

## MAKE TECH A TARGET OF YOUR YEAR-END GIVING

As you plan your year-end giving, remember New Mexico Tech. Your gifts of cash, stock, real estate or life insurance provide scholarship support for Tech students, vital resources for our academic departments and faculty, and needed state-of-the-art facilities, as well as providing you with year-end tax savings.

Tax laws intentionally encourage charitable giving. By making a gift by December 31, individuals who itemize can significantly reduce their 2007 income taxes.

But giving is much more than charitable deductions. It makes all the difference in what we can accomplish.

And you have a choice in where you would like to see your contribution work wonders at New Mexico Tech. Among the options are:

- Support for Scholarships such as
  - ◆ Alumni Lifetime Scholarship Fund
  - ◆ Victor Saracini Endowed Scholarship Fund
- Support for Endowed Professorships such as
  - ◆ Marvin Wilkening Endowed Faculty Position in Physics
- Support for departmental needs through a gift to the department of your choice
- Support for campus facilities such as
  - ◆ New Mexico Tech Children's Center (all contributions received by December 31, 2007 will be matched 1:1 up to \$700,000);
  - ◆ Macey Center for the Performing Arts Renovations
- Support for the New Mexico Tech Alumni Association

You can find a full range of giving choices on the New Mexico Tech Alumni Association website at [www.nmt.edu/alum\\_fr/index.htm](http://www.nmt.edu/alum_fr/index.htm).

For more information or to make a gift, contact Cheryl Pulaski at 575.835.6769 or e-mail [cpulaski@admin.nmt.edu](mailto:cpulaski@admin.nmt.edu). Gifts may be sent directly to the Office for Advancement, New Mexico Tech, 801 Leroy Pl., Socorro, NM 87801. Please let us know to your choice for gift distribution. Thank you for your ongoing support of New Mexico Tech.

## Victor Saracini Scholarship Fully Endowed

Thanks to gifts and pledges received during 49ers Weekend, the Victor Saracini Scholarship Fund has exceeded \$15,000, and is now fully endowed. As with any endowment, the fund is now perpetual, using interest from the fund for annual scholarships.

The scholarship fund continues to welcome cash contributions, as well as stocks and bonds. Additional contributions will allow larger scholarship awards to New Mexico Tech students. Contributions may be sent to: Cheryl Pulaski, Director for Advancement New Mexico Tech 801 Leroy Pl., Socorro, NM 87801

## FAMILY CONNECTIONS AT TECH A MULTI-GENERATIONAL AFFAIR

For a small school, New Mexico Tech has drawn a fair number of multi-generational families to its hallowed halls over the past hundred-plus years. The Erbes-Demos/Erbes-Le Blanc/Erbes connection is one such example.

Russell Erbes (B.S., Physics, '69) moved to Socorro from Greeley, Colo. in 1965 as a New Mexico Tech freshman. "My dad said I could go to any school he could drive to in a day and that I could afford," he said.

"I wanted a highly technical school, and was accepted at Tech into what at that time was called the Co-Op program, where you went to school year-round and worked 20 hours per week on campus," said Erbes, who had wanted to be a nuclear physicist since 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

The Co-Op program paid a wage sufficient to cover tuition, room and board. Erbes worked in the Business Office before getting a job with C.B. Moore in lightning research, and spent three summers at Langmuir Laboratory.

During his final summer at Langmuir, in 1968, Russ met Peggy Demos, another Co-Op student working at the mountaintop lab. The couple married in January, 1969 at San Miguel Church in Socorro. "(Peggy) didn't graduate, as I went into the Navy in June of 1969 and we moved to Florida/Georgia before her senior year," Russ said.



Tom & Rob Erbes

Of the seven children born to Russ and Peggy (the couple eventually parted ways), two Erbes brothers chose to further their educations at New Mexico Tech.

The elder of the pair is Robert Erbes, who left the school with two degrees – a B.S. in Information Technology (2004) and an M.S. in Computer Science with IT Option (2006).

It was more than academics that drew Robert to Tech.

"When I was in high school, my girlfriend started going to Tech," recalled Robert. "When it came time for me to apply for schools, Tech naturally came up as an option."

Here is where the multi-generational plot thickens. On the first day of class in Calc I, a lovely young woman named Katya Le Blanc sat in front of Robert, "and that was it," he said.

Robert and Katya were married on March 15, 2004 at the Abo Ruins off U.S. Highway 60 in Socorro County. She graduated the following May with a B.S. in Psychology.

It turns out that Katya's parents, Mary Elizabeth Rivera (B.S., Gen. Studies, '78) and Stephen LeBlanc (B.S., Geology, '78), also met at New Mexico Tech. Katya's sister-in-law, Darla Le Blanc, is another connection. Darla graduated with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering in May 2007; and her brother, Cedric, attended classes at Tech.



Robert and Katya Erbes

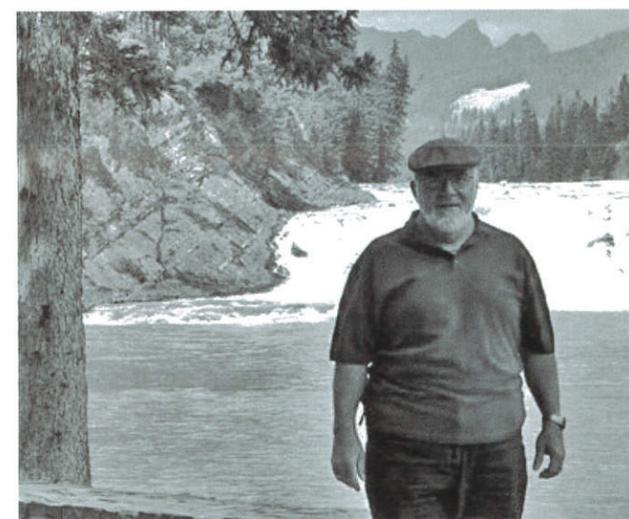
Thomas, the youngest of the Erbes children, will receive his degree at New Mexico Tech in Chemical Engineering in December.

After visiting schools both in and out of state, Thomas chose Tech because of the opportunities for undergraduate research, and the low cost of tuition.

"I miss having a community of like-minded people who are generically interested in a lot of the same things," said Robert. "While there's certainly a difference between an EE and a Biology major, there's a similarity in the types of people who go to Tech. I find these people are a minority out in the 'real world.'"

Robert and Katya live in Las Cruces where she is a graduate student in Psychology at New Mexico State University. Robert works as a computer scientist for the U.S. Army Research Laboratory on White Sands Missile Range.

Russ obtained a Master of Science degree in Atmospheric Science. He works for Kleinfelder, Inc., an engineering and environmental consulting firm, where he is the Chief Technical Officer responsible for the technical adequacy and quality of its consulting service, including career development for Kleinfelder's technical personnel.



Russ Erbes

"My kids attending Tech has reminded me of how valuable my Tech education was," said Erbes. "Also, my graduate school (Colorado State University) has a very active alumni program. The example of CSU, my kids attending Tech, and the fact that I am nearing the end of my career has led me to try to help out with Tech alumni now."

Russ is now serving as first president of a new New Mexico Tech Colorado Alumni Chapter. The first meeting is scheduled for 5 p.m. on Friday, February 1 at a Denver location to be announced. For more information, contact Russ at [rerberbes@kleinfelder.com](mailto:rerberbes@kleinfelder.com) or Carol Lynn Tiegs at [ctiegs@admin.nmt.edu](mailto:ctiegs@admin.nmt.edu).

## RETURNING ALUMNI FILL 49ERS EVENTS

More than 100 people showed up at the Fitch Avenue home of Judy Lovelace on October 19 for this year's 49ers alumni dinner and Alumni Association annual meeting, where alumnus Don Tripp ('69) and crew served up a mean barbecue. Alumni gathered from California to Connecticut, and Joe Milbourne ('74) returned from British Columbia for a weekend that included tours of the Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center (EMRTC) and Magdalena Ridge Observatory; rugby, volleyball and soccer games; alumni breakfasts and dinners; and, of course, *The Vigilante Band* and The Capitol Bar. Frank Carsey ('65) and Don McKelvey ('60) were among those who did the full Sunday morning climb to the top of "M" Mountain.

Among the highlights of Friday's Alumni Association annual meeting was the posthumous presentation of the 2007 Distinguished Alumni Award to Larry Dean Libersky (PhD, Physics, '78). Accepting the award for Larry, who passed away in March 2007, were his wife, Dee Libersky of Magdalena, and his son and daughter-in-law, Jason and Manuela Libersky of Albuquerque.

The Alumni Association took second place in vehicle entries at Saturday's 49ers Parade, thanks to the efforts of Vicki Gonzales, who gave a stellar performance as Marilyn Monroe. She was accompanied by Jerry Mericle. The Research & Economic Development Department float, featuring Van Romero ('77, '79) as Elvis, took second place in the float category.

Thanks to the photography skill of Ray Belande (66/67), Jerry Mericle (56/57), Don McKelvey ('60), Edie Steinhoff ('07), and Shari Zinik ('73), you can see an array of photos from 49ers 2007 on the alumni website at [www.nmt.edu/mainpage/alumni/49ers/49ersprizes.html](http://www.nmt.edu/mainpage/alumni/49ers/49ersprizes.html), and on Don McKelvey's 49ers blog site at <http://mysite.verizon.net/mckelvey7/index.html>.



"Marilyn" Vicky Gonzales & Jerry Mericle

It's not too early to mark your calendars for 49ers 2008, set for October 23-26. Plans are already afoot. This will be a golden reunion for the classes of 1958 and earlier, and a silver reunion for the classes of 1973-1983. If you have suggestions or would like to be involved, e-mail Carol Lynn Tiegs at [ctiegs@admin.nmt.edu](mailto:ctiegs@admin.nmt.edu), or call 575.835.5292.

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## SEE YOUR CHILDREN'S CENTER GIFTS MATCHED

Thanks to an anonymous donor, your contribution to the New Mexico Children's Center will go twice as far if made in 2007. Our donor will match **all** cash contributions received by December 31, 2007 – including corporate matching gift programs – **1:1 up to \$700,000**.

The new center will be the first "green" construction project on the New Mexico Tech campus, utilizing sustainable site development, water saving, energy efficiency, and a safe indoor environment. The existing center it replaces is an remodeled older home, lacking important facilities and utilities, that has reached capacity and will not meet the expanding needs of the Tech community.



Currently there are nearly 30 toddlers and preschoolers on the Children's Center waiting list, the children of New Mexico Tech students and faculty, and of community members. Complete information on the "World of Wonder" Children's Center Campaign is available on the New Mexico Tech website at [www.nmt.edu/mainpage/giving/cc.html](http://www.nmt.edu/mainpage/giving/cc.html).

Sincere thanks to the many generous alumni who are already helping to grow the "World of Wonder" campaign fund.

For more information about our "World of Wonder" Children's Center Campaign, please contact Cheryl Pulaski at 575.835.6769 or e-mail [cpulaski@admin.nmt.edu](mailto:cpulaski@admin.nmt.edu). To make a difference, send your donation to: Cheryl Pulaski, Office for Advancement, New Mexico Tech, 801 Leroy Place, Socorro, NM 87801.

### Alumni Survey/Sign-up

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred contact media: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

I would be interested in an alumni chapter in my area.  Yes  No

Activities I'd like to see through a local alumni chapter are: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Any other news or ideas? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Make sure you are an active Alumni Association member eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting. Free gift when you send your Alumni Association dues.

Annual Alumni Association Dues enclosed (\$30 or \$50/alumni couple)

Lifetime membership dues enclosed (\$200/individual or \$350/alumni couple)

Check enclosed

Please charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my  Visa  MasterCard

Account #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## TURN YOUR TRAVEL INTO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SUPPORT

Book your personal and business travel through our new travel website, [www.ytbtravel.com/nmtalumni](http://www.ytbtravel.com/nmtalumni). Every time you do, your New Mexico Tech Alumni Association receives a portion of the travel commissions. You get the same low rates offered by other travel websites, while helping to support the New Mexico Tech Alumni Association.

YTB works with numerous colleges, universities and other organizations to provide both the best in travel rates and arrangements, and organizational funding support. Since 2001, the publicly traded travel program (YTBL.PK) has partnered with the biggest names in travel for airline, cruise line, lodging, car rental and vacation package services.

Through their group travel services, YTB will also be assisting us in our upcoming alumni travel adventures, including our 2009 Solar Eclipse cruise and 2010 cruise on the Nile. Watch for more details on both these travel adventures.

Next time you book travel online – including a trip to Socorro for 49ers 2008 – think [www.ytbtravel.com/nmtalumni](http://www.ytbtravel.com/nmtalumni).

### NEW MEXICO TECH GREETING CARDS READY FOR HOLIDAY GIVING

New Mexico Tech greeting cards, featuring four scenic photos of the Tech campus and "M" Mountain are now available at the New Mexico Tech bookstore and the Office for Advancement. Packages of four cards (blank inside) and envelopes retail for \$4.99 at the bookstore, or \$5.99 (including shipping) through the Office for Advancement. Proceeds benefit the New Mexico Tech Alumni Association.

To order through the Office for Advancement, call 575.835-5292 or e-mail [ctiegs@admin.nmt.edu](mailto:ctiegs@admin.nmt.edu).

## PEOPLE YOU KNOW

[Note: Items sent in after Nov. 16, 2007 will appear in the next *Gold Pan*.]

### 1950s

**Don Deibert** (BS, Geology, '51) writes that he has retired from "income-producing" work. He is an active volunteer with Sheldon Lake State Park in Houston and in local libraries.

**Vaughn Scanland** (BS, Petr. Engr., '58) reports that he plans to go to 49ers in 2008. He is living in Montgomery, Texas.

### 1960s

**Roger Carr** (BS, Chemistry, '63), now retired, was formerly director of quality assurance, U.S. Operations of AMCOR Flexibility, Ltd., Medical & Pharmaceutical Packaging Group.

**Leland Timothy Long** (MS, Geophysics, '64) has retired from full-time teaching and research at Georgia Tech and is now doing consulting and writing papers. He lives in Jasper, Ga.

**David L. Haupt** (BS, Geology, '65) writes, "I retired after 26 years at Lawrence Livermore Lab in June 2001. Since then, I've been active in photography, collecting tobacco pipes, and generally goofing off. My wife, Muriel, is a very accomplished cellist. We have a house full of books and cats. I have fun pushing photo web pages to my website [www.dlhaupt.com](http://www.dlhaupt.com). I'd love to hear from old friends from the classes of '65 and '66.

**Joan Kastner** (BS, Math, '67) reports that she is a law firm office manager in Littleton, Colo.

### 1970s

**Daniel Hendry** (BS, Math, '71) writes, "I am retiring from Lockheed Martin in Dallas-Fort Worth after 26 years as a Systems Engineer. My work in aerospace took me to Denver, Santa Maria (California), Cape Canaveral, and Texas. It's been an interesting career, but I'm happy that it's over.

"I started out at Tech in 1962 as a co-op student and then went into the Navy after my sophomore year.

"I remember the interview I had with Dr. Workman when I left. The sly dog told me that I probably would not come back to finish what I had started. Of course I had to prove him wrong. My friend Jerry Brown and I returned in 1968 and graduated in 1971.

"Then for some strange reason I left graduate school and went back into the Navy. After another eight years, Jerry convinced me to go to work with him in Albuquerque for BDM. After about 18 months, I went to work for Martin Marietta; the rest is history.

"I did finish my master's degree in systems engineering at SMU in 2006 (25 years later!) I don't seem to be able to do things the easy way."

**Gowri S. Kailas** (MS, Mining Engr., '71) is the owner of Kailas Investments, LLC, a real estate investment and development company in Metairie, La.

**Dr. Bruce Blevens** (BS, Math, '72; MS, Physics, '75) writes, "My business partner and I have been toiling away at our new company, Antenna Development Corporation (AntDevCo - or for you Spanish speakers, TiaDevCo) in Las Cruces since 2005. I retired from NMSU's Physical Science Laboratory in 2006 and am learning about the cost of health care for a small business and how many different tasks the workers at a two-person company have to perform. Sales pitch: see us first for all of your low gain, narrow band spacecraft antenna needs! [www.antdevco.com](http://www.antdevco.com).

"My wife Geri and I have two daughters, both out of college and not living at home (the remittances helps them to not return to the nest!)"

**Al Cooper** (BS, Geology, '73; BS, Mining Engr., '77) writes, "I took early retirement from Asarco after 28 years of service. My last position held at Asarco was environmental manager of the Mission Complex in Sahuarita.

"I have taken a new position of Chief Environmental Engineer with Freeport McMoran Copper & Gold Inc. PD Resource Management in Tucson Arizona."

**Dr. Thomas Wellems** (BS, Physics; BS, Chemistry, '73) received the 2007 American Society for

Microbiology (ASM) *sanofi-aventis* U.S. Award. Wellems is Chief, Laboratory of Malaria and Vector Research, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Bethesda, Md. Dr. Wellems has devoted much of his career to the study of malaria and its treatment. Resistance to chloroquine, a popular malaria vaccine that was very successful in the 1950s, has dramatically increased death rates from malaria in Africa and Asia. Dr. Wellems was able to identify the chloroquine transporter and develop a diagnostic test, which has made serious impacts on malaria treatment. Among other important findings, Wellems has published in more than 100 papers.

After earning his degrees at Tech, he earned his Ph.D. in biophysics in the University of Chicago's Medical Scientist Training Program. He completed his residency at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, and his fellowship training at the Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

**Joseph Milbourne** (BS, Metall. Engr., '74) writes, "After leaving Tech, I managed to see a lot of the world, working in both operations and engineering companies. I have three great sons and a wonderful and understanding wife who has made life a fun-filled experience." The Milbournes live in Vancouver, B.C.

**Jim Cappa** (MS, Geology, '75) retired from the Colorado Geological Survey after nearly 16 years of service. He has taken a new position as exploration manager, Colorado Plateau, for Ur-Energy USA, out of their Littleton, Colo., office.

**Albert Morales** (MS, Metallurgy, '75) is working in Dallas as a mechanical engineer for the Defense Contract Management Agency. He would like to hear from fellow alums at [almorale@flash.net](mailto:almorale@flash.net).

**Fred Bingham III** (BS, Physics, '76) works in industry as an application specialist, answering technical questions and performing sizing on valves and regulators in industry. He represents Fisher Controls International (Emerson Process Management).

### 1980s

**Catherine French** (BS, Mining Engr., '82) writes, "I moved to my home -- south central Kansas -- and now work in the manufacturing sector. It was time to leave Los Alamos, and I moved to be closer to my relatives and help out. My current position is a quality engineer for Agco, an agricultural equipment manufacturer in Hesston. It provides a lot of diversity in parts to review and working with vendors all over the world. I also brought my small airplane here to south central Kansas, where it is very aviation-friendly and there are more independent aircraft builders. Miss the close availability of green chile here, but recently we had some Hatch chile brought in boxes here for us to roast. (Progress even in Kansas!)"

Any Techies interested in contacting me can do so at: [catherinefrench@hotmail.com](mailto:catherinefrench@hotmail.com)."

**Robert Winn** (BS, Metall. Engr., '83) is manager at Vesuvius USA, a large refractory supplier for the steel industry, located in Pueblo, Colo. His oldest son, Logan, is a freshman at New Mexico State. His other son, Sam, is a senior at Socorro High School.

**Dr. Aileen O'Donoghue** (MS, Physics, '87; Ph.D., Physics, '89) is the author of the newly released book *The Sky is Not a Ceiling*, the story of her personal spiritual journey, published by Orbis Books. Following up on "Love Us, Love Our Dogs," (*Gold Pan*, Summer, 2007), Aileen writes, "In 1982 a delightful little dog walked into my room in Baca Hall. I named her Queerbungle, and she brought great joy and companionship to be through graduate school and the beginning of my career. She was with me for 16 years, and though she passed on almost 10 years ago, I miss her every day. You can see pictures of the two of us from 1988, the year before we graduated with our Ph.D. at <http://it.stlawu.edu/~aodol/Companions/index.htm#QB>."

### 1990s

**Lisa (Spanks) Noell** (BS, Math; BS, Engr. Science, '92) writes, "My husband Alan and I recently welcomed our second child and second daughter. Jessica Lacy Noell was born on May 10, 2006 in Fort Worth, and placed in our arms on May 15, 2006. She joins her sister, Sydney Elizabeth Noell, who was born on June 19, 2002 in Grapevine, Texas. We have resided in the same home in Grapevine since October 1997.

"I recently celebrated my eleventh year with American

Airlines, which includes 11 years of amazing and very fortunate travel stories! Alan has been with Terracon, an environmental consulting firm, since January 2006 and somehow has yet to grow tired of hiking around landfills. It's hard to believe that it's been nearly 17 years since I left Socorro and New Mexico Tech. We hope to return for 49ers in the very near future."

**Greg Schwarz** (BS, Physics, '92) and **Karen (West) Schwarz** (BS, Physics, '91) live outside of Philadelphia with their two daughters. Greg works for the American Astronomical Society with their professional journals. Karen teaches astronomy at West Chester University and is the planetarium director there.

**Diana "Space" Griffin** (BS, Physics; '93, BS, Engr. Science, '93) writes, "After I graduated, it took me about a year and a half to find a job (nobody needed astronomers for anything) so I wound up working for lots of small defense contractors in Albuquerque. I moved to Las Cruces in 1999 to work for Technical Solutions, Inc. in El Paso, then I went to Chicago in 2002 to work for an avionics company as a weapon systems analyst (the math you do to figure out where things go in outer space is the same math that you do to figure out where bombs, rockets, missiles, bullets, etc., go when you shoot them from ships or airplanes). After I got laid off in 2004 I went to Boston as a contractor for Raytheon, then Eglin AFB, then Honeywell in Phoenix. I just moved to Houston to work for Jacobs Engineering ESCG as a spacecraft trajectory analyst for the Orion CEV project doing numerical analysis for proposed manned lunar missions and I'm currently working out of the Flight Mechanics Laboratory at the NASA Johnson Spacecraft Center in Houston.



Diana Griffin

"I never thought I'd ever get to work for NASA. Qapla! (Success in Klingon.)"

**Kevin Healy** (BS, Physics, '93) and **Anne Cedergren-Healy** (BS, Biology, '93) announce the birth of their daughter, Cora Frances Healy, on June 8, 2007. Kevin teaches astronomy at Mesa Community College and Anne teaches microbiology at Scottsdale Community College. The Healys make their home in Tempe, Ariz.

**Stephen Smoogen** (BS, Astrophysics, '94) is co-author of the ebook *Sams' Teach Yourself Linux in 24 Hours*. Smoogen lives in Chapel Hill, N.C., where he currently is a technical support engineer at Red Hat Software, Inc. Stephen spends his spare time with his wife, Lisa, and their two cats, Pascal and Katrina, planning their future ranch in New Mexico.

**Tim Schwilm** (BS, Mat. Engr., '95; MS, Mat. Engr., '97) works for Vought Aircraft Industries in Dallas as a senior process control engineer in composite bonding of large aerostructures.

**Chris Zimmer** (BS, Geol. Engr., '95) works for Rockwell Petroleum (Sheridan, Wyoming area), where he is in charge of putting in their second underground oil mine, which is a new technology for efficient and environmentally conscious oil production. Previously, Chris assisted with the development of Rockwell's first underground oil mine in Greybull, Wyo..

### 2000s

**Aaron Saenz** BS, Tech. Comm., '00) reports that San Gabriel Valley Pride, an organization he co-founded, received a congressional commendation in 2007, the only pride organization to have done so.

**Jon Steven Raugust** (MS, Mining Engr., '03) is a project engineering geologist and New Mexico mining lead with URS Corporation in Albuquerque.

**Nicole Ramig-Lund** (BS, Physics, '04) was married to **Aaron Lund** (BS, CS, '03; BS, EE, '05; BS, Math, '05) on Dec. 30, 2006. Aaron is a software engineer for Lockheed-

Martin and Nicole is a graduate student in the School of Meteorology at the University of Oklahoma. They live in Cambridge, Mass.

**Dr. Sue Schrader** (BS, Math, '87; Ph.D., Petr.Engr., '04) is putting the skills she learned at Tech to good use. According to *MyWestTexas.com*, she is offering a belly dancing class at University of Texas of the Permian Basin. She conducts the free class on Fridays to help people unwind after a long week. Next time you're in Odessa on a Friday afternoon, drop in!

**Maria Elena Talache-Prager** (BS, Biology, '04) and **Aaron Prager** (BS, Elec. Engr.; BS, Comp.Sci., '03) were married on September 8, 2007 at San Felipe de Neri Church in Albuquerque, surrounded by 450 of their closest friends (many from Tech!) and family. Maria writes, "We honeymooned in Alaska, and currently reside in South Bend, Ind., while Aaron is finishing up his Ph.D. in electrical engineering at Notre Dame University."

**Tiffany Tadano** (BS, Mngr., '06) and **Tyson Gobble** (BS, Mngr., '06) were married on August 6, 2007, in Durango. Tyson is working on his master's degree at Tech in engineering management and Tiffany works in the office of Dr. Duane Beers in Socorro.

**Patricio Pino** (BS, Elect. Engr., '07) writes, "I just started my new job with the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAV AIR or NAWCWD) as an electronics engineer in Point Mugu, Calif. It's located on the coast about 50 miles northwest of LA. I'm living in Camarillo, about nine miles away from the base."

## PASSINGS

**James Dewald** (BS, Physics, '96) passed away on Sept. 7, 2007, in Houston. He had received his doctorate from New Mexico State University (NMSU) this summer and had been hired by the University of Houston to teach an introductory physics course this fall. His research area at NMSU included near-field scanning optical microscopy, atomic force microscopy and scanning tunneling microscopy.

**Glenn Keith Hodson** (BS, Metall.Engr., '44) passed away on June 29, 2007. He loved Socorro and the New Mexico School of Mines. He even married a local girl, Agnes Zimmerly, in 1942. Glenn was a miner for most of his life, buying and operating the Rainbow Ridge Opal Mine in northern Nevada in 1949. It is still in the family, with his son, Glen, running it every summer.

**Frederick R. Parker** (BS, Math, '53) passed away on March 28, 2007. He worked at Los Alamos National Lab until this retirement in 1991. He is survived by his wife, Margery Parker.

**Edward C. Perkins** (BS, Mining Engr., '39) passed away on July 30, 2007. He was a lifetime member of the Alumni Association.

**Steven R. Thurston** (BS, Mining Engr., '40) passed away on Jan. 9, 2005 at the age of 90. He did consultant work as a civil engineer up until his 89th year.

## HELP BUILD THE NEW MEXICO TECH STUDENT BODY

Many people say that New Mexico Tech is New Mexico's best kept secret. The New Mexico Tech Alumni Association and its Admissions Office would like to make it one of America's best known universities, and we need your help.

We'd like you to join ranks with Tech alumni like Francis O'Reilly, '78; George Schmaltz, '04, '06; Doug Pecore, '87; David McCorkindale, '80; Jamie Boney, '05; Abe Folarin, '82; Tad Heimburger, '79; Debra Miller, '92; Allan and Rama Gehris, '87, '90; and others, who regularly represent New Mexico Tech at college recruiting fairs in their area.

There are several ways you can help:

- By representing Tech at college fairs our Admission Office has identified in your area;
- By letting us know about recruiting events in your area that you would like to attend;
- By making college counselors in your area high schools aware of what New Mexico Tech has to offer, and asking them to invite you to area college fairs;
- By talking about Tech to high school students you know and who you think would enjoy what Tech has to offer; and
- By making our Admission Office aware of students we should work to recruit.

We'll be supporting your efforts with up-to-date information on New Mexico Tech, including campus life, housing, activities, faculty, and work and research opportunities. We also provide recruitment materials and Tech trinkets to give out at fairs. We are developing a new recruiter's page on the New Mexico Tech alumni website, and we are only a phone call away whenever you have questions or information. Most recently, David McCorkindale, '80, a geophysicist for ConocoPhillips, and his son Michael McCorkindale, '07, a project control specialist for Jacobs Engineering, represented New Mexico Tech at College Night in Katy, Texas. David says they met with many high school students from the west Houston suburbs who were wanting to learn more about the opportunities at New Mexico Tech.

If you would like more information, or would like to sign on now as one of New Mexico Tech's Alumni Recruiters, please contact Carol Lynn Tieg at [ctieg@admin.nmt.edu](mailto:ctieg@admin.nmt.edu) or 575.835.5292.

*Photo at right shows David McCorkindale, '80, and his son Michael McCorkindale, '07, in Katy Tex.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars and plan now for the following Tech alumni activities already scheduled for 2008.

### February 1, 2008

**Colorado area alumni meeting** and chapter formation. 5 p.m. at the Adams Mark Hotel, 1550 Court Pl. in downtown Denver.

### March 4, 2008

**Salt Lake City Area Alumni Reception**, in conjunction with the annual SME conference. Location TBD. Time: 6 p.m.

### May 25 - June 3, 2008

**The Real Peru.** See the real Peru with tour leader, experienced Peruvian traveler and New Mexico Tech professor and alumnus Bill Chávez ('76, '77). Explore Lima, Urubamba and the Sacred Valley, and the heights of Machu Picchu in this 10-day adventure. For details see the Alumni website at [www.nmt.edu/mainpage/alumni/travel/homepage.html](http://www.nmt.edu/mainpage/alumni/travel/homepage.html)

### September 30, 2008

**Colorado area and Petroleum alumni reception**, Denver, Colorado

In conjunction with the Society of Petroleum Engineers ATCE meeting, Sept. 28-Oct 1 Details TBA.

Planning is also underway for alumni events in Albuquerque, Dallas, Houston, Los Alamos/Santa Fe, and Phoenix/Tucson. For details, watch the Alumni website at [www.nmt.edu/alum\\_fr/index.bmt](http://www.nmt.edu/alum_fr/index.bmt) and upcoming issues of *Gold Pan*.



## TECH LICENSE PLATES GAINING GROUND

Have you seen one yet? So far, about 200 license plates bearing the initials NMT and with a picture of M Mountain are roaming the streets and highways of the state.

Your car could have one of them! Next time you renew your vehicle registration, go to <http://www.tax.state.nm.us/pubs/specplat.htm> and get your official New Mexico Tech license plate. The official state plates featuring M Mountain are also available at Motor Vehicle Division offices in Socorro, Albuquerque, Rio Rancho, Santa Fe, Los Alamos, Farmington, Carlsbad, Roswell, Hobbs, and Las Cruces.

For each plate, \$25 of the \$37 fee comes to our office to help produce *Gold Pan* for you.



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