



tek talk

employees' publication of Tektronix

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infielder Castles, umpire Frazier warm up for picnic softball game

I was an ILLITERATE for the F(B)I

* Field (Buffalo) Engineers

... admits
field secretary
Cris Kaufman
of Buffalo

We all know oscilloscopes are laboratory instruments that show a picture of what happens in electronic circuits, but is there an instrument which shows what happens inside a girl when she's just become secretary of a field engineering office? A girl whose only knowledge of electronics began and ended with plugging in a toaster?

The waveform of such a girl would probably gyrate—that is, until the girl became interested enough to buy a book on Beginning Electronics and take seriously such nomenclature as millimicroseconds, sinusoidal wave, nucelonics, astigmatics.... (How do you write these in shorthand?)

When I first heard engineers talking about Milli I thought it was a girl whose boy friend was Henry. I thought Nano and Pico were Groucho Marx's relatives. And naturally I believed Mr. Ohm was the head of our company; everyone was talking about Ohm's law.

"See Our Tea?"

"See our tea?" soon became CRT—cathode-ray tube. I became fascinated; I watched the "little green worm" wiggle his way across the screen and into my heart.

In school I remembered learning that molecules make up everything, that atoms make up molecules and that electrical charges and neutral particles make up atoms. I learned these things by rote and I hadn't an iota of what they meant.

But now I really understand that at the narrow end of the CRT is a cathode that shoots out a narrow beam of electrons, and when this beam hits the other end of the tube—presto—the fluorescent chemical glows. Ah, I am beginning to know the whole inside story.

Not only do I recognize a CRT when I see one but I have even made a lamp out of one. When our new portable TV arrived at home I amazed my husband by demanding to see the schematics. He thought I knew what I was talking about.

Not that a secretary has to become an electronic engineer, but it does help—especially when dealing with engineers or purchasing agents on the telephone. One fellow wanted to order three "radicals." I didn't want him to think I was so stupid I didn't know what a radical was, so I went blithely through our parts book index. Nothing under "R." I even looked under "left wingers"; still no radicals. Finally I asked him to describe the part for me, and soon I knew what he wanted was a **graticule**.

Other customers try to confuse me when ordering a test lead when they really want a probe, or calling a resistor a condenser or a power cord a male conductor. And that reminds me—who named all these parts? He must have felt like Adam when he named all the animals.

What a fine time designating alligator clips, banana jacks, male and female connectors, pots (oh, how some of the purchasing agents fooled me on this one!) and solder...ah, there's one to confuse girls. Spelled with an "L" but pronounced sodder. And what about zeus fasteners, suppressors and the like?

Scope Turns Heater

I've discovered that an oscilloscope can be useful for throwing off some heat when the gas furnace has gone ka-pooft. At least, enough to warm my fingers so I could type orders until the power was restored.

It would be commendable if our designers could design a plug-in which would heat a can of soup at noon or, better still, one which would give FM music. It does seem strange with all those tubes, wires, transistors and other "goodies" that music doesn't come out of it!

Often I am alone in the office. Many engineers call wanting technical information. If I think I can struggle through, I get our catalog, describe an instrument, its vertical deflection system, its calibrated sweep rates or high frequency sync—and the party at the other end thinks I am a genius. I don't spoil the illusion by informing them it's all on page 9.

I feel a little like Mrs. Albert Einstein who was asked if she understood Mr. Einstein's theories.

"I understand the words," she said, "but I don't always understand the sentences."

Schematics come a little harder, but what a thrill to follow the little dots, lines and symbols and come up with a part number! Me, who can hardly read a road map.

TV Viewing Aided

My work makes sense of "Nike Sites, the Missile Master" on TV.

What makes everyone think only men should specialize in electrons? True, we put a **man** into space, but we do have a woman astronaut applicant.

I suppose all secretaries are akin to their work, but I feel that electronics can be the most exciting kind of product to be associated with in this electronic age.

The day will even come (sadly) when cybernetics will set in and no longer will we need female secretaries to take dictation. The engineer will dictate his technical reports into a machine, then thump-thump, bump-glump, in a few minutes the machine will also type his reports for him.

Perfectly...no erasures, no strikeouts. But he will have no pretty secretary to smile at him when he has done a good job. No private secretary kind enough to sew a button on his coat as he leaves for an important conference. He will have an efficient machine—a cold, heartless, dehumanized machine.

Until then I'll plug along, learning a little more each day, looking up the meaning of words such as **atom**—the Greek word for "indivisible" and **elektron**, the Greek word for "amber". This tieing in the old and the new makes our daily work (and indeed our lives) exciting.



Nano and Pico?

Why, sure: They're Groucho's brothers



RUSTY NAILS, beloved television clown, will be special treat for children at the annual Tektronix picnic August 5.

A picnic is hardly worth the name if it hasn't been billed in advance as "the biggest and best ever."

And so it is this year with Tektronix's annual outing. Our recreation committee, working to make the event live up to promises, has planned a day so full of recreation, refreshments, entertainment, prizes and auxiliary whoop-de-do as to leave picnic-goers winded, stuffed, bone-weary—and happy.

Among other things, it will be the first Tek picnic ever to feature a singing pig.

The picnic will be held at Pat's Acres, wooded park near Canby, and will begin at 10 a.m.

Bob Mowlds (Component Evaluation), picnic committee chairman, promises enough of everything to satisfy the most starving, the most athletic, the most entertainment-hungry...

A lot of the fun aims to delight the kids, what with two whole clowns on deck and free goodies available.

Visiting talent includes trick unicyclist Frenchy the Clown; disc jockey Tom Murphy; Rusty Nails, favorite of Portland's young TV viewers, and Uncle Heavy and his Pork Chop Revue.

The committee allows as how it has gone whole hog in signing up Uncle Heavy and his gang. Hailing from Rough and Ready, Cal., the troupe consists of Uncle himself and a slew of tricky pigs, notable among them one "Oink," who is a vocalist.

Many Prizes Offered

As to prizes, they'll match anything offered in previous years.

The big award is a free trip for two to Disneyland (six days), or San Francisco or Las Vegas (three days). In an afternoon drawing, the lucky IBM card will be fished from a basket.

For the kids, here's part of what's in store:

Free mechanical rides—all day long—

including jeeps, little cars, airplanes and a merry-go-round.

Free pony rides—all day.

Booth games (ring toss, darts and the like), with prizes.

Free soda pop, cotton candy, sno-cones, milk...

Rusty Nails in his trick auto will pop onto the scene at 10 a.m. and present a short program. After that he'll join the kids in two hours of games.

Softballers to Compete

Athletes, would-be athletes and dads egged into showing off for their offspring will gather on the softball diamond. Several games have been scheduled, including a contest between Interim Office and Retirement Trust buildings at 1 p.m. Umpire Guy Frazier (Personnel Director) promises he'll call 'em as he sees 'em and serves warning that he'll take no backtalk from anybody.

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

DAY FOR TEK

Players thrown out of the game by the umpire may not count this time as part of their Tektronix length of service, Guy adds, citing company policy.

The swimming hole will lure its share of folks who want to beat the heat. A lifeguard will be on hand in case anybody stops floating.

For other athletes there will be volleyball throughout the day.

Sportsmen still unsatisfied will find continuing competition in the old rural standby, horseshoe pitching, with awards for the winners.

Athletics of a lesser variety will take place at the bingo center, where adults and teenagers in turn will slave over hot bingo boards to compete for merchandise prizes.

Guessing contests (How many widgets in this beaker?) will be set up at several locations throughout the morning. Prizes to best guessers will be handed out in midafternoon.

Deejay To Give Away Records

Tom Murphy will dish out a line of patter and a passel of free records during the Teenage Hop, which will last from noon to 3. Tom is a popular disc jockey with station KISN.

Another dance, this one with adults welcome, will be held from 7 p.m. until midnight, featuring Rick Dasso and his five-piece orchestra.

Adult games, traditionally fiendish and funny, are scheduled from 1 to 3:30. All

true competitors—some of them reportedly already in secret training—will be on hand, straining unused muscles in pursuit of still another batch of prizes.

Gate awards will include garden equipment, lawn furniture and radios.

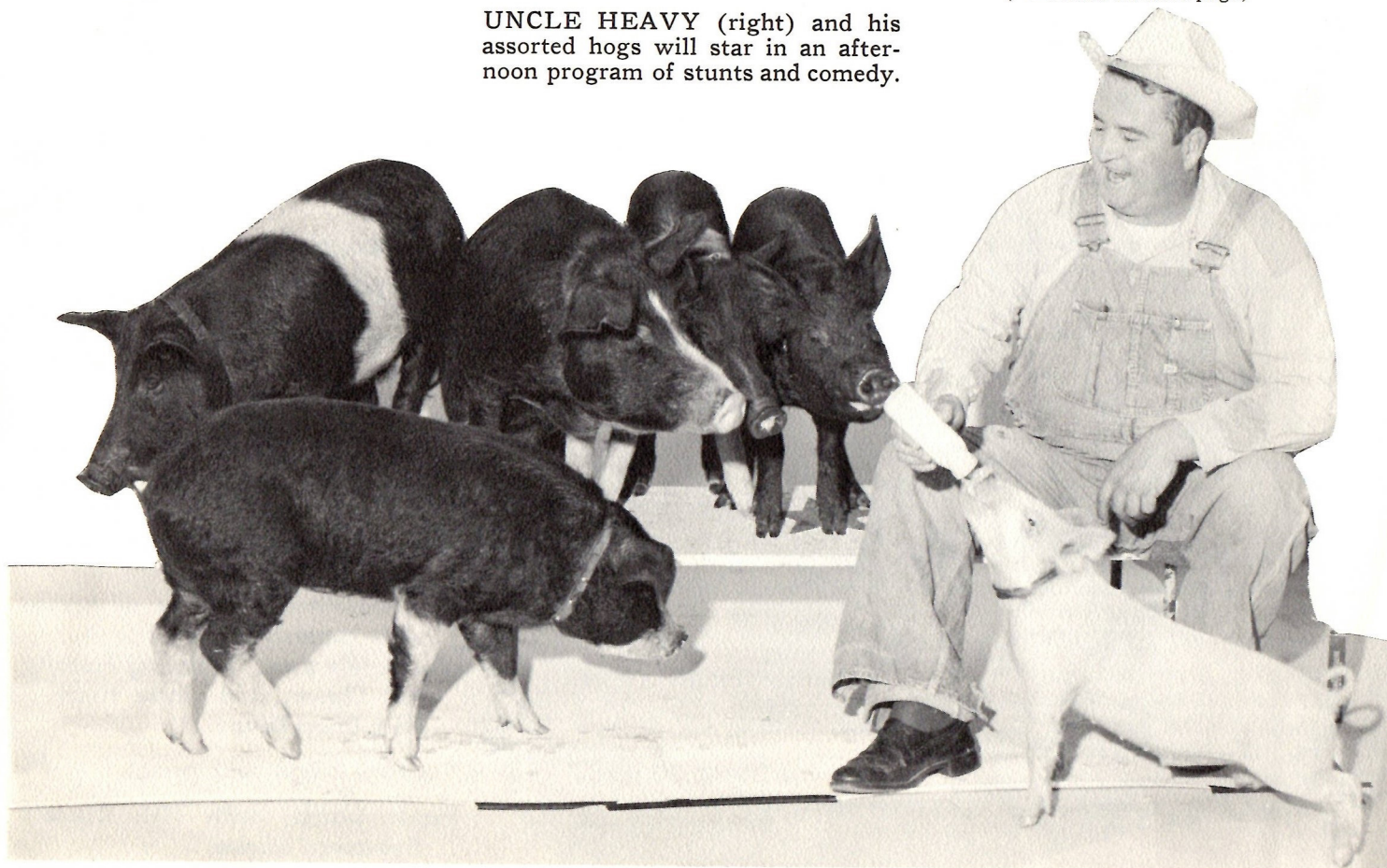
The IBM drawing to determine who gets the free two-person trip to Las Vegas, San Francisco or Disneyland will be at 3:30. **You must be present to win.** IBM cards—your tickets to the picnic—will be distributed in the plant August 3.

A contest for the best-dressed woman clown, the best-dressed man clown and the best-dressed child clown will be held on the main stage at about 4.

Following will be a two-act vaudeville

(continued on next page)

UNCLE HEAVY (right) and his assorted hogs will star in an afternoon program of stunts and comedy.





PICNIC (continued)

show, featuring Frenchy the Clown, unicyclist and comic, and winding up with Uncle Heavy's porkers, with a homespun and hilarious routine of piggy pranks.

Tek to Furnish Coffee, Milk

Those attending need bring only themselves, their families, their swimsuits and their food. Tek will supply free milk and coffee.

To tend aches, pains and sprains which may occur during the day, a doctor as well as a nurse will be on hand.

Manning booths and refreshment stands and handling other picnic chores will be members of the recreation committee—particularly the picnic committee—and members of Tek-sponsored clubs.

The date: August 5.

The time: 10 a.m. to midnight.

The place: Pat's Acres.

The guests: Tektronix employees and their families.

Come one, says the committee, come all.

10 a.m.—all day

10 a.m.

10 a.m.—noon

10 a.m.—2 p.m.

10—11 a.m.

11 a.m.—noon

11:45 a.m.—noon

Noon

Noon—3 p.m.

Noon—3:30 p.m.

1—3:30 p.m.

3.30—5:30 p.m.

4:30—5:30 p.m.

7 p.m.—midnight

Pony rides

Mechanical rides (airplanes, jeeps, cars, merry-go-round).

Swimming in the Pudding river.

Booth games (darts, ring toss, etc. Prizes).

Softball games, open to any teams.

Volleyball games, open to all.

Free sno-cones.

Free cotton candy.

Free pop.

Free milk.

Free coffee.

Free ice cream.

Arrival of Rusty Nails in his little car.

Children's games, Rusty Nails participating

Horseshoe pitching contest.
Guessing contests

Adult bingo, with prizes.

Teenage bingo, with prizes.

Rusty Nails, drawing names of gate prize winners.

Chowtime. Bring your own lunch!

Teenage Hop, with station KISN disk jockey Tom Murphy spinning records and giving them away.

Adult bingo, with prizes.

Adult games, with prizes.

IBM card drawing. Grand prize: Trip for two to Las Vegas, Disneyland or San Francisco.

Drawings for gate prizes.

Contest, best-dressed clown. Prizes in women's, men's and children's divisions.

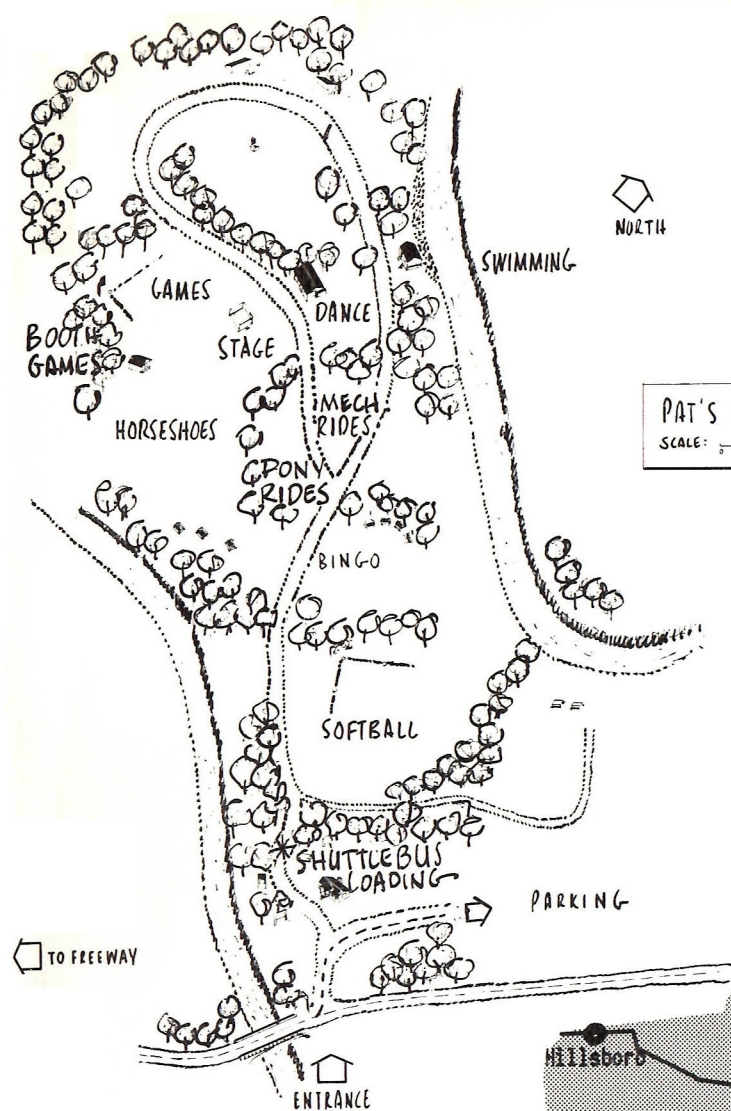
Announcement, winners of guessing contests.

Announcement, winners of horseshoe contest.

Vaudeville show, featuring Frenchy the Clown, and Uncle Heavy's Pork Chop Revue.

Teenage bingo, with prizes.

Picnic dance, with Rick Dasso's five-piece combo.



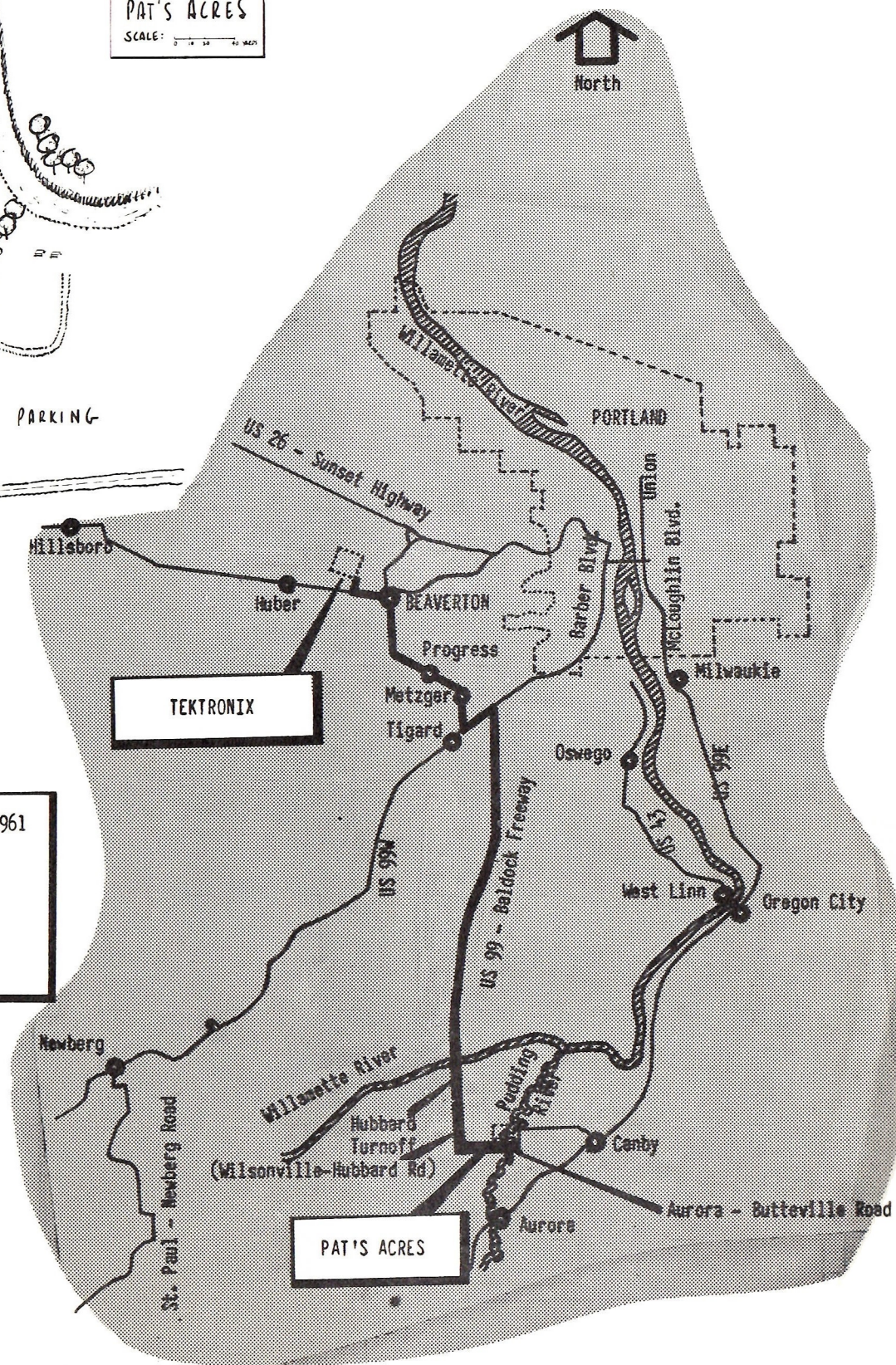
PAT'S ACRES
SCALE: 0 10 20 40 60 80 100

Maps by Dick Koe

Tektronix Picnic Site - August 1961

Pat's Acres

0 1 2 4 6
scale of miles



Deadline Near For Nominating TEKEM Board

Deadline to nominate candidates for TEKEM board of directors is Monday, August 7. Annual shareholders meeting will be September 20.

The directors have posted the procedures for nominating candidates, on plant bulletin boards.

Of the 10 incumbent directors, these nine will seek re-election:

Erwin Ashenbrenner, Dick Rhiger, Derrol Pennington, Ken Walling, Bob Fitzgerald, Bob Davis, Don Ellis, Bill Webber and Byron Broms.

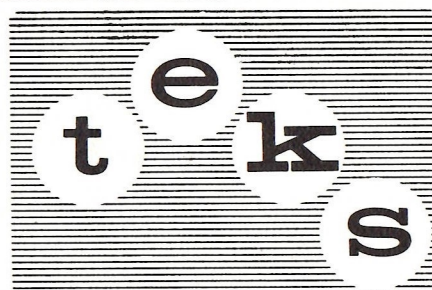
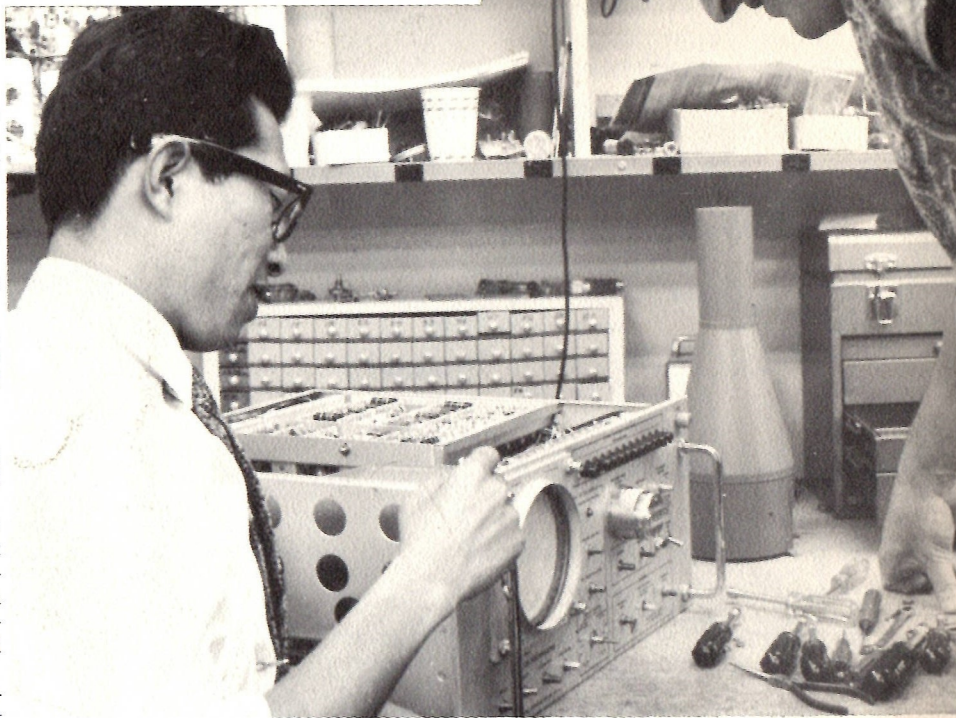
Dal Nominated

As of July 24, only one non-incumbent candidate had been nominated: Dal Dallas.

To nominate a candidate, a petition signed by at least five shareholders must be turned in to Secretary Erwin Ashenbrenner by the 7th. The nominee, in writing, must signify he's a willing candidate. This statement must be attached to the petition.

Notice of the annual meeting will include the names of all nominees. At election time, write-in candidates may be nominated from the floor.

LEARNING CALIBRATION and maintenance of Tektronix instruments during a recent two-week visit here was Hiroshi Nagakura, engineer with our Japanese representative, Midoriya Electric Co. Ltd., of Tokyo. Here he discusses a technical problem with engineer John Horn (Instrument Design.)



EVERY SO OFTEN (or often-er) some photo fan will come up with a first-rate contribution. Here's one such' from Armon McDowell (Precision Mechanical Assembly):

As Yogi Bear might say, it's better than the a-ver-idge photo cartoon. Thanks, Mac.



Purporting to be a photo of a "widget peeler," the picture in real life is naught but the rubber viewing hood of a C-12 camera, with trimmings put on by hand.

Any other "photoons" kicking around? Send 'em along. Might even get a contest going.

ALONG THESE LINES, one gal asks: If Tek has a 13-month year, what are the names of the months?

A fair question, and enough to keep a body doodling. Just how do you go about inventing a new set of months?

Here's one wild attempt:

Granary, Fibula, Marketing, Able, Maze, Juice, Jupiter, Augment, Segment, Sales, Cucumber, No Wonder and Decentralized. (Thirteen—count 'em—13.)

Two fellers down the hall (they say don't use their names) came up with this list:

Cranberry, Fiduciary, Match, Apron, Mayhem, Hewn, Huly, Office, Some Temper, Ach du lieber! Nob Twister, Dismember, Extender.

And Becky Short and her pals in Marketing suggest using the old Navy alphabet: Able, Baker, Charlie, Dog, and so on, to 13.

Your turn....

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