

# ALUMNI CIRCUIT

*John Winecker has been a dedicated high school teacher with a lifelong love of athletics.*

## MAL & FRIENDS

**NJIT Magazine invites new correspondents to join Mal Simon in sharing news about class members and alumni organizations. Professor emeritus of physical education and athletics, Mal was director of physical education and athletics, and men's soccer coach, for 30 years. In 1993, he received the Cullimore Medal for his service to the university.**

**If you would like to be a regular correspondent, don't hesitate to send an e-mail to the editor of NJIT Magazine: dean.maskevich@njit.edu**

*First, the latest news from Mal —*

What do an architect, engineer, FBI agent, lawyer, minister, physician, publisher and a teacher/coach have in common? This column, and the one to follow in the next issue, will tell you. The column is a team effort. It started when **Don Paulsen '51** sent me the booklet *One of These Engineers Is an Engineer*, an NCE publication of decades past that tells the stories of eight alumni who, except for one, followed very successful paths other than engineering. Don and I thought it would be interesting to learn about their lives in more recent times. This column will feature four of these alumni. Don and **John Winecker '59** wrote their own accounts. **Dan Keesee '58**, who is now legally blind, needed help from his daughter, Mary, to write his story. **Margaret Shreehan '64**, the original engineer, treated me to coffee and a blueberry muffin at Starbucks where she added some extra tidbits to her written story. The column will end with the story of **Ray McEntee '61**, who I met for the first time in over 50 years at the 50th wedding anniversary and renewal of wedding vows of his brother, **Bob '63** and his wife, Bev, in Randolph, New Jersey.



*Don Paulsen '51, whose story is as interesting as those of the eight NCE grads in the booklet he shared.*

**Don Paulsen** wrote of himself, "In May 1971 my Dad passed away and the leadership of his architectural firm fell on my shoulders. This was especially difficult since one of the other partners also left the firm. Another problem was that I had not met many of the clients. These problems were overcome and the firm carried on for 27 more years until I retired in 1998. We completed many projects for the Jersey City, Verona, Cedar Grove and Mt. Arlington school systems as well as Jersey City and Montclair State Teachers Colleges. In addition, new buildings were designed in Jersey City for the Salvation Army and

C.F. Mueller Co., and the Christ Hospital Medical Arts Building. The Jersey City and Newark Housing Authorities provided a great deal of alteration work.

In 1990, I moved the firm to my hometown of Verona. Although we continued to do urban work, most of our new projects were in the suburbs. Like my father, whose favorite project was the Veterans Administration Hospital in East Orange, my favorite was the Verona Community Center. This became my 'swan song' because after a triple-bypass heart operation I decided to retire in 1998. At this point, my wife, Jan, and I decided to move to New Hampshire to be near three of our children.

After a few years of boredom, I became re-energized when I began to volunteer at the local hospital, which I continue to do. I had to give up my favorite sport of tennis, but occasionally ski and play golf. As a brief respite from the long New Hampshire winters, Jan and I spend the month of February in Florida."

**John Winecker** wrote, "The 70s saw me continue my teaching career at North Hunterdon High School. My engineering education allowed me to teach not only algebra but to include courses on surveying, slide rule and calculator, and shop math in the curriculum. Having been a lifelong athlete and soccer player at NCE, I started a boys' soccer team that eventually moved from club to varsity status. During these years, I would bring my teams to NCE/NJIT for games against Glen Rock High School coached by another former NCE goalkeeper, Bill Carbone.

In the 1980s, society was changing and I started a girls' soccer club that was approved as a varsity

team by the school administration in 1986. The farm girls were good and in our first year we had an 18-0 season. I was actively involved in the New Jersey Girls' Soccer Coaches Association. My NCE math skills came in handy as I was the association's treasurer, and also sold tickets and kept score at most of the school's sports. When I retired I became the announcer for the boys' and girls' soccer games. To this day I assist the regular announcer by doing the spotting and providing player information.

By the 1990s, our family was growing and traveling was on our agenda. My wife, Pat, who has been by my side for 57 years has planned trips and vacations to Iceland, Jamaica, Mexico, Hawaii, Alaska and across the continental USA. We celebrated our 50th anniversary in Playa del Carmen, Mexico, in 2010. After retiring in 1995, I worked part-time. While delivering auto parts for a local car dealership, I was involved in an accident caused by someone running a red light. The serious injuries I sustained changed my life in a number of ways and kept me housebound for almost a year. However, I never gave up my love of sports and young people and continue



*John Winecker '59 and his wife, Pat, celebrating 50 years of marriage in Mexico.*

# CLASS NOTES

to attend many games, primarily soccer and basketball. Our grandson is almost out of high school and looking for his career path. Our prayer is that he will be as fortunate as I was and make a living doing something he loves.”

I located **Dan Keese** in Conroe, Texas, and had some long phone conversations with him reminiscing about his days at NCE. He is legally blind, and while his story includes some information from those phone calls, it's mostly the combined effort of Dan and his daughter, Mary, who lives in Florham Park, New Jersey. Prior to NCE, Dan spent a year at Jersey City State Teachers College and two years in the U.S. Army, earning the Korean Service Medal with two bronze stars. While at Fort Dix in New Jersey, Dan played football for the division artillery team. He was selected for the first Army All-Star Team and played against the Air Force All-Star Team in the first U.S. Armed Forces bowl game.

Dan graduated from NCE with honors as an electrical engineer. Although he was a member of the radio club and took part in fraternity activities, I recall his prowess as a varsity fencer and co-captain in his senior year. After completing pre-medical requirements at the University of Tennessee while teaching and obtaining a master's in electrical engineering, Dan earned his MD from the College of Medicine at the University of Louisville in Kentucky. Following an internship at the South Side Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, he became director of biomedical engineering research at Sandoz Pharmaceuticals in East Hanover, New Jersey, and then manager of

biomedical engineering at Union Carbide in Tarrytown, New York.

Licensed to practice medicine in Kentucky, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Texas, Dan is a member of numerous professional organizations and honor societies. He is the author of many refereed publications, has conducted biomedical and electronic research, and given oral and written presentations on aviation, industrial and sports medicine. You would think this would be enough to keep him on the ground, but he also was a commercial pilot, flight and ground instructor, and aviation medical examiner. Not to get bored, Dan coached softball and was team physician for the football team at Hanover Park High School, as well as Eucharistic Minister at St. Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, New Jersey.

Dan worked for 21 years in private family medicine in Florham Park, New Jersey, and as clinical chief of the Department of Family Practice at St. Barnabas Medical Center. He was invited to head the Family Practice Residency Program at the Medical Center Hospital in Conroe, Texas, and held both this position and his private practice until retiring due to his worsening eye problems.

**Margaret Shreehan** lived in the Ironbound section of Newark until she graduated from NCE. Despite being valedictorian of her Eastside High School class, one of her teachers told her she would never be an engineer, although another encouraged her to go to NCE. She returned to Eastside after graduation from NCE to speak with both teachers, thanking one for his support and needling the other.

Margaret wrote, “I entered NCE in 1960 with certain misgivings. In those days, engineering was thought of as a ‘man’s profession.’ In fact, in previous years there had been only one or two women per class. Things were changing and my class had 13 women. Unfortunately, even after four years things had not changed enough. After 33 interviews, I received only two employment offers, one from the U.S. Patent Office and the other from Newport News Shipbuilding. Both offers were at maybe two-thirds of the salaries men were receiving. Luckily, while waiting for a bus at

*Margaret Shreehan was one of the 13 women in the NCE Class of 1964.*

the corner of Broad and Market Streets in Newark, I noticed an employment agency sign, went in, and my career at the Lummus Company in Bloomfield, New Jersey, was on its way.

My career started in the Process Engineering Department and involved assignments designing petroleum distillation units, catalytic reformers, catalytic crackers and hydrocrackers for projects in the U.S., Chile, Brazil, Honduras and Europe. In the early 1970s, I wanted to learn all aspects of Lummus’ business and joined the Proposal Department. Starting as a proposal manager, I was promoted to assistant manager and eventually manager of the department.

The 70s were a time of change for Lummus and me. There were shortages of natural gas to

which Lummus and our clients responded by building facilities to convert naphtha into natural gas. There also was what was called the ‘Hefty Explosion,’ the growing use of plastic bags. These bags, made from polyethylene, required many more ethylene plants worldwide. There was also the opening of markets in China and the Soviet Union. These developments meant more proposals to present Lummus’ capabilities. Another change for me was recognizing that I could be of more value to Lummus with an MBA, so I completed an MBA in finance at Fairleigh Dickinson.

The 80s were a turbulent time for the engineering/construction industry, including Lummus. The impact of deregulation, energy conservation and excessive oil production brought oil prices down, and many oil-related projects were no longer viable. This, coupled with over-building in petrochemicals, resulted in a severe downturn in the hydrocarbon processing industry. Lummus responded by focusing on Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

I also felt it was time to give back and volunteered with Literacy Volunteers. For the next 10 years, I worked with an elderly woman who wanted to continue her education and get her high school diploma. The 90s were exciting times for me. My responsibilities changed from proposal preparation to specific assignments on major projects for Russia and other developing countries. My MBA came in handy as I performed financial analyses for numerous projects to prepare our clients for financing applications with USAID and the World Bank.

*Ray McEntee is working on shooting his age in golf and getting close to becoming a Life Master in bridge.*

In 1999 another downturn in Lummus' markets led the company to offer an early retirement package. I took the package and planned to continue the tutoring I had done before. Unfortunately, illness interrupted that plan and I spent the next six years in an assisted-living facility. As my health improved, I started programs with the residents on various aspects of technology as well as participating in debates on current events. I also started tutoring a young man who had been injured and was hoping to attend college. My health continued to improve to the point where I could live alone and I moved to Nob Hill, a duplex apartment in Roseland, New Jersey. I now spend my time making jams and jellies, pickling fruits and vegetables, making flavored vinegars and reading."

**Ray McEntee** tells about his NCE days that began in 1958 when he transferred from Stevens. "I played baseball for two years at Stevens and two more at NCE for Coach Paul Hausser, a terrific guy. We played in Branch Brook Park on what could be called a diamond but it wasn't. What a difference from today. Last year, I watched the NJIT baseball team play in Durham, North Carolina, and sat in awe watching the professionalism of the players, dressed in sharp uniforms, playing the game the right way and knocking the dirt out of the ball. They were so much bigger than the players in my days.

At NCE, baseball didn't start until January and I needed something to do in the fall. My brother, Bob, was playing goalie for the soccer team so I began hanging around

and pretty soon Mal Simon had me carrying towels and balls and running the clock during games. That was the year the team won the national championship and I can assure you it would have been done without me on the sideline. What I remember most about that team is how many were from Europe and South America and how rough they played, and how Mal spent an inordinate amount of time trying to instill discipline. There were lots of yellow cards that year until they got the message and settled down to be a cohesive championship squad.

I left NCE with a bachelor's in chemical engineering in 1961, worked for a big company for a while and in 1971 co-founded PME Equipment, Inc., a sales-engineering firm selling powder-handling systems in the greater New York area mainly to food, pharmaceuticals, plastics and chemical companies. PME operates today from its headquarters in Flanders, New Jersey, and is the leading company in its field. I eventually sold the business and moved to Chapel Hill, North Carolina, with Elizabeth, to whom I have been married for 50 years. I am trying to shoot my age on the golf course and am getting close to becoming a Life Master in bridge."

The next issue will include the stories of **Antonius Genakos '61**, **H. Alton Neff '63**, **J. Elton Touhig '38** and **Chester Galloway '34**, the four other alumni featured in the original booklet. All alumni are encouraged to be part of this issue so keep your news coming to me at [mjs@njit.edu](mailto:mjs@njit.edu).

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Do you have news about your career, your family, an avocation? Share it in a class note for *NJIT Magazine*. And be sure to let us know if you have a new address.

**On the Web**, use the form at [www.njit.edu/alumni/classnotes](http://www.njit.edu/alumni/classnotes).

**By e-mail**, send news and photos with graduation year(s) to [alumni-classnotes@njit.edu](mailto:alumni-classnotes@njit.edu).

**Via U.S. mail to:** Robert A. Boynton,  
Executive Director, Alumni Relations  
New Jersey Institute of Technology  
Eberhardt Hall NJIT Alumni Center, Room 218  
323 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Newark, NJ 07102-1982

## 1931

**Arthur DeCastro** (CheE) says that he still enjoys keeping up with NJIT news more than 80 years after graduation.

*Editor's note: Arthur wrote to us in January. We are sad to say that he passed away in March.*

## 1941

**Kenneth Coleman** (ME) writes that he has been enjoying retirement since 1991, having worked for Electrons, Inc., Federal Telephone and Radio, U.S. Testing Company, Inc., Douglas Aircraft Company and the Los Angeles Unified School District.

## 1966

**Robert Rosenzweig** (ChE) has retired after 38 years with Lummus Technology. His last position with the company was senior project manager, Olefins Group.

## 1970

**Brian G. Kiernan** (EE), recently retired vice president and chief scientist of InterDigital, is the 2013 recipient of the Hans Karlsson Award established by the Computer Society to honor achievement in the development of computer standards.



## NORTHERN RENDEZVOUS

Members of the Class of 1947 were among those who gathered for the Northern New Jersey Regional Alumni Club Sunday Brunch at McLoone's Boat House in West Orange, New Jersey. Seated is Carl Pasquale and standing (from left) are Joe Agnello, Joe Messina and Melvin Wolkstein.

# CLASS NOTES

## 1974

**Frank Navratil** (IE), formerly an executive at Eaton Corp., has been installed as a non-executive director on the board of Kirk Key Interlock Co. Frank spent 33 years with Eaton, first as a marketing and general manager and later as vice president for sales and marketing and then vice president in the company's Electrical Group. He retired from Eaton in 2007 and has consulted for Kirk Key since 2011.

## 1978

**Lieutenant General Ellen M. Pawlikowski** (ChE), commander, Space and Missile Systems Center, Air Force Space Command, discussed the importance of space to national security at the final luncheon of the Space Foundation's 29th National Space Symposium in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

## 1981

**Brigadier General Michael L. Cunniff** (IE) is the adjutant general of New Jersey, commanding more than 9,000 soldiers and airmen of the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard. He directs the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs in the execution of federal and state missions. In addition, he manages all state veterans' programs, commissions and facilities in New Jersey.

**Charles Gruber** (ChE) has been appointed president and chief operating officer of Safe Reflections, Inc., a global firm specializing in custom reflective trims, graphic transfers and printed labels.

## 1984

**Carolyn Salzmann** (ChE), a personal injury attorney in Orlando, Florida, was accepted into the Million Dollar Advocates Forum. The Forum is one of the most prestigious groups of trial lawyers in the United States and its membership is limited to attorneys who have won million-dollar verdicts and settlements.

## 1986

**Martin Pettesch** (ME) has been named president of Universal Valve Co., which manufactures service-station equipment. He has been with Universal for more than 25 years, holding positions that have included design engineer, operations manager, manager of engineering, vice president of engineering and executive vice president. In 1997, he was honored by the New Jersey Inventors Hall of Fame with the Young Inventor Award for his achievements in industrial design.

**Ronald Michels** (EE), president and chief executive officer of ANADIGICS, Inc., will also serve as chairman of the board of directors. Previously, he was the company's executive vice president and chief technology officer, and senior vice president and general manager of broadband products. Before joining ANADIGICS, he held engineering and management positions at Lockheed Electronics, New Jersey Public Broadcasting and K&M Broadcasting.

**Ronald Stanko PE, LEEDS AP** (ME) has joined Hanson Professional Services Inc.'s New York metropolitan office, serving the firm's telecommunications

market. Hanson is an employee-owned consulting firm providing engineering, architecture, planning and allied services.

## 1987

**William C. Mener** (ME) has been appointed industrial hygiene services group manager for the Montville, New Jersey, regional office of PM Environmental, Inc., a full-service environmental consulting firm with offices throughout the United States. William brings over 27 years of environmental and industrial hygiene experience to his new position.

## 1988

**Anthony S. Pecci PE** (CE), based in Dewberry's Bloomfield, New Jersey, office has been promoted to senior vice president. Dewberry provides architecture, engineering, and management and consulting services to a wide range of clients in the public and private sectors.

## 1990

**Nitin Sabnis PE** (CE) is a new resident engineer based in the Bloomfield, New Jersey, office of Dewberry. Sabnis will be responsible for inspecting and supervising daily field activities for three private-developer projects.

## 1991

**Desmond E. Macauley** (EE) has been named director of mortgage strategy as part of expansion in securitized residential mortgage finance by ARMOUR Residential Management LLC, manager of ARMOUR Residential Reit, Inc.

**Anthony Russo** (ME) is the recently named executive vice president of government affairs and communications for the Commerce and Industry Association of New Jersey.

**Joseph Rambala MS** (EE) now has the post of vice president and general manager for the integrated electronic warfare systems business area of the Electronic Systems Division (ES) at ITT Exelis. The ES Division provides advanced solutions that detect and counter emerging threats across the electromagnetic spectrum, protecting and enabling U.S. and allied forces to perform their critical missions.

## 1993

**Christopher J. Taylor PE** (CE) has been hired by Arup, a multi-disciplinary engineering and consulting firm as associate principal to augment its regional transit market offerings. His primary responsibility will be to deliver a major high-speed rail project in Texas while growing the rail business in the Northeast, working out of Arup's New York office.

## 1995

**Jason S. Miller** (IE) is a new partner in the Intellectual Property Group at the Orlando, Florida, office of the law firm Roetzel. In addition to his NJIT degree, Miller earned a JD from the University of Dayton School of Law.

## 1998

**Martin Boyd** MS (Eng. Mgmt.), formerly a vice president at Toyota Material Handling, U.S.A., has been appointed vice president of sales and marketing at RSI Development LLC, based in Newport Beach, California. Martin brings extensive management experience in marketing and strategic planning to his new role. He will be responsible for business development and management of The New House built by RSI, an innovative and affordable homebuilding solution that allows a high-quality, energy-efficient home to be built in 40 working days or less.

## 1999

**Peter Mauro** MS (IE), a sergeant in the Park Ridge, New Jersey, Police Department, was named Officer of the Year. His current responsibilities include heading the Traffic Bureau. He has also been a member of the Park Ridge Volunteer Fire Department for more than 30 years and chief since January 2012. After working in the private sector for ten years, Mauro joined the Park Ridge Police Department as a patrolman in 1999 and was promoted to sergeant in 2008.

## 2000

**John Diebold** (IE) MS '09 is director of consulting at Boston-based Commonwealth Supply Chain Advisors. The firm helps companies of all sizes structure their supply-chain networks, design distribution centers, and select and implement warehouse management systems.

**Feng Peng** MS (Computer and Information Science) has been appointed chief financial officer of Ossen Innovation Co., Ltd., a manufacturer of plain-surface, rare-earth and zinc-coated pre-stressed steel materials.

**Ahmed M. Soliman** (Professional and Technical Communication) will be practicing law as a member of the firm Stark & Stark, P.C., based in the firm's Princeton, New Jersey, office.

## 2005

**Michael Maggio** MS (Environmental Science) is a recently appointed Global Corporate Consultancy partner, bringing over 20 years of experience in packaging, engineering, sustainability and project management to his new position.

## 2006

**Yuanqiu Luo** PhD (EE), senior staff engineer at Huawei Technologies in Bridgewater, New Jersey, is making significant contributions to standardization of passive optical network (PON) technology through work with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) as an editor of ITU-T Recommendation G.989.2 for 40-gigabit PON networks.

## 2012

**Amit Barman** MS (Computer Science), in addition to writing his own apps and games, is a senior software engineer at The Scylla Group, Inc., in Winchester, Virginia, a digital media agency specializing in apps and mobile devices.



PHOTO: JED MEDINA

## THE PLACE TO OPEN DOORS

"I've already interviewed with two companies and it's been very positive. I'm really impressed with how many employers are here." That's what an NJIT student said of his experience at the university's spring 2013 career fair whose nearly 2000 attendees included many who would soon be alumni.

More than 150 registered employers represented dozens of fields, among them engineering, architecture, manufacturing, information technology, business and financial services, health services, communications, government, not-for-profit and more. Some of the employers participating were AT&T, Biomet, Boeing, Colgate-Palmolive, Hatch Mott MacDonald, Infineum, Johnson & Johnson, McGraw Hill, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and PSE&G.

"NJIT career fairs are wonderful events for students to interact with prospective employers," says Greg Mass, executive director, NJIT Career Development Services. "We host career fairs each semester at NJIT and they have proven to be highly effective venues for our graduates to seek full-time employment and for students to obtain summer, internship and co-op offers."

<http://njit.edu/cds>

## IN MEMORIAM

NJIT sadly notes the deaths of the following alumni:

**Arthur DeCastro '31**  
**Paul E. Schwartz '38**  
**Edward J. Tullman, Sr. '39**  
**George Stephen Felber '40**  
**Frederick Stober '46, '50**  
**James L. Rigassio '48**  
**Hugh H. Dinsmore '49, '56**  
**John Dempsey '50, '58**  
**Robert Olin Weidenmuller '54**  
**Mark R. Forte '56, '60**

**Olavi E. Vehmas '58**  
**Michael M. Yanak '60**  
**Richard H. Bennett '64**  
**Paul McGovern '65, '81**  
**Frederic L. Blum '66**  
**Richard Herson '70**  
**Joseph Bodnar '72**  
**Richard E. Barber '73**  
**Donald M. Widdows '78**  
**William J. Kearns, Sr. '72**  
**Keith Sherrick '82**  
**Gregory L. Burnham '84**  
**Denise (McNamara) Garver '94**  
**Thomas James Meyer '03, '06**

# ALUMNI CALENDAR

## SAVE THE DATE!

### CELEBRATION 2013

Friday, November 8  
Pleasantdale Chateau  
West Orange, New Jersey

NJIT's annual festive evening in support of endowed scholarships for students.

Information:  
Jacquie Rhodes  
973-596-3407 or rhodes@njit.edu

Also visit [www.njit.edu/celebration](http://www.njit.edu/celebration)

For the most current information about Alumni Association activities, visit [www.njit.edu/alumni](http://www.njit.edu/alumni).

Join us on Facebook and LinkedIn too.  
Go to [www.njit.edu/alumni/community](http://www.njit.edu/alumni/community).

**NJIT** The Alumni Association of NJIT Newsletter  
"Where Past and Present Make the Future"  
New Jersey's Science & Technology University THE EDGE IN KNOWLEDGE

NJIT's Alumni Association newsletter, produced quarterly by the Association's Communications Committee, is another way to stay in touch with your alma mater. It features current news of upcoming events around the country, as well as updates from the Alumni Association's Board of Directors, Regional Alumni Clubs, Corporate Clubs, Young Alumni Committee, Golden Highlanders, NJIT Athletics, and more.

The newsletter is distributed primarily by e-mail, so please keep your e-mail address up to date with the Office of Alumni Relations. To update your address, e-mail Alumni Relations at [alumni@njit.edu](mailto:alumni@njit.edu) or call 973-596-3441. Be sure to provide your class graduation year and full name with any updates. Visit [www.njit.edu/alumni](http://www.njit.edu/alumni) to read past issues of the newsletter.

## CORPORATE CLUBS

NJIT's Corporate Clubs provide valuable networking opportunities for alumni in the workplace while also assisting NJIT students and faculty. Current Corporate Clubs include: Hatch Mott MacDonald, PSE&G, Schering-Plough, Turner Construction and United Parcel Service. For more information: [www.njit.edu/alumni/clubs](http://www.njit.edu/alumni/clubs)

## REGIONAL CLUBS

NJIT Regional Clubs are planning events across the country. For more information: [www.njit.edu/alumni/clubs](http://www.njit.edu/alumni/clubs)

## YOUNG ALUMNI CLUB

The Young Alumni Club organizes social, networking, and educational events for alumni and their families. For more information: [www.njit.edu/alumni/clubs](http://www.njit.edu/alumni/clubs)



## BOWLING IN BELLEVILLE

*Young Alumni Club members recently enjoyed Bowling Night at Brunswick Lanes In Belleville, New Jersey.*