

Office of Alumni Relations and Development
Morehead State University
121 East Second Street
Morehead, KY 40351



2025 RETIREES NEWSLETTER

STAYING INFORMED &
ENGAGED!



MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

2025

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Paving the Way for the Next Generation

MSU is committed to student success and academic excellence, and our campus is evolving to reflect that commitment. Through strategic budgeting, state funding, and generous private gifts, renovation projects will enhance learning environments and the campus experience for years to come.

Science and Engineering Building



Prefontaine Hall



COMING SOON: Multidisciplinary Building

This state-funded \$90 million multidisciplinary building will provide new and updated academic spaces for students in business administration and music programs. The project is currently in the planning and design phase, with construction expected to start in Spring/Summer 2025 and be completed in Spring 2028.

To learn more about how we're Moving MSU Forward, visit
<https://www.moreheadstate.edu/forward>

Letter from Retirees Board President Jill Ratliff

Greetings-

As I look back on 2024, I would like to take this opportunity to express appreciation to several people who have worked together throughout the year to re-energize our MSU Retirees Association. My fellow board members, Lonnie Morris, Jerry Brunker, and LaTonya Hesterberg, attended meetings and provided thoughtful suggestions as we discussed issues and activities important to retirees. Our former board officers, Clyde James, Peggy Overly, and Judith Yancey, agreed to stay on as advisors to the new board officers. We genuinely appreciate their knowledge of our Association's history, and the wonderful guidance provided. And last but certainly not least, our wonderful board liaison Leslee Toy, Alumni Donor & Experience Officer and Farrah Baldwin, Director of Alumni Engagement and Cultivation, who attend every meeting and provide excellent support for our Association. We appreciate the significant effort put forth to pursue answers to questions, resolve retiree concerns, organize events and activities requested by the group, and help find ways to keep costs down to encourage participation.



The slate of activities for MSU retirees looks even better for 2025-26! We will provide numerous opportunities for retirees to socialize, reminisce, and travel together. I hope that you will try to participate in one or more of the activities. It is so nice when we can reconnect with people we worked with from across campus. I guarantee that you will see an old friend and/or make a new one! Come join us!

Jill Ratliff

Join Us for the Retirees Luncheon – May 21, 2025

Reconnect, celebrate, and get involved at the annual Retiree Luncheon! Enjoy a delicious meal, participate in officer elections for the Retirees Board, and learn more about the Retirees Association.



This year, the Retirees Association is continuing to support Eagle Essentials, MSU's campus store that provides free supplies to students in need. From non-perishable foods to hygiene products and school supplies, your donations make a difference. Bring an item to contribute to during the luncheon!

*Please complete the information update included at the end of the newsletter so that we may communicate event details as they become available.

MSU Retirees Association Leadership

The Morehead State University Retirees Association strives to keep retirees involved and engaged with the University. Members can participate in volunteer opportunities, social events, and travel opportunities. Thank you to the current Retirees Association Board Members for their commitment and dedication.

Board Members:

Jill Ratliff, President
Lonnie Morris, Vice President
Latonya Hesterberg, Secretary
Jerry Brunker, Social Activities

Clyde James, Board Member
Peggy Overly, Board Member
Judith Yancy, Board Member



Join the MSU Retirees Association Board!

We're looking for passionate and dedicated retirees to help shape the future of the MSU Retirees Association by serving on the Board for the 2025-2026 term. Whether you're nominating yourself or someone you believe would be a great fit, we want to hear from you!

If you're interested or know someone who would make a valuable addition to the Board, please contact Leslee Toy at l.toy@moreheadstate.edu to submit your nomination.

Together, we can continue making a meaningful impact and keep our MSU family connected!

Welcome, New Retirees!

On behalf of the Retirees Association and Morehead State University, we would like to take the opportunity to congratulate the following retirees for their commitment and service to the university. We wish you all the best as you begin a new chapter in your life.

If we have inadvertently left anyone off the list, please contact the alumni office by calling 606-783-2033.

2023 Retirees

Nelda Anderson
Curtis G. Colburn
Scott A. Davison
Craig D. Dennis
Greg J. Detweiler
Debbie Ellis
David L. Gregory
Jarred S. Hunt
Sandra G. Hunter
Carl S. Johnson
Jeanette Johnson

Randall McCoy
Ronald D. Morrison
Antony D. Norman
Lora L. Pace
Philip E. Prater
Sharon A. Reynolds
Sharon S. Reynolds
Randy Ross
Kembery Tackett
Greg Wing
Pamela S. Wright

2024 Retirees

S. A. Ahmadi
Royal Berglee
Daniel J. Connell
Karen E. Cornett
Timothy L. Creekmore
Vivian F. Cyrus
Bruce K. Grace
David P. Grise
Christopher G. Hampton
Kathy L. Hargett
Sheila R. Harman
Pamela S. Hammonds
Eric A. Jerde
Philip D. Johnson

Jeffrey A. Kruth
Dongfeng Li
Lucille Mays
Scott R. McGlone
Lynn C. Parsons
Daniel L. Porter
Brian C. Reeder
Sandra Riegler
Delar K. Singh
Timmy J. Sloan
Edward C. Staton
Christine Tackett
Denise M. Trusty
Angela S. Thompson



MSU Retirees & Friends in Charleston, SC.

Get Involved with the MSU Retirees Association!

Stay connected and engaged—you get back what you put into our community! Here's how:

- **Join Our Leadership Team**

Nominate yourself or someone else for the 2025-2026 Board. Elections are held at the Annual Spring Luncheon in May. Contact Leslee Toy at l.toy@moreheadstate.edu to learn more.

- **Attend Events**

Reconnect with colleagues at outings and activities designed to create lasting memories. Check alumni.moreheadstate.edu/events for details.

- **Volunteer**

Support initiatives like Eagle Essentials or help with key events like Move-In Day, Family Weekend, and Homecoming.



Retirees Peggy Osborne & Madonna Weathers take in the sights of Charleston, SC.

Leadership Board meetings are held quarterly at the Rowan County Public Library. Visit alumni.moreheadstate.edu/retirees for meeting dates and more information.

2025 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Join us for exciting events, from local activities to memorable trips.
Stay connected and celebrate your MSU spirit!

February 7-8

MSU Blue & Gold Weekend

May 21

Retirees Luncheon

September 16

Retiree Outing: Maysville, KY

March 3

Retirees Board Meeting

June 15-21

Cape Cod/Martha's Vineyard Trip

October 16-18

MSU Homecoming

March 7

Retirees Outing: "The Play That Goes Wrong"

July 7

Retirees Board Meeting

November 3

Retirees Board Meeting

March 28

Ribbon Cutting for Cooper Hall Renovation

July 12

MSU Alumni & Friends Day at the Reds

December 9

Retirees Outing: Bardstown, KY

April 26

MSU Spring Gala

Visit our Events Page for details:
alumni.moreheadstate.edu/events

Travel Opportunity



The MSU Alumni and Retirees Associations are excited to present a 7 day/6 night trip to:

Cape Cod & Martha's Vineyard June 15-21, 2025

Pricing:

Double Occupancy: \$1,699/person

Single Occupancy: \$2,099/person

Deposit*: \$150/person by Feb. 23

*Should the trip not make minimum, you will not be charged.

Final Payment: May 4

Travel Protection:

Travel protection can be purchased at \$171/person (double occ.) and \$199/person (single occ.). If you wish to purchase travel protection, please send a separate check to the MSU Alumni Office made payable to **PML Travel & Tours**.

Insurance premiums are not refundable, should your plans change.

**Register online at
alumni.moreheadstate.edu/traveldeposit
or call 606-783-2033**

Trip Includes:

- Charter bus transportation
- 6 nights hotel accommodations
- 6 breakfasts and 2 dinners
- Attractions listed below

Trip Highlights:

Scenic Ferry Ride & Tour of Martha's Vineyard

Spend the day exploring the natural beauty of this idyllic island! Enjoy historic villages with gingerbread cottages and stately white mansions.

Guided Tour of Sandwich, MA

Tour the oldest city on Cape Cod!

Heritage Museum & Gardens

Wander through 100 acres of gardens and multiple museums!

Whale Watching OR Dune Tour

Choose between a whale watching tour on the Atlantic or a dune tour along the Cape Cod National Seashore.

Guided Tour of Hyannis

Visit the John F. Kennedy Memorial, Korean War Memorial and more.

Travel Historic Route 6A

"The Old King's Highway" winds through centuries of Cape Cod history, past hundreds of historic structures leading to "Land's End" Provincetown.



Discover Your On-Campus Retiree Benefits!

As a valued MSU retiree, you have access to a variety of on-campus perks designed to keep you connected and supported. From library access to fitness facilities, explore the many ways you can continue to enjoy the MSU experience!

Athletic Tickets

- ✓ Discounted Price - Tickets may be purchased at Morehead State University Athletics - Official Athletics Website
- ✓ Ticket Rate Per Individual Sport/ Season Pass:
 - Basketball: \$100 per Ticket (Bleacher Seating), or \$245 per Ticket (Chairback Seating)
 - Football: \$40 per Ticket
 - Baseball/ Softball/ Soccer/ Volleyball: \$30 per Ticket

Barnes and Noble Bookstore

- ✓ Discount - 10% (MSU Campus location only)

Camden-Carroll Library

- ✓ Retirees are welcome to use the Camden-Carroll Library. A user card can be purchased for \$6 at the front desk.

Career Services

- ✓ Free - The services of the Center for Career Development and Experiential Education are available to MSU alumni and retirees for lifetime at no charge. Jobs and volunteer opportunities targeted for MSU are always posted on Eagle CareerNet at www.moreheadstate.edu/careernet

KY Folk Art Center

- ✓ Free - No cost to visit the Museum and enjoy the beautiful artwork and displays of local artists.

Parking Permit

- ✓ Free
Retirees of Morehead State University are eligible to receive a complimentary parking pass each year, which provides designated parking when you visit campus. To receive your parking pass, please complete the form at the link below. Passes are mailed to you via the University Police or may be picked up in person. <https://alumni.moreheadstate.edu/retireeparking>.

MSU Theatre Tickets

- ✓ Discount - \$6 tickets
Tickets are available at the box office in Breckinridge Hall or may be purchased online.

Space Science Center

- ✓ Discount - Public shows on Saturdays, \$10 for adults, \$5 for children and seniors, free for MSU card holders.

Tuition Waivers

- ✓ Free - If age 65+
MSU offers the Caudill Scholarship to individuals 65 years of age, which covers tuition and fees. All that we require is a photo ID, driver's license, or other form of government identification, that lists the individual's date of birth.

Recreation & Wellness Center

- ✓ Free - If age 65+
Silver Sneakers Program: United Healthcare
- ✓ Discount
\$100 per semester, \$200 per academic year, \$40 per summer or \$240 annually
\$10 per individual fitness class

Recreation & Wellness Center

- ✓ Free
If you have an interest in staying fit and remaining engaged, Fit Eagles may be for you! Join this supportive group on Mondays and Thursdays at 11:30, for a walk on our beautiful campus. you will meet at the Belltower.

Dr. Dan Connell: A Legacy of Service and Support



Dr. Dan Connell joined Morehead State University in 1987 and dedicated nearly 40 years to academic services, regional education, and leadership roles, including vice president for academic affairs. He retired in 2023, leaving an indelible mark on MSU and its surrounding communities.

As part of his enduring commitment to education, Dr. Connell and the MSU Foundation established the Donna and Dan Connell Scholarship Endowment, honoring his late wife and their shared passion for student success. This scholarship benefits first-generation college students participating in MSU's TRIO programs.

"I so enjoyed my career here," said Connell. "Our scholarship will hopefully ensure that future students receive the same enjoyment from MSU as I did."

Dr. Connell's work continues to shape the lives of MSU students, embodying the spirit of giving back and making a difference.



Scan the QR code to read more about Dr. Connell's remarkable career and legacy!

MAKE A LASTING IMPACT—CREATE YOUR OWN SCHOLARSHIP

Have you ever considered how you can leave a lasting legacy while making a meaningful difference in the lives of students? Establishing a scholarship is a powerful way to support future generations of Eagles, helping them achieve their dreams and excel at Morehead State University.

By creating a scholarship, you can:

- Honor a loved one or celebrate your own MSU journey.
- Empower students by easing the financial burden of higher education.
- Shape the future by investing in the leaders of tomorrow.

If you're ready to explore how you can make this meaningful contribution, we're here to guide you every step of the way. Contact the Office of Alumni Relations and Development at **606-783-2033** to learn more about establishing your own scholarship. Together, we can create opportunities that last a lifetime.

Plan for Your Future and Make a Difference with Planned Giving

Did you know there are ways to support Morehead State University that also benefit you and your loved ones? Planned giving offers flexible options that can align with your goals while making a meaningful impact on future generations of Eagles.

Here are just a few options to consider:

- **Wills & Trusts:** Include a bequest to MSU in your will or trust, allowing your assets to remain under your control during your lifetime.
- **Retirement Plans:** Name MSU as a beneficiary of your IRA or 401(k) to avoid double taxation on your savings while supporting the University's mission.
- **Gifts That Provide Income:** Options like charitable gift annuities or trusts allow you to make a substantial contribution while enjoying fixed income payments for life.
- **Real Estate & Personal Property:** Donate appreciated assets or property to benefit MSU programs while receiving tax benefits.

Why Consider Planned Giving?

- **It's flexible**—many options don't affect your current lifestyle or cash flow.
- **It's impactful**—your gift creates opportunities for students and strengthens MSU's future.
- **It's rewarding**—you can leave a legacy that reflects your values and priorities.

Planned giving isn't just about giving; it's about creating opportunities for you and your family while ensuring a bright future for MSU. Whether you're looking to make an immediate impact or plan for the future, there's an option that fits your needs.

If you're interested in learning more, the **Office of Alumni Relations and Development** is here to help. Contact us at **606-783-2033** or **giving@moreheadstate.edu** to explore your options and find a plan that works best for you.

**Your legacy can start today—
on your terms.**



Dr. Latonya Hesterberg (Retiree & Board Secretary) speaks with Craig Dennis (Retiree) & wife Amanda Dennis (MSU Alumni)

Honoring Our Former Employees: Memorial Brick Program

Morehead State University is proud to commemorate the faithful service of our former employees through the Memorial Brick Program. This tribute recognizes those who have passed during or after their employment, with their names forever inscribed along the Memorial Brick Walk in the heart of campus.

The Memorial Brick Dedication Ceremony takes place annually on the Friday of Homecoming Weekend.

We strive to honor all former employees who have passed. If you know of a retired or current faculty or staff member who has not been recognized, please contact us at **606-783-2033**.

For more information, visit
alumni.moreheadstate.edu/memorialbricks



2024 Memorial Brick Honorees

DR. LAWRENCE ALBERT

DR. JOE BENDIXEN

DR. REX CHANEY

JAMES BUFORD CRAGER

DR. WENDALL CROSS

JIMMY DEHART

GRETТА DUNCAN

ELIZABETH NESBITT

DR. EUGENE HASTINGS

SANFORD K. HILL

DR. RYAN HOWARD

RONALD JONES

JASON JUSTICE

ROY KIDD

WILLIS KING

DR. WANDA LETENDRE

RONALD MACE

BILL MALONE

KEITH MOORE

DR. MORRIS NORFLEET

DR. GARY NORTH

NANCY O'DELL

SHIRLEY PARKER

VINCENT SEMARY

DR. RONALD SKIDMORE

BEN SPANGLER

MARY STACY

SUE VENCILL

ROBERT H. WOLFE

Call for Nominations: 2025 MSU Founders Award for University Service

Dr. Sue Luckey, the 2024 recipient of the MSU Founders Award, exemplifies the dedication and impact this honor celebrates. As a faculty member, department chair, and founder of the MSU Retirees Association, her service has left a lasting legacy at Morehead State University.

Established in 1978, this award honors exceptional service by employees or volunteers. The 2025 award will be presented during the Homecoming Awards Banquet on October 17, 2025.

Submit your nomination by May 1, 2025, and celebrate those who make MSU extraordinary.

Visit alumni.moreheadstate.edu/foundersaward to nominate or view past recipients.



Email Access After Retirement or Separation: What You Need to Know

Currently, MSU Faculty has access to their email accounts for 180 days (about 6 months), after this time it is deactivated. Staff have access to their emails for 60 days (about 2 months), and after this time it is deactivated. There are some faculty & staff grandfathered in and still have access to email accounts prior to 2019.

Upon retirement or separation, an active email needs to be updated with the Office of Alumni Relations & Development.

Stay Connected: Update Your Information

Name of retiree: _____

Department at time of retirement: _____

Retirement date: _____

Name of spouse/partner: _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Non-MSU Email: _____

Please check if this is a new name or address:

- ☐ New Name
- ☐ New Address



Please return to:
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Morehead State University
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