

# TEK RETIREE NEWS

ExTek

Tektronix  
Retiree  
Volunteer  
Program



Web Page: [www.tekretirees.org](http://www.tekretirees.org)

A Newsletter for and by Tek Retirees

May 2014

## Editorial

Al Foleen has promised to send a write up about the plastics department in the early years. We would like to hear from others. One can write in pencil or type on a key board and email me.

A buffet lunch occurred on April 19 for retirees who are volunteers. This activity has been going on for over 10 years!

Finally we introduce an article about Spectrum Analyzer history we recently received.

You can contact me at:  
[gordondalong@Yahoo.Com](mailto:gordondalong@Yahoo.Com).

## TRVP Future

*By Louis Sowa (3/12/2014)*

### First the Past

The TRVP was formed in 1996. Sharon Beatty was hired to help get it off the ground. She had similar experience with Honeywell and arranged a trip for some of the original TRVP volunteer staff to Honeywell. Those from Tektronix that made that trip were: Warren Collier, Dick Duggan, Harry Tanielian, and Sharon Beatty. The first letter that went out was to the Tektronix retirees only, not to the terminated vested. The retirees were those that were receiving benefits. The terminated vested were those that were eligible for benefits from Tektronix but had not yet applied for them. Many of the retirees and terminated vested worked for other companies after Tektronix.

The development team consisted of:

Warren Collier	Evelyn Marsh
Dick Duggan	Ed & Roz Srebnik
Jess Gard	Harry Tanielian

The original editorial staff consisted of:

Dick Braniff	Eve Fitzgerald
Newt Espe	Louis Sowa
Jennie Lou Werlein	

### Original TRVP Mission Statement

The Tektronix Retiree Volunteer Program is a cooperative effort by Tektronix retirees, their spouses and the Company to build and maintain a sense of family among Tektronix retirees through volunteer activities

in the communities in which they live.

Our mission is to recruit and place Tektronix retirees and their spouses in volunteer positions, to generate and foster a sense of pride within each volunteer and to serve the needs of the community while enhancing the goals of the company's community affairs.

Our goal is to respond to the needs of the community, to serve the needs of the Tektronix retiree community which may include physical, social and emotional needs, and to make our communities a better place to live.

As I was one of the terminated vested I did not get the first letter but did respond to the second letter. My primary interest was assisted technology but unfortunately was not supported by Tektronix for concern over legal responsibility. I felt if there was not a successful newsletter there would be no program, so also volunteered to assist with that. Newt Espe was the first editor. Even though I had some editor experience I was very pleased that Newt agreed to be the editor. The first issue was called "ExTek" which I believe was Newt's idea. There was some objection to that title so Tek Retirees News agreed to. I personally liked ExTek which we have brought back as part of the banner. That first newsletter was the March 1997 issue. Newt continued as editor through the May 2001 issue. Newt's health was failing so he needed to step down. At which time I took on that responsibility. Newt had served as editor and publisher until the November 1997 issue at which time Peggy Jo Berg took over the publishing responsibility. Peggy has been an exceptionally valuable asset to the organization as publisher and many other tasks she has been performing. She served as publisher through the November 2012 issue. I opened my mouth and suggested that we should do a feature such as a "twenty-five Years Ago" article. Newt's response was essentially "do it."

Gary Hoselton has taken over that feature. I stepped down from the editorial roll as of August 2013, and Gordon Long has taken on both the editor's and the publisher's responsibility.

There have been many TRVP volunteers. I would like to give everyone credit that has helped with the TRVP but am sure I would miss some of the early contributors. The big loss was when the company discontinued the retention of Sharon Beatty. She worked very hard to make the TRVP a success.

Jim Manual asked me to provide a web site. I felt that was more than I wanted to take on. In the editorial I asked for a volunteer. Neil Robin has taken on that task and has done a great job since November 2003. He lives near Port Angeles so does not come to our meetings. Fortunately there are some jobs that can be done at a distance.

### The Present

We currently have a very nice space in building 22. This is the building that Tektronix Security occupies. If you can you should visit our office. We are always happy to see ExTek employees. Our monthly meeting is on the first Wednesday of the month at 1 PM. You are most welcome to attend a meeting. Danaher/Tektronix continues to supply a working space and computers, printers, etc. They also support the newsletter which runs near \$20,000 per year. We send out over 9,000 newsletters plus the several hundred that are on line only. Visit our website at: [www.tekretirees.org](http://www.tekretirees.org). We have a large database of retirees and the deceased that we know about. We are not directly connected to vintageTek, the museum, however we support their great work. If you haven't visited the museum you should if possible. Lots of great old equipment and great people. Their website is: [www.vintagetek.org](http://www.vintagetek.org)

### Now the Future

There continues to be attrition of volun-

## TekWeek 40 Years Ago

*condensed by Gary Hoselton*

**News in the Tek world!** \*Tek had a streaker in Assembly East (39), a female at that. The event caused a big stir, cheers from the men, laughs from the women, while production came to an abrupt halt. \*India and Taiwan distributors send men to Beaverton for training; Chandu Vagal reported there are more than 2000 Tek instruments in India. Iran is third largest international market, after Germany and Italy, with high-end scopes and spectrum analyzers predominating. \*The Greensboro NC field office moves to Raleigh, the new Concord CA field office is located on an earthquake fault and under a flight path but location is a good one for access, the Buffalo NY field office moves to Rochester, a Chicago headquarters for marketing and field service opens in Rolling Meadows IL, and the new Rockville MD field office hosted a meeting of the Washington DC section of the Precision Measurements Association. \*Tek Board Chairman Howard Vollum received the 1973 Portland First Citizen Award and two standing ovations during banquet at the Portland Hilton, and received the inaugural Aubrey R. Watzek Award from Lewis and Clark College honoring "persons

teer support through death and health issues as all organizations exhibit. Fortunately several people have joined us or have increased their involvement in the past couple years. If you have been involved in a volunteer organization you know that a few people accomplish most of the work. There is an upside to this which is each person has more influence. We operate pretty much in a collaborative manor. It has been a fun and comfortable environment to work in. I use the word 'work' loosely as we expect to have fun and socialize as well as accomplish work.

If you have writing, database, secretarial, and especially promotional skills we would very much like to hear from you. Leave a message on our phone: 503-627-4056, or send email to [www.tek-retirees@tektronix.com](mailto:www.tek-retirees@tektronix.com). It is always OK to contact me: Louis Sowa 503-320-0440 or [L.Sowa39@gmail.com](mailto:L.Sowa39@gmail.com)

who have pioneered in their fields of endeavor and because of whom the Pacific Northwest...has become richer." \*25th Wedding Anniversary: Roger and Ruby Carter are the first couple to meet and marry at Tek, in 1949. They asked Jack Murdock if there would be any problem, and he answered "You're still the same people, so why should there be any problem?" Roger is in now in Metals Production Engineering and Ruby is a trainer in the current probe section of Electrical Components.

**Activities!** \*Eque-Tek club sponsors a "Fun-Play day" horse show at the Sunset Training Stable and elects Edo Van Buren pres, Norm Whitlow v-p, Trish Zakocs sec, and Camaron Porter treas. \*Tek Singles Club gathers at the Blitz Brewery Hospitality Room for a social evening, and takes standby names for their sold-out Reno trip. \*Responding to the gas shortage, Tek Rock Club is having local events to "get to know what's inside the rocks they already have" and get to know each other better. \*Two Tek Junior Achievement companies, "Tek Elec" from Portland Public Schools and "Apollo Products" from Sunset High School, toured manufacturing areas during spring vacation and sold their products in several cafeterias, and Tek's Explorer Post 876 published a design for a transistor checker in their "Tek Scene" newsletter.

### Fork It Over

is a food rescue program.

The Beaverton School district has a program called "Fork It Over" where volunteers sign up to go to the school cafeterias and pick up food that is surplus and will be thrown out unless picked up. Routes are set up so you only have 2 or 3 schools which are near each other. The food is taken to the Sunshine Pantry or other food kitchens. The food pantries then provide it to those in need. The program relies on 100% volunteer support. It is required to complete the district's background check.

The time commitment is only 45 to 60 minutes per week. It is a very worthwhile activity. You can sign up online at [forkitoverbsd@gmail.com](mailto:forkitoverbsd@gmail.com). The coordinator is Liz McGaquire at 503-929-6850. It is run by the cooperative effort of the district's Nutrition Services Department and two volunteer coordinators (who happen to be Terra Linda Elementary parents).

### When to volunteer When *not* to volunteer

*by Newt Espe – Mar 2001, TRN*

I've been in the volunteering business for several years, writing, editing, and publishing newsletters mostly. But, as most vets will agree, volunteering can be a risky business. Usually when the man called for a volunteer we were at attention. The trick was never to look the man in the eyes, never to blink or twitch, or you'd be like the guy who scratches his nose at an auction. You bought it.

My first hair-brained move was to join the Army (really the National Guard), with the understanding that I would serve for a year. The year turned into five with most of the time spent in tropical warfare. Bad move.

My next act of idiocy was to volunteer to be attached to a firing battery bound up the coast to Morobe, New Guinea. We left the beach in barges hauled by ancient Australian tugs, nearly foundering and drowning in a sudden storm just off shore.

Later and still clueless, my pal Wally and I elected to go with another firing battery, hauling radio sets, 75mm howitzers, ammunition, and some paltry provisions up the Bitoi River carrying everything on our backs --- and the backs of native carriers. Ten miles in two days, fording that accursed river a dozen times.

The last and dumbest was when Wally, Woody, and I agreed to trek up the beach to meet an officer for forward observation duty. Mainly we were anxious to escape the nightly Japanese artillery showering the rocks we covered in. Wally got sick (another bout of malaria --- or maybe something from the swamp water we drank) so I sent him back. Woody and I and two Papuan carriers clambered and crawled up a steep and muddy ridge to join the infantry and spent a week under fire and in severe discomfort.

Now, the volunteers we're seeking here probably will not run into the same sort of situations. So you vets, forget the old curses of volunteering and think only of the virtues, which are many. We need you.

### Spotlight on Peggy Jo Berg

I started my career with two years at the Venitian Theatre in Hillsboro during my last two years in high school, then two years at Bruno Art Studio in Portland, one year as a telephone operator for West Coast Telephone Co. on a cord board in

## Death Notices February, March, April 2014

Hillsboro, then nine more years as a Management Assistant to the Central Office Installation Manager in Beaverton/Hillsboro and later Cornelius. During this time West Coast was bought out by GTE. I left GTE in the spring of 1967 and stayed home for the rest of the year. I then went to work for Tektronix in 1968.

At Tektronix I worked in the Manuals Production Area for 25 years. I started out typing instrument manuals manuscript from the writer's original input copy for production in the Print Shop. I was promoted to Lead Person to Manager through the years. During this time we went through the process of moving the typesetting from linotype to Macintosh's. We started out with magnetic tape and paper tape coded files out put on quality devices. Our final system was Mac's running PageMaker to fully format pages for production on presses or high speed printers.

We started out typesetting manuals, but ended up typesetting the Corporate Catalog, Data Sheets, Annual Reports, Manuals and all types of other documents. These documents could then be output on various types of paper with various bindings with various quality levels.

As a manager I first managed only the Typesetting group, I later acquired the Prep group (camera/stripping and plate making, etc.), Microfiche area, the Aperture Card area, the High Speed Printer area and various others for short periods of time.

I retired from Tektronix in 1993 when Xerox bought out the Printing business at Tektronix. I worked for Xerox 2 years and retired completely. I came to TRVP in 1997, started formatting the newsletter for Newt Espe in 1998 and since then have done just about everything except work on the data base. It has been rewarding to be able to give something back to a company that gave me so much. After being with TRVP from 1997 to 2013 I plan to retire again. I will miss my friends, but hope others will find volunteering here as fulfilling as I have. I have met many other ex-employees that are volunteering at non-profit organizations. It has been great.

### 31st Annual Reunion — Tek Retirees

Saturday, June 14, 2014; in the back room, as previously, so we have an entrance. Beaverton **Elks Lodge** #1989; 3500 SW 104th Ave; Tel: 503-644-6116; **Noon until 4:00 pm.**

Service includes coffee, tea and water as in the past years.

We are no longer able to get death notices or length of service information from the Tektronix data base.

We would appreciate any assistance retirees or members of their family can provide us. We have posted here the information we found in obituaries, newspapers or from family members or friends who have notified us. In order to ensure accuracy in our reporting we need: the name spelled out, date of birth and date of death. Also, we like to include their length of service at Tektronix when possible. To ensure accuracy in our reporting please leave your contact information — name, email, and/or phone number in case we have any questions.

The newsletter staff is in the office on Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each week. You may call us on Wednesdays or leave a voicemail any time at 503-627-4056.

Or you may send an email to:  
tek-retirees@tektronix.com

**Henry A. Bahrs** — d. 02-25-2014

At Tek: 32 years

**William Berg** — d. 10-13-2012

At Tek: 17 years

**Charles Blanchard** — d. 10-29-2013

At Tek over 10 years

**Ronald Hazen Boyce** — d. 01-29-2014

**Renee L. Briand** — d. 04/24/2014

At Tek, Gaithersburg, MD

**Alan J. Bruce, "Jay"** — d. 04-14-2014

At Tek over 30 years

**Richard Keith Compton** —

d. 11-08-2013; At Tek 24 years

**Miller M. Duris** — d. 03-23-2013

At Tek: 28 years

**Eleanor Forsberg** — d. 03-08-2014

At Tek: 19 years

**Cris Grotenhuis** — d. 03-10-2014

**Theron Hill** — d. Oct. 2013

At Tek: 12.3 years

**Kathleen Amelia Hoff** — d. 02-25-2014

At Tek over 10 years

**Beverley Chase** — d. 04-11-2014

At Tek 20 years

**Sandra (Plumb) Jumonville** —  
d. 03-24-2014

**Harold Krouth** — d. 03-29-2014

**John H. McAllister III** —

d. 03-18-2014

**Caryl Jean MacMillan** —

d. 02-25-2014; At Tek 15 years

**Jack Peasley** — d. 02-03-2012

At Tek: 23 years

**Brad A. Prowse** — d. 04-05-2014

At Tek: 27 years (Grass Valley)

**Richard "Rich" Sasaki** —

d. 04/21/2014

**La Velle A. Schmale** — d. 04/06/2014

At Tek: 25 years — retired May 1983

**Lauretta May Schmitt** —

d. 10-08-2012; At Tek: 18 years

**Irene Rose Smith** — d. 04-01-2014

Retired in 1986

**Evelene Howell Starkey** —

d. 12-25-2013; At Tek: 12 years

**Prunella June Walker** —

d. 07-01-2013 (est.); At Tek: 21 years

**Johnathan Joseph White** —

d. 02-28-2014

### RETIREE BENEFIT INFORMATION & ADDRESS CHANGE PROCEEDURE

#### Retiree Medical and/or Life Insurance

Anyone who is a past employee with Retiree Medical and/or Life Insurance will need to request information or make changes in writing to A & I. You must include your signature and Social Security number.

Tektronix Post Employment Services

A & I Benefit Plan Administrators, Inc.

1220 SW Morrison St., Suite 300

Portland, OR 97205-2222

Toll Free: 1-800-778-7956

Fax: 503-228-0149

#### 401k Benefit

Anyone who has a 401k benefit must contact Fidelity for information or to change their address directly with them at:

1-800-835-5092

#### Cash Balance Plan

The Cash Balance Plan has been transferred to Danaher Pension Plan Processing Center with Hewitt. Questions or changes should be directed to:

1-800-580-7526

#### Tektronix Retiree Volunteer Program

M/S 22-037

PO Box 500

Beaverton, OR 97077 - 0001

Phone: 503-627-4056

Email Address:

Tek-Retirees@Tektronix.com

## Tek Retiree News

Manager: **Louis Sowa**

Editor / Publisher: **Gordon Long**

### TRVP Staff

**Peggy Jo Berg • Gary Hoselton • Ray Kato**

**Paul Kristof • Jim Manuel • Pete Nelson**

**Neil Robin • Millie Scott • Judy Watkins**

Tek Retiree Newsletter is published quarterly by the Tektronix Retiree Volunteer Program. Send all correspondence to Tek Retiree News, M/S 22-037, PO Box 500, Beaverton, OR 97077

**Office Telephone: 503-627-4056**

**Email: [tek-retirees@tektronix.com](mailto:tek-retirees@tektronix.com)**

**Manager's Cell Phone: 503-320-0440**

**TRVP Web Page: [www.tekretirees.org](http://www.tekretirees.org)**

Sometime ago TRN was sent a lengthy and interesting article about the first Tektronix acquisition — Pentrix Corp.

The following is a bit of Tek spectrum analyzer history and a “what might have been.” It was put together by Linley Gumm with assistance from Len Garrett. I'm passing it on to the Tektronix and Family Hams List because most hams have always wanted to 'see' around their operating frequency. Products were available back then but most were very expensive. More and more hams today have newer technology spectrum analysis products, but some have latched onto old discontinued Tektronix or other spectrum analyzers. These older products can be found through eBay and other sources. Anyway, the story.

Once upon a time a bunch of Tek employees with talent, foresight and perseverance had a dream; to capture the spectrum analyzer (SA) market, fragmented at the time among several companies, with HP dominating. It started with the acquisition of Pentrix and the L-series plug-ins, and the formation of a spectrum analyzer design group. (Pentrix was a Brooklyn, N.Y. company that designed and built a 535/545 plug-in microwave spectrum analyzer. (principals were Arnie Frisch, Morris Engelson and Larry Weiss) They needed money to expand their 'baby'. In about 1964, 50 years ago, they contacted Tektronix. Morris E. came to Beaverton to demo their plug-in. Yes, Tektronix was interested but didn't know a thing about the frequency domain....

*Sent by Don Tucker W7WLL*

Due to lack of space the article will be continued in August. However, go to our website to see it all. *Editor*

## Tektronix Retiree Volunteer Program

**M/S 22-037, PO Box 500**

**Beaverton, OR 97077 - 0001**

Quarterly Quote: The Engineer states that the cup for liquid ( 1/2 full ) is twice the size needed. Garrison K.; Prairie Home

Companion

### Marconi's Cronies

Meet the 2nd Wed of each month  
(except July and August)

12:00 p.m.

Tom's Restaurant  
3871 SE Division Street  
Portland, OR

Jack Riley: 503-235-5267

### Previous Tek-Employees Luncheon

11:30 a.m. 2nd Monday monthly  
Peppermill Restaurant  
17455 SW Farmington Road #26B  
(Corner of Farmington  
& Kinnaman Rd)  
Aloha, OR 97007

Details: Annetta Spickelmier  
503-649-2491

### CALENDAR

#### TERAC

6:00 p. m.

Round Table — Beaverton

Weekly on Friday

#### CRT Luncheons

3rd Tuesday each month

@ 11:30 am

(except June thru August)

Beaverton Izzy's

11900 SW Broadway

Beaverton Town Center

Details: Jack Neff: 503-554-7440

1301 E Fulton St, Apt # 233

Newberg, OR 97132 - 1870

### READ YOUR TEK-RETIREE NEWSLETTER ONLINE

Would you like to help save postage and read your Tek-Retiree Newsletter on our webpage? Send your name, address, phone number and email address to: [mlscott@easystreet.net](mailto:mlscott@easystreet.net)

Millie will send you a notice when the newsletter is posted each quarter. If your email is changed or rejected for any reason you will receive one phone call to request an update. If you don't respond we will return your newsletter to the US mail list. To preview the web page and previous issues of the newsletter go to:

[www.tekretirees.org](http://www.tekretirees.org)

## Spectrum Analyzers at Tektronix

(This article is from the December 1979 issue of Tekweek. It may be of interest to old FDI employees.)

The following is a bit of Tek spectrum analyzer history and a "what might have been." It was put together by Linley Gumm with assistance from Len Garrett. I'm passing it on to the Tektronix and Family Hams List because most hams have always wanted to 'see' around their operating frequency. Products were available back then but most were very expensive. More and more hams today have newer technology spectrum analysis products, but some have latched onto old discontinued Tektronix or other spectrum analyzers. These older products can be found through eBay and other sources. Anyway, the story.

Once upon a time a bunch of Tek employees with talent, foresight and perseverance had a dream; to capture the spectrum analyzer (SA) market, fragmented at the time among several companies, with HP dominating. It started with the acquisition of Pentrix and the L-series plug-ins, and the formation of a spectrum analyzer design group. (Pentrix was a Brooklyn, N.Y. company that designed and built a 535/545 plug-in microwave spectrum analyzer. (principals were Arnie Frisch, Morris Engelson and Larry Weiss) They needed money to expand their 'baby'. In about 1964, 50 years ago, they contacted Tektronix. Morris E. came to Beaverton to demo their plug-in. Yes, Tektronix was interested but didn't know a thing about the frequency domain. Gordon Long was asked to listen to Morris and then determine how well the product worked. It met the specifications stated. Tektronix invested in Pentrix in 1965.) After a full line of L-series plug-ins was introduced, the technology in them was used to create the world's first portable spectrum analyzer, the 491. This product was extensively used by the military.

After the 491, the spectrum analyzer group turned to more modern architectures, the first being the portable 1401 and the 1401A spectrum analyzer (500 MHz coverage). This product used the 322 oscilloscope as its display. After the

1401 the next target was a line of 7000-series spectrum analyzers plug-ins. The first was the 7L12 (1800 MHz coverage, two-wide) followed by the super selective 7L13 (1800 MHz coverage, three-wide). Other instruments in this period were the 7L5 (5 MHz coverage, two-wide, fully frequency synthesized) and finally the 7L18 (18 GHz microwave coverage, three-wide) with its excellent selectivity. The 7L18 was the first instrument at Tek to feature a microprocessor-based control system. There were also ancillary instruments in this period like an excellent 1800 MHz tracking generator that worked with the 7L12, 7L13 and later with the 492. Another instrument, the 1405 was marketed to allow Tek's analyzers to sweep analog TV transmitters. This product generated large profits and was in Tek's catalog an incredible long time.

Divisionalisation came to Tek, resulting in the formation of the Frequency Domain Instruments Business Unit. By this time, the 491, was obsolete. Bob Orwiller and Juan Moore brought a large scale new military sales opportunity to the group. An opportunity, that is, if certain goal could be met: an 80 dB dynamic range, no spurs, easy to use, extreme ruggedness, microwave coverage to 18 GHz, size small enough to fit through a submarine hatch and light enough to be carried by one person. This opportunity came well before the 7L18 was introduced, but its essential microwave technology and its microprocessor control system technology was available for use.

The resulting product was the 492, a modular and flexible instrument that could be offered with many option levels. For instance, among other things, one could order it with or without microwave preselection, digital display storage, or GPIB computer control capability. To make life simpler for the customer, some of these, like GPIB control, were offered as separate instruments (the 492P). Follow on programs added additional features. An improved, synthesized frequency control system was added which was marketed as the 494. An 1800 MHz coverage low-band

only instrument, the 496 was also marketed.

Not visible to the public nor often even to our sales force, were several aspects that made the 492 relatively economical to manufacture and support. The 492 system is modular with internal plug-in modules. This allowed modifications and changes to easily be made to individual modules as parts became obsolete or when performance was improved. From the very first, the business unit's mantra was that whenever any module was updated it MUST be backwards compatible. This meant that when a module was obsoleted, factory service didn't need to stockpile parts which resulted in a much lower overhead to support existing instruments.

The backwards compatibility mantra also applied to the system software. The latest 492 software will operate in the earliest instrument. As the software boots up, it polls the modules to determine the mod level of each unit and then loads appropriate software to run that unit. Again, this meant that factory service did not need to keep track of past versions of system software; only the last version was needed.

Following the 492 series, Frequency Domain Instruments designed and built the technically advanced 2782 and the economical 2710 family. Significant quantities of all these products were sold into the commercial and federal marketplace, becoming a standard for many. Unfortunately, military budgets fell, limiting markets for the high end products and completion in the mid and low performance market sharpened with Asian and European competition. With lack of ready profits, management support faded, the dream crumbled and Tektronix gave up the market to what was then the spectrum analyzer segment within HP (now Agilent).



Van Mason of StoneRidge Wealth Management speaking at the volunteer's luncheon held Apr 19. He spoke about market bubbles that have occurred over many years from the Tulip one about 150 years ago to the recent housing market.

StoneRidge promotes conservative growth of assets before and during retirement.

A column titled "Tips to Manage Spending In Retirement" appeared in the NYTimes on April 11, 2014. It can be found online and is certainly worth reading.