

CLASS NOTES

Cal Poly Magazine is pleased to introduce a new Class Notes section. Want to share your stories with classmates? Want to know what others are up to? You can now submit your stories online at http://www.calpolynews.calpoly.edu/class_notes_form.html and read the latest submissions in each new edition.

College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences

1970s

Kathleen J. Evans (B.S., Home Economics 1976; M.S., Home Economics, 1981) is working toward an Ed.D. in organizational leadership and communications at Northeastern University. She has completed the first half of the required course work.

Beth Ann Casey (B.A., Recreation Administration, 1979) wants you to stop by. "When you are in San Anselmo, Marin County, please come see us at Insalata's Restaurant. We would love to have you. We will be starting a 'Women and Wine-makers' series in January 2013."

1980s

Janice Joy Baker (B.S., Nutritional Science, 1981) is board certified in advanced diabetes management and is a certified diabetes educator and a certified nutrition support clinician. She also holds an MBA. She and her husband, Mark Baker, (BAR, Architecture, 1984), are happy to say their son David started Cal Poly as a mechanical engineering major in fall 2012.

Ben Abatti Jr. (B.S., Ag Business, 1984) of Baja Farms was honored at the California

Beet Growers annual meeting for setting a new yield record using a Betaseed Inc. variety. Baja Farms planted the sugarbeet in a 70-acre field that averaged 78.71 tons per acre, with 15.89 percent sugar content. Overall Abatti's crop produced 25,014 pounds of sugar per acre, breaking the old record by 500 lbs.

Alexis (White) Negranti (B.S., Ag Science, 2009) and her husband, **Wade** (B.S., Ag Systems Management, 2010), were mentioned in The New York Times Travel Blog recently for their Templeton-based Negranti Sheep Dairy and Artisan Creamery Ice Cream. They operate one of only seven sheep dairies in California. Their ice cream has been a hit among foodies and others wanting a premium ice cream, according to J. Scott Vernon, professor, Agricultural Education and Communication. See the blurb at <http://tmagazine.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/09/20/the-place-californias-central-coast-part-four/>.

1990s

Marjie Bartels (Technical Certificate, Fruit Science, 1991) returned home to her family farm in 2000 after the deaths of her parents, after she had worked several years as a field/lab technician at UCCE in Kern County. Her Valencia orange orchards were certified organic in 2011. After she was diagnosed with a rare autoimmune disease called Wegener's Granulomatosis in 1999, long-term use of Cytoxan for this disease led to her being diagnosed with leukemia. She had a bone marrow transplant in 2005 (her sister, a perfect match, was her donor). "I am thankful to feel well today and to be able to live and farm in rural Ventura County," she wrote. "My classes and

work experience at Cal Poly gave me a good foundation for my work and my life today."

College of Architecture & Environmental Design

1980s

Beverly V. Lashley (BAR, Architecture, 1987) completed her doctorate in clinical psychology in August 2012.

2000s

Zhong Ren Huang (BAR, Architecture, 2009) is working as a practicing architect at Handel Architects in Manhattan, N.Y.

College of Engineering

1990s

Dale Michael Rydberg (B.S., Mechanical Engineering, 1991) works for PXP in Orcutt, Calif., as a facility engineer. Facilities include four offshore oil platforms off Vandenberg Air Force Base and Pt. Arguello, a processing plant and oil production field in Lompoc, and a handling facility in Gaviota. Rydberg and his wife, Candi, live in Arroyo Grande. They have four children and one grandson. When not working, they enjoy the kids and grandkids, hiking and riding their Harley."

2000s

Theodore J. Garbeff II, (B.S., M.S. Aerospace Engineering, 2008) received a 2012 NASA Ames Honor Award., a prestigious award given to research engineers at NASA Ames. Garbeff is a wind tunnel test engineer at Moffett Field, Calif. According to a news release, he was recognized for providing outstanding engineering support for a variety of wind tunnel research programs at NASA Ames Research Center and distinguished himself by serving as lead controls

engineer for a yearlong test program for the CESTOL advanced aircraft model – acknowledged as one of the most complex university-led wind tunnel tests. He designed, assembled, installed and operated components for seven different control systems, which included Thrust Propulsion Simulator (TPS) units, TPS lubrication oil delivery system, and the model wing’s circulation control system.

College of Liberal Arts

1990s

Laura L. Mariani (B.A., English, 1991) joined Intuit Inc. in May 2012 as senior internal communications specialist for the workplace team.

Elizabeth Aloe (B.S., Journalism, 1993) moved back to San Luis Obispo in February 2012 and published her first novel, “The Reunion.” She calls it “a nostalgic walk down memory lane for those who went to Cal Poly and lived in San Francisco and Los Angeles.” The book is available from Amazon.com in digital and paperback versions.

2000s

Erin (McNulty) Kreitschitz (B.S., Social Sciences, 2005) celebrated her fourth wedding anniversary with her husband, Nicholas (B.S., Aerospace Engineering, 2006). The couple will celebrate being together for 10 years in November, she wrote, “all thanks to Cal Poly! We miss the days of hanging out in San Luis Obispo.”

College of Science and Mathematics

1990s

Edward Schwartz (B.S., Biochemistry, 1991) spent more than 19 years in the biopharmaceutical industry before he and his wife, Stephanie (Nutritional



Science, 1996), became co-owners of Labyrinth Winery with master winemaker Rick Hill. The winery, in Santa Maria, Calif., will open its first tasting room in downtown Ventura in winter 2013. “We are excited by this career change,” he wrote, “and are looking forward to seeing you in the tasting room.”

Orfalea College of Business

1990s

Rob Croxall (B.S., Business Administration, 1996; M.A., Industrial and Technical Studies, 1998) opened El Segundo Brewing Co. in spring 2011.

2000s

Elizabeth J. Green (B.S. Business Administration, 2000) was selected as an Emerging Leader by the Society of Women Engineers for her superior accomplishments in systems engineering, risk management, and supply chain management, and for dedicated service to SWE. Green holds a master’s degree in systems engineering and a dual MBA in finance and management and organizational behavior from Loyola Marymount Uni-

versity. She earned her master’s and her MBA while working full time at Northrop Grumman, integrating her coursework, her growing interest in risk management, and her responsibilities on high-visibility projects in the U.S. and abroad.

2010s

Carolyn Mescher (B.S., Business Administration, 2010) is pursuing a career as a country musician. Mescher uses her business knowledge to market herself with her website and promotional items, comes up with new ways to acquire fans and get her music heard, makes friends in the industry, and turns her passion for music into a career. “I have an approach to becoming a country artist that I don’t think many people do when they move to Nashville, and I believe it’s in large part to the education I received as a business major at Cal Poly. That has been the driving factor behind my success.” Her self-written first single, “All I Need to See,” will be released soon on iTunes. She anticipates her first EP of four to six songs to be released in late spring 2013. Visit www.carolynmescher.com.