

Web Page: www.Tek-Retirees.com

A Newsletter for and by Tek Retirees February 2021

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TRVP Update

Volunteer Needed

Being still in the pandemic the TRVP staff is unable to meet at our office in Building 13. Maybe we can resume normal operations for the May issue. **We continue to function without an editor. The function of the editor is to acquire content and put into MSWord format. If you might be interested in the editor role or have a suggestion of someone who might please let us know at: LSowa@earthlink.net.**

In the interim we are operating separately from our homes. We normally function much more collaboratively. With those facts in mind this issue is abbreviated, and late.

QST "Teaser" article Submitted 5/23/80

The major eruption from Mount St. Helen volcano in the state of Washington on May 18, 1980, did more than just spread volcanic dust and ash over major portions of the United States. It also took the life of at least one amateur radio operator and interrupted a project of the US Geological Survey and the National Geographic Society to take photographs of violent eruptive activity on the mountain.

In late April the Tektronix Employees Radio Amateur Club (TERAC) was contacted by National Geographic and asked if they could provide radio equipment that would allow five cameras located on strategic heights around Mount St. Helens to be operated by radio remote control. While there is commercial radio remote control equipment available, it could not be expected to work over the distance involved. The TERAC group got together and designed and constructed the remote controls using some pocket pager receivers and a 35 watt transmitter operating in the 450 MHz band.

Over 300 man-hours were put in over a period of about two weeks by a number of club members in constructing the required encod-

Tektronix Stories Needed

TRVP has run out of Tektronix related material for the newsletter. Did you spend all of your working life at Tek? How did Tek prepare you for life after Tek? If no new material is available, we will focus on the obituaries and changes to Tektronix benefits. To submit articles send to staff@tek-retirees.com

Tek Retiree News F

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er, decoders, antennas, battery packs, etc. as well as in tuning up the receivers, scrounging parts, and building the high power amplifier for the transmitter. Roger McCoy W7ADV and Tom Hill WB7FHF were the most active in this work, often showing up until 3 or 4 in the morning to finish some part of the project. Finally all the equipment was ready and all the clearances had been gotten. By this time the group sponsoring the project had grown to include the US Geological Survey (which provided the required clearances into the volcano area) and other groups. However, due to difficulties in obtaining cameras, only two could be installed at first. Since the major part of the eruptive activity was occurring on the north side of the mountain, both cameras were to be installed there. Roger and Tom were airlifted into the area by helicopter on May 7, 1980, and assisted in installing the cameras and checking out the remote control equipment. The control transmitter was to be operated by Reid Blackburn KA7AMF from a USGS camp known as "Coldwater 1" located about 8 miles northwest of the mountain. Reid took a leave of absence from his job as a photographer for the Columbian newspaper in Vancouver Washington so he could volunteer to help the USGS with this project. Regular radio contact was maintained with Reid on 2 meters through the Portland area ARES repeater (WR7ADA).

Then on the morning of May 18,

1980, Mount St. Helens erupted with a force that no one expected. The blast, which has been estimated to have had the force of a 10 megaton atomic bomb, split open the whole north side of the mountain and knocked down trees for almost 15 miles. Hot gasses and great quantities of volcanic ash also erupted and covered the area north of the mountain to a depth of several feet. Reid did not meet his schedule that morning and when a helicopter got into the area that afternoon they found the camp site covered with ash and his car burning. After the rain settled the ash somewhat, Reid's body was recovered on May 22, 1980. He is survived by his wife, Faye, and will be sorely missed by Portland area amateurs and all who knew him.

David Lievsay K7UUH, TERAC Activities Manager

Tektronix / Danaher Retiree Benefits

Internet: mybenefits.mydanaher.com

Phone: **800-964-7985** (8 AM to 8 PM EST Monday thru Friday)

(Connects with benefits administration)

Select one of following)

Health care

401K

Pension

Life or AD and D

Report death

(or say "Agent" to speak with a person)

Danaher letter: we need your beneficiary for your life insurance

Everyone should have received a letter from Danaher over the past 2 months requesting you to name a beneficiary for your life insurance.

We recommend all retirees contact Danaher Health and benefit center by computer or phone.

If you do not contact Danaher, I recommend you seek legal advice on status of life insurance without a beneficiary.

To setup an account you will need to provide

Your information:

Last 4 digits of your SSN,

Birthdate,

Zip code of your home,

Your Password: upper, lowercase, numbers plus special symbol,

Phone pin number you create

Plus answers to 5 special questions

Beneficiary Information:

Full name and middle initial,

Postal address,

Phone number,

Social security number and

Relationship to you.

Thanks to **Mike Bonham**, for bring this to our attention.

Death Notices

Amrein, Erol Lee, 12/30/1940 -
12/6/2020

Anderson, Beverley Jean, 4/6/1929-
3/6/2021

Andrews, Roland Eugene "Gene",
7/2/1931 - 12/22/2020

Corrigan, Thomas Alvin 2/22/1943 -
11/25/2020

Hooker, Delores "Ditter", 5/19/1925 -
2/1/2021

McGuire, Cecil 'Mickey', 1/19/1925 -
12/29/2020

Mitchoff, George Edward, 12/19/1928 -
6/18/2020

Mohler, Ronald 4/11/1931 - 2/24/2021

Olson, Ronald Arthur, 2/2/1926 -
2/15/2017

Powell, Jeffrey Lynn, 11/21/1944 -
5/28/2020

Press, Stephen Edward, 5/17/1950 -
1/21/2021

Reierson, Lawrence 2/27/1934 -
3/7/2021

Schieltz, Jon David, 12/17/1938 -
1/10/2021

Schmid, John J. 5/18/1934 - 3/9/2021

Smethers, Donald Earl, 3/1/1939 -
12/27/2020

Weiss, Lawrence Harold, 2/6/1932 -
8/2/2018

Whitlatch, Judith Marie (Delameter),
6/29/1936 - 12/30/2020

Tektronix Retiree Benefits

Danaher has now created a central point of access for Tektronix Retiree Benefits

Web Site: MyBenefits.MyDanaher.com

Or

Phone: 800-964-7985 (8 AM to 8 PM EST Monday thru Friday)

(Connects with Danaher benefits administration. Select one of the following categories or say "Agent" to speak with a person)

- Health care
- 401K
- Pension
- Life or AD and D
- Report death

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

Cancelled until further notice
Peppermill Restaurant closed
Details: Annetta Spickelmier
503-312-8825

VintageTEK Hours

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

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

Because of COVID we now meet:
Friday night get together
via ham radio.
Time: 7:00 PM
Place: TERAC repeater
443.650 MHz,
Positive offset, 100 Hz PL tone
"ZOOM meetings are also
held. Details: Ron Kinder,
k7vmn@arrl.net"