

## HEERENVEEN SUMMER NEWS

by: Gerrit de Vries translated by Aletta van Meurs

Dear ex Tek colleagues, this time not a story about the history of Tektronix Heerenveen but a story about my personal passions today.

Every year when the days are getting longer I come more and more in the mood for traveling. My way of traveling differs a lot from what people of my age mean by traveling, I like to explore the world on my bicycle which is a thing with no engine so you have to drive it with human power. Hear you thinking - of course my human power is not comparable to the energy that young people have, that is a natural fact. I am 68, my weight is 65 kilo since I was sixteen, move a lot but do not just healthy things (hope the good and bad things keeps me in balance) and will continue with cycling as long as I can. On my previous trips I met people traveling on bicycles from many countries aging between 18 thru 80. So there is a future for my way of adventure.

### Polska bicycletour 2016

Traveling through Europe is traveling through modern history which is one of the fields I am interested in especially WW2 1939-1945, and the Cold War between 1945 – 1989. When I am sitting on my bike and travel in Europe I realize that we have lived here already 70 years in peace and have open borders.

During wintertime I read a book of 800 pages called "Ravensbruck" written by Sarah Helm about the woman Nazicamp in Furstenberg.

Read another book about Wladimir Putin called "the new Tsaar" by Steven Lee Meyers.

This book is not a love-song for Putin but probably he is the leader that Russia deserves after the collapse of the Soviet Union is my opinion.

These two books determined my choice for the next trip, I would like to see the border with Russia and would visit the remains of Ravensbruck. So, I am going to Polska. (Poland)

Remark: I like to travel through free countries with lots of small villages where I can buy food and sit down for a drink. This reduced my choice to western countries like Europe, US, Canada, Israel and Australia but this wide enough for a cyclist.

### Preparations for the tour

Good preparation for a trip or for projects in general is 50% of the job, It limits risks and prevents unnecessary searching for things in a country where you don't speak the local language.

For this trip there is not a traveling guide available so I had to design it myself which is a challenge.

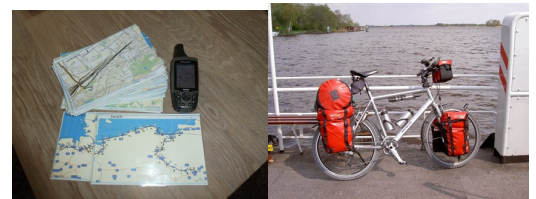
My starting point for making a track was Wikiloc where I used the Open Cycle Map as a layer. So I could draw a line using (parts of) existing cycle routes. For use on my Garmin GPS I downloaded the tracks and printed 100 detail maps of the route. Don't rely just on electronic media, batteries may get depleted or other defects may occur. Made a second check in Wikiloc with google earth as layer to inspect the track for amount of traffic on paved roads and kind of soil for the off-road parts.

To keep the day budget low I wanted to overnight in my tent on campsites, the survey for campsites was a time consuming part of the preparations. Part of the job was to make sure the camping still exists where I used any recent customer feedback and camp-

ing signs on openstreetmap. The result was a list with 36 campsites including the address. Marked these sites with a flag on my Garmin tracks.

Ordered train tickets for me and my bike for the train-ride Heerenveen to Warschau, from there I cycle back to Heerenveen. Do the difficult part first (public transport), the easy part is cycling of this 2200 km track without pressure for deadlines

### By train to Warschau



The night train to Warschau does since Jan 2016 no longer departs from Amsterdam so I traveled with day trains to Dusseldorf (Germany). It was already 23:37 hours when I entered this very long train with 2 sections, the rear part was Warschau and the front part Prague. The sections will separate in Potsdam near Berlin. Traveling with a packed bike causes always unexpected surprises like lifts to small for a packed bike or no lift at all so I had to take the stairs thereby carrying the 6 bags and the bike separately. Also the train door-step is much higher than the platform. Anyway I could hang my bike in the bike compartment, stored the bags in a rack and found my reserved "liegeplatz" where I could sleep with 5 other people. I love sleeping in night trains and woke up at 9:30 the next morning when a woman in my coupe asked me if she may open the curtain. At 12:15 the train arrived on the train station Warszawa -Centralni. Once Continued next page

outside the station I started my Garmin GPS to find my way to the first campsite 3km ahead.

### Warschau to Russian border (607km)

My track followed more or less the Wisla river in north direction. Near Grudziadz I went over to the R1 long-distance cyclistroute and followed the R1 up to the Russian border near Kaliningrad. The main part was through National Parks which means no paved roads but small quit hilly forest roads covered with sand or gravel. The sand roads were sometimes very dry and on some places laying in full sunshine impossible to cycle so the only alternative was walking my packed bike.

On day 3 I arrived at the small Village of Lucien and I camped by a farmer near lake Biale, it was weekend so



more Polish people camped there. When I was making my camp a woman came to me with a plate filled with meat and bread and a water and a beer. She spoke Polish but I did understand her, the message was after all this cycling you must eat well. I was really touched by her hospitality and spend an hour with her and her husband talking with hand and feet and a few English words. That is Poland!

I am always a bit careful by speaking German in Poland because of what happened in WW2 but discovered that many older people especially in the northern part prefer to speak German and I understand why: the mainstream of tourists in Poland are Germans. Young people in the cities speak English.

Met my first goal on day 10: the Russian border. Had never seen before the outside border of Europe with a sign "welcome in the European Union" and in the other direction the Polish and Russian border guards where all traffic is stopped for inspection, papers and visa.



Tom MacLean 1964  
Heerenveen Operations Manager

(To be Continued in the next issue)



### Letter to the Editor

I read with interest Gerrit deVries' write-up on the Tek-Holland, Heerenveen operation. It was very well done and most certainly accurate. I look forward to reading his follow up article in a future Tektronix Retiree News publication.

As you requested in the TRVP News section of the May 2016 Tek Retiree News issue I would like to submit a brief addition to Gerrit's work, written from the perspective of an American guest of the Dutch, at work in the Heerenveen operation. You can use it if you wish and, if so, feel free to modify it in any way you feel appropriate.

In the spring of 1964 I had the wonderful opportunity to follow Earl Wantland as plant manager of the Heerenveen operation ("Directeur" in Dutch terminology). Larry Mayhew succeeded me four years later.

The issue I want to emphasize here is the very high esteem we (the Americans involved with Tek-Holland) held the Friesian and Dutch employees who made the Heerenveen operation what it turned out to be. These folks were an incredible addition to the Tektronix working community. Their achievements were remarkable.

The shipment of production instruments from Tek Holland to European Common Market customers commenced shortly after my arrival at Heerenveen. Through the following four years and probably well beyond that, the Heerenveen plant maintained the highest quality rating all Tektronix plants worldwide. Secondly, throughout that period and probably well beyond, the Heerenveen plant never failed to meet a production schedule.

I attribute these remarkable achievements entirely to the dedication and work ethic of the Friesian and Dutch employees. Whereas it is true we had terrific support from Beaverton, the overall product quality and commitment to getting the job done on time originate with hands-on employees.

My guess is Earl Wantland and Larry Mayhew would concur with this assessment.

Thomas Maclean

## Tektronix now part of Danaher spinoff Fortive

Tektronix has a new owner. East Coast conglomerate Danaher Corp. completed its spinoff of its older, industrial businesses. In the process, Tektronix became part of a new company: Fortive, based in Everett, Washington.

Former Tektronix president Jim Lico is Fortive's chief executive. Pat Byrne remains president of Tektronix.

Fortive shares were trading at \$49.16 shortly after Tuesday's opening. That gives the new company a market value just shy of \$17 billion, based on 345 million shares Fortive says were created when the company spun off from Danaher. It is our understanding that those of us that have been retired are still under Danaher benefits.

## Death Notices

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

We appreciate the assistance retirees or members of their family 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.

**Ackerman, Sara E**, -d2/23/16 @tek 26 years

**Barnett, Thomas R**, -d3/19/2016 At Tek 24 years

**Bate, Lee**, -d7/17/2016

**Bolinger, Helen I**, -d2/9/2016

**Bookout, John Robert**, -d6/9/2016 At Tek 31 years

**Brooks, Paula**, -d6/16/2016 at Tek/Xerox 27 years

**De Sautel, Marv**, -d6/6/2016

**Fisher, Lyle Hoyt**, -d6/5/2016 at Tek 29 years

**Geis, Edward Michael**, -d4/28/2016

**Hundley, William (Bill)**, -d5/26/2016

**Platt, Sohia Mae**, -d7/28/2016

**Steinke, Helen Wanida**, -d4/28/2016 @Tek 10 years

**Rosener, Harvey James**. -d5/13/2016

**Spittler, Fern D.**, - d6/26/2016 @tek 8 years

**Wane, William**, -d7/23/2016 at Tek 25 years

**Warner, William LeMoyne**, d-5/4/2016 at Tek 32 years

## EX TEK AUTHOR

Retiree Peter Kent recently published his third book entitled: THE ELDERLY—THEIR HEALTH—THEIR FRAIL ENVIRONMENT. This book does not simply make recommendations on what needs to be done to improve local and today's medical care for the elderly. It makes a case for more solidly linking present-day care with humanity's medical needs and services far beyond present day horizons..

### 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**

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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

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**TRVP Web Page:**

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

### **Tektronix Retiree Volunteer Program**

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

**Beaverton, OR 97077 - 0001**

### **Address Changes:**

**We need to be notified when your address changes.**

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

OR mail to: M/S 22-037, PO Box 500, Beaverton, OR 97077

### **TRVP News**

Louis Sowa

I want to thank Garret for his great articles. The current article will be continued in the November issue. We have some information and potential sources for articles about Sony/Tek which may follow the Heerenveen article.

We continue to be understaffed, so getting out the newsletter has become a challenge. We would like to thank those providing material for the newsletter.

As you see on page three Tektronix is now owned by Fortive as Danaher has split off part of its holdings to the new company. As stated in the article those of us that were retired before split will not have a change in our benefits.

### **CALENDAR**

#### **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

#### **Redmond Breakfasts**

8:00 a.m. 1st Monday monthly  
Shari's Restaurant; Redmond, OR

1565 SW Odem Medo Way

Spouses welcome

Details: Nick Hughes 541-548-1201

#### **TERAC**

6:00 p. m.

Round Table — Beaverton

Weekly on Friday

### **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)

We 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)

Please send questions, information or correspondence not involving the newsletter online to TVRP at [tek-retirees@tektronix.com](mailto:tek-retirees@tektronix.com)