

TEK RETIREE NEWS

Tektronix
Retiree
Volunteer
Program



Web Page: www.tekretirees.org

A Newsletter for and by Tek Retirees

MAY 2005

Modern Homesteading

By: Mrs. Fred L. Anderson, Jr.

It was a Sunday in February 1980. The children were gone from the nest, creating an almost unbearable stillness at our farmhouse. Thoughts of moving on seemed attractive. Yes, tomorrow I'd stop by the United Farm Agency and pick up a real estate catalog.

Five months later we were standing on an old abandoned homestead of 1888 in the northeast mountains of Oregon. Many hours of dedicated labor would be needed to make this land come alive again. The land consisted of 80 acres of timber and 80 acres of pastureland. The old shallow hand dug well seemed only fit for animal use. Power lines ended six and one half miles away.

In 1984 we left our farm and city jobs to try and restore this old homestead. We moved our belongings into a 40' x 22' pole building we had built on our vacations. Our living area at one end was 12' x 22' with a shallow loft above with room enough for a bed and dresser. A used 12" x 22" wood burning trash burner was used for cooking and heating. Rainwater was collected in buckets placed under down spouts and then strained through a two-gallon metal milk strainer fitted with a replaceable cotton filter. The strained water was then poured into a 50 gallon heavy black plastic barrel. This barrel had an opening on the top of 16" for easy access and cleaning. A sturdy screw-on lid fit tightly. Rainwater collected from metal roofs was not used for drinking or washing green leafy vegetables. Water collected from well-settled snow can equal nearly 3/4 of a gallon of water from 1 gallon of snow. Perhaps almost a ton of snow has been melted during a winter here.

During the first 8 months we were able to make enough lumber from our dead pine trees to build a 40' x 22' enclosed barn, a 20' x 20' shop and a 10' x 10' root cellar. These projects took many hours a day six days a week. We always rested on the seventh day.

That first winter temperatures dropped to a low of -34 with a total of 12' of snowfall. Parts of every day were spent removing snow from walkways, buildings and work areas. Quickly we became very strong and healthy.

Layering our clothing for warmth we were able to work outdoors each day. To keep the cows' water from freezing in their tub we placed the tub in another wood tub surrounded by straw and placed it in their barn. Mounting old snow skis on a wood wagon we built, helped to pull buckets of water from the old hand dug well 700' away. Caring for cows at this 5,000' elevation during winters is difficult. We noticed Red, an 8-month pregnant cow trying to deliver her calf early and coming feet first. Having no phone and two feet of new snow on the road Fred anchored a piece of plywood on top of the 3 point hitch on the tractor for the veterinarian to sit on for the two miles in from the highway, while I found a bright red knee high sock and stretched it over the spotlight on the tractor for a taillight. Thanks to the kindhearted bovine doctor rushing to the scene little Annie survived weighing in at only 26 lbs. The kind doctor declined his perch on the plywood, gave his vehicle all the power it had and raced up the hill.

During the summer of 1986, we laid the foundation for a log house 43' x 34'. We quickly found peeling dead lodgepole pine logs took a lot of muscle power. A flat was cut on two sides opposite each other, leaving two remaining sides to remove the bark with drawknives. We found we could only process nine logs a day. Each log became a special piece of a puzzle to be used somewhere in a house that was to be our home. Using a small chain saw worked well for cutting the mortise and tenon at each intersecting log. The floor joist and inside walls were log, creating even shrinkage throughout the structure. Fred became the chief source of power for seating the logs, except for the small chain saw. Kitchen and bathroom cabinets were created using left over tongue and groove pine flooring we had made. Allowing sometime for the structure to settle, permanent windows replaced temporary ones made of four millimeter plastic sheeting. Our electrical power for the house is supplied by batteries, which are charged by photovoltaic panels.

Going into town was difficult for the first couple of winters and because of this we rarely went. However, on these days Fred would push or ride a bicycle over packed

snow for the first two miles to the highway then another four and one half miles to where our pickup was stored for the winter. Exchanging the bicycle for the pickup he'd drive the four and one half miles back to pick me up. Coming home the process was reversed. We'd then fill my backpack with groceries and strap it on my back. The first mile home was uphill and difficult. Walking in the snow with a heavy load tested our ability to put forth much energy. Darkness came early and we dared not stop for fear of losing momentum and never again being able to gain it back.

Looking back in time we don't really seem to have any regrets of moving here. I've found it best not to contemplate what might have been had our choice been different. I do miss the sound of hot water swishing in the dishwasher and of seeing hot steam rising from under the lid on the washing machine and the clicking sound as clothes tumble and dry to a soft perfection gives one great satisfaction in a job well done. The delight and feel of crisp white uniforms early in the morning cannot be forgotten. It's probably well to remember what Wendell Berry advises, "Be careful when you choose your hardships". Perhaps someday someone will come and replace us here never really knowing the efforts put forth in striving for perfection. Taking time now to observe these seven buildings, having made all the lumber used, I realize the conscientious awareness and care only a proficient machinist by trade could achieve. How does one measure success and happiness? Can there really be happiness at the end of life's rainbow? Is happiness the free feeling of being safely tucked away on this mountaintop to work or rest as you please? The Joy of seeing cougar run free

(See Homesteading on page 2)

Get your Newsletter on Line

A number of retirees are now getting their newsletter from our Web Site.

www.tekretirees.org.

If you would like to join them send an email to Millie Scott at:

mlscott@easystreet.com

TekWeek 25 Years Ago

Tek English tutors honored at party

Tek tutors for the Portland Community College/Tek Education Program's courses were honored at an international holiday party December 13.

Among Tekes who have been tutoring during fall term are David Morgan, Norma Kroetch, Carol Conaway and Jill Borden who help once a week from 3:30 to 5:30 PM and Pat Mundy who has been tutoring twice a week from 1 to 3 PM.

In addition, other Tek volunteers have been tutoring for PCC in the evenings. The response from volunteers was really tremendous," said Liz Brunkow, one of the instructors in the program. "They make a valuable contribution to the program," she said.

An interest in helping others is the only requirement. Course instructors give necessary guidance to help make the tutoring effective.

The winter term of ESL classes begins on Tuesday, January 8. Classes on three levels are taught on Tuesdays and Thurs-

days from 1 to 3 PM or 3:30 to 5:30 PM in the Alaska building (68).

Anyone interested in the classes or in volunteer tutoring may call Tam Martin at Education and Training, ext. 5224 for more information.

Tek technician-farmer retires

It was only fitting that Ben Braukman (Calibration Testing Labs) ordered German chocolate cake for his December 20th retirement party.

After all, this is the same Ben who every year helps make more than 1700 gallons of sauerkraut and five tons of sausage for the locally famous Verboort sausage and kraut dinner.

Ben's family background well qualifies him for Verboort kraut-makin'. Before coming to the small Dutch Catholic community in the early 40's, Ben lived in Minnesota with his German-born family. His parents, he recalled, spoke English as seldom as possible.

Ben's life in Verboort centers around the 75-acre beef cattle and grain farm, where he and his wife, Clare, raised their five children. For the past 20 years, since coming to Tek, Sandwicing his family in-between the demands of both farm and job has some times been annoying for Ben.

"I love my family," he said, "and now that I'm retiring, we'll have more time to spend together. Before, there was never any free time.

Tek boilers register peak day

Bitter northeast winds and arctic air shipped through the Portland area again last weekend as temperatures dropped to the mid-teens with an added wind chill factor of -10 to -15.

Boilers at Tek Beaverton recorded a peak day on Monday. In addition, Tek was asked by Northwest Natural Gas Company to cease using gas in the boilers for the duration of the cold spell. The distribution system was unable to deliver gas due to high residential usage.

Some of the new buildings in Wilsonville and Walker Road experienced heating problems and were way below the US government's 65-degree maximum. The same was true in leased buildings such as Administration (Y3).

A few water pipes froze over the weekend at Tek Beaverton but all were minor problems and quickly repaired.

The US Weather Service predicted that the arctic chill would give way to a warming trend and possibly snow by midweek.

Homesteading (cont. from page 1)

through the meadow and the songs of the coyote in the evening bring delight and enjoyment to one's self. Those who succeed must have a strong commitment to gain something special for themselves, to a way of life you believe in, and letting nothing come between you and that goal.

Looking now out across the garden over the deep snow, carrots and sweet parsnips wait to be dug and enjoyed. Soon new life will appear everywhere. Red rhubarb heads appear and asparagus spears stand tall like many marching soldiers. Strawberry blossoms tell of sweet treats to come, shelves heavy with jams and sauces.

Perhaps success and happiness is a combination of all of these things and they can be enjoyed by anyone who just takes the time to look for it.

You may contact us at:

Mr. & Mrs. Fred L. Anderson Jr.
73034 Lewiston Hwy.
Enterprise, OR 97828

Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

Warren Collier welcomed 50 volunteers to the annual recognition luncheon held in the Bldg 58 cafeteria. This year we had two guest speakers: Cheryl Paul, manager of Hands On Washington County, and Katy Eymann from Life By Design.

Cheryl explained that Hands On Washington County connects volunteers with opportunities that match their schedules and interests. Volunteers select from one-time, group-based volunteering to longer-term opportunities to opportunities for volunteer leadership. They decide among projects at many different non-profits, schools or government agencies. They volunteer alone, with family and friends or with co-workers. In whatever they choose, HOWC volunteers enrich their lives while strengthening our community.

To contact Hands On Washington County, visit their website at:

www.handsonwashingtoncounty.org
or you may phonethem at: 503-846-5796.

Katy Eymann presented information about Life By Design which facilitates life planning after retirement. Katy explained that the project is presently under development. The mission of Life By Design is: "To support people as they age in discovering their passion and purpose and engage their wisdom and skills to strengthen the community and achieve personal fulfillment." The program employs tools and counseling to aid people in the discovery of what they might do with their lives after they retire. Contact Katy Eymann (Project Manager) at Life by Design at:

keymann@pcc.edu

or phone: 503-731-6650

Stan Griffiths brought several vintage Tektronix instruments again this year. He has a collection of about 1700 instruments, many of which are in working condition. He will be taking some instruments to the Annual Spring Tek Reunion at the Elks on May 21.

Retiree Deaths

Date: Feb, Mar, & Apr, 2005

Armstrong, William – d. 1/30/2005

At Tek: 4/23/1973 to 4/30/1981

Babbitt, Mary – d. 3/10/2005

At Tek: 9/22/1969 to 4/21/1977

Baldrige, Alice – d. 4/10/2005

At Tek: 12/27/1961 to n/a

Bates, Mary – d. 2/2/2005

At Tek: 5/30/1978 to 9/18/1987

Bird, Ilva – d. 3/26/2005

At Tek: 9/23/1974 to 1/31/1990

Bjornseth, Clifford – d. 2/17/2005

At Tek: 3/28/1966 to 5/31/1984

Chaffey, Ramsey – d. 3/24/2005

At Tek: 10/1/1966 to 7/11/1986

Cole, Edgar – d. 2/11/2005

At Tek: 2/1/1960 to 3/29/1978

Ellis, Benny – d. 9/12/2004

At Tek: 3/13/1961 to n/a

Everhart, Wanda – d. 4/13/2005

At Tek: 5/29/1973 to 1/12/1994

Fisher, Olive – d. 4/2/2005

At Tek: 5/3/1965 to 1/6/1978

Fleury, Catherine – d. 2/18/2005

At Tek: 7/11/1960 to 4/29/1983

Franck, Wilson – d. 2/28/2005

At Tek: 10/31/1955 to 11/22/1963

Franz, Charles – d. 3/1/2004

At Tek: 11/15/1978 to 9/2/1988

Gibson, Thomas – d. 4/1/2005

At Tek: 12/11/1989 to 2/20/1996

Hargreaves, Beryl – d. 4/1/2005

At Tek: not available

Her, Boua – d. 1/3/2004

At Tek: 2/18/1980 to 2/15/2003

Hershiser, Patricia – d. 4/17/2005

At Tek: not available

Hudson, Leo – d. 2/20/2005

At Tek: 4/30/1962 to 5/30/1975

Johnson, Dorothy – d. 12/6/2004

At Tek: 4/17/1961 to 8/22/1986

Jones, Richard – d. 3/14/2005

At Tek: not available

Keeseey, Michael – d. 1/18/2005

At Tek: 2/5/1996 to 12/31/1999

Leeto, Raimond – d. 12/23/2004

At Tek: 12/15/1955 to 4/29/1983

Lytzell, Clara – d. 1/28/2005

At Tek: 6/20/1977 to 4/28/1993

Mac Millen, Helen – d. 4/25/2005

At Tek: 8/8/1977 to 6/3/1991

Monroe, Ramon – d. 3/7/2005

At Tek: 5/9/1977 to 4/18/1986

Morland, Hazel – d. 4/7/2005

At Tek: 5/3/1973 to 10/29/1982

Morriss, Rose – d. 3/4/2005

At Tek: 6/13/1966 to n/a

Murtagh, Richard – d. 5/19/2003

At Tek: 2/2/1960 to 11/30/1976

Narits, Leonilla – d. 2/6/2005

At Tek: 10/31/1977 to 5/30/1983

Nguyen, Ngoc-Minh Thi – d. 12/21/2004

At Tek: not available

Nuttall, Bette – d. 3/3/2005

At Tek: 11/6/1978 to 3/18/1980

Nuttall, Robert – d. 8/11/2003

At Tek: 11/26/1973 to 11/11/1983

Peterson, Gertrude – d. 3/4/2005

At Tek: 4/27/1960 to n/a

Peterson, Sherry – d. 2/25/2005

At Tek: 9/30/1968 to 6/3/1971

Petry, George – d. 3/1/2005

At Tek: 2/13/1961 to 10/17/1975

Russell, Elizabeth – d. 2/19/2005

At Tek: 4/13/1970 to 10/14/1988

Sessions, Keith – d. 4/7/2005

At Tek: 12/29/1958 to n/a

Simon, John – d. 7/1/2003

At Tek: 4/29/1974 to 9/11/1992

Sutton, Lurley – d. 3/2/2005

At Tek: not available

Thompson, Vena – d. 2/22/2005

At Tek: 7/28/1969 to 4/23/1982

Trimble, Leona – d. 3/27/2005

At Tek: 4/30/1979 to 11/26/1990

Van Loo, Sylvester – d. 2/9/2005

At Tek: 12/12/1960 to 2/27/1975

Webber, W. – d. 3/10/2005

At Tek: 2/1/1951 to 7/22/1977

Wefers, Elmar – d. 2/22/2005

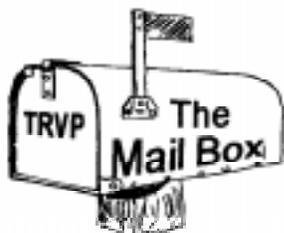
At Tek: 1/29/1962 to 8/22/1986

White, Ceclia – d. 3/1/2005

At Tek: 2/17/1959 to 8/11/1981

Woo, Daniel – d. 1/26/2005

At Tek: 6/18/1979 to 10/6/1989



Bob Perkins: As I have recently relocated from Welches, Or. to Denver, Co., you asked about an update on my life after Tek. Well, I got laid off in 1994, went to work for a company in Hillsboro for a year, then relocated to Welches. I worked at the Mt. Hood Village Resort which is a beautiful vacationing spot for RV's, campers, and they now have quaint cottages you can rent. After a couple years there, I started at the local (well only) hardware store. I met several other Tek Retirees that also lived there. Ron Rogers (who recently passed away), Pat Buckley and Lou Cummings while working at the store. I lived in a beautiful mountain chalet approximately 12 miles from Gov't. Camp. Most of my time was spent just 'putzing' around the home, fixing this and that. I thoroughly enjoyed working and living there; met lots of very interesting people—from artists to violin makers to doctors to politicians that all enjoyed the beauty of the area. Bill Johnson (who was the first American skier to win a gold

medal in skiing, 1984) also lived there and came into the store quite frequently. Then, grandchildren came along and off to Colorado I went. I'm currently unemployed and have only been here since November, 2004. I'm totally lost in the city as I'm the type of person who loses their car in the parking lot! But, I bought a really good Denver map so that should get me to the grocery store! (I hope). Anyway, that about brings you up-to-date. I'd also like to tell other Tek retirees that my friend of 30 plus years, Nick Norgorden, (who also worked at Tek) passed away very suddenly two years ago. He lived in Bend for many years but we remained close and dear friends. I still miss him terribly but stay in touch with his son, Jimmy. Thanks for the continuing copies of your newsletter which I do enjoy reading. I would like to say 'Hi' to all the people I worked with at Tek and hope you are all enjoying life and staying healthy. My new address is: 49:82 S Ulster St., Apt. 611, Denver, CO 80237.

Fred & Donna Anderson: Enclosed you will find a story about Fred's activity after leaving Tek in May of 1984.

Fred is fine and has done very well since leaving Tek. The work here has certainly been a challenge at times mostly due to

our elevation and living beyond the power lines, however the solar power we have has worked very well for us

Fred still uses his machinist ability to machine parts when needed here on the ranch. The four years of machinist training he received at the Naval Shipyard at Vallejo, California after his graduation in 1951 has truly served him well.

Fred enjoyed his work at Tek very much, and still holds a special place in his heart for the employee's he met there. We have enjoyed so much the Tek friends that have come to visit us here.

The Tek News letter has been a great way for us to keep in touch. Thank-you.

Darrell Barr: I have spent a number of years of volunteer work maintaining the vintage WWII aircraft for Evergreen Aviation, helping to get the Spruce Goose reassembled to help get the museum started. I also worked for the first year after the museum opened helping with maintaining the display aircraft. In recognition I have received a "Volunteer Lifetime Membership" in the Evergreen Aviation Museum. I am now on an inactive status with the museum except for one small project. I

(Mailbox continued on page 4)

Tek Retiree News

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Editorial

By Louis Sowa

With this issue I have been the editor for four years. It has been a very rewarding experience. The best part is the people I have met and the interesting articles and letters that have been sent in.

There is a small group of dedicated people that make the TRVP work, however we could use a couple more volunteers to help with the office chores. A couple things we have not done well are to coordinate volunteer opportunities with retirees, and to keep up the data on who is volunteering for what. If you think you may be interested in helping please contact us at 503-627-4056. We will schedule an appointment

to meet and discuss what needs to be done, and you can meet the people you would be working with over lunch.

Annual Tek Retiree Reunion

This is a reminder of the no-host Spring Tek Retiree Reunion at the Beaverton Elks. A time to meet with new and old friends and reminisce about the good times.

Date: May 21, 2005

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Place: Beaverton Elks Lodge
3500 SW 104th Avenue
503-646-6116

Annual Potluck in the Park

Date: June 25, 2005

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Place: Shute Park
Hillsboro, OR

Invite your friends and co-workers to join you in the park for a fun filled time. All ex-Tek employees, family and friends are invited to join in. Meet us in the area just south of the library parking lot.

Bring a dish to share, your dinner service and drinks. For additional information call the TRVP office at 503-627-4056 or check the TRVP webpage at:

www.tekretirees.org

Mailbox (continued from page 3)

am involved with getting two WWII vets I know set up to be video taped about their experiences during the war. These tapes will be archived for future displays. If there are other WWII vets who may want to share their experiences, or donate memorabilia to the museum, I will be happy to steer them to the right person at the museum.

Calendar

Marconi's Cronies

Meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month:
12:00 a.m.

at J.J.North's Buffet Restaurant
Northeast Halsey at 105th
Portland, OR

Contact: Jack Riley for details
Phone: 503-235-5267

CRT Luncheons

3rd Tuesday of each month at 11:30 AM
at the Home Town Buffet located at
13500 SW Pacific Highway in Tigard, OR

Contact: Jack Neff for details
1301 East Fulton St., Apt. 241
Newberg, OR 97132-1870
Phone: 503-554-7440

Address Changes

If your newsletter label includes the notation "SUPDIST Subscriber" notify the TRVP staff of any change of address, address correction, etc.

TRVP's address is:
M/S 58-037
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Phone: 503-627-4056

Otherwise send your information to:

A&I Benefit Plan Administrators
Tektronix Post Employment Services
1220 SW Morrison St., Suite 300
Portland, OR 97205-0149
Phone: 503-222-7700 or 800-778-7956
Fax: 503-228-0149 Email: tek@aibpa.com

You must include your Social Security number and your signature.

Modern Homesteading



Vegetables from our garden. The tomatoes were grown inside a 4MM plastic framework furnished with a wood stove. Elevation here is 5,000 ft.



This picture taken on their homestead in 1984, the year Fred retired from Tek.



Fred built these spiral stairs that connect the first floor to the second in our log house.



Fred pouring the cement down a wood slide lined with sheet metal, to form a casing inside the well.



Walls of temporary wood framing holding the cement against the bank to provide the well casing.



Cabinets are lodgepole pine. Stove hearth is made of white sand and masons cement using granite and marble stone set in a single iron framework. The floor is also lodgepole pine.

The lighting is 12 volt.



Fred pulling buckets of water from the homesteaders well for the cows. Sometimes ice would form on the water before he reached the barn



Fred using Alaska 3 chain saw mill to make a large upright support.



Logs are of dead standing lodgepole pine.





The 22X40 foot pole building we lived in for four year. Our living space was 12X22 feet.



Our first solar panels mounted on a large tire rim providing an easy way to rotate the panels toward the sun.

The Volunteer Luncheon in April



Katy Eymann speaking about "Life by Design."



Cheryl Paul from Hands on Washington County

Stan

