me to interact with many different people. Assisting others is one of my greatest strengths. I am excited to be a part of the MARSP team. This is a wonderful opportunity to work with an association that is the legislative voice of retired public school personnel."

Delicia earned a Bachelor of Management and Organizational Development degree from Spring Arbor University. Also, a General Associate Degree from Lansing Community College.

Delicia and her family reside in Holt, MI. She and her husband, Sean have two children, Alexis and Anthony, and a delightful granddaughter, Carleigh Chanel.

In her spare time, Delicia enjoys cooking/baking and experimenting with new homemade recipes. She also enjoys nature walks, spending time with her family and friends and enjoys being a lifelong learner.





Michigan Association of
Retired School Personnel
Protecting your future

Calendar of Events

MARSP Board and Committee Meetings

March 7

- Legislative Committee
- Membership Committee
- Buildings and Grounds Committee

March 8

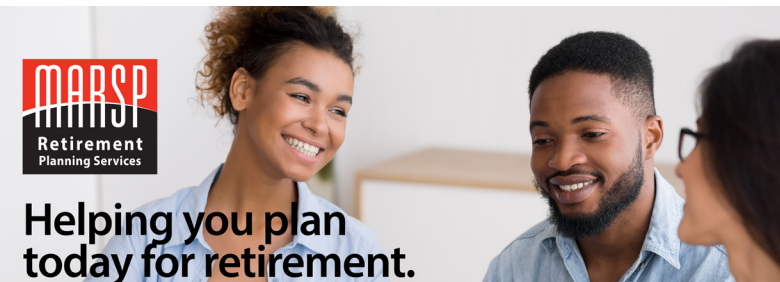
- Finance Committee
- Executive Team

March 16

- Board of Directors

April 18

- Foundation Scholarship Committee



Helping you plan
today for retirement.

MARSP RPS - Pension Seminars

MARSP Retirement Planning Services (RPS) is hosting virtual pension seminars available to all public school and community college employees who are members of the MPERS retirement plan.

To find a seminar near you, visit:

www.marsp.org/events

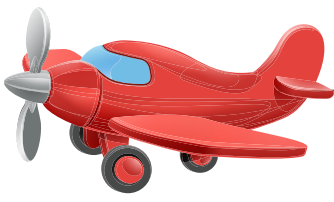


WEBINARS

Upcoming MARSP Webinar Topics

MARSP Travel Program
MARSP Foundation
AMBA Benefits
and more...

As we plan these webinars and more please make sure you are receiving our emails by adding, staff@marsp.org to your contact list.



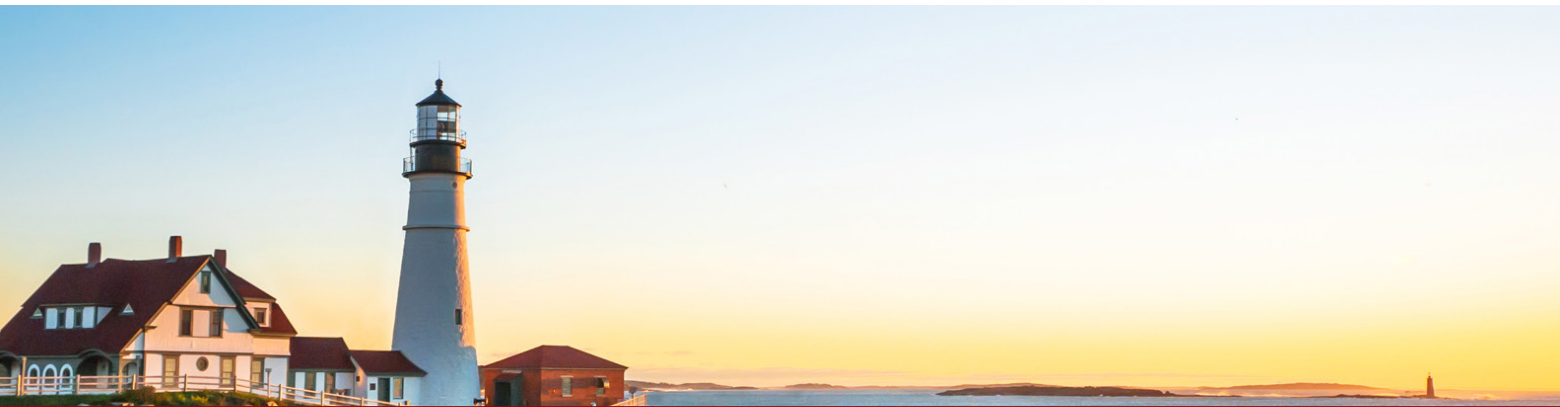
2022 MARSP Travel Program Schedule

Welcome MARSP Member my name is Ted. Your trusty MARSP Travel program tour guide. I'm so glad that you are here, and I can't wait to share with you all the cool trips we have planned for 2022!

If you are like me, you are so tired of being couped up at home and are ready to hit the open road! Luckily for you MARSP has planned three exciting adventures for 2022 all with retirees in mind. Don't forget these trips are exclusively for MARSP members...so tell your friends to become a member and join the fun!!

Okay, without further adieu let's hear more about what we have in store for you for 2022!

Ladies and Gentlemen, please keep your arms and legs inside the *VANGUARD* at all times, and off we go!



Roaming Coastal Maine

August 19 - August 25, 2022 - 7 Days

This is Maine, where rocky shores, infinite nature, and endless lobster forge a coastal New England classic. Dig in to local delicacies with an oyster shucking demonstration and tasting. Immerse yourself in dramatic nature at Acadia National Park. See how lobster traps are retrieved from the ocean. Admire the picturesque Portland Head Light, Maine's oldest lighthouse. Take part in a vintage wine tasting at a local winery. Enjoy free time in the vibrant city of Portland. Towering mountains, delectable cuisine, and bustling harbors await you in this maritime treasure.

Highlights include Portland, Oyster Farm, Bar Harbor, Acadia National Park, Choice on Tour, Lobster Trap Pull Demonstration, Wine Tasting, Camden, Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, and Boothbay Harbor.

Visit www.marsp.org/travel for more information and to book your trip.



National Parks of America

September 22 - October 03, 2022 - 12 Days

Experience the grandeur of the American West as you explore five fantastic national parks on this exciting journey. In Arizona, contemplate the vast beauty of the Grand Canyon, and in Yellowstone, relish iconic sights like Old Faithful and Yellowstone Lake. Enjoy a breakfast cruise on Lake Powell. Marvel at the magnitude and color of Zion's cliffs and the hoodoos and spires at Bryce Canyon. Enjoy 2-night stays in Springdale, Utah (Zion) and Jackson Hole. Drive through the incredible Bighorn Mountains and the great Sioux Nations Territory before seeing Mt. Rushmore and Crazy Horse Monument. Meet a local Lakota Native American at dinner and learn about their fascinating way of life, past and present. Gain new appreciation of the great outdoors on this journey that takes you from the Grand Canyon to Mount Rushmore National Memorial and everywhere in between.

Highlights include Scottsdale, Lake Powell, Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon, Choice on Tour, Zion, Salt Lake City, Jackson Hole, Grand Teton & Yellowstone National Parks, Old Faithful, Sheridan, Bighorn Mountains, Crazy Horse Memorial, and Mount Rushmore

Visit www.marsp.org/travel for more information and to book your trip.

If you are interested in staying up to date on the MARSP travel program, please fill out this form and mail it to the MARSP office PO Box 23214 Lansing, MI 48909 or fill out an interest form at www.marsp.org/travel.

NAME _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Are you a MARSP member? Yes No



Shades of Ireland

October 4 - October 13, 2022 - 10 Days

From history-filled Dublin to the rolling green hills and dramatic coast, experience Ireland's charms on a journey through the Emerald Isle. Experience the world-famous beauty of the Ring of Kerry. See sheepdogs in action on a working farm. Stand in awe at the top of the stunning 700-foot Cliffs of Moher. Live like royalty during an overnight stay on the grounds of a castle. A vibrant blend of captivating culture and stunning nature, this is the Ireland you've always imagined.

Highlights include Dublin, Irish Evening, Choices on Tour, Kilkenny, Waterford, Blarney Castle, Killarney, Jaunting Car Ride, Ring of Kerry, Farm Visit, Limerick, Cliffs of Moher, Galway, and a Castle Stay.

Visit www.marsp.org/travel for more information and to book your trip.



WOW! Those trips look exciting! I wish I was a MARSP member. We will be announcing trips for 2023 this spring, so stay tuned!

What to Know About Signing Petitions

Petitions can be used for positive or negative outcomes. But how do you know if the petition you are signing is positive or negative? With several petition drives being active right now, we wanted to underscore some points to consider when you are approached by a petitioner.

1) Find out WHO initiated the petition

If it's not an individual or group you already know and trust, you should try to look it up online or check with trusted sources and do some independent vetting on your own. Try doing an online search for the petitioner's name in quotation marks (i.e., "Jane Doe") with something that might help narrow down the search, such as the name of their organization or their hometown.

2) Be mindful of how it is PRESENTED

Don't take any facts and figures cited at their word, especially if they feel like exaggerations or falsifications that you can easily check online. Use reliable news sources that can be factual, non-partisan sources to help you research anything that sounds confusing (or suspicious).

3) Read the FINE print

Reading the fine print is particularly important to do when you're signing your name to a petition. You need to have a clear understanding of the petition's specific ask and nothing should be confusing or unclear. If you don't read everything, you could be signing a petition that does not represent your actual viewpoint on the issue. Usually, the petition will have a summary paragraph on it at the top, but keep in mind that there can also be supplemental pages with the full text explaining what you are signing.

4) Every petition will have a POSITIVE spin. That doesn't make it positive.

Consider that a petition is not likely to be successful if it sounds negative. So EVERY petition is going to present the information in a positive way, even if you don't actually agree with the outcomes. The creators of the petition will likely even use words that you care about. For example, you may value and support education. A petitioner can make it sound like what you are signing is good for education, but once you learn more about it, you may actually disagree with their actions.

5) Keep in mind, petitioners CAN lie.

The person asking you to sign the petition doesn't necessarily have to be telling the truth. They can bend, distort, or withhold the truth about the outcomes of the petition. Their goal is to gain signatures. In some cases, they are compensated based on the number of signatures they collect.

6) You CAN say NO.

When approached by a petitioner, especially in person, you can feel pressured to sign. They are probably saying positive things about a topic you care about. You CAN say no. At least until you learn more about the petition you are signing. If they don't respect that you want to learn more about it before signing, that's probably a red flag that they don't want you to do independent research. If you find out later that you are actually in support of the initiative, you can always reach back out to them later to sign.

7) What does your GUT say?

The last check you should do is of critical importance: Pay attention to your instincts. If something feels off, it's probably off — don't sign it.

Contributions to MARSP October 1, 2021- December 31, 2021

Contributions to MARSP include donations to the General Fund.

Contributions to MARSP

October 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021

From Members

Blair, Kate - MARSP
Burns, John - Macomb North
Campau, Barbara - Wayne NW
Curtis, William - MARSP
Dean, A Renee - Grand Traverse
Edwards, Robert - Genesee West
Evans, Carolyn - Genesee SE
Fabbri-Tucker, Laura - Washtenaw
Feusse, Richard - MARSP
Freeland, Sally - Oakland North
Gerow, Kathryn - MARSP
Hager, Aisha - Wayne Downriver
Hammer, Sharon - Genesee SE
Hartzler, Kay - Ionia
Hill, Lois - Macomb North
Hodack, Judith - MARSP
Hoffman, Elizabeth - Charlevoix
Kelley, Nancy - Wayne NW
Koplan, Robert - Washtenaw
Lewandowski, Gerald - Wayne Metro
Matthews, Wyhomme - Calhoun
Miller, Stephen - MARSP
Morey, Janice - Otsego
Muller, Judith - MARSP

Nahhat, Salem - Wayne Detroit
Ocvirek, Lana - Kalamazoo
O'Leary, Kristopher - MARSP
Razvi, Syed - Wayne Metro
Stanage, Frances - MARSP
Studinger, Marvin - Grand Traverse
Sussex, Melissa - Branch
Tate, Eva - Wayne Detroit
Thompson, Dosye - Wayne Metro
Zynda, Mary - Washtenaw

In Memory of, from Members

Campau, Barbara - for June Kendall
Dennis, William - for Dominic Mauti
Zakrzewski, Helen - for Irene Reszczyk

In Honor of, from Members

Briggs, Florence - for Shirley Hermann

From Chapters

Tucson/Green Valley AZ

In Memoriam from Chapters

Branch - for Ellen Shoun and Carlton Force

Saginaw - for Regina Bailey, Henry Brown, Margaret Buetow, Donna Cappell-Smith, Frances Carter, Carole Crovella, John Cuthbertson, Ignazio D'Angelo, Zoetta Davis, Margaret Davenport, Estella Harris, Jean Henning, Vivian Howe, Dolores Johnson, John Johnson, Shirley Kalahar, Janice Kerns, Anne Laundra, John Leaman, William Matson, Donald McPhee, Eileen Nenninger, Gizella Nikolai, Carl Peil, Alvo Polson, Arlene Schofield, Edward Siemienkiewicz, Ellen Snyder, Matilda Szaroletta, Dorothy VanDusen, Leonard Williams, and Kathryn Wozniak
Wayne NW - for Barbara Mansfield

Did you know
that your MARSP
Foundation
Donation may be
tax deductible?

VBDF Contributions October 1, 2021- December 31, 2021

The MARSP Board of Directors expresses SINCERE thanks to every member and chapter listed below for the contributions between October 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021, to the MARSP Voluntary Benefit Defense Fund (VBDF). The fund will be used to initiate and/or participate in legal battles that may be necessary to protect Michigan school retirees' benefits over the next few years.

To date, the fund has been used to educate legislators regarding defined contribution and graded premium insurance subsidy legislation; to research and investigate defined contribution and other plans in other states; to purchase the software needed to provide an effective grassroots network; to provide written information to legislators; and other activities necessary to the protection of school retiree benefits.

Members

Baldwin, Donald Keith - SE Genesee
Benvenuto, Joyce - Ingham-Greater Lansing
Blair, Kate - MARSP
Blanchard, Sheryl - Wexford-Missaukee
Blout, Betty - Hillsdale
Burns, John - Macomb North
Carpenter, Judith - Newaygo
DeBruyn, Bob - Ottawa
Doyscher Jr., Raymond - Oakland Suburban
Fluck, Elaine - Van Buren
Ford, Ivan - Leelanau
Gabler, Gretchen - Emmet
Goings, Leslie - Washtenaw
Gunderson, Ingrid - Washtenaw
Katz, Phyllis - Oakland Suburban
Kelly, Susan - MARSP

Lee, Tammy - MARSP
Lewandowski, Gerald - Wayne Metro
McGunn, Charlene - Macomb North
McKean, Ronald - Mecosta-Canadian Lakes
Muller, Judith - MARSP
O'Leary, Kristopher - MARSP
Piotrowski, Donald - Oakland Suburban
Smith, Richard - MARSP
Studinger, Marvin - Grand Traverse

Chapters

Dickinson
Ionia
Isabella
Lapeer
Leelanau

Macomb North
Mecosta-Canadian Lakes
Otsego

In Memory of, from Members

Garvelink, Carol J. - for Roger Garvelink
Gewirtz, Frederick - for Bill Davis
Hunt, Margaret - for Roger Hunt
Pride, Linda - for J. Troja

In Honor of, from Members

Scheffels, Carol - for Martie Davis

In Memory of from Chapters

Clare - for Donna Brandon, Elizabeth Fries, Myrna Hockin, Helen Mowl, and SuAnn Sager
St. Joseph - for June DeLong, Louise Dolph, Norma Oliver, and Jim Wragg

MARSP Foundation Contributions October 1, 2021- December 31, 2021

Contributions to the MARSP Foundation include donations to the following funds: Scholarship Fund, General Fund, Richard and Margaret Smith Fund and the MARSP Foundation Endowment Fund.

From Members

Altenburg, Peggy - Livingston
Ancona, Mary - Kent
Apkarian, Deborah - Wayne Downriver
Baldwin, Donald Keith - Genesee SE
Bates, Heston - Oakland North
Beebe, Grace - Wayne Downriver
Bennish, Janice - Charlevoix
Berndt, William - Oakland Suburban
Blair, Kate - MARSP
Burns, John - Macomb North
Chu, Shirley - MARSP
Clinard, Donna - Kalamazoo
Crane, Glenda - Charlevoix
Crane, Lawrence - MARSP
Dennis, William - MARSP
Doyscher Jr., Raymond - Oakland Suburban
DuPuis, Mary Ann - Saginaw
Dvorak, Janeen - Shiawassee
Ecklund, Linda - MARSP
Edlund, Marie - MARSP
Falk, Suzanna - Kalamazoo
Glusac, Ann - Washtenaw
Gordon, Laura - Bay Area
Gorman, Irma - Berrien
Graham, Lynn - Kent
Griffel, Eugene - MARSP
Grimaldi, Nancy - MARSP
Harris, Suzanne - Macomb North
Hartl, Kristine - Saginaw
Hartl, William - Saginaw
Hatcher, Lois - Wayne Metro
Hawkins, Eleanor - MARSP
Hayes-Parvin, Kathleen - Oakland Suburban
Herrick, Kathleen - Ingham-Greater Lansing
Hewitt, Judith - Cass
Hickey, Elaine - Macomb East
Hollaway, Rosetta - Heartland FL
Jackson, Lawrence - Wayne NW
Jerzylo, Rosemarie - MARSP
Johnson, Nancy - Crawford-Oscoda
Knoch, Henry - Delta
Laich, Mary - Saginaw
Lenzi, Sybil - MARSP
Love, Mark - MARSP
Lukasiewicz, Paul - MARSP
Mackey, Willa - Wayne Detroit
Maki, William - MARSP
Malaski, Mark - Genesee West
Martin, William - Isabella
Marx, Charlotte - Grand Traverse
McCallum, Carla - Osceola
McGunn, Charlene - Macomb North
Mendelson, Marilyn - Oakland Suburban
Michalik, Sandra - Crawford-Oscoda
Muller, Judith - MARSP
Nordin, Robert - Genesee SE
Pepera, Elaine - MARSP
Philport, Jean - Kalamazoo

Phillips, Janet - Saginaw
Picarski, Stanley - Lapeer
Pickard, Philip - Genesee
Pitt, Mary - Wayne NW
Pizzini, Betty - Macomb North
Purdy, Walter - MARSP
Pyke, Arlene - Van Buren
Rifenberg, Joan - Macomb East
Saari, Kim - Gogebic
Salerno, Douglas - MARSP
Sharpe, David - Oakland Farmington
Shary, Kathleen - Wayne Metro
Smith, James - Oceana
Solwold, Mary - Manistee
Sovereign, Deanne - Washtenaw
Stone, Edward - Genesee SE
Stover, Esta - MARSP
Strong, Mickey - Alpena
Swink, Grace - MARSP
Taylor, Norman - Allegan
Thomas, Pamela - Van Buren
Tirak, Joan - MARSP
Tuomaala, Linda - Oakland Suburban
Urick, Eileen - Wayne NW
Wagner, Bruce - Houghton-Keweenaw
Wagner, Joyce - Shiawassee
Westenberg, Lila - MARSP
Wilkerson, Marie - Osceola
Woityra, Gayl - MARSP
Wyman, Geraldine - Alpena
Zerfas, Janice - Berrien
Zimmerman, Judith - MARSP

In Memory of, from Members

Belanger, Rosalind - for Gerald Belanger
Brinker, Marilyn - for William Brinker
Farnsworth, Roger - for Ray Purvis
Farnsworth, Sandy - for Norm Schaub
Fry, Coral - for Charles Willer
Mayhew, Shirley - for SuAnn Sager
Munn, Mary - for E.C. and Eileen Munn
Myers, Patricia - for William Myers
Thomson, Craig - for Carolyn Arens
Newlin, Sarah - for Gary Newlin
Traskal, Mary - for Edward Traskal
Williams, Virginia - for Edward Williams
Wilkerson, Marie - for Ken Kelley

In Memory of, from Chapters

Ottawa - for Betty VandenBerg and John Andreasen
Crawford-Oscoda - for Fay Bovee, Edward Franklin, Jane Larson, Robert Prause, Dale Nicholas and Jerry Morford
Kent - for Donna Cramer, Clara Crittenden and David Hager
Lapeer - for Dahna Loeding
Shiawassee - for Herbert Baker and Lois Whalen

From Chapters

Macomb North

Endowment Fund

From Members

Blair, Kate - MARSP
Boyak, Marianne - Macomb North
Burns, John - Macomb North
Edlund, Marie - MARSP
Grimaldi, Nancy - MARSP
Money, Margaret - Chippewa-Mackinac
Muller, Judith - MARSP
Parker, Douglas - Kent
Vaughn, Lois - Northern Bay-Arenac

In Memory of, from Members

Baker, Irene - for Ellen Hardy

In Memory of, from Chapters

Lapeer - for Oren Keefe, Jr.



Contribution Form

Plan your future. Protect your future.

Make your check made payable to: **MARSP**
Mail to: **PO Box 23214, Lansing, MI 48909-3214**

VBDF (Voluntary Benefit Defense Fund) to be used for the legal defense of school retiree benefits.

General Fund to assist the finance committee in meeting expenses for the current budget year.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

Chapter Name _____

In Honor of or in Memory of _____



PO Box 23214, Lansing, MI 48909-3214

I am in support of the MARSP Foundation and wish to make a contribution. (Contribution may be tax-deductible)

Make check payable to: **MARSP Foundation Inc.**
(Please do not combine with MARSP Dues)

Fund Choice:

- Scholarship Fund** - To be used to help active public school employees with tuition costs to further their education.
- General Fund** - To be used toward the Foundation mission.
- Richard and Margaret Smith Fund** - To be used to assist less fortunate members with financial needs such as prescription copays, medical expenses, heating expenses, etc.
- Endowment Fund** - Interest only to be used for Foundation programs.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

Chapter Name _____

- ____ **Founder Level**
\$5,000
- ____ **Cornerstone Level**
\$1,000
- ____ **Honorary Director**
\$500
- ____ **Member Shareholder**
\$300
- ____ **Member Participant**
\$1 to \$299

MARSP Chapter Donates Socks to Salvation Army

Dickinson County Chapter

Members of the Dickinson County Chapter of the Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel (MARSP) collected 285 pairs of new socks at their annual Christmas meeting. These socks were donated to the Salvation Army's family Christmas bags, as well as for other uses. Along with gathering socks for the Christmas bags, MARSP members also rang bells for the Salvation Army and, at earlier meetings, collected food for the Salvation Army food pantry.



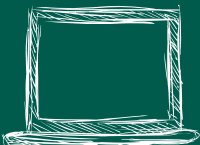
Pictured from left to right: Bob Walther,

Holly Stratton, and Sue Youngberg.



Learn about your benefit options from the couch.

Whether you're curling up to read a book or watching our free, on-demand webinar, retirement offers you options. And, just like in retirement, you have options when it comes to your health plan.



Visit priorityhealth.com/mpsers today to explore your options and view our free, on-demand webinar from the comfort of home.

In Remembrance

October 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021

"... these immortal dead, who live again in minds made better by their presence."

Michigan

Ada
Donna Cramer
Clinton Twp
Kenneth Kelley

Allen Park
Maryjane Marchand
Cooks
Carol Sobieski

Alpena
Cheryl Marvar
Davison
Genevieve Barhitte

Ann Arbor
Annette Freedman
Dearborn
John Tobin
William Pearson

Armada
Orrin Shoemaker
Dimondale
Betty Saylor

Bad Axe
Nancy Williston
Ruth Witzke
Durand
Herbert Baker

Baraga
Hedy Capul
Eagle
Mary Waters

Battle Creek
Freda Hoebeke
Eastpointe
Amanda Charles

Bay City
Ellen Czerwinski
Inez Luce
Robyn Goyett
Eaton Rapids
Cernyw Kline
Garnet Phinney

Beaverton
Jerry Palmer
Farwell
Helen Mowl

Bellevue
Christoph Wilkes
Flushing
Herberta Wilhelm

Benton Harbor
Roland Bowman
Gaylord
David Smethurst

Brighton
John Mantyck
Steven Morley
Gibraltar
Pamela Kilpatrick

Caseville
Richard Shaw
Gladwin
Joann Lyon
Margaret Noble
Richard King
V Faye Haines

Cassopolis
Christine Locke
Grand Blanc
Agnes Ignace

Charlotte
Darlene Sederlund
Dorothy Toutant
Nettie Woodworth
Wanda Powell
Grand Haven
John Andreasen

Clare
Suann Sager
Grand Ledge
Clarice Pound
Marilyn Smith
Ronald Richmond

Grand Rapids
Clara Crittenden
Margaret Squires

Grayling
Dale Nicholas
Edward Franklin
Fay Bovee
Jerry Morford
Robert Prause

Hale
Norma Coon

Harrison
Nancy Oliver

Hemlock
Donald Krueger

Hermansville
Marie Oja

Holland
Betty Vandenberg

Hudsonville
Virginia Ryan

Kalkaska
Marian Johnson

Kentwood
David Hager

L'Anse
Bill Bennett

Lake Orion
Clifford Schultz

Lanse
Judith Smith

Lansing
James Dulworth
Patricia Seeley
Shirley Evans

Lapeer
Dahna Loeding
Oren Keefe

Leland
Marjorie Sprenger

Livonia
Barbara Mansfield
Victor Bundy

Lowell
Charles Wright

Macomb
Concetta Mariani
Lila Good

Manistique
Elizabeth Slining
Guerda Frenette
Helen Williamson
Ruth Taylor

Middleville
Roberta Wadel

Midland
Roy Mcneill

Montgomery
Carlton Force

Mt Morris
Charles Best

Nisula
Janet Juntunen

Northville
Marilyn Griffith

Norton Shores
Louise Beemer

Olivet
Arthur Stevens
Patricia Buttrick

Ossineke
G Lyle Rasmussen

Owosso
Lois Whalen

Perkins
Julian Vandecaveye

Portage
Charlene Naylor
Lois Stegman
Paul Butch

Potterville
M Vivian Flower

Quinnesec
Donna Mchugh

Richland
Helen Klepper

Saginaw
George Burrows
Henry Brown
Ruth Glynn
Sharon Floyd

Saint Clair Shores
Dorothy Madison

Southgate
Janet Lebeau

Stephenson
Loren Hulsizer

Sterling Heights
Joann Stange

Three Rivers
V June Delong

Traverse City
Thomas Schmidt

West Bloomfield
Olga Meyer

Warren
Beverly Fiedler

Out-Of-State

Alabama

Montgomery
Stephen Hoisington

Arkansas

Hot Springs
Vernie Fox

Arizona

Tucson
James Barrett

California

La Quinta
James Vanderwall

Colorado

Littleton
Geraldine Cunningham

Florida

Clearwater
Joe O'donnell
Venice
Clara Beechler

Indiana

Bristol
Ellis Bontrager

Missouri

Saint Louis
Marilyn Morcom

New Mexico

Albuquerque
Kathryn Wilkinson

Ohio

Lakeside Marblehead
Ruth Muntis

Tennessee

Spring City
Virginia Weir

Texas

San Benito
Mary Lou Griffith

Wisconsin

Marinette
William Hanson

In case you missed it



Working After You Retire

If you're a public school retiree who's considering returning to work, don't forget to use the newly updated *Pension Impact Estimator* from the Michigan Office of Retirement Services to learn how your pension might be effected. This tool is designed so that you answer a series of questions to determine whether or not your work will impact your pension. This will help supplement the written documentation for working after retirement.

To learn more visit https://www.michigan.gov/orsschools/0,4653,7-206-36504_36529---,00.html

MARSP Office Relocation Update

In the Winter 2021 *VANGUARD*, we announced that the MARSP state office will be relocating to the MELG building in Lansing, Michigan.

We will continue to use the MARSP PO Box. Please use the PO Box to mail any membership renewals and other mail.

MARSP
P.O. Box 23214
Lansing, MI 48909-3214



Classifieds

The Winter *VANGUARD* classified ad advertisement deadline is March 15, 2022.

Many chapters and MARSP members are doing great things in the community, and we want to hear it!

Please share your story with us.

Email us at staff@marsp.org

or go to www.marsp.org/tell-us-your-story

Referring a friend or spouse could make you a winner too

MARSP members who refer a friend, former colleague or spouse/pension beneficiary are entered into a monthly drawing for a \$25 Visa® gift card, as well as the grand prize drawing of a trip for two to Mackinac Island!

MARSP members referred 17 new or former members from October 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021

The 17 referrals have the following chapter associations:

1-4 referrals: Berrien, Branch, Chippewa - Mackinac, Clinton, Dickinson, Ingham- Greater Lansing, Kalamazoo, Macomb East, Shiawassee, Wayne Detroit

The \$25 Visa® gift card referral winners are: Marilyn Zabonick - Branch County Chapter, Willa Mackey - Wayne Detroit Chapter, Becky Easlick

Do you know an active or retired public school employee who would benefit from a MARSP membership? Share this *VANGUARD* and membership form located on the next page with them.

Invite them to be part of our community.



WIN A TRIP TO MACKINAC ISLAND

MARSP members who refer a friend, former colleague or spouse/pension beneficiary are entered into a monthly drawing for a \$25 Visa® gift card, as well as the grand prize drawing of a trip for two to Mackinac Island!

Early Bird Renewal Form

Renew online or return this form by March 31, 2022,
and you will be entered to win a \$100 VISA gift card!!!



Member Name	Email address	
Amount Enclosed	Phone number	
Payment Options: <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card <input type="checkbox"/> Check enclosed		
Card Number	Exp. date	CVV
Name as it appears on card	Amount	Date
Cardholder signature	<u>Chapter selection</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Please renew local chapter dues for the following chapter:	
<u>Auto Renewal</u> <input type="checkbox"/> I authorize MARSP to automatically renew my State and Local Chapter (if applicable) Membership the first week of March each year beginning in 2022 using the credit card information provided on this form. Email required.		

*Please note that credits/overpayment less than annual dues amount will be considered a contribution to MARSP.



Chapter Dues List:

MARSP: \$35

Michigan:

Alger: \$5
 Allegan: \$5
 Alpena: \$5
 Baraga: \$5
 Barry: \$7
 Bay-Northern Bay Area: \$10
 Bay Area: \$10
 Berrien: \$9
 Branch: \$5
 Calhoun: \$6
 Cass: \$6
 Charlevoix: \$5
 Cheboygan: \$5
 Chippewa-Mackinac: \$5
 Clare: \$5
 Clinton: \$5
 Crawford-Oscoda: \$5
 Delta: \$5
 Dickinson: \$5
 Eaton: \$7
 Emmet: \$10
 Genesee: \$9
 Genesee Southeast: \$7
 Genesee West: \$7
 Gladwin: \$5
 Gogebic: \$10
 Grand Traverse: \$10
 Gratiot: \$6
 Hillsdale: \$5
 Houghton-Keweenaw: \$3
 Huron: \$5
 Ingham - Greater Lansing: \$0
 Ionia: \$10
 Iron: \$10

Isabella: \$10
 Jackson: \$7
 Kalamazoo: \$10
 Kent: \$10
 Lapeer: \$8
 Leelanau: \$10
 Lenawee: \$0
 Livingston: \$5
 Luce County/Tahquamenon: \$10
 Macomb East: \$5
 Macomb North: \$8
 Manistee: \$8
 Marquette: \$5
 Mason-Lake: \$10
 Mecosta-Canadian Lakes: \$10
 Menominee: \$5
 Monroe South: \$5
 Montcalm: \$5
 Muskegon: \$15
 Newaygo: \$7
 Oakland North: \$7
 Oakland Suburban: \$6
 Oakland-Farmington: \$6
 Oceana: \$10
 Ogemaw: \$6
 Ontonagon: \$5
 Osceola: \$5
 Otsego: \$10
 Ottawa: \$10
 Presque Isle: \$10
 Roscommon: \$10
 Saginaw: \$7
 Schoolcraft: \$7
 Shiawassee: \$5
 St Clair: \$8
 St Joseph: \$8
 Tuscola: \$5

Van Buren: \$10
 Washtenaw: \$10
 Wayne Detroit: \$12
 Wayne Downriver: \$10
 Wayne Metro: \$5
 Wayne Northwest: \$8
 Wexford-Missaukee: \$7

Arizona:

NW Valley of Sun: \$8
 Tucson/Green Valley: \$10

Colorado:

Colorado Chapter: \$10

Florida:

Char-Sota: \$5
 Greater Daytona: \$10
 Heartland: \$5
 Southwest Gulf Coast: \$5
 Space Coast: \$5
 St. Petersburg: \$5
 Tallahassee/South Georgia: \$1
 Tri-County: \$5

Tennessee:

Tennessee East: \$5

MARSP VANGUARD

VANGUARD is the official publication of the MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL (MARSP)

Circulation: 38,000

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publication to the

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Robert Kucera - Past-president

Hess Bates - Treasurer

Speedy Bates - Secretary

Royce C. Humm - Executive

Director

Due to production time, each issue of the VANGUARD is written about four weeks before publication. Therefore, some of the information may be updated by the time you receive each issue.



Stay tuned in,
follow @miMARSP

Connect with MARSP on Facebook, Twitter or LinkedIn. We're sharing great articles, retirement tips, resources and legislative activity. Don't miss what's next; follow us online!



Legislative Committee Report

Legislative Update

By Legislative Co-Chair Chuck Abshagen
The Legislative Committee is Co-Chaired by Chuck Abshagen and Georgia Sharp



We are happy to report the Governor publicly announced her support for repealing the pension tax in the State of the State Address in January.

While the State of the State Address gives us a preview of the Governor's priorities for the year, the key details will become more clear once her actual budget proposal is shared in February. From there, the legislature will take the next few months to evaluate and consider the Governor's budget while also proposing their own.

We are seeing some legislative leaders expressing interest publicly in reducing taxation, but the details are where there will likely be challenges. The specifics of how the key stakeholders see this happening will be made more clear in the coming weeks and months.

MARSP continues to be an active part of advancing this legislative priority for our members. To stay informed, be on the lookout for future updates as this process unfolds and we ask members to take specific actions at certain times to amplify our effectiveness

in advocacy. MARSP will stay connected with the Governor's office and key legislators to monitor and take action as appropriate.

We will continue to update members on legislative changes in the VANGUARD. If you are not receiving emails from us and would like to receive time-sensitive updates, please provide your email address by logging into the MARSP website or calling the MARSP office at (888) 960-4022.