

TEK RETIREE NEWS

Tektronix
Retiree
Volunteer
Program



Web Page: www.tekretirees.org

A Newsletter for and by Tek Retirees

FEBRUARY 2011

Grand Circle Tour to Mexican Copper Canyon

By Judy Watkins

The Mexican Copper Canyon tour began in Tucson, AZ, and then headed east where we crossed the border at Palomas, Mexico. From there we went South to Casas Grandes, Chihuahua, and the Copper Canyon at Divisadero. From the Copper Canyon we went North again to El Fuerte and San Carlos and crossed the border again in Nogales before returning to Tucson and home.

On much of our trip the landscape was high desert with a rim of mountains in the far distance. The land was desolate with miles and miles of cactus of several varieties. Once in awhile a lone windmill provided enough water for a few cows. In New Mexico just before the border we passed vineyards and a winery, cotton fields where the harvest was just beginning and pecan orchards.

Border crossing into Mexico:

At Palomas we had our first sighting of the big iron fence separating the U.S. from Mexico. There were huge lights every few feet along the fence line. While our guide took care of our paperwork we observed the activity around us.

Mexican nations living in the U.S. go home to visit and they fill their cars and trucks to capacity with gifts for family and friends. The vehicles are completely unloaded, reviewed and repacked before they can continue on. Each visitor is allowed to bring into Mexico only \$100.00 of new merchandise and a 5% tax is paid on the remaining items. If an item was manufactured in China the tax is 300%.

Places we visited:

The ruins of Paquime are located on the outskirts of Old Casas Grandes. This ruin has not been fully explored but their era was the 13th and 14th centuries, long before the Spaniards came to Mexico. The ruins include several-story-high buildings, ceremonial areas, plazas and a large and functional hydraulic system. The conclusions are the Paquime ruins was a fully developed city, built by highly developed people. No one knows what happened to the people who once lived there. It is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site and protected for all to enjoy. There is a museum next to the ruin housing many of the artifacts uncovered in the dig.

Nestled in the hills about ten miles from Old Casas Grandes is **Colonia Juarez**, a small Mormon Community. Entering the town reminded me of being in the U.S. or Canada. The style of houses and fenced yards with green lawns was nothing like we had previously seen in Mexico. Colonia Juarez has a beautiful Mormon Temple that was built about ten years ago and is the first smaller temple built outside the United States.

In Old Casas Grandes we visited a **lapidary shop** where we watched a demonstration of rocks being sliced with saws, then polished to perfection before they were transformed into beautiful jewelry and ornaments.

Chihuahua has a population of 708,000 and was the first large city of our visit.

A visit to Chihuahua would not be complete without visiting **Poncho Villa's home**. I was surprised to learn that he died on July 20, 1923 at the age of 46; somehow I always pictured him in the old days of the 1800's. Poncho Villa was a hero, a modern day Robin Hood in Mexico. Poncho started his career as an outlaw but as a young man he joined the uprising against Porfirio Diaz in the war for land reform. In 1916 he raided a town in New Mexico and a force led by General John Pershing was sent against him. In a 1914 photo with Pershing and Poncho Villa. Poncho's popularity and knowledge of the land made him impossible to capture. He was granted a pardon in 1920 but was assassinated three years later while driving in his car.

The highlight of our tour was Barranca del Cobre, or the **Copper Canyon**. The Copper Canyon is in the Sierra Madre Mountains and its gorges are actually made up of six canyons and in total area are four-times that of the Grand Canyon. The series of canyons are about 370 miles long and 150 miles wide. The Grand Canyon is 4,674 ft. deep at its deepest point, while the Copper Canyon system reaches 6,136 ft. deep. The weather at the canyon while we were there in November reached the mid-70's during the day but cooled off quickly when the sun went down to the low 40's.

A new tram in the Copper Canyon has opened this summer near Divisadero. At

some points the tram reaches 1,475 feet above the ground. The two cabins can hold sixty passengers each and travels 1.7 miles to a station about 1,150 feet below. Our tour group was the first group to use the tram and I was passenger #2,810 since the tram opened. In addition to the tram, there are seven new zip-lines that cover 1,700 to 3,600 ft. each. The views from the tram and viewing station are truly breathtaking. The landscape of the Copper Canyon is different because there are pine and spruce trees as well as oak and ash everywhere. The floor of the canyon has banana trees. The Hotel Divisadero at the rim of the canyon has an altitude of more than 8,000 feet and the air is crisp and clean. At the Copper Canyon the Tarahumara Indians weave beautiful baskets from the grasses that grow there and walk many miles every day to the hotels and train station to sell them to tourists.

The El Chepe Railroad goes through the Copper Canyon and was built to connect the Texas border with the Pacific Ocean. This railroad was an engineering challenge because of the difficult terrain. The railroad was completed in 1961, eighty years after it was started. The route climbs 8,000 ft. to cross the Continental Divide. The El Chepe RR has 86 tunnels and 37 major bridges; the longest tunnel is the El Descanso at 5,966 ft. The first of two major bridges span 984 ft. and 295 ft. above a river, the other is 1,578 ft. long and is 148 ft. above the river. On one section of the RR the altitude drops 5,000 ft. in about 20 minutes. We rode the train from Divisadero (Copper Canyon), milepost 622 kms to El Fuerte, milepost 839 kms. The entire route takes fourteen hours, the portion that we rode was 5 1/2 hours but it included all the major tunnels, bridges and hairpin turns.

Two trains travel this route daily. The first one is a first-class train with a bar and dining car. The second train follows about an hour later and is the economy train with no frills and costs about half of the first-class train. (We took the first train.) On our train trip the landscape changed from high mountains with pine trees and returned to cactus covered desert.

Our tour was taken to a **Mayo Village** near El Fuerte and we learned that during the civil war in 1916 a battle in the town that

(See *Copper Canyon* on Page 2)

TekWeek 36 Years Ago

Condensed by Gary Hoselton

Tek expands! Portland's The Oregonian cited Tek for "providing a psychological lift" to Oregon's ailing economy, saying "Tek keeps growing in an orderly, pre-tested fashion that could be dubbed 'growth by slide rule'." All 64 members of Frequency Domain Instrumentation (FDI) were first to move into the brand-new **General Purpose (58)** building on January 2nd, followed by Food Services opening a spacious cafeteria in the NE corner of the first floor. Subsequent moves included Switch Relay Design and Reprographics. 86,000 square feet are being added to the **Metals (19)** building. The 6-acre Wilsonville building is fully roofed, tho gusty winds of 50 miles per hour during the night of January 7th blew down some beams in a mechanical equipment structure being built on the roof. Service centers under construction include 30,000 square feet near **Boston**, to consolidate various functions and provide classroom space, 23,620 square feet in **Chicago**, and 15,500 square feet near **Dallas, Texas**. **Tek U.K.** installed a brand new mainframe computer, an NCR Century 75, complete with main memory, dual disc drives, line printer, and a facility to interrogate status of accounts by filling out a simple questionnaire; all this replaced an aging visual record system. Aside from Tek, Hewlett-Packard told the Corvallis Board of Realtors that it will build a plant in **Corvallis** for its Advanced Products Division, with an initial 20 employees transferring up from Cupertino, Calif., growing to 200 transfers eventually.

Copper Canyon (cont)

lasted less than twenty minutes destroyed the old Jesuit Mission and more than 100 Mayo people died.

Our final visit of the tour was the Mission San Xavier del Bac in Tucson. This mission was built in 1783 and is located in the center of a Papage Indian settlement along the banks of the Santa Cruz River.

Overall impressions of Mexico

Our tour did not include the major resort areas where most visitors go. Instead we visited the every-day residents of the country. Mexico's tourism has dramatically decreased in the past few years. Our tour director sited the depressed economy in the U.S. as the reason, I question how much might be due to safety issues and the drug wars within Mexico. On our trip

we always felt completely safe and we didn't see the military presence that we witnessed on our **Panama Canal Cruise**. We were told that Grand Circle Travel once had thirteen tour directors for Mexico and today there are only two.

Our tour group visited beautiful, large restaurants and hotels where we were the only people there. We were always treated as welcome guests and they did all they could to please us.

In our travels the controversial topic of immigration was discussed. It certainly looks different from the Mexican point of view. They say the Americans are at fault for the problems because many years ago the U.S. advertised for farm workers. In the beginning the workers returned home at the end of the season, but eventually they found it easier to just stay. Now the workers in the U.S. are trying to have their families join them. That may be true but there is so much more to it and at a time when our country has high unemployment and a depressed economy it becomes an emotional issue. We spoke to a family that was very proud that two of their children were born in the U.S. and have dual citizenship. I'm sure that was not by accident. We also witnessed trains traveling North and at every coupling between the cars Mexican (or maybe Guatemalan) men were making their way to a better life.

Virtual vintageTEK

Planning for the vintageTEK Museum initially got underway two years ago. Now there is a physical Museum facility in place where ex-Tektronix employee (exTek) volunteers are busy wrapping up both the archive and exhibit elements getting ready for your viewing. The instrument display area is being prepared for a planned opening this spring-2011. Forty plus years of historical Tektronix instruments are being acquired and refurbished, to museum quality, in preparation for the Museum opening.

Acquisition of media type Tek history is happening too-both as display and permanent history archival. Some 12,000 professional quality photos-mostly black and white-starting from 1946, on on, are now in our hands. A process is underway to scan all of these photos into digital media. (If you want to have an exciting experience, the Museum is looking for exTek volunteers to help scan and create the photo metadata-titles, captions, dates, keywords, and the like. Contact Ed Sinclair if you are interested in helping with this most fun project-email: eds@vintagetek.org project or 503-209-5894.) We've also located and digitized thirty Tektronix movies into video format,

from David Brown's DVD collection. The film time spans are from the early fifties on through the late eighties. I'm sure you remember all those twenty to forty minute movies produce by Frank Hood and his Communications Department staff. They're all about Tek people at work, our beautiful campus, and new product launches. You may even recognize yourself and certainly will recognize many others you know well.

We also have database of Tektronix patent history. This list of nearly 2,500 patents starts with the first Tek patent issued on June 16, 1956 up to the most recent patent issued in December 2010. This data was researched and cataloged by exTek David Brown. We are extremely gratified with the research effort David put into collecting this most important information. It was a daunting task to look into the all nook and crannies to locate this important history, starting with the United States Patent and Trademark Office and ending with numerous exTek employees' recollections for the final details, including John Winkelman.

You might be thinking, by now, "well, all of this sounds interesting, but how am I going to be able to view it?" The answer is virtually. The vintageTEK Museum is both a physical and virtual resource-with the latter, information will soon be online virtually for your viewing enjoyment. The vintageTEK Museum volunteers' have located a massive wealth of Tek history in photo, print, and old 16 mm movies. The 12,000 photos were collected directly from a Tek building as they were about to be discarded. And the information, which is now being digitized, continues to pour in from many resources, but mostly from memorabilia boxes owned by exTek's who saved and stored over their many years of Tektronix equipment.

We have a new vintageTEK.org Web site under-development, by an associate of mine and me, whose name is Michael Wilhelm. Michael is not an exTek person. He is professional photographer assisting me with graphic design tasks for the new Web site. The new Web site was expressly designed to provide photo galleries, a fully photo metadata searchable photo database, searchable patent database, and direct viewing of Tek history videos. We expect to launch this new Web site shortly. The photo database and patent database will follow sometime after the initial launch. The photo galleries and video viewing will be there at initial launch.

Tek Stories

The new vintageTEK.org Web site was designed to hold an ever growing near infinite number of Tek stories regarding anything related to making Tektronix

successful over the years. You write your story and we'll publish it perpetually online. We are looking for those minute details of things that allowed Tektronix to succeed and grow as a company. WE want to hear about the things you and your fellow employees made happen. Stories about both the minor and major fabrication, ceramic, ECB, IC, CRT, circuitry, et al. Break-throughs and process improvements you made happen during your Tek employment. And what seems like the most insignificant story the better. We know about major instrument product lines and related market launches. What do you and your fellow employees do to make this happen? Lets hear it!

Please write your Tek stories and send them to Ed Sinclair. We'll get them published on the virtual vintageTEK.org museum.

Pete Mackie (At Tektronix: 1960 – 1977)

Letters to the Editor

Jean-Claude Balland— I would like very much you to post that Jean-Claude Balland passed away unexpectedly on December 1st. He came from France (Paris) first in 1978, then came back again in 1984. He left Tektronix in 1991? He was a marketing Manager.

Mireille Balland (his wife)

John Addis—There was a very short obituary in today's Oregonian for Jean-Claude Balland, September 13, 1942-December 1, 2010.

Jean-Claude was born in Paris. He is survived by his wife, Mireille; and daughter Elodie.

He was in SPS marketing at WR-1153 in November 1979. I remember Jean-Claude, I think from 11K series marketing, but more probably from Portables Instrument Div marketing (Bldg 47) in 1986-90. He left Tek in about 1990.

I am especially grateful to him because, after we both had left Tek, he called and asked me if I wanted to do some consulting in Japan. We went over together once and I returned for two other business trips subsequently. Last time I saw him was at his home in Oak Hills. He sold me his TI Laser printer, after my identical one broke down. I am sorry to hear about this. He was only 68.

Ed Egan—passed away, at 91 on January 7, he was a longtime Tek employee..

Ed was TEK Employee # 150, starting while TEK was still at the Hawthorne Plant. He retired in 1973. Before starting at TEK, Ed studied Electrical Engineering at Iowa State University. WWII was upon us and Ed left for the Army Air Corps. While in the Army,

Retiree Deaths Nov. & Dec. 2010 & Jan. 2011

- Baska, Marvin** – d. 12-23-2010
- Belland, Jean-Claude** , – d. 12-01-2010
- Brown, Doris E.** – d. 11-30-2010
- Carlson, David J.** – d. 12-03-2010
- Coupens, Joseph P. (Pat)** – d. 12-19-2010
- De Lavergne, James** – d. 11-01-2010
- Flanary, Thomas (Mike)** – d. 10-21-2010
- Fleck, David W.** – d. 01-02-2010
- Fletcher, Shirley** – d. 01-23-2011
- Graham, Josaphine** – d. 09-21-2010
- Heagle, James H.** – d. 12-15-2010
- Hedrick, Langdon (Lang)** – d. 11-09-2010
At Tek: 35 Years
- Heideman, David W.** – d. 10-29-2010
- Johnson, Virginia M.** – d. 12-26-2010
- Luttrell, Tommie L.** – d. 10-20-2010
- Mc Intosh, Robert L.** – d. 11-09-2010
- Mercer, Donald E.** – d. 11-23-2010
- Minor, Teresa** – d. 08-03-2010
- Nutt, Howard L.** – d. 10-31-2010
- Ringheim, Tammy** – d. 01-02-2011
At Tek: 30+ years.
- Roley, Catherine** – d. 11-22-2010
- Tompkins, Harry R.** – d. 12-13-2010
- Turner, James** – d. 01-08-2011

- Wagner, Neldon** – d. 12-12-2010
- Waymire, Mary L.** – d. 12-30-2010
- Williams, James W.** – d. 11-07-2010
- Winkel, Gladys J.** – d. 07-16-2010
- Winningstad, Normal** – d. 11-24-2010
- Wortman, Wallace J.** – d. 09-18-2010

Death Notices & Address Changes

We are no longer able to get death notices, length of service at Tektronix, or address changes from 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 in the local newspapers and from family members or friends who have notified us.

We would appreciate it very much if you would leave us a message on our voice mail at the TRVP office (503-627-4056) or you may email us information at:

tek-retirees@tektronix.com

he served in a Photogrammetry and Mapping group, stationed in Ireland.

Ed is survived by his wife of 69 years, Fran, also a former TEK employee. He also has two daughters living in California and two grandchildren.

While at TEK, and after, Ed developed a passion for Rhododendrons and Azaleas. He and Fran were very active in the

American Rhododendron Society. He became the "go-to guy" for propagating cuttings of exotic new discoveries, particularly Deciduous Azaleas, and received the "Gold Medal", the Rhododendron Society's highest honor.

Ed was always a gentleman, humorous and ready for a good discussion. He will be missed by many who were pleased to claim him as a friend.

RETIREE BENEFIT INFORMATION & ADDRESS CHANGE PROCEDURE

Retiree Medical and/or Life Insurance
Anyone who is a past employee with Retiree Medical and/or Life Insurance will need to request informaton 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
Phone: 503-222-7700
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 transterred to Danaher Pension Plan Processing Center with Hewitt. Questions or changes shoud be directed to:

1-800-580-7526

Tektronix Retiree Volunteer Program

If you need information or to make changes to your Tektronix Retiree Volunteer Program Newsletter address please notify us at:

Tektronix Retiree Volunteer Program
M/S 58-037
PO Box 500
Beaverton, OR 97077
Phone 503-627-4056
Email Address:
Tek-Retirees@Tektronix.com

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Tek Retiree Reunion at Elks The Last Hurrah

by: Marge Livermore

Well, it's that time of year again. This year's get together will be on Saturday, June 11, 2011 from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. and will be a get together with coffee, tea and water. Other libations and food are available through the Lodge services. As usual, the location will be at the Beaverton Elks Lodge, 3500 SW 104th St., Beaverton, OR

In the past, the lodge has been agreeable to let RV's and campers stay for a nominal fee, but, you must register with the lodge beforehand. Phone: 503-646-6166. Fax: 503-643-9525.

Due to health problems Ralph and I find it necessary for someone else to take over responsibility for the Spring Tek-Retiree reunion for future years or other alternatives must be taken. Please contact me for additional information or recommendations.:

Ph: 503-646-3295

Email: marge.livermore@yahoo.com

Volunteer Luncheon Coming Soon

The volunteer luncheon has been scheduled for April 30, 2011 in the building 58 cafeteria. Building 58 is in a state of construction (which should be completed by that time.) However, read your invitation letter carefully as parking instructions may be different. Nike has leased the upper floor of building 58 and some parking spaces around it.

We have requested an interesting speaker from Medical Teams International. We hope you will be able to attend.

Your invitation letter will be mailed in early April.

Tektronix Retiree Volunteer Program
M/S 58-037, PO Box 500
Beaverton, OR 97077-0001

55-ALIVE CLASS Coming

March 14 & 15, 2011

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Instructor: Bruce Hollister
Building 58

Conference Room: 1NH13

Call 503-627-4056 to register

Pay at Class

\$14.00 or \$12.00 for AARP members.

Read Your Tek-Retiree Newsletter On Line

A number of retirees are now reading their newsletter on our Web Site at:
www.tekretirees.org

If you would like to join them or change your email address send an email to Millie Scott at:
mlscott@easystreet.net

Calendar

Marconi's Cronies

Meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month
(except July and August):
12:00 p.m.

Tom's Restaurant
3871 SE Division Street
Portland, OR

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

CRT Luncheons

3rd Tuesday of each month
(except June thru August)
at 11:30 a.m.
at the Home Town Buffet located at
13500 SW Pacific Highway in Tigard, OR

Contact: Jack Neff for details
1301 East Fulton St., Apt. 233
Newberg, OR 97132-1870
Phone: 503-554-7440

PCB Design Old Timer's Luncheon

Meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month.
Time: 12:00 p.m.
Where: Peppermill Restaurant
Farmington Mall
Corner of Farmington and Kinnaman Rd.
17455 SW Farmington Rd. #26B
Aloha, OR 97007

Web Page: www.geocities.com/pcbaldies/

All Previous Tek-Employees Luncheon

2nd Monday of each month.
Time: 11:30 a.m.
Where: Peppermill Restaurant
Farmington Mall
Corner of Farmington and Kinnaman Rd.
17455 SW Farmington Rd. #26B
Aloha, OR 97007

Contact: Annetta Spickelmier