LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

MSUS has a new Membership Chair – Bill Burns from Janesville. Bill will be assuming his new position by the time you receive this newsletter. Welcome aboard, Bill!!!!

I was a guest on Ronnie Burton’s Senior Spotlight recently and have been asked to return in May. We discussed the activities of MSUS and the fact that the organization is open to ALL persons 55 years of age and over. Those interested in viewing this session will find it on Channel 13 Monday, March 3 and 10 at 2:30 p.m., and Thursday, March 6 and 13 at 6:00 p.m. Next time I would like to discuss with Ronnie the concept of Lifelong Learning and the need for seniors to keep their brains in gear. We have moved far beyond the stereotyped picture of seniors sitting on the front porch all day in a rocking chair, as all of you know, but I do believe that there is still a general attitude shared by many that the rocking chair is the proper place for seniors.

The MSU Center on Aging and MAGEC South are presenting the Third Annual Chesley Lecture at the Country Inn and Suites on Monday, April 7. Topic is “Living Well in the Midst of Change and Loss,” and speakers will be Dr. Tom Gillaspy, Minnesota State Demographer and Dr. Pauline Boss, Professor Emeritus at the University of Minnesota and a specialist on personal loss. Details are given later in this newsletter.

In talking with a group of seniors recently, I reminded them of the Senior Citizen Enrollment Procedure, which may not be known to all members. Senior citizens (age 62 or older) may enroll for any course at MSU free of charge on an audit basis (no credit is granted). If credit is desired, an administrative fee of $20 per credit is charged. If a senior citizen has not taken courses previously, they must submit an application, but the application fee will be waived. Call the Registrar’s Office at 389-2252 for more information. The MSUS Office also has a brochure.

The MSUS Council recently met with University Advancement to discuss directions the organization might take to broadcast our message to a larger audience. The Council has explored some potentially new directions in our offerings, building on the solid base which has been developed in the dozen years we have been operating. After we meet again with the University group, we will share their ideas with members and generate discussion which we hope will advance MSUS in its continuing efforts to provide lifelong learning to our service area.

MSUS will be featured in an upcoming issue of Today at Minnesota State, an MSU publication which many of you receive.

Thanks for your continued support for MSUS. Keep in touch.

Joe Hogan, President

MSU-S NOTES

REGIONAL FOCUS

Where else can one go from back stage at the Minnesota Legislature to back stage at the MSU theatre? It is this variety of subjects that keeps
luring me back each quarter to the MSUS courses. The presenters are part of that mystique as they share immense knowledge about their subject areas. Those of us attending add to the magic by asking questions and adding our own experiences to the mix. Thus, I will continue to join my fellow seekers of knowledge, and I will continue to be grateful to all who make the experiences possible.

Irene Jeddeloh

COMMUNITY AND CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

PRESENTATION ON ADDICTION

There will be a presentation on ADDICTION & DESPAIR VS. RECOVERY & FREEDOM IN AN AGING SOCIETY on Friday, March 28. Registration is at 9 a.m. with the presentation from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. at the United Church of Christ. The presentation is by Gwen Delger, MS, LADC, a Senior Counselor with Fountain Centers Treatment Center, Albert Lea Medical Center. She will address the following issues:

--Current research on alcohol use/abuse in older adults which is expected to increase with the aging of the baby boomers;
--What needs to be done to improve our current systems to prepare for the “BOOMERS”?
--What will direct addiction treatment look like in the future, and who will pay? And,
--How can we as agencies and professional caregivers promote healthy aging?

THIRD ANNUAL CHESLEY LECTURE

Minnesota State University, Mankato’s Center on Aging and MAGEC South present the Third Annual Chesley Lecture “Living Well in the Midst of Change and Loss.”

Monday, April 7, 2008
Country Inn and Suites
1900 Premier Drive, Mankato

5:30 p.m. Reception with refreshments and hors d’oeuvres
6:00 p.m. Welcome and Speaker Introductions
   Dr. Tom Gillaspy
   Dr. Pauline Boss
8:00 p.m. Closing comments and adjourn

MSUS MEMBERS – Please remember to pick up your name tag when entering a class. It is our record of attendance. The number of attendees is important to the MSU Center of Extended Learning. It also helps us to get to know one another.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Scholarships are available for MSUS classes. To apply, please contact Anita at the office on Tuesday or Friday mornings and complete a brief application form.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Dr. Tom Gillaspy serves as the State Demographer in the Minnesota Department of Administration. He lectures widely on the impact the demographics of aging will have on our society.
Dr. Pauline Boss is Professor Emeritus in Family Social Sciences at the University of Minnesota and past President of the National Council on Family Relations. Her books, which will be available at the lecture, deal with ambiguous loss, the “frozen sadness” we have when we cannot really know what we have lost.

Register online at chesleylecture@mnsu.edu or by phone at (507) 389-1796. Payment of $10 per person or $5 per student will be collected at the door.

EDUCATIONAL DISCOVERY TOURS

An invitation to all members of Learning-In-Retirement Organizations

Educational Discovery Tours and Jean Bardot and Patrick Bulteau of the American University of Paris team up to offer educational travel programs in France and Spain for 2008.

--Programs are personalized and conducted by a university professor.
--Groups average about 25 participants.
--Hotels are 3-4 stars.
--Meals are carefully selected by our wine and food expert to feature regional specialties in characteristic settings.
--Many programs include all meals; some offer one to three meals “on own,” depending on itinerary.
--Costs are land-only, but include all lodging, touring transportation, sightseeing, admissions, lectures, and the majority of—if not all—meals (including wine).

Educational Discovery Tours will extend a $50 discount to travelers registering for the April in Paris program. When registering, please identify the organization with which you are affiliated.

Detailed itineraries and registration form online: www.EducationalDiscoveryTours.com

APRIL IN PARIS

Dates: April 23 – May 1, 2008
Cost: $1975 – Single + $435

NORMANDY AND PARIS

Our first land/river cruise program in France

Dates: May 1 – 13, 2008
Cost: $3150 – single + $675

FOOD, WINE AND ART IN BURGUNDY/CHAMPAGNE

Dates: June 18-30, 2008
Cost: $2975 – single + $475

THREE RIVERS/THREE COUNTRIES

Rhine, Mosel, Main/France, Germany, Switzerland

Dates: July 10-22, 2008
Cost: $3100 – single + $675

WINE & ART IN SPAIN

Dates: September 10-22, 2008
Cost: $2875 – single + $535

FOOD, WINE, AND ART IN AQUITAINE & THE BASQUE COUNTRY

Dates: October 18-30, 2008
Cost: $2900 – single + $475
MSU FOR SENIORS SPECIAL EVENTS

--April 10 – Minnesota Orchestra

--May 2 – St. Paul Chamber Orchestra at Wooddale

--June 11 – Walker Art Institute

The Special Events Committee members always welcome new ideas. Please feel free to call Dwain Petersen (345-6707) or Anita Dittrich (387-7180).

PLEASE NOTE:

Brian Gabel from the Athletic Office called and apologized for charging FULL PRICE at the Basketball Game on Saturday, February 16, and he expressed willingness to make it up to us by providing FREE entrance to MSU for Senior members at some other athletic event – maybe at a baseball game this spring or else next basketball season. Apparently there were “some other issues” involved that the Athletics Department needed to resolve; and as a result, our list of members was removed from the Box Office and everyone was charged full price.

MSU for Seniors Special Events Committee also apologizes for the inconvenience caused by this mix-up. More specific arrangements will be made for any future athletic event and the issue of including children/grandchildren will be clarified.

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MSUS POT LUCK GROUPS

We need people to serve as substitutes. On occasion, an ongoing group needs a couple or singles to fill in for one of their meetings. For the contribution of a salad, dessert, or vegetable you can meet new people, enjoy delicious food and get a sense of whether or not you might be interested in becoming an ongoing member. For more information, call Kay VanBuskirk at 388-6188.

Call the MSU for Seniors office (389-2011) if you want your name removed from our mailing list.

MSUS Officers:
President: Joe Hogan
Vice President: Donna Hanke
Treasurer: Chas. VanBuskirk
V. Treasurer: Al Berner
Secretary: Sally Burdick
V. Secretary: Eddice Barber
Past President: Helen Peterson
MSU Liaison/Ext. C.: Jean Clarke
MSU Liaison/Ext. C.: Pat Lipetzky
Ex-officio: Anita Dittrich

Committee Chairs:
Admin & Finance: C. VanBuskirk
Curriculum: Bob Utermohlen
Martha Auger
Membership: Bill Burns
Public Relations: Gloria Kennedy
Special Events: Dwain Petersen
Anita Dittrich

Nominating Committee:
Bill Bernhagen
Kelton Gage
Bea Moosally

Pot Luck
Chair: Al Berner

Bridge Group
Chair: Marion Woel