Tektronix Retiree Volunteer Program



Web Page: www.TekRetirees.org

A Newsletter for and by Tek Retirees

February 2016

# Western Caribbean cruise

by Ray Kato

The Caribbean is one of the most popular areas to sail, especially during the cool months up here in the Northwest, because it's warm there. There are trips to individual islands, or trips that concentrate on Eastern, Western, or Southern Caribbean.

#### The ship

There are many cruise lines and many ships. There are trips all around the world as well as on many rivers.

We sailed on the Norwegian Star. This ship was built in 2001, but refurbished recently. It is 965 feet long and has 13 full decks plus observation lounge and bridge. Everything below deck 4 is off limits to passengers- things like crew quarters, engines, laundry, food and other storage. This is an average size ship with a little over 2000 guests and a crew of 1100

This was our third cruise, all on the Norwegian cruise line. We have not tried the other cruise lines but like the Norwegian's 'freestyle' cruising, which is more casual than others. This is especially true of the dining times. There is some dining available 24/7. At meal times and especially at dinner times there are two dining rooms (one casual and one formal), one or two buffets, several cafes and grills, and several specialty dining restaurants. Many of these are open for breakfasts and all day. The specialty restaurants are open for dinner only. There are also several bars and lounges. Included in the cruise price is that you can eat as many

times and as much as you want. The specialty restaurants and drinks cost extra.

There are many activities on the ship. There are organized games, swimming, sports areas, library, which are free. Spas, fitness classes, casino and art auctions have some cost. Also at each port there are shore tours which can be arranged on the ship or you can walk around the port and arrange your own tours. If you do not take the ships tours, and your tour comes back late, you might be left at port.

There were two shows each evening (one show repeated), several music venues from mid-afternoon till late evening, special shows, movies and other entertainment. These were generally not big names but all good entertainment.

Cruises start and end at many different ports. Many start and end at the same port but some start at one port and end at a different port. Some are also set up so that you can finish one cruise and then take the next cruise which goes to a different place.

Our cruise started and ended in Tampa, Florida. The cruise we took was one covering the Western Caribbean and was 7 days long. Most cruises are 7 days but could range from 3 days to 20 or more. Also fairly common, we left port Sunday and sailed all day Monday. The next four days we were at a new port each morning. Then we sailed Friday night through Sunday morning, returning to Tampa. Sailing days have a lot of activities on the ship. Port days have a few less activities on the ship to leave more time for shore activities.

The shore activities are fairly similar in the four ports. They all had several beach, swimming, snorkeling and boating activities. Some were shorter (a couple hours) and included only one or two activities. Some were longer and took most of the day but included more activities including drinks and snacks. Some activities were more land related such as zip-line, four wheeler ATV, biking, rock climbing, or just a tour around the port city. Many ports also had some wildlife or forest education. In this area, three ports had Mayan ruins tours. There is something for everybody. They could all be fun or educational. The prices vary so that should also be taken into account.

Following are the four ports we visited and our activities

# Coxen Hole, Roatan Island, Honduras:

Gumbalimba Preserve & Animal Sanctuary. We met our guide and took a bus ride to the park at the west end of the island. The rides are also informative as you get to see the forests and hills and the villages and people. Just as we got to the park, it started raining, hard. Fortunately we were near the visitors center for shelter. In minutes, the paths were rivers. Then within a few more minutes, the rain stopped and the rivers disappeared and became paths again. Our guide was very knowledgeable on plants and showed us the many native plants on the island. They had a very interesting insect collection. We saw humming birds, iguanas, macaws, monkeys and turtles loose on the island. There were also some caged birds and animals. We then had a few minutes to enjoy the beach and snack shack and then returned to the ship. A special event at this stop is that they had a parrot which would sit on your shoulder, and monkeys which would come and climb onto your shoulder.

#### Belize city, Belize:

At many ports, the ship ties up to a dock. This is a port without a deep harbor so the ship anchors out at sea and we took 'small' tender 'taxi' ships into the city. At this port we chose not to do any organized tour. We did take the tender to town and walked around the shops. Each port has a tourist shopping area. A lot of tourist souvenir shops with a few bars and snack shops.

#### Costa Maya, Mexico:

Chacchoben Mayan Ruins. Again, we met our tour guide and had a bus ride. We saw a lot of the countryside with a few villages. The countryside was very different with a lot of swampy areas. This tour guide, who was a Mayan descendant, talked non -stop for the hour ride. She had many maps and samples of local art which she explained and passed around the bus. It was a very informative and interesting ride. The Maya ruins are pyramid shaped but are solid rock inside. Each new ruler covers up and fills in the previous mound and then builds a new layer on top. At this site they had four mounds mostly uncovered and several others in the area still to be worked on. We also got a treat here as a group of monkeys was in the area, jumping between trees and eating fruit.

#### Cozumel, Mexico:

12 Metre Americas Cup Regatta. Many of the tours can take as many as want to go but this tour only took 20 people so we were lucky to get to go. We got to race real America's cup sailboats. They had two boats and so each had a crew of ten from the cruise and three full time crew. We got to be on the 'Stars and Stripes' that won the 1987 race. We raced the later model Canadian boat. The race was five legs- three upwind and two down. We won by a few feet. It was so close that we could

not tell who won except by the flags from the judges. After the race, I got to steer the ship around the ocean for a few minutes.

There are a wide variety of costs for the cruises based on what type of room you book and when you book it. There are many 'last minute' deals if a cruise does not fill up early. Also many activities have a cost as well as the specialty restaurants have a charge. There is a store for souvenirs, photos, and of course art sales and auctions, bar drinks, and gambling at the casino. There is also a required daily tip. A Caribbean cruise is a nice relaxing break from our cold weather.

#### **Tekweek 50 Years Ago**

From 1966 *Tekweeks*, condensed by Gary Hoselton

Tek is twenty years old! On January 2, 1946, Howard Vollum, Jack Murdock, and three associates incorporated to build oscilloscopes of higher performance and greater reliability than those then available. Howard and Jack had a storefront building built to their specifications on SE Hawthorne near SE 7th

(building is still there), putting Tektronix on the second floor and leasing the first floor to Hawthorne Electronics. Ten people plus the founders built the 511, the world's first wideband production oscilloscope, and it immediately found widespread acceptance by research laboratories throughout the world--the first one went to the U of O Medical School in Portland. Tek moved to the Sunset plant in 1951, later purchased the swamp in Beaverton, turned it into an industrial park and built its first building there, a warehouse, in 1957. By 1966, 13 buildings had been built and groups were moving into the new Technical Center (bldg 50), and the employee count was 5600. Meanwhile, in 1959 a manufacturing plant was opened on the English Channel island of Guernsey, in 1961 a plant was opened at Heerenveen in the Netherlands, and in 1965 manufacturing commenced at Sony/Tektronix in Japan. The first US field office was opened in 1950, and, in 1966, Tek is represented in 40 Free World countries.

Tek scores at trade shows! ITektronix introduced a number of new

### RETIREE BENEFIT INFORMATION & ADDRESS CHANGE PROCEEDURE 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 Toll Free: 1-800-778-7956

Fax: 503-228-0149

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Email Address:
Tek-Retirees@Tektronix.com

products at the IEEE show in New York City, including the Type 556 Dual Beam Oscilloscope, which is two scopes in one package with two plug-in compartments which accept all Tek letter and 1-series plugins; a package of the 3A5 Automatic/ Programmable Amplifier, Type 3B5 Automatic/Programmable Time Base, Type 263 Programmer, and the remote-switching Type P6030 Probe which have the unique ability to sense the amplitude and frequency of an input signal, then automatically switch themselves to display the signal in appropriate dimensions; the Type 1S2 Sampling Unit, a plugin that combines sampling with reflectometry to measure characteristics of transmission lines; and the Type P6019 and P6020 Current Probes and the Type 134 Current Probe Amplifier. Dick Herdman, Marketing Sales manager, reported over 33,000 persons had registered the first day (total registration was 63,500), traffic at the Tek booth was very good, Tek instruments were very much in evidence in other exhibits, and no startling announcements from competitors—just that Fairchild-Dumont has switched from green to black side panels. Teks involved in the program and special meetings included Lang Instrument Engineering Hedrick. manager, George Frye, Instrument Engineering Sampling Group, Norm Winningstad, IDD manager, Walker, Preproduction Engineering manager, Ralph Show of Instrument Engineering, and Chuck Samuel. PMSE manager. The 50 foot booth had been previewed in the Assembly Cafeteria (45). Al Zimmerman, Instrument Engineering Sampling project manager, sent a "modified" P6019 current probe (two wheels at each end ala racecar) to Tekweek, saying it's the fastest probe on the track! Tek also exhibited a 20 foot booth at the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) in Chicago's McCormick Place, featuring the Type 529 Waveform Monitor and Type 526 Color TV Vectorscope, as well as the Type 522 and Type 453

Portable Oscilloscopes. Tek instruments were also found in various TV equipment exhibits at NAB, all seen by about 4200 registrants.

#### **Death Notices**

We are no longer able to get death notices or length of service information from the Tektronix data base.

We appreciate the assistance retirees or members of their family provide us. We have posted here the information we found in obituaries, newspapers or from family members or friends who have notified us. In order to ensure accuracy in our reporting we need: the name spelled out, date of birth and date of death. Also, we like to include their length of service at Tektronix when possible. To ensure accuracy in our reporting please leave your contact information - name, email, and/or phone number in case we have any questions.

**Borges, Ruby Marie Verboot**— d1/28/2016 @Tek 11 years

**Burkey, Donald Paul**– d7/8/2015 @Tek 32 years

**Burton, Lois Jane (Turner)**-d1/4/16 @Tek 14 years

Connolly, Larry- d12/24/2015

Cuddeback, Betty R—d3/6/2-2013 @ Tek 21 years

**Duerden, William Henry Ill**–d6/11/2015 @Tek 14 years

**Fletcher, Elva B-**d7/28/1933 @ Tek 13 years

Frost, Charles Henry—d1/26/2016 @Tek 34 years

Hannevig, Evelyn-d1/14/2016

Heggen, John -d10/10/2015

Hughes, Howard-d12/5/2015

Jones, Gwendolyn H.—d1/28/2016 @Tek 20 Years

**Moen, Dorothy French** –d2/25/12 @Tek 22 years

**Keldsen, Dennis William**-d9/21/2015 @, Tek 40+ years

**Lahti, Virgie Johnson-**d1/25/2016 @ Tek 16 years

Neal, Lance Arthur-d12/30/2015

**Plummer, Betty J** –d11/13/2015 @Tek 18 years

**Tobiassen, Toby A**– d10/16/2015 @Tek 9 years

Van Antwerp, Robert "Bob"-d 1/9/2016

Wetzleer, Ronald Gened 10/13/2015 @Tek 30 years

Zschoche, Shirley A –d8/14/2015

Chuck began his 34-year career with



Frost, Chuck

Tektronix, which included roles as director of public affairs and vice president of administration. He was often the public face of the company. Chuck earned a reputation for professionalism and principled advocacy. He had a knack for making complex subjects understandable. When he retired, Chuck joined CFM Strategic Communications, which began as a spinout from Tektronix. He participated in client teams, but his greatest contribution was asking tough questions and serving as the firms conscience. Chuck was active in the community, serving on boards of the Oregon Symphony, Oregon Independent Colleges Association, Tuality Hospital and Associated Oregon Industries. He was a member of the Portland City Club and the Public Affairs Council. Chuck and Marilyn moved back to Washington, D.C. in 1995 when he became a senior fellow for Senator Hatfield.

Manager: **Louis Sowa** Editor Ray Kato Publisher: **Open** 

#### **TRVP Staff**

John Addis • Gary Hoselton Paul Kristof • Pete Nelson Neil Robin • Millie Scott • Judy Watkins Emeritus: Peggy Jo Berg • Jim Manuel

Tek Retiree Newsletter is published quarterly by the Tektronix Retiree Volunteer Program. Send all correspondence to Tek Retiree News, M/S 22-037, PO Box 500, Beaverton, OR 97077

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503-320-0440

TRVP Web Page: www.tekretirees.org

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#### **TRVP News**

Our numbers continue to diminish. Millie Scott, who has been managing our on-line notification, is experiencing significant health issues and is curtailing her volunteer and work activities including with the TRVP. We hope that she recovers and possibly will be able to participate with us at some time in the future. Unless someone volunteers to take over this task there will not be on-line notification starting with the next issue. For those of you receiving the Tektronix Retiree News on line it will still be available on-line, however you will not get an email to notify you.

Tektronix is changing it's logo and color scheme. This will involve a change to the banner of this publication. More about these changes in the next issue.

Tektronix Retiree Volunteer Program M/S 22-037, PO Box 500 Beaverton, OR 97077 - 0001

# ON-LINE NEWSLETTER NOTIFICATION TO BE DISCONTINUED

Millie Scott is no longer able to send out the notification list, so until or unless someone volunteers to do this task you will not get a notification. The newsletter will still be on-line. This is a job that could be done from anywhere.

#### **CALENDAR**

#### **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
503-649-2491

#### **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

#### **TERAC**

6:00 p. m. Round Table — Beaverton Weekly on Friday

#### READ YOUR TEK-RETIREE NEWSLETTER ONLINE

Would you like to help save postage and read your Tek-Retiree Newsletter on our webpage? Send your name, address, phone number and email address to: **mlscott@easystreet.net**We will send you a notice when the newsletter is posted each quarter. If your email is changed or rejected for any reason you will receive one phone call to request an update. If you don't respond we will return your newsletter to the US mail list. To preview the web page and previous issues of the newsletter go to: **www.tekretirees.org**Please send questions, information or correspondence not involving the newsletter online to TVRP at **tek-retirees@tektronix.com** 

# TEKRETIREE ExTek | EXTERNITE |

Tektronix Retiree Volunteer Program



Web Page: www.TekRetirees.org A Newslette

A Newsletter for and by Tek Retirees

May 2016

# HEERENVEEN INTRODUCTION

Writing august 24 in the year of 1964

Remember even after 50 years this day very well when I knocked at the door of the Tektronix Heerenveen plant for my first working day. At that moment I could not imagine that this wonderful American company would determine my live for the next 35 years.

Hey folks, my name is Gerrit de Vries and I am looking forward to share some stories with you about the former Tektronix plant in the Netherlands. The publications will cover some history details of Tektronix Heerenveen from the start in 1961 till closure of the factory in the year 2000.

Also development of the country city of Heerenveen will be touched slightly because Tektronix has accelerated this development. During this period several Tektronix Inc. people have been part of the Tek Heerenveen organization or visited us, also this aspect will be highlighted.

Despite closure of the factory and layoffs which was driven by a world-wide changing economic and technological landscape there are no hard feelings by the ex Tek employees, there is an active Facebook site where we share the good memories and now and than a reunion event is organized.

Hope that you will enjoy the Heerenveen publications Starting with this Newsletter and that it might lead to interaction between the TRVP in Beaverton and the ex Tek employees in Heerenveen.

#### **HEERENVEEN NEWS**

by: Gerrit de Vries and Aletta van Meurs

This article has been published in 1986 to celebrate 25 years Tektronix Heerenveen. I have added some pictures and personal notes.

#### TWO CULTURES MEET

The year was 1946. In the United States the foundation was laid for a firm that was to expand to a world-wide concern with upwards of 21.000 employees and that had a leading position in the world's electronic industry: Tektronix.

Fifteen years later. The Heerenveen city-council is enthusiastic to learn that a – until then unknown Ameri-

can firm Tektronix – will open a plant in Heerenveen. While there was a great stir in Heerenveen over the sale of no fewer than nine and a half hectares of land for industrial development, Tektronix was founded officially. In a building in the Sieger van der Laan straat three men – Klaas Dolfing, Chris Holleman and Jan Wedman – took up their first duties, which were distributing instruments that had arrived from the United States.

Meanwhile, in the Marktweg, construction had started for a new factory building in which Tektronix Holland was to expand its activities.

**Note** Gerrit: below Sieger van der Laan straat on the right new Tektronix factory building Marktweg

#### **Crates and Boards**

"It was a wonderful period", says



Adri Leewis – now seventy – who was among the first people to start work in the Sieger van der Laan straat. As Personnel Manager it was his duty to recruit employees for the new firm.



"When I started – August 1961 – there had been no time to buy writing-desks. So I began by taking two crates, put some boards on them and that was my desk."

Note Gerrit: amazing, I did the same 36 years later in 1997 when I was asked to setup a temporary Recall Center for TDS200 scopes. On that remote location I did not have a desk and used carton boxes and a wooden layer to put my laptop on.

Tektronix created a sensation. From prosperous America, it settled in a rapidly developing Friesland. Two complete differ-

Continued next page

ent worlds — especially in those days. An example: At first salaries where paid in cash, in the canteen. But in the course of time it was decided to change to payment directly into bank accounts. Adri Leewis: "Then I had to deal with applicants of seventeen and eighteen who suddenly had to open a bank account. People were not used to this; you received wages in cash a bank-account was only for rich people. So in the beginning we informed on how to open a bank account."

And Heerenveen-mayor Kuperus said in 1961 about the negotiations with Tektronix Vice President Dallas: "We also had to show houses to the gentlemen and for that purpose we went to the Zonnebloemstraat and the K.R. Poststraat. They thought they were neat houses but unfit for their own staff who had to live in Heerenveen. For this highly qualified employees (Americans) they needed houses with a so called English kitchen and central heating."

It is easy to mention more striking novelties: calling people by their first names... the manager who worked in a modest office... a share in the profits, an unusual phenomenon in Holland... air-conditioning, they were all marvelous phenomena in Friesland in that period.

Of course this provoked discussions sometimes even gossiping. There were people who claimed that the beautiful ship's lanterns which still decorate the entrance to the ground were actually clocks precisely monitoring employees coming and going. After 25 years none has ever discovered anything about this system...

Note Gerrit: On my Job-interview in 1964 at Tektronix the personnel assistant said to me; my name is Joop and the General manager is called Tom (mcLean). I loved this as a 17 years old boy, it was so different to what I expected, It made me feel at home.

#### **Fast Growth**

It was a foregone conclusion that

Tektronix Heerenveen was to develop into a big concern for Friesian standards. The Friese Koerier, then a daily newspaper, predicted a very big growth: "Tektronix Holland intends to start with 100 employees. It aims at reaching a second stage soon when 300 to 500 people will be employed. Then it is hoped to expand to twice this number of employees." The headline ran "1,000 Employees."

That big the plant has never been. But the growth was respectable indeed during those first years. Personnel manager Leewis: "Employing all those people was not simple at all. By the end of 1962 when the building in the Marktweg was opened 100 workers had been employed. All those employees had first been tested for their suitability. I remember we tested groups of twenty to thirty people."

After the official opening of the building in the Marktweg expansion continued: in 1966 when Adri Leewis left two hundred people were employed.

#### An assembly plant

The Heerenveen settlement was – and still is – an assembly plant of Tektronix products. During the first years only oscilloscopes were made. For the layman: an oscilloscope is an instrument which visualizes all kind of vibrations – electric, mechanical, sound – measures them.

Was it difficult to build such an instrument? "No", Adri Leewis says. "For they were built according to a model. For most functions manual dexterity was a prerequisite. People who tested the final product were required to have wider technical knowledge: MTS or HTS level."

#### 1962: Official opening

On June 22, 1962 the Queen's Commissioner in Friesland Mr.

H.P. Linthorst Homan officially opened the new building in the Marktweg. Also on that occasion the difference between two cultures were underlined again. But at the same time it was clearly expressed that a strong tie had been established. Earl Wantland, since the start the General Manager, addressed those present in Dutch... Adri Leewis was next to make speech in pure American.

And the opening act: from loudspeakers which were everywhere the Frisian hymn The Waldsang sounded, to the purpose of everybody, while on the screens of eight oscilloscopes the musical vibrations were shown. It was, a newspaper wrote: "Undoubtedly the most original way in which the Waldsang has ever been played."

#### Refreshing

Five years Adri Leewis worked for Tektronix and before and after he was a civil servant. How does Adri Leewis look back on his years in industry? On his period with Tektronix? "It was an inspiring period. You worked with a firm that was in full progress. Every day something new could happen. Especially at first, when the new building was under construction. As a staff member you were daily involved in this, but afterwards too. I thoroughly enjoyed it. The atmosphere in the firm was very modern for Dutch standards and there was a high degree of openness and honesty. I remember the management meetings; they were very spirited gatherings where everybody very candidly expressed their opinions. Very often they vehemently disagreed. The disagreement was about matters concerning the firm, there were no personal conflicts. After the discussion it was always clear that personal relations were very good. Another example: Once a year assessment interview with your supervisors; a really frank conversation. That is an aspect that you hardly ever experience as a civil servant.

After Tektronix Continued next page



I worked for the local government of Amsterdam and sometimes asked for such an assessment. They weren't used to doing things like this..."

#### **Expansion**

Tektronix expanded more and more in the course of the years. In 1963 there were 186 employees. In 1964 it proved necessary to extend the existing building, which was completed in 1966 when 2,000 square meters were added. In 1970 – there were 330 employees – there was another extension of 4,000 square meters work floor.

Note Gerrit: With the first extension a new warehouse was created including a loading dock for daily transport to and from the airport of Schiphol near Amsterdam. The second extension was intended to house production of the new 7K series. On the picture below a part of the 7K employees is shown in front of a mega 7504 scope.

#### **Precision Instruments**

To make clear what exactly Tektronix produces excursions have been organized since the firm started. In the 1960's a group of teachers from Heerenveen visited the plant. A test set-up had been made that showed the use of Tektronix oscilloscopes with heart tests. One of the lady-teachers had herself "examined". Suddenly turbulent waves showed on the screen, although she stood there impassively. The cause showed itself soon: she saw the young male teacher she had been secretly in love with for a while.

#### **Death Notices**

We are no longer able to get death notices or length of service information from the Tektronix data base.

We appreciate the assistance retirees or members of their family provide us. We have posted here the information we found in obituaries, newspapers or from family members or friends who have notified us. In order to ensure accuracy in our reporting we need: the name spelled out, date of birth and date of death. Also, we like to include their length of service at Tektronix when possible. To ensure accuracy in our reporting please leave your contact information - name, email, and/or phone number in case we have any questions.

Ackerman, Sara E, -d2/23/16 @tek 26 years

Benson, John -d 9/16/2014

**Blum, Daniel** –d6/5/2015 @tek 20 years

**Boleyn, Robert Fredrick** -d4/4/2016 @Tek 23 years

Brinson, Ethel Linn. -d1/19/2015

Cousins, Ivan John d-3/10/2016

**Durkee, Ralph** -d2/23/2016 @tek 24 years

**Farrell, Rosemary Bell** -d12/28/2015 @tek 21 years

Fries, Harold -d11/24/2016 @tek 18 vears

**Gardener, Betty H.** –d1/24/2010 @ Tek 13 years

**Harrington, Jerome Allen** –d3/28/2016 @Tek 21 years

**Hedin, Kennith** A -d3/7/2016 @tek 42 years

**Hensley, Lillian H** –d10/19/2013 @tek 24 years

**Hogue, Phillis Margaurite** –d3/31/2016 **Kho, Celestina M,** -d1/29/2016 @tek 9 years

Maxwell, Jerry Willard,-d6/30/2015 @tek 28 years

Montag, Richard William –d8/28/2015 @ tek 33 years

**Neff, Walter E** –d1/4/2016 @tek 27 years

Parker, William Johnston –d3/2/2016 Schwartz, Mayer Dlugach, d12/15/2015 @tek 32 years

**Warren, Kenneth Gary** -d2/3/2016 @Tek 24 years

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Paul Kristof • Pete Nelson
Neil Robin • Millie Scott • Judy Watkins
Emeritus: Peggy Jo Berg • Jim Manuel

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Email: tek-retirees@tektronix.com

Manager's Cell Phone:

503-320-0440

TRVP Web Page: www.tekretirees.org

#### **Address Changes:**

We need to be notified when your address changes.

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#### TRVP News

Louis Sowa

This issue is the 'Heereveen' edition. Thanks to Gerrit de Vries and Arletta van Meurs We have some first hand content from the Tektronix Heerenveen operation. I wanted to follow the Guernsey articles with the Heerenveen story. If you have information to add to the Heerenveen story please send it in. Gerrit has a second story in the works. Maybe next we could focus on SonyTek.

We continue on here with limited staff. We could use help with the editing and publishing of the newsletter as well as other help. If you have an interest in finding out where we are and what we do give me a call at 503-320-0440.

Due to staff shortage the on-line notice may no longer be sent. However the newsletter will still be on line. Tektronix Retiree Volunteer Program M/S 22-037, PO Box 500 Beaverton, OR 97077 - 0001

#### **CALENDAR**

#### **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
503-649-2491

#### **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

#### **TERAC**

6:00 p. m. Round Table — Beaverton Weekly on Friday

#### READ YOUR TEK-RETIREE NEWSLETTER ONLINE

Would you like to help save postage and read your Tek-Retiree Newsletter on our webpage? Send your name, address, phone number and email address to: **mlscott@easystreet.net**We will send you a notice when the newsletter is posted each quarter. If your email is changed or rejected for any reason you will receive one phone call to request an update. If you don't respond we will return your newsletter to the US mail list. To preview the web page and previous issues of the newsletter go to: **www.tekretirees.org**Please send questions, information or correspondence not involving the newsletter online to TVRP at **tek-retirees@tektronix.com** 

# TEK RETIREE EXTENSION

Tektronix Retiree Volunteer Program



Web Page: www.TekRetirees.org

A Newsletter for and by Tek Retirees

August 2016

#### HEERENVEEN SUMMER NEWS

by: Gerrit de Vries translated by Aletta van Meurs

Dear ex Tek colleagues, this time not a story about the history of Tektronix Heerenveen but a story about my personal passions today.

Every year when the days are getting longer I come more and more in the mood for traveling. My way of traveling differs a lot from what people of my age mean by traveling, I like to explore the world on my bicycle which is a thing with no engine so you have to drive it with human power. Hear you thinking - of course my human power is not comparable to the energy that young people have, that is a natural fact. I am 68, my weight is 65 kilo since I was sixteen, move a lot but do not just healthy things (hope the good and bad things keeps me in balance) and will continue with cycling as long as I can. On my previous trips I met people traveling on bicycles from many countries aging between 18 thru 80. So there is a future for my way of adventure.

#### Polska bicycletour 2016

Traveling through Europe is traveling through modern history which is one of the fields I am interested in especially WW2 1939-1945, and the Cold War between 1945 – 1989. When I am sitting on my bike and travel in Europe I realize that we have lived here already 70 years in peace and have open borders.

During wintertime I read a book of 800 pages called "Ravensbruck" written by Sarah Helm about the woman Nazicamp in Furstenberg.

Read another book about Wladimir Putin called "the new Tsaar" by Steven Lee Meyers. This book is not a love-song for Putin but probably he is the leader that Russia deserves after the collapse of the Soviet Union is my opinion.

These two books determined my choice for the next trip, I would like to see the border with Russia and would visit the remains of Ravensbruck. So, I am going to Polska. (Poland)

Remark: I like to travel through free countries with lots of small villages where I can buy food and sit down for a drink. This reduced my choice to western countries like Europe, US, Canada, Israel and Australia but this wide enough for a cyclist.

#### Preparations for the tour

Good preparation for a trip or for projects in general is 50% of the job, It limits risks and prevents unnecessary searching for things in a country where you don't speak the local language.

For this trip there is not a traveling guide available so I had to design it myself which is a challenge.

My starting point for making a track was Wikiloc where I used the Open Cycle Map as a layer. So I could draw a line using (parts of) existing cycle routes. For use on my Garmin GPS I downloaded the tracks and printed 100 detail maps of the route. Don't rely just on electronic media, batteries may get depleated or other defects may occur. Made a second check in Wikiloc with google earth as layer to inspect the track for amount of traffic on paved roads and kind of soil for the off-road parts.

To keep the day budget low I wanted to overnight in my tent on campsites, the survey for campsites was a time consuming part of the preparations. Part of the job was to make sure the camping still exists where I used any recent customer feedback and camp-

ing signs on openstreetmap. The result was a list with 36 campsites including the address. Marked these sites with a flag on my Garmin tracks.

Ordered train tickets for me and my bike for the train-ride Heerenveen to Warschau, from there I cycle back to Heerenveen. Do the difficult part first (public transport), the easy part is cycling of this 2200 km track without pressure for deadlines

#### By train to Warschau



The night train to Warschau does since Jan 2016 no longer departs from Amsterdam so I traveled with day trains to Dusseldorf (Germany). It was already 23:37 hours when I entered this very long train with 2 sections, the rear part was Warschau and the front part Prague. The sections will seperate in Potsdam near Berlin. Traveling with a packed bike causes always unexpected surprises like lifts to small for a packed bike or no lift at all so I had to take the stairs thereby carrying the 6 bags and the bike separately. Also the train doorstep is much higher than the platform. Anyway I could hang my bike in the bike compartment, stored the bags in a rack and found my reservated "liegeplatz" where I could sleep with 5 other people. I love sleeping in night trains and woke up at 9:30 the next morning when a woman in my coupe asked me if she may open the curtain. At 12:15 the train arrived on the train station Warszawa

-Centralni. Once Continued next page

outside the station I started my Garmin GPS to find my way to the first campsite 3km ahead.

# Warschau to Russian border (607km)

My track followed more or less the Wisla river in north direction. Near Grudziadz I went over to the R1 long-distance cycleroute and followed the R1 up to the Russian border near Kaliningrad. The main part was through National Parks which means no paved roads but small quit hilly forest roads covered with sand or gravel. The sand roads were sometimes very dry and on some places laying in full sunshine impossible to cycle so the only alternative was walking my packed bike.

On day 3 I arrived at the small Village of Lucien and I camped by a farmer near lake Biale, it was weekend so





more Polisch people camped there. When I was making my camp a woman came to me with a plate filled with meat and bread and a water and a beer. She spoke Polish but I did understand her, the message was after all this cycling you must eat well. I was really touched by her hospitality and spend an hour with her and her husband talking with hand and feet and a few English words. That is Poland!

I am always a bit careful by speaking German in Poland because of what happened in WW2 but discovered that many older people especially in the northern part prefer to speak German and I understand why: the mainstream of tourists in Poland are Germans. Young people in the cities speak English.

Met my first goal on day 10: the Russian border. Had never seen before the outside border of Europe with a sign "welcome in the European Union" and in the other direction the Polish and Russian border guards where all traffic is stopped for inspection, papers and visa.







Tom MacLean 1964 Heerenveen Operations Manager

(To be Continued in the next issue)





#### Letter to the Editor

I read with interest Gerrit deVries' write-up on the Tek-Holland, Heerenven operation. It was very well done and most certainly accurate. I look forward to reading his follow up article in a future Tektronix Retiree News publication.

As you requested in the TRVP News section of the May 2016 Tek Retiree News issue I would like to submit a brief addition to Gerrit's work, written from the perspective of an American guest of the Dutch, at work in the Heerenveen operation. You can use it if you wish and, if so, feel free to modify it in any way you feel appropriate.

In the spring of 19641 had the wonderful opportunity to follow Earl Wantland as plant manager of the Heerenveen operation ("Directeur" in Dutch terminology). Larry Mayhew succeeded me four years later.

The issue I want to emphasize here is the very high esteem we (the Americans involved with Tek-Holland) held the Friesian and Dutch employees who made the Herrenveen operation what it turned out to be. These folks were an incredible addition to the Tek-tronix working community. Their achievements were remarkable.

The shipment of production instruments from Tek Holland to European Common Market customers commenced shortly after my arrival at Heerenveen. Through the following four years and probably well beyond that, the Heerenveen plant maintained the highest quality rating all Tektronix'plants worldwide. Secondly, throughout that period and probably well beyond, the Heerenveen plant never failed to meet a production schedule.

I attribute these remarkable achievements entirely to the dedication and work ethic of the Friesian and Dutch employees. Whereas it is true we had terrific support from Beaverton, the overall product quality and commitment to getting the job done on time originate with hands-on employees.

My guess is Earl Wantland and Larry Mayhew would concur with this assessment.

Thomas Maclean

# Tektronix now part of Danaher spinoff Fortive

Tektronix has a new owner. East Coast conglomerate Danaher Corp. completed its spinoff of its older, industrial businesses. In the process, Tektronix became part of a new company: Fortive, based in Everett, Washington.

Former Tektronix president Jim Lico is Fortive's chief executive. Pat Byrne remains president of Tektronix.

Fortive shares were trading at \$49.16 shortly after Tuesday's opening. That gives the new company a market value just shy of \$17 billion, based on 345 million shares Fortive says were created when the company spun off from Danaher.It is our understanding that those or us that have been retired are still under Danaher benefits.

#### **Death Notices**

We are no longer able to get death notices or length of service information from the Tektronix data base.

We appreciate the assistance retirees or members of their family provide us. We have posted here the information we found in obituaries, newspapers or from family members or friends who have notified us. In order to ensure accuracy in our reporting we need: the name spelled out, date of birth and date of death. Also, we like to include their length of service at Tektronix when possible. To ensure accuracy in our reporting please leave your contact information - name, email, and/or phone number in case we have any questions.

Ackerman, Sara E, -d2/23/16 @tek 26 years

**Barnett, Thomas R,** -d3/19/2016 At Tek 24 years

Bate, Lee, -d7?1?2016

Bolinger, Helen I, -d2/9/2016

**Bookout, John Robert**, -d6/9/2016 At Tek 31 years

**Brooks, Paula,** -d6/16/2016 at Tek/ Xerox 27 years **De Sautel, Marv, -d6/6/2016** 

**Fisher, Lyle Hoyt,**-d6/5/2016 at Tek 29 years

Geis, Edward Michael, -d4/28/2016

Hundley, William (Bill), -d5/26/2016

Platt, Sohia Mae, -d7/28/2016

**Steinke, Helen Wanida,** -d4/28/2016 @Tek 10 years

Rosener, Harvey James. -d5/13/2016

**Spittler, Fern D.,** - d6/26/2016 @tek 8 years

Wane, William, -d7/23/2016 at Tek 25 years

Warner, William LeMoyne, d-5/4/2016 at Tek 32 years

#### **EX TEK AUTHOR**

Retiree Peter Kent recently published his third book entitled: THE ELDER-LY—THEIR HEALTH—THEIR FRAIL ENVIRONMENT. This book does not simply make recommendations on what needs to be done to improve local and today's medical care for the elderly. It makes a case for more solidly linking presentr-day care with humanity's medical needs and services far beyond present day horizons...

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M/S 22-037 PO Box 500 Beaverton, OR 97077 - 0001

Phone: 503-627-4056 Email Address:

Tek-Retirees@Tektronix.com

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**TRVP Staff** 

John Addis • Gary Hoselton Paul Kristof • Pete Nelson Neil Robin •

Emeritus: Peggy Jo Berg • Jim Manuel

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Manager's Cell Phone:

503-320-0440

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#### TRVP News

Louis Sowa

I want to thank Garret for his great articles. The current article will be continued in the November issue. We have some information and potential sources for articles about Sony/Tek which may follow the Heerenveen article.

We continue to be understaffed, so getting out the newsletter has become a challenge. We would like to thank those providing material for the newsletter.

As you see on page three Tekronix is now owned by Fortive as Danaher has split off part of its holdings to the new company. As stated in the article those of us that were retired before split will not have a change in our benefits.

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# TEK RETIREE EXTERS

Tektronix Retiree Volunteer Program



Web Page: www.TekRetirees.org A Newsletter for and by Tek Retirees

November2016

#### Will there be a Future Issues of the TRN?

As you may have noticed in the past several issues there has not been a permanent editor. Louis Sowa is resigning the position as of the end of the year. We have been short of staff for quite some time. Most of the original staff are either deceased or due to personal or family health issues no longer able to participate. No one has stepped up to help. We have a good working space in building 22 and could probably get continued support from Fortive/Tektronix. Gordon Long had agreed to be editor and publisher after Peggy Berg and Louis resigned. Unfortunately Gorden died suddenly in the summer of 2015. Louis temporarily assumed the roll of editor and publisher. Peggy had been a very important part of the TRVP, serving as Publisher and doing many other essential tasks. Peggy joined the TRN staff in July 1998. Before that Newt Espe was the editor and publisher and continued in the roll of editor until Louis took on the roll in August 2001. Currently our staff consists of Louis Sowa as Editor and Publisher, Pete Nelson as database manager and other tasks with help from Paul Kristof. Neil Robin took an the task of providing a web presence and acts as webmaster. At this point, if the TRN does not continue to exist the roll of the website is unknown

Tektronix is a much smaller company than at its peak employment in the early 1980's. The pool of retired employees is shrinking over time. Much of the maintenance of the company has been outsourced as well much of the manufacturing is being done offshore. Since the company was purchased by Danaher in 1997 the 'feel' of the company has gradually changed.

Unless an editor is found there will not be future issues of the newsletter. We here are sad to see that happen. What happens to the contents of our current offices? We probably will be here at least until the end of the year and maybe longer especially if some new volunteers join. Otherwise we will offer the Tektronix Museum anything they can use and the rest left for Tektronix. The computers and related items mostly belong to Tek.

#### **Editorial**

By Louis Sowa

Since this is to be my last editorial I would like to write about my experience with the TRVP. It has been a excellent experience that was totally unexpected. The first letter sent out was only to the currently retired employees. The second letter was to all retired and those of us not currently retired that were eligible for benefits from Tek, this included myself. My interest was more in providing devices for the handicapped. Tektronix did not want to support that venture due to liability exposure. I had also expressed an interest in the newsletter since I felt without a newsletter there would be no TRVP. I thought maybe I could be of some minor support roll. Newt Espe was the original editor/publisher. I was on the staff at the beginning and did some of the spotlight issues. I also suggested we do something like a "Twenty-Five Year Ago" piece in each newsletter, to

which Newt said good idea do it. For a short time I dropped off the editorial staff as I continued to be employed at HP in Vancouver. In August 2001 I came back as edi-

tor with Newts 'encouragement.' By this time Peggy Berg had become the publisher which was a tremendous help to me. She knew much more about the publishing business.

English was my worst subject in high school, however over time in college began to realize the importance of being able to express oneself in writing. So the message is if I could do it probably you could also. At this time after 20 years with the TRVP and much of that as editor of the TRN it is time for me to move on in the limited, if unknown, amount of time I have left.

### TRVP Original Mission Statement and staff at Honeywell

The Tektronix Retiree Volunteer Program is a cooperative effort by Tektronix retirees, their spouses and the Company to build and maintain a sense of family among Tektronix retirees through volunteer activities in the communities in which they live.

Our mission is to recruit and place Tektronix retirees and their spouses in volunteer positions, to generate and foster a sense of pride within each volunteer, and to serve the needs of the community while enhancing the community affairs goals of the company.

Our goal is to respond to the needs of the community, to serve the needs of the Tektronix retiree community which may include physical, social and emotional needs, and to make our communities a better place to live.



**Continued from the Last Issue** 

# Russian border to German border (650km)

By Gerrit de Vries and Aletta van Meurs

Originally I planned to take the ferry in Frombork to Krynica to cross a big lake but the ferry did not go anymore so I used my alternative track to cycle around this lake and came in the afternoon to a beautiful campsite in Stegna at 500m from the East Sea There were special places for bikers with tent including a covered picknic table.

Poland is member of the Europeen Union and NATO but did not adapt the Euro, currency is the Zlotty and Grosny. Everything is quit cheap for a Dutchman so it was easy to stay within my daybudget of 30 euro. Price of a night on a campsite was approx 20 Zlotty which is 5 euro and there were even much cheaper places.

There are many cycle paths build near roads in recent years in Poland, on places where I had to cycle on the road the cars kept more than enough distance to pass me, where the road was bowing cars were driving slow behind me until they could oversee the road after de bow and passed me.

I cycled through the bigger town Gdansk on day 12, this city is worth visiting, the inner city has many historical buildings and churches. On the market square there were lots of tourists and street musicians. I camped in a village called Sopot approx. 10km north of Gdansk. Sopot is a luxury area with grand-hotels on the beachside which reminds me of the Riviera in the south of France.

My track follows the coastline to Szczecin close to the German border and goes through a chain of Natural Reserves with forest, lakes and dunes. Have seen many animals like deer, wild-pigs, foxes, squirrels, snakes and lots of birds that woke me up at 4 o clock. Unfortunately in the more wet areas also lots of mosquitos.

Poland has 50 million citizens and on the countryside there are plenty of small villages. The bigger villages have a church and one or more skleps (grocery store) These small shops sell also bread, drinks, meat and liquor like Vodka. I developed the following theory: when I see a church there must be a sklep. Some of the skleps are selfservice in other ones you must ask what you are looking for. The girls behind the desk don't speak foreign languages but are very willing to help you. I use hand and feet to communicate but learned a lot of Polish words regarding food. In the cities there are supermarkets like Biedronka, Aldi, Super Marche and Tesco.

#### German to Dutch border (760km)

The Oder river is the natural border between Poland and Germany and I passed this place near the city of Gryfino, the border is fully open, there is no customs office or what ever just the speed limits for motorized vehicles in the 2 countries are listed.





### Sony/Tek

By Bob Randal

One interesting customer was Sony. I was requested to go to Japan to work with their engineers as to what is required to meet self certifications international regulations. Here are few interesting things about working in Japan. By the way the trip was very successful

When I took my first taxi ride it was very scary. When he sees a truck stop at a light he will get into the oncoming traffic lane He, of course, knows he can beat the truck. However, in to the oncoming traffic the drivers go as fast as they can toward him and it looks to me that they come within about ten feet of each other.

I asked a couple of managers how many employees drive to work and they said "not one"! There was about 50,000 employees!

The trains are very crowded and really fast. When I was on the train. I got up to offer my seat to a old bent over women. She seem very confused and finally some one spoke English and told me she never believed any American would do this. There was a lot of jabbering and then they all clapped.

Another time I was at a meeting and I heard a loud bell. I asked what that was about and they said the employees do there exercises. So I went out and did them with them I looked behind me and all the senior managers were also out doing the exercises as well. Something they had never seen done before. When we were done they all clapped and then bowed.

I brought my wife a string of pearls while there and put them in the hotel safe. On the way to the airport I remembered them. Fortunately about a month later Lane Hedrick, the Sony Tek Manager, got them out and returned them to me. After I got home my wife asked me if I had bought her anything and I said nothing except a suitcase full of dirty clothes. I had planned to surprise her about the pearls. But I finally had to give in to

her that I had left in them in Japan. Otherwise I think I would have had to sleep in the shed.

Lane was a good friend of mine. I went to dinner with him and his wife. We had

One time one of the Sony managers invited me to his house. He had a five year old daughter who played several classic musical pieces on the piano. Her last piece was boogywoogy for the Americans.. One of the international gurus was also there and the family served fish. Unfortunately he could not eat fish. I felt very sorry for the family. In Japan the family eats first and then the children. Also only the children eat dessert.

One of the things I saw was the largest Buddha statues in the world. There were many vendors on the grounds. One of them was selling head bands and I asked him what they were for. He said they were kamikaze bands. I wish I had bought one. Just for fun we stopped at another vendor and tried to bargain with him. To my surprise he spoke perfect English and said that if he had tried to do this in Los Angeles, how far to I think I would get!

While I was out with two managers we saw several trucks with the drivers standing around. I asked why they were doing that and I was told that each driver had a time given to them to unload. That way the items that had to go to the back of the warehouse were unloaded first. Makes sense!

Sony had set up an experimental automated factory that was making toy trucks run all night with out a person in the building. Pretty impressive.

While I was there I palled around with one of the international gurus. One day they took us to a large cave with a small river running through it. There were several Japanese there washing money. I was told that this would bring luck. So both of us pulled out a bill and washed it!

FOR SOME SONY/TEK PHO-TOS SEE: tekretirees.org Contributed Stories Photo Gallery (near the bottom)

#### **Death Notices**

**Allison, Gordon Ray** –d8/20/2016 @Tek 31 years

**Baldridge, Mikd D.** –d 7/1/2015 @Tek 15 years

**Bee, David** –d8/21/2016 @Tek 19 years

Cisneros, Paul Alexander -d2/26/2016

Clayton, Helen -d9/23/2015 @Tek 14 years

**Crawford, Shirley W**. –d9/23/2016 @Tek 27years

Czaja, Paul Don –d8/15/2016 @Tek 19 years

**Dickie, Douglas P.** -d10/4/2016

Gordon, Vance -d2/14/2014

Hall, Louise D-d in 2001

**Heppell, Gerald Ernest "Jerry"** -d 6/5/2016 @Tek 20 years

**Hoff, Luculle I,** -d9/27/2016 @Tek 15 years

**Horine, Edna Hudson** –d11/19/2012 @ Tek 29 years

**Hundley, William "Bill" Steven** - d5/26/2016 @Tek 36 years

Kaplic, Irma -d10/28/2014

**Knowles, Margery** –d9/24/2014 @Tek 16 years

Larrick, Ronald J. -d5/7/2013

Lee, Nancy Luise (Knight) -d9/14/2016

**Lichty, Margaret Ann** -d5/30/2016 @Tek 16 years

Nebel, David E. -d4/18/2016

Oberst, Norma Jean -d9/5/2016

Olson, Orvin "Orv" Bernarr – d9/8/2016 @Tek 33 years

Peterson, Sharon Louise -d9/22/2016

Pettigrew, Elizabeth –d2/1/2013

**Reed, Gary William** –d7/31/2016 @Tek 38 years

**Riis, Martin P.** -d9/7/2016 @Tek 18 years

**Sheeley, Phillip W.** –d8/30/2016 @Tek 21 years

**Robinson, Bill J.** –d8/25/2016 @Tek 26 years

**Young, Robert Stanley** –d11/24/2015 @Tek 10 years

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#### To the Editor

#### **Business Opportunity**

I wish to sell my company, PSC, Inc. This is a very profitable part time business.

PSC manufactures electric golf cart heaters and also sells fans. We have sold several thousand heaters in the U.S. as well as Europe and Australia.

If interested see the PSC website www.golfcartheaters.biz. The asking price is \$12,500.00. Contact Bob Randall at 503-266-1422

**Bob Randall** 

#### **Ex-Tek Author**

Richard Nystrom (Ret. '91) has written and published 49 Books, eBooks & eStories @ Amazon.com. He lists and shows excerpts @ Nystorm6.com & Riklove.com.

There are works of variety: from philosophy to quirky fiction. All works were written after retirement from Tek as a technical writer and writer manager.

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