



An Unexpectedly Fast Newsletter Evolution: Introducing 'Reflections'

From the Editor

With this issue, I'm introducing what will be the next chapter in the life of a retiree and former employee communicator. If it rolls out as we envision it, we will be able to reach an even wider audience of people who were a part of the legacy of Tektronix.

Last month I discussed the range of activities that were once a part of the Tektronix Retirees Volunteer Program. Over time, the activities narrowed down to some outreach about encouraging students to get involved in programs for Science, Technology Engineering and Mathematics, or simply "STEM." This had some nice synergy with the vintage TEK Museum, but it had become a bit hit or miss. That left the newsletter. No doubt, the shifting interests of volunteers, and inconsistent interest on the part of local schools, it was time for us to review our mission.

I've had some amazing feedback that came with the survey, but the real key is based on being able to reach those who depend on the printed word, and who have been looking forward to that familiar name Tektronix on a piece of mail.

Let me assure you that we will move those who are willing, and that the new publication will be accessed from the web. With that statement, let me now make the "ask" that fundraisers are always ready to pitch:

We need to convert about 6,000 people to the web version, and find funding to reach the estimated 1,200 who need that bit of paper. It will take about \$2,000 to reach the 6,000, and an additional \$900 per issue to reach the declining mail-only audience.

Longer term, we'll work out bulk mailing and a not-for-profit status. Please mail any contribution (one that fits for you) to the Retiree's mail address. Thank you.

Highlights of My Sales Career With Tektronix

By Paul Lund

Selling Tektronix products was always a thrill. I sold Tektronix products from 1963 thru 1974, selling thru Tek's offices in the Washington D.C. area (Annandale office), Baltimore area (Towson office), Orlando area (Orlando office), as well as the San Antonio office.

As Tek's sales people, we were so proud of Tek instruments' performance, but equally proud of the inside of the scopes including color coded wiring, ceramic mounting strips, 3% silver solder, life time warranty transformers, and of course the precision Tek made CRTs.

On November 23, 1963, I was demonstrating a scope camera to several technicians and engineers for the Long Lines Division of AT&T in down town Washington D.C., when a supervisor interrupted the demonstration, and said they needed to use their equipment for the TV networks right away because the

President had just been shot in Dallas. What a terrible incident this was to the government workers in the D.C. area. It seemed as though the entire city was shut down and exiting the D.C. area as I left. Later my family and I sat on the Supreme Court's steps as President Kennedy's body was brought into the rotunda of the U.S. Capitol building.

In Baltimore while demoing a Tek scope to researchers at Edgewood Arsenal, I learned that the scope would be hooked up to a goat that was strapped to a table and shot so they could monitor how its respiratory system performed as it died. It turned out that this particular goat's respiratory system most closely resembled that of a combat soldier, and they were studying how a combat soldier's respiratory system would shut down!

Most of my time in Orlando was spent in the Cape Canaveral/Kennedy area. I witnessed much of the growth that NASA built and operated on Merritt Island. Tek instruments played a key role in the Apollo Program to get a man on the moon and safely returned. The RM 529 TV waveform monitors were used throughout the launch complex 39's LCC (Launch Control Center). The RM 561A/3A1/3B3 were favored throughout the global tracking network. Every Saturn V launch destroyed a 547/1A1 which was located on the launch tower and was part of the electronics that determined burn quality. The 564 with 3A3/3B3s were

used by NASA for testing the explosive bolts used on the various Saturn V stages.

Apollo 13 had a problem with the fuel sensor on the third stage of its Saturn V launch vehicle. I was called in with a 547/1S2 Time Domain Reflectometer to check the capacitive fuel sensor built into this stage. I entered the third stage with the 547/1S2 mounted on a Scopecart. A NASA Quality Specialist came along with the Douglas contractor engineer while we hooked up to the fuel probe, and drove the pulse into the sensor, and determined, that this was not the source of their concern. Several days later the Apollo 13 astronauts called Houston with the message "Houston we have a problem". But the third stage of the Saturn V performed as designed.

Also, while working out of the Orlando office one Saturday evening my wife and I went out for dinner at Freddie's Steakhouse in Maitland, just as we were getting our desert, two men approached our table and confirmed who I was (the girl watching our two sons had told them where we were) and then asked me to get out to the block house for the Titan IIIc rocket launch pad 41 because of a problem they were having with one of their Tektronix products during the launch count down. (*I had been there earlier in the day and showed them how to balance the vertical displays from the front panel of their RM565 with 3A3/3A3*). That turned out to be the problem after driving the 50+ miles that evening, and the countdown proceeded and later the following day they had a successful launch of the Titan.

Also, while out of the Orlando office I covered Puerto Rico. My first trip there, I was accompanied by my manager, Chuck Bouffiou. Chuck and I got lost in the interior of Puerto Rico while looking for the Arecibo Iono-

spheric Laboratory. Finally, we ended up in a Peace Corps training camp, and the locals gave us instructions on how to find what was locally called "The Telescope." We finally found it, and what a massive facility! The metal reflector of this large electronic telescope's antenna was actually housed in a large valley. Trucks could drive under the reflector. The transmitter engineers sent out a single high voltage pulse, and the receiver engineers turned on the receivers to warm up while we went to lunch with them. After lunch, the receiver engineers started seriously listening for any possible reflected signals from the earlier transmitted pulse. Tek scopes were in use throughout the entire facility.

While working out of San Antonio, I became Tek's first military account manager, responsible for Tektronix sales to the U.S. Air Force. This involved coordinating sales via U.S. Air Force at installations around the U.S. One particular visit was to Offutt AFB south of Omaha. With the 55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, one of their EC-135 aircraft had multiple 555 dual beam oscilloscopes on board. These scopes had moving strip film cameras attached to them, which served as the time base for the dual X-Y display. The speed of these cameras was limited by the melting point of their film. These aircraft would fly close to enemy borders - teasing enemy fighter aircraft to converge on them. The on board 555s would capture the electronic signals transmitted by the enemy fighters and have the electronic signatures of the magnetrons used by the fire control radars of the enemy aircraft.

These are just a few of several memories during this fine sales job while with Tektronix.

Paul's time with Tek started in Test/plant 3, followed by his time

in Tek sales, and then followed by his return to Beaverton, where he concluded his Tek time in Government Marketing. After leaving Tek, he sold for Fluke Corporation in the NW and Hawaii.

Comments on the August 2019 Issue

By Bill Gellatly

The last article in the August issue commented on the likelihood that printed and mailed copies would continue to have Tektronix funding. Despite the case our team presented, the decision was irrevocable. That has left us with no time to arrange an interim solution. Fortunately, many of you who replied to the survey expressed willingness to support the cost of printed and mailed editions.

Our first effort will be to take care of those who will be stranded because you've told me you have not, or no longer use a computer. We will be unable to send more than a handful, with the small donations sent in with the survey.

Tektronix (which now operates as a unit of Fortive) was adamant, and as we follow press releases, even more people are taking their retirement or seeking other employment. While most of us remember the thrill of high profit share, there were also low points, and the pattern continues today.

It is an acknowledgment of Tek's need to evolve that has also driven us to make changes, and we hope you'll enjoy the new roads we'll explore with our newsletter **Reflections**.

How vintageTEK Came Into Being

Paul Thompson

[This article first appeared in the November 2012 edition of the TRVP Newsletter and has been lightly edited for space. - Ed,]

The Grand Opening of the vintageTEK Museum of Tektronix oscilloscopes and related instruments was held the weekend of September 16 to 18, 2012. This grand opening was announced in an article in the Oregonian on September 17. There are now over 400 individual instruments on display at the museum, ranging from the 511 oscilloscope to the 11000 series instruments. The museum exists largely through the efforts of Stan Griffiths and Ed Sinclair. Here is a bit of history as to how vintageTEK came into being:

Stan Griffiths was first hired into Tektronix in 1960 as a calibration engineer, where his job was to calibrate oscilloscopes right off the production line, occasionally requiring minor repairs on the instruments to permit them to meet standard specifications. After a couple of years as a calibration engineer, he was transferred to field maintenance service in Beaverton and then spent two years as a field maintenance engineer at two different Tektronix field offices in the Los Angeles area. In 1966, he resigned from Tek, and he and another scope maintenance colleague formed Mobile Scope, a company offering on-site maintenance of scopes. In 1970, Mobile Scope fell on bad times, and Stan reapplied for employment with Tektronix and was offered a job as field engineer in Boston. After three years in the Boston area he transferred back to Beaverton where he ultimately became a field engineer for spectrum analyzers and other frequency domain instrumentation covering custom-

ers in Oregon, Washington, and Alaska.

The first glimmering of what ultimately led to the founding of the vintageTEK occurred one day when Stan was calling on one of the labs at the University of Washington. He spotted a non-working Tektronix oscilloscope being used as a door stop. He asked about it and was told that this was one of about 20 non-working scopes that needed repairs but were held up because of the costs. This played right into the hand of Stan who had developed a high degree of competence in the repair Tek scopes during his early years at Tektronix. Stan made them a deal: he would repair and calibrate one scope for them, at no charge, if they would give him three of the other non-workers. They accepted, and Stan repeated the offer until he owned about 15 non-working but for him, easily repairable scopes.

That got him started collecting used Tektronix scopes and other Tektronix instruments. At one point at an estate sale he bought 300 oscilloscopes for \$800. His reputation as a scope collector spread, and soon there were other individuals and organizations who had unused and/or non-working scopes in their possession and who were glad to have Stan take them off their hands. In the February 2002 issue of the Tek Retiree News is an article in Stan's own words where he estimated that he then had about 1150 instruments. He states in the article, "More arrive here than leave. I am not anxiously looking for more instruments. I do not have the space. Even though my storage space is at a premium, I can always find enough room to save old Tek instruments from the "landfill." He also talked at that time about the possibility of setting up and running a museum of old Tektronix instruments.

Enter Ed Sinclair: Ed joined Tektronix in 1968 as a Field Engineer trainee. After finishing Field Engineer training, he was assigned as a FE to the Alhambra field office. In 1972 he was promoted to Tektronix Account Manager for the US Army where he was stationed at the Cherry Hill, NJ, field office. In 1977 he took a position in Beaverton as Accessories Business Unit Marketing Manager until 1983 when he resigned from Tek. In 1987 he returned to Tek as a consultant and implemented the Mobile Calibration service which provided customer on-site site calibration on Tektronix products and on other company's products as well. He had heard of Stan's collection of Tek used instruments for a number of years; he finally viewed it in 2008, and "was awash in memories of my days as a Field Engineer." Almost immediately he and Stan set about to establish vintageTEK as a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable museum.

vintageTEK was formed and registered with the state of Oregon and the IRS in 2008. Initially the primary purpose of the museum was to raise money to obtain property and build a suitable building for the museum. Shortly after announcing the museum and beginning to raise funds, more than 900 instruments were donated or lent to vintageTEK by other folks, largely other Tektronix ex-employees. At present, less than two dozen of the instruments on display in the museum are on loan from Stan or others -- the rest are owned by vintageTEK.

When first opened vintageTEK was located at in a small building generously leased from former Tek employee Gary Hoselton at SW 45th and Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway.

Death Notices

Barker, Phyllis Ann –
d7/6/2019

Bamford, Charles Edwin “Chuck” -d7/1/2019
@Tek 26.31years

Beckett, Fredrick J. –
d9/16/2017

Boone, Donald M. –
d5/9/2019

Branda, Donald Peter –
d11/25/2018 @Tek
22.63 years

Chinell, Gloria Ann –
d7/30/2018 @Tek ~18
years

**Denny, Joanne
(Dickens)** -
d11/16/2018@Tek 11.79
years

Egle, Harold Werner –
d5,12,2019 @Tek 19.67
years

Grady, Suzanne Ellen –
d7/27/2019

Haag, Gary Jay –
d3/28/2008

Huey, Wanda Chin -
d3/10/2019

Isaac, Vernan L. –
d6/24/2011

Iverson, John Oliver –
d8/28/2019 @Tek 12.22
years

Lundeen, Nancy Anne
—d10/10/2019

Lunden, Robert West –
d4/13/2002

Nettles, Sonia –
d5/12/2019 @Tek 26 years

Smithhiser, David –
d10/13/2014 @Tek 27.49 years

Snell, Hebert (Jay F)
d9/29/2019

**Stevens, Caroline May
(Ullrich)** -d8/27/2019

Thomson, Guy L. –
d12/23/2006 @Tek ~ 13 years

Unger, Peter J. –d8/29/2019
@ Tek 29.81 years

Winter, Michael G. –
d7/9/2017

VintageTEK Hours

**Friday - 10am to 6pm
Saturday - 10am to 4pm
Other times by request**

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503-627-4056

CALENDAR

Engineering Breakfast

Wednesday 8AM Beaverton/
Hillsboro area. Lively discussion all
subjects. For details contact Steven E.
Rice pacemakerpete@hotmail.com

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
503-312-8825

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

Ex-Tek Radio Amateurs

Weekly on Friday
Time: 5:30 PM
Place: Round Table Pizza
10070 SW Barbur Blvd
Portland, OR 97219
Phone 503-245-2211

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
Trust Fund: BeneSys
5331 SW McCadam
Portland OR 97239

Toll Free: 1-800-778-7956

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

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