

TEK RETIREE NEWS

Tektronix
Retiree
Volunteer
Program



Web Page: www.tekretirees.org

A Newsletter for and by Tek Retirees

AUGUST 2011

Museum Needs Money and Additional Volunteers

vintageTek is inexorably moving towards the Grand Opening this summer, and our benches have been busy with Engineers refurbishing the classics you will soon be able to see on display.

We are located at 4620A SW Beaverton Hillsdale Hwy in Portland, between Shattuck and 45th East of 217. Our phone numbers: 503-244-0200, or 503-644-0161.

We will be needing additional funds for our Grand Opening expenses and the various activities planned, along with Volunteers that wish to tell visitors what an amazing experience it was to work for Tektronix!

Contact Stan Griffiths or Ed Sinclair and tell us how you would like to help.

Sincerely,

Stan Griffiths and Ed Sinclair

How Con Artists Work

Con artists make money through deception. They lie, cheat and fool people into thinking they've happened onto a great deal or some easy money, when they're the ones who'll be making money. If that doesn't work, they'll take advantage of our weaknesses – loneliness, insecurity, poor health or simple ignorance. The only thing more important to a con artist than perfecting a con is perfecting a total lack of conscience.

What does the average con artist look like? Despite what you may think, he isn't always a shady-looking character. A con artist is an expert at looking however he needs to look. If the con involves banking or investments, the con artist will wear a snappy suit. If it involves home improvement scans, he'll show up wearing well-worn clothes. Even the basic assumption that the con is a "he" is incorrect: there are plenty of con women too.

You might think you can spot a con artist because he's someone you instinctively "don't trust." But the term con artist is short for confidence artist – they gain your confidence just long enough to get their

hands on your money. They can be very charming and persuasive. A good con artist can even make you believe he is really an old friend you haven't seen in years.

Con artists do share certain characteristics, however. Even the best con can only go on for so long before people start getting suspicious. For that reason, con artists tend to move frequently. They may have a job that allows this, or they might claim to have such a job. Railroad worker, carnival worker and traveling salesman are all parts con artists play to cover up their constant relocations.

It would be impossible to catalogue every con, because con artists are inventive. While many cons are simply variations on ones that are hundreds of years old, new technologies and laws give con artists the opportunity to create original scams. Many cons tend to fall into a few general categories, however, street cons, business cons, Internet cons, loan cons, and home improvement cons.

Home Improvement Cons

Often, a con artist working a home improvement con will approach a homeowner with a story similar to this one:

We were doing some work down the street, and I noticed it looks like you could use a new roof. We have some supplies left over from the other job, and we'll have to return them to the supplier either way, so I can use the leftovers to give you a new roof for a really low price.

Once the phony roofer has the money in hand, he'll disappear. No new roof. Some con artists are actual contractors, but they run scams as part of their business. They might get halfway through the roofing job then demand more money. When a person has half a roof on his house, he's not in much of a position to argue. The roofer might actually complete the job, but do a poor job or use sub-standard materials. Worse still, he might

have a clause in the contract that allows him to put a lien on the house and foreclose if the owner misses a payment. If you refuse to pay for the shoddy work, you could end up losing the whole house.

Home improvement scams sometimes involve kickbacks to other con artists. A contractor approaches a home owner with an offer to do work, and then directs the owner to a specific person who will help finance the money required for the job. This "friend" might give the owner a terrible rate on the loan, sending some of it back to the contractor. In other scams, a "home inspector" shows up claiming to represent the city or county code enforcement office. She might even have an ID that appears valid. This inspector will invariably find several major problems that violate the code and could result in hefty fines. As an option, she directs the owner to a friend who can do the work for a good price. It usually isn't a good price, and it's never good work. Cheap materials, shoddy workmanship and unnecessary replacements are the hallmarks of these "home improvement specialists."

Loan Cons

Mortgages, credit refinancing and other large loans are a major market for con artists. Some companies today offer "debt removal" services. They will provide you with a certificate that invalidates your mortgage or other debt, meaning you no longer have to pay for them, in return for a large fee. But the document they provide is worthless – there are no legal loopholes that allow you to get out of debt without making the payments.

Con artist bankers may slip a page into a loan contract that says the bank now owns the home. The stack of paperwork the homeowner has to sign is mind-boggling, and he may overlook the fine print. Some people end up signing over their homes for nothing.

Mortgages refinance scams are rampant as well. These con artists prey on people who are already in financial trouble. The victim is typically having trouble making

(See **Con Artists** on Page 2)

TekWeek 36 Years Ago

Condensed by Gary Hoselton

Tek products on show

Tek France presented a 6-day show, attended by 2000 customers and press, and some of the 12 seminars had to be repeated two and three times. Information Display, calculators, DPO, ATE, and TV products were featured. Tek had a booth at the **Exploration Update 1975 petroleum industry conference in Calgary**, featuring the 213 portable scope and 4014 computer graphics terminal and its 4954 graphics tablet, and Tek products were also featured in the Boeing Computer Services, Computer Science, and Petrodata booths. The Tek 4014-1 played an important role in exhibits of several manufacturers at the **American Newspaper Publishers Association conference in Houston**, with technical papers praising storage graphics in page layout; Tek had 9 marketing people there including Dick Pechin and Dick Smith from Beaverton. Tek's 60-foot **WESCON** booth was previewed in the building 45 cafeteria, then shipped to San Francisco, where the booth was a 'crowd stopper'. The new LA501 logic analyzer and the 1502 time domain reflectometer were out front, with the 1502 operating under a water spray and partially submerged! The display included the 5000 and 7000 laboratory scopes; portables including digital service, miniscopes, and the new T900 series; spectrum analyzer products including the new TR502 tracking generator; curve tracers; the new TM515 'portable suitcase'; and from IDG, the 3153 calculator system, plotter, hard copy unit, and the 4014 large screen terminal. Editors of leading electronics publications received a preview showing of the new

low cost 4006-1 computer graphics terminal. On special display were **Tektronix 'Famous Firsts'**: the 511 s/n 101, the world's first fully calibrated and triggered oscilloscope, and 535 s/n 102, the world's first 'plug-in mainframe', with 53C plug-in unit, the first alternate trace, wide band, vertical amplifier. 31,300 attended the event, and the Tek booth was crowded throughout the show such that, at closing on Friday, it was literally necessary to 'shoo people out' so dismantling could begin.

Milestones in the Tek world

48 Tekes moved into the new 23,620 square foot **Chicago Field Office** in Rolling Meadows, five miles north of O'Hare Airport. **Grass Valley Group** has expanded into their fourth building, just built on their 325 acre forested park setting near Grass Valley, California. GVG operates as part of Tek's Communications division, and is the premier supplier of television switching equipment. Warren Clark, **Tek Canada** general manager, presented awards to Field Engineers who increased Telequipment sales by 65% in a 6-months campaign, with Walt Ratzlaff (Vancouver) recognized for overall highest performance. The new **Wilsonville plant** opened on schedule September 2nd, with switchboard and cafeteria fully staffed, after an incredible move by Tek's moving crew of the entire Information Display Group from the Sunset plant. The facility consists of two 100,000 square foot single story structures, plus a warehouse and a service facility, all designed to be energy-neutral so no heating plant was built. Janine Frahler (Budget staff), a passenger aboard the "**Seaflite**," a hydrofoil serving the Hawaiian Islands, asked why the vessel rode so smoothly on rough seas, and was shown a Tek 465 portable scope that measured oncoming waves and transmitted the information to a computer which

controlled the depth of the foils. Remember **Tek's 1961 patent infringement suit** against the U.S. government? This was because the U.S. Air Force had awarded contracts to three manufacturers for exact copies of various Tek instruments. A U.S. Court of Claims trial judge awarded \$4.8M for reasonable royalties to Tektronix and \$2.5M for delayed damages, subject to appeal and Congressional appropriation. A smiling Howard Vollum presented a 20-year pin to **Eddie Richmond** (Product Safety Engineering), previously chief engineer for a local radio station, who started in Test, supervised Training, then went into manuals, then Product Safety, while earning law degree in night school and authoring "Typical Oscilloscope Circuitry." will Walker, Tek group vice-president, presented 10-year pins or necklaces to ten **Sony/Tek** employees, ranging from president to four assembly ladies, just after Sony/Tektronix celebrated its tenth anniversary.

Teks making things happen

Zoe Hanson (Asset Accounting) is bodyguard and seamstress for Miss Beaverton, JoJuan Tussing, a PCC student majoring in visual arts, who will compete at the Miss Oregon Scholarship Pageant at Seaside for \$1500 and a trip to the Miss America contest in Atlanta. **Eleanor Lofton** painted the carefully detailed silhouettes of soaring eagles along the breezeway between buildings 50 and 58; long before she and Kit Vollum, wife of co-founder and board chairman Howard Vollum, had put together the first issue of Tek Talk, predecessor of Tekweek, back in 1951. Assembly East (39) and West (47) employees contributed **170 pints of blood** in the June drawing, with Boyd Lewis achieving the 3-gallon level.

Con Artists (cont from Page 1)

his mortgage payments. The con artist banker notices that the victim has some home equity, too much debt and not enough income. A loan is offered even though it is obvious the victim can never make the payments. That's OK with the con artist. He doesn't want the payments; he wants an easy foreclosure on a home.

How to Avoid a Con

Sometimes it seems like the world is full of people constantly trying to get their hands on your money. But there are a few things to remember that will help make you resistant to most cons:

You never get something for nothing.

There's an old saying: "You can't cheat an honest man." Most cons rely on the victim's own greed. Con artists know that people often throw caution to the wind when they start seeing dollar signs. Deals that sound too good to be true usually are.

Guard your personal information. Especially guard your Social Security number, credit card numbers and bank account numbers. We have to use these numbers in many of our daily transactions, but if you are asked for any of this information, be absolutely sure that the person doing the asking is someone you can trust or works for a reputable company.

Don't accept solicitations. Whether you get a cold call for an investment

opportunity or someone comes to your door offering to do home repairs, hang up the phone and close the door. While there may be legitimate businesses that go door-to-door or make cold calls to find customers, they are few and far between.

Watch for signs. Con artists often give themselves away if you ask enough questions. Ask for some kind of written documentation of their offer. Check for a real address, not a P.O. Box. Ask to see a driver's license, and write down the information on it. Write down license plate numbers, and make sure the con artist sees you doing it. If it's a legitimate offer, he won't mind. Tell him you need to think the deal over for at least a few days before making a decision. A con artist will often

pressure you to make a decision on the spot – often using hard sell tactics, such as saying that the deal won't last. They may get nervous when you ask for something in writing, and will usually refuse to provide it. When someone wants your money, if the offer is legitimate it will still be around next week

Charles Ponzi

Charles Ponzi didn't necessarily intend to create a pyramid scheme, but his scheme took on that form. He first convinced people to invest in his business idea. When the business didn't make enough money to repay the investors, he got new investors and used their money to repay the original investors. This process repeated itself several times until newspaper and police investigations hurt his ability to draw new investors. Fraudulent banks have used this scheme as well, offering high interest rates on savings accounts to draw a lot of customers. The deposits of new customers are used to pay the interest to the first customers, and so on, until the bank collapses (or the con artists flee with everyone's money).



To: All employees, retirees and former employees of Tek:

We are looking for a Tektronix instrument to supplement/replace our Huntington Tracker, model HT210. That exact model or some equivalent, or better, would be beneficial for our electronics troubleshooting. As you are probably aware the university budget is extremely tight these past several years, and if someone has an old unit that is no longer needed, or similar model, that they would be willing to donate or sell at very low cost, I would be very happy to hear about it.

Thank you for passing the word along to anyone that might be able to help.

Jim Forsyth
Retiring Director of Technical Support Services

Walla Walla University
215 SW Bade Ave.
College Place, WA 99324
Tel: 509-527-2918
Email.forsyth@wallawalla.edu

I am being replaced by Karl Thompson, EE, also, graduate of WWC(U). Either he or I can be contacted regarding this requested donation.

Dear Tek Employees, Retirees and all:
“Just finished reading the May Tek Retirees Newsletter”

Thought some of the people would like to know how I am and how I am doing. I'm 85 but don't need any help getting around, I do have a house keeper. To begin with I'm living in a retirement home at 1929 Grand Prairie Rd SE C4 in Albany.

I have a two bedroom cottage with myself and my cat Mattie. She is a well trained cat

from the humane society which cost me \$100.

I watch TV most of the day, mostly in the evenings. The office just called and asked what I wanted for supper. If it's not steak I will go over the dining hall. I eat breakfast at home but go to the dining hall at noon. I keep track of where I go and do. I have a friend that has her home here in town and she and her cousin pick me up and go shopping wherever I want to go.

See **MailBox** on Page 4:

Death Notices May, June & July, 2011

- Fitzler, Harold** – d: 05-07-2011
- Frank, Cheryl** – d: 01-26-2011
At Tek: 1978-1988
- Fritzler, Harold W.** – d: 05-23-2011
At Tek ~25 years
- Gerbracht, Doeke N.** – d: 03-19-2011
- Kind, Delores** – d: 05-18-2011
- Loeffler, Joseph L.** – d: 05-19-2011
- Lott, Gregory** – d: 03-31-2011
At Tek: ~25 years
- Lumley, Marvin E.** – d: 03-16-2011
- Martin, Michael J.** – d: 03-09-2011
At Tek: ~20 years
- Peppard, Gloria H.** – d: 04-02-2011
- Perez, Antulio** – d: 05-07-2011
- Prouty, Douglas L.** – d: 05-05-2011
- Ropiequet, Richard L.** – d: 04-25-2011
- Smith, David R.** – d: 05-16-2011
- Sorem, Shirley** – d: 01-01-2011
- Wilhelm, Larry E.** – d: 04-16-2011

Death Notices & Address Changes

We are no longer able to get death notices, length of service information 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 at:

tek-retirees@tektronix.com

The newspaper staff is only in the office on Wednesday's from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each week.

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 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
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 transferred to Danaher Pension Plan Processing Center with Hewitt. Questions or changes should 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 Newsletter is published quarterly by the Tektronix Retiree Volunteer Program. Send all correspondence to Tek Retiree News, M/S 58-037, PO Box 500, Beaverton, OR 97077.

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TRVP Web Page: www.tekretirees.org

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

Mailbox (Continued from page 3)

I hope you enjoy hearing from me. I actually miss working, it gets very boring here, only had two people visit me here. I'm writing this on a little table by my recliner. I always enjoy getting the Tek Retirees News and wanted to say hello to all that remember me.

Fondly, Doris Ellsworth

Editorial

by *Louis Sowa*

Despite our article on con artists, the Tek museum, VintageTek, is not a con and deserving of any support you can provide. It should be open to the public soon. If you have an interest in supporting the museum contact Ed or Stan (see article on page one). They will be happy to discuss needs and give you a tour.

It is once again time to pay for our internet access. Our internet is relatively inexpensive and has worked quite well thanks to Neil Robin our webmaster. Every two years we have to pay for our ISP (Internet Service Provider) and to keep our name, Tekretirees.org, registered. So far Tektronix has been covering those expenses. Our biggest expense is the mailed hardcopy newsletters. Thanks to you that are able to get the newsletter on line only (see Read Your Tek-Retirees Newsletter On Line) on this page.

Marge Livermore and her team are evaluating options for the June 2012 Retiree Gathering. Under consideration is checking out the Golden Crown and the Lady of Peace Retreat house on 170th. Both have free rent if we purchase meals (lunch would be approximately \$6.00 each.) Bill Walker recommended we do whatever we think is best for the group. Additional information will be provided in future newsletters. Fifty-four attended in June 2011.

Christmas Gathering Beaverton Elks December 2, 2011

**Additional information will be
provided in the November
TekRetiree Newsletter**

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
503-649-2491