REPORTING FROM DOWN UNDER

Bob McEntee (CE ’62) couldn’t resist sharing the following account of the enviable experience that began as he and his wife, Beverly (St. Michael’s RN ’61), celebrated a very special occasion.

Bondi Beach, Sydney, Australia 2/5–3/13/2014

A chance encounter with a couple from Australia on the cruise that Beverly and I took to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary in 2012 led to a vacation experience of a lifetime. Who would have thought that this friendship that developed on the cruise would evolve into a five-week stay at a beach-front apartment on world-famous Bondi Beach? But it did, and when Cedric and Angela suggested that we “house sit” an apartment for their friend on Bondi Beach for minimal maintenance costs, it did not take an engineering or nursing degree to conclude this was a no-brainer.

So on February 5 we took the 20-hour flight to Sydney in the land of Oz. Since I’ve been inclined to be a beach bum all my life, living on a beach with world-class views from the apartment made a really memorable experience. Don’t forget, this was Australia at the end of their summer with temps in the 80’s and water temps in the 70’s, perfect for a New Jersey getaway where the winter snow storms were setting new records.

We found the people in Australia to be extremely friendly and outgoing. Having a host family in Sydney was a true blessing as we were able to visit many sites that most tourists may never see. The highlight was the trip to the Blue Mountain range with spectacular views of their “Three Sisters” from Echo Point.

On days when the weather did not cooperate, we toured the surrounding suburbs and downtown Sydney. Sydney is a very cosmopolitan city with a beautifully developed harbor area, much more so than its sister city, San Francisco. On our tour through the famed opera house we were treated to a practice performance by the Sydney Symphonic Orchestra in their main theater, which gave us an appreciation of the acoustical design of that famous “sea shell” structure. We also learned there are five separate and distinct theater halls within the structure, which allows them to hold multiple events simultaneously.

Sydney-siders, as they are known, and Australians in general, are blessed with an extensive and efficient public transportation system, including trains, buses and ferries. One does not need, nor want, a car to commute throughout Sydney. Timetables and maps for all routes are conveniently located on their website, and bus timetables are shown at all major stops. Express buses to and from the Circular Quay, Sydney’s downtown harbor, stopped directly in front of our apartment. Our Sundays were devoted to a ferry ride to Manly Beach, where we would meet our host family for a home-cooked meal and some of their excellent Australian wine.

I joined a local fitness facility that appeared to be the Gold’s Gym of Bondi Beach. I found most of the young Australians to be extremely fit, but they also love their beer. Sunday mornings on the beaches are overtaken by hundreds of young children between six and ten years of age competing in sand and ocean races. Simultaneously, age group competition for one and two km open-ocean swimming races is held for adults, something akin to the open-road races we are more familiar with in the States.

I took advantage of the spectacular coastal walkway between Bondi Beach and Bronte Beach for my morning runs. Google that site for some outstanding photos.

For those of you contemplating a visit to the Land Down Under, just know that it is very expensive. We found that most of the staples are about twice what the cost is in the States. One positive outcome is that Bev, who is so coupon conscious, has vowed to never again complain about the food prices back home. But what do they say…never say never.

Cheers mate, Bob and Bev

Beverly and Bob McEntee at Australia’s Blue Mountains.

A MAGNETIC HONOR

“Thanks to Arthur Hahn, we’re all pretty spoiled when we go shopping at physical retailers. The card swipe that today takes literally nanoseconds is made possible because of something that Arthur and his small team of engineers at IBM did to incorporate a coded mag stripe on the back of a plastic (or paper) card. Until then, credit cards were plastic but they had nothing with which to encode data that could be used to authenticate a user or a transaction and to streamline the check-out process.”
This is the commendation accorded Hahn, an electrical engineer who graduated in 1969 from Newark College of Engineering, upon his recent induction into the Payments Hall of Fame™ as inventor of the now-ubiquitous magnetic stripe. The Payments Hall of Fame has been established as part of the Innovation Project sponsored by PYMNTS.com to honor the men and women who created the foundation of the payments industry and who have led the way for continuing innovation. PYMNTS.com is the leading B2B venue where companies in payments share information about the initiatives that are shaping the future of commerce.

In the early 1970s, the group that Hahn headed at IBM was charged with finding a practical way to incorporate a magnetic stripe on plastic and paper cards using the “bar code” that the company had developed. As Hahn relates, “IBM understood the potential of the technology, and we had the assignment of determining the best method for putting that magnetic stripe on plastic and paper cards and designing a fully automated production line.” Hahn also had a key role in convincing the National Retail Merchants Association to adopt their magnetic bar code as a standard that would transform shopping and other daily activities.

Yet this is not the only highlight of Hahn’s career. He contributed to pioneering research in wireless communications and later launched a company that made a major change in the way electricity is metered. In 2010, Hahn received an NJIT Alumni Achievement Award for his diverse accomplishments. Read more in the Alumni Circuit section of the fall 2010 issue at http://magazine.njit.edu.

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**SBA RECOGNITION FOR KIRAN GILL**

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has named Kiran Gill EMBA ’07, who is the owner, president and CEO of PARS Environmental, Inc., New Jersey’s Small Business Person of the Year for 2014. Recently, Gill also was included among NJBIZ’s “Best 50 Women in Business.” In 2013, she was on the NJBIZ “40 Under 40” list, which recognizes 40 New Jersey professionals under the age of 40 for their success in business. A profile of Gill appeared in the Alumni Circuit section of the winter 2014 issue, online at http://magazine.njit.edu.

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**CONCRETE ACCOMPLISHMENT**

Narguis Benyamin graduated in 2013 with a dual degree in construction management technology and concrete industry management. Her final semester was spent in a co-op position at the Creter Vault Corporation (CVC) and its affiliated companies in Flemington, New Jersey, where she gained firsthand – and hands-on – experience in the concrete industry.

Benyamin was also a summer intern at the CVC affiliate Concrete Lumber Manufacturing Group-NJ, LLC. She was a quality-control technician on a research-and-development team working with a prestressed, light-weight concrete product with characteristics of actual lumber in form and function. Benyamin’s internship and co-op experiences led to a full-time position after graduation as an assistant quality-control manager with CVC.
CLASS NOTES

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 —

Boca Grande 2014

It is hard to believe that more than a quarter century has passed since Diane and I met with Fabian Hurtado ’75 and Joe Dias ’85 and their wives at the Hurtado home in Lake Mary, Florida, and decided to start an annual reunion for alumni who played soccer at NJIT/NCE. The first reunion was held on Valentine’s Day, 2000 in Heathrow, Florida. I remember like it was yesterday that Fabian presented each wife with a rose and said, “We engineers are ugly but we are smart and marry beautiful wives.”

The annual NJIT Florida soccer alumni reunion has grown in popularity as evidenced by a record turnout of alumni and guests for the 15th reunion in Boca Grande, Florida, February 28 – March 2, 2014, hosted by Ed ’63 and Sharon Cruz and superbly coordinated by Fabian and Jeannie Hurtado. Joining those mentioned above were Alumni Executive Director Bob Boynton, Joe ’80 and Carol Caiola, Luis Clement ’78 and his son, Malcom, Jim ’63 and Beanie Cudahy, Vice President Chuck Dees and Patricia Kuchon, Cesar ’77 and Griselda Gavidia, Andy ’63 and Barbara Handwerker, Athletics Director Len Kaplan, Alex ’63 and Irene Khowaylo, Henry Krauss ’54 and Betty Wallace, Director of Donor Engagement Darlene Lamourt, Bernie ’49 and Bev Lubetkin, James ’73 and Marcia Moreno, Vincent ’62 and Lenda Naimoli and Lenda’s sister, Glenda, Head Soccer Coach Didier Orellana, Carlos ’82 and Donna Restrepo and their children, Rachel and Alexander, Tulia Ramos ’94 and her son, David, and Anita Rubino ’83.

A highlight of the reunion for me was having Luis and Malcom Clement come from Colombia for the occasion, as Luis had honored me by naming his son Malcom. When Malcom was nine years old, he spent a summer with Diane and me. Now 21, Malcom will major in chemical engineering at the same university.

Luis’s wife, Maria Fernanda, is an MD in general medicine. Luis and Maria, who live in Cali, also have a daughter, Valeria, who is majoring in industrial engineering at the same university. Luis came to the United States from Colombia in 1971 and enrolled at Essex County College, where he played soccer and was the team’s highest scorer. He transferred to NJIT in 1975 and made his presence on the soccer field known immediately as a fast and tricky forward. After earning a bachelor’s in engineering technology, he worked at Weston Instruments in Newark as a quality control engineer from 1978 to 1979, returning to Colombia when his father passed away.

Once back in Colombia, Luis worked for 10 years as a sales field engineer for three different companies: a Swiss-Colombian company named Walter Rothlisberger selling electric power measuring devices, Baxter Labs as a quality control engineer, and Microcom Corporation, a computer company. He followed this up by working in Italy doing marketing research for a local branch of the car-service-products company Goodyear. After three months, he returned to Colombia and opened a sales office in Bogota for the same company.

Two years later, Luis teamed up with NJIT soccer teammate Alfonso Cardenas ’80 in a water- and waste-treatment venture. Alfonso was project director for design and construction of the local waste-water treatment plant.

In 2002, Luis began a career change as a technical translator and English instructor at Icesi and Autonoma, universities in Cali. At the same time, he launched a start-up in electronic waste with his brother, a chemical engineer. But he decided that his true passion was teaching, and in 2008 founded a private language school, World English Language Center (www.worldenglish.edu.co). Luis’ school now has 150 students and he is moving forward with his dream of developing a school specializing in conversational English and English for specific purposes.
Two regulars at the reunions are Alvaro J. Piedrahita ’73, PE, and James Moreno ’73, PE. Alvaro is CEO and President of T.Y. Lin International, a full-service engineering consulting firm with more than 800 employees in the U.S., including a number of NJIT/NCE alumni, and 2,000 employees abroad, primarily in Southeast Asia. T.Y. Lin is recognized worldwide for its bridge-design capability and has designed “signature” bridges such as the Hoover Dam Bridge and the recently opened Oakland Bay Bridge. However, bridges are only about 20 percent of the company’s business, and it is a major surface-transportation player in highways, aviation transit and railroads. Current projects include transit systems in Peru, Uruguay and Panama.

James, who played on the same NJIT soccer teams for four years with Alvaro, is senior vice president at T.Y. Lin and director of the company’s southern region, with offices and 200 employees in Florida and Georgia. James’ first job was with the New York City Transit Authority, but he soon moved to the Dade County area of Florida as project manager for the Metromover system, the first fully automated urban transit system in the U.S. He then moved to Parsons Brinckerhoff, where he served as area manager for coastal Florida until his move to T.Y. Lin in 2009.

I had not heard from Joe Junguza ’64 in 50 years, so I was surprised but pleased to get an e-mail from him reminding me of his days as a “gym rat” at NCE. He had tried out for the basketball team but didn’t make the squad. Not disheartened, he spent his free time shooting baskets and occasionally scrimmaging against the team. He kept up his love for basketball, playing competitively until he was 65 years old when it took prostate cancer and a stroke to stop him. But he still enjoys shooting on goal.

Joe started his career as an industrial engineer for Johnson and Johnson. While at J & J, he went into line supervision in the Distribution Center, became manager of industrial engineering, and ended his employment with the company as chief industrial engineer for J&J’s Eastern facility. In 1978, he was hired as chief industrial engineer at the Polaroid Corporation. He moved into program management, where he worked to move new products from inception to commercialization. In that position, he won an international award for the microscope camera. He was heading up digital imaging as senior director when Polaroid went bankrupt.

Joe then went to Japan to study Total Quality Management at Tsukuba University with Professor Shoji Shiba, recognized worldwide as an expert in TQM. After 9/11, he went to work for the U.S. government to help create the Transportation Security Administration, now part of Homeland Security. He retired in 2012 and moved to Long Beach Island in New Jersey.

One never knows when you will run into an alumnus. All you have to do is wear something with NJIT on it. I was wearing an NJIT soccer t-shirt in a Wachovia Bank in St. Pete Beach, Florida, when I heard the familiar words “Did you go to NJIT?” I looked up and saw a smiling face so I started chatting with Dave MacMillan ’69.

After serving in the Marine Corps, Dave came to NCE, where he graduated summa cum laude at the top of his mechanical engineering class. While at NCE, he was inducted into the Tau Beta Pi and Phi Tau Sigma honor societies, was a member of Delta Theta Epsilon fraternity, and active in IFC and recreational sports. He began his professional career with Exxon at its engineering headquarters in Florham Park, New Jersey, and subsequently worked domestically and abroad on major projects. Work outside the U.S. took him to locations that included Italy, Belgium, Holland, England, Singapore, Colombia, Brazil, Argentina, Malaysia, Australia and Thailand. Promoted to an executive level, he had various assignments in Exxon Central Services.

Dave took early retirement at 55 after 30 enjoyable years with Exxon. He says that NCE gave him skills for employment and advancement in a first-class corporation where he met and made friends with many people from different cultures. He is spending retirement in St. Pete Beach with his wife, Rosemary.

For those who like to plan ahead, the annual “Feet and Hands” Golf Outing will be held on Tuesday, August 5 at the Newton County Club hosted by Bob Welgos ’62. Also, sites have been set for the 2015 and 2016 Annual Florida Soccer Alumni reunions. The 2015 reunion will be in the Palm City area hosted by Joe Dias, Joe Alves ’77, Cesar Gavidia and Hank Krauss, and the 2016 reunion will be in Coral Springs hosted by Hernan “Chico” Borja and Carlos Restrepo.

Keep the news coming to mjs@njit.edu.
of nursing homes, hospitals, and other health-related facilities. An AIA member for nearly three decades, Cozzarelli was the 2004 AIA-NJ state president and recipient of the 2009 AIA-NJ Architect of the Year award.

Michele Dekelbaum (IE) is serving as vice president for performance excellence for the Phoebe Putney Health System in Georgia. With over 20 years of healthcare experience, she is responsible for process-improvement initiatives designed to achieve significant operational savings and revenue enhancement while improving the quality of patient care and safety across the Phoebe system.

1980
Mark Harold (ChE) tells NJIT Magazine that after graduation he worked for Chevron Research and Chevron USA in Richmond, California, for seven and a half years. For more than 25 years, he has worked for Nalco Company/Nalco Energy Services in field sales and major refinery account management. Recently, he has taken the position of industry technical consultant with Nalco Energy Services in the areas of industrial cooling water and boiler-system operation and treatments. Harold and his wife, Lynn, live in Napa, California.

1987
Peter Burke (IE) shares the news that he continues to work as a civilian employee of the U.S. Army at Picatinny Arsenal in New Jersey. In 2011, he completed a deployment to Afghanistan as his office’s forward support representative. He was competitively selected in March 2014 as the deputy project manager for Combat Ammunition Systems – Indirect Fire. His team has life-cycle management responsibility for all Army mortar weapons, fire-control systems, and guided and conventional ammunition for indirect-fire systems. Life-cycle responsibility includes product development, production, fielding, and sustainment. His office also supports indirect-fire products for the U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Air Force, and numerous foreign clients.

Don Flood (ME), MS ’95 (Eng. Eng.) has joined Hatch Mott MacDonald as its new group marketing manager. His extensive experience encompasses market research, corporate communications, public relations, special events, collateral development, and online marketing.

1988
Cynthia Frank (ChE) has been named assistant vice president, manager, building materials at FM Approvals, which specializes in testing and certifying products and services that protect commercial and industrial property from loss. She will be responsible for managing the testing and certification of building materials and roofing products. Frank began her career in 1988 working for FM Global as a property loss prevention consultant and held a variety of supervisory and managerial engineering positions with the company before joining FM Approvals.

1989
Richard Malagiere (ME) is now of counsel to the law firm of Gertner, Mandel & Peslak, which is expanding its Intellectual Property Practice Group. Malagiere is an experienced litigator, specializing in patents and other intellectual property matters. He also has an extensive background in federal court litigation. Prior to becoming an attorney, he worked in the aerospace and manufacturing fields.

1991
Dennis Pavagadhi (ME), MS ’94 (Mgmt.) has been promoted to the position of director of operations support, reporting to the vice president of operations, at Jersey Central Power & Light (JCP&L). He will be responsible for overseeing JCP&L’s 318 substations, including upgrades, maintenance and construction. He will also direct the company’s regional dispatch operations centers that direct line crews to outage locations, and coordinate the process of restoring power. Pavagadhi joined JCP&L in 1995 and has held a variety of operations and engineering positions.

1993
Bennet Dunkley (Arch.) is now a principal in the Helpren Architects practice, based in New York City. Born in the United Kingdom, he is a member of both the American Institute of Architects and the Royal Institute of British Architects. He is also LEED-accredited by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Justin A. Mihalik (ME) is now a principal in the Helpren Architects practice, based in New York City. Born in the United Kingdom, he is a member of both the American Institute of Architects and the Royal Institute of British Architects. He is also LEED-accredited by the U.S. Green Building Council.

1996
Tushar Deshpande (Computer/Information Science) is vice president for data and technology strategy with the Foundation Center. Since 1956, the Foundation Center has been a leading source of information about philanthropy worldwide. With headquarters in New York City, the Center connects philanthropic groups with essential resources.
1997

Judy Donnelly MS (Arch.) will serve a two-year term as secretary of the New Jersey chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA). The principal owner of Hackettstown-based Donnelly Architecture, LLC, she has been an active AIA member for more than 10 years. Donnelly is a member of Newark and Suburban Architects, one of AIA-NJ’s six local sections, serving as president in 2010.

1998

Ben Lee MS (Mgmt.) will serve as 2014 treasurer of the New Jersey chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA-NJ). Managing principal and chief financial officer of Morristown-based NK Architects, Lee has over 35 years of experience in architecture. A board-certified healthcare architect, he manages NK’s Healthcare Design Group.

2000

Robert Ward MS (Mgmt.) has been appointed president and chief executive officer of Radius Health, Inc., a biopharmaceutical company focused on therapeutics for osteoporosis and other women’s health concerns. He brings more than 26 years of experience to Radius as a leader in the global pharmaceutical industry who has managed all stages of drug development and commercialization, and the process of building strategic partnerships.

2004

Keith Ludwig (Eng. Tech./Surveying) has joined Dewberry, a professional services firm, as Survey Department manager in the Mount Laurel, New Jersey, office. Ludwig will be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the department in addition to coordinating survey activities across Dewberry’s Northeast offices. He will also serve as the branch safety advocate.

2005

Joe Weaver (Eng. Tech./ME) has joined CP Engineers & Architecture in Sparta, New Jersey. A licensed Professional Engineer and Certified Municipal Engineer, he has been responsible for the design and construction management of private and public improvements, including stormwater management analysis and design, and infrastructure and utility projects.

2009

Jason Peist (Arch.), MS ‘12 (Professional and Technical Communication) is regional associate director for the New Jersey Chapter and Region of the American Institute of Architects (AIA). Peist is design director at T.M. Rybak & Associates, a full-service architectural, planning, interior design, engineering, construction management and design/build firm.

2011

Uriel Arik Stern MS (Arch.) has won the second-place U.S. award in the Urban Revitalization of Mass Housing competition sponsored by the United Nations through UN-Habitat to promote urban planning that integrates all aspects of urban life in a sustainable manner. Stern, who practices in Summit, New Jersey, registered in the competition’s “Recent Graduate” category. He was recognized for “Green Contour,” which proposes connecting people living in New York City more closely with the natural environment through green space, even for residents of high-rise buildings.

IN MEMORIAM

The NJIT community is saddened by the passing of the following alumni:

- Arthur Silverman ’39
- Charles W. Oriel ’41
- Joseph J. Padalino ’44
- Stanley Lenox ’47
- J. Robert Brown ’49
- Charles E. Jacobson ’49, ’52
- Stephen F. Gill ’50, ’59
- Daniel Paul Biondo ’52, ’61
- Arthur Makris ’52
- Robert J. Turbett ’53
- Lindsay M. Collins ’55
- Edmund H. Hecht ’56
- Max Karl Hentschel ’61
- Armido L. Sigismondi ’61
- Richard J. Rosivack ’62
- Edmund H. Nowinski ’67
- Edmond Knowles ’72
- John Chomiak ’74
- John R. Norek ’76
- Kurt W. Streib ’76
- Ralph Clemente ’77
- Joseph A. D’Abundo ’79
- Marianne Lisowski ’80
- David P. Curran ’87
- Christakis Nicolaou ’89
- Peter Mazza ’90
- James M. Kelly ’94
- Michael Keith McSherry ’97
- David Mave ’04
ALUMNI CALENDAR

SAVE THE DATE!

**CELEBRATION 2014**

Friday, November 14
Pleasantdale Chateau
West Orange, New Jersey

NJIT’s annual festive evening in support of endowed scholarships for students, and honoring donors and accomplished alumni.

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

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

**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)

**ALUMNI ON ICE**

Members of the NJIT Young Alumni Club skated to a good time last January at the Ice Vault Arena in Wayne, New Jersey.

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).