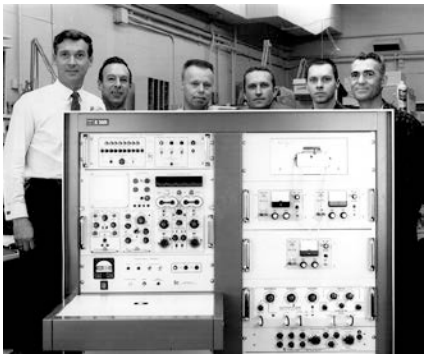
January 18, 2020

2019 End of Year Report

2019 was a great year for the museum and our third located on the Tektronix campus. We focused this year on more outreach to the community. We joined the Oregon Museum Association, re-energized our Twitter feed with regular postings, added significant content to our website, published 12 monthly newsletters, participated in remote exhibits, and made donations to other non-profit organizations.

The first order of business was to get our location correct on Google maps and we were only partially successful. Searching for “vintagetek” shows the correct location but searching for “13489 SW Karl Braun Dr” still shows us on the wrong part of campus. However, we now show as “nearby attractions” on Google maps and have had visitors who did not know of Tektronix stop in for a tour. This is a great opportunity for the museum. The museum is now starting to be listed on cultural art pages, museum pages, and even in motel literature for items of interest. We were also recently included in a published video of "Five Must-See Museums in the Pacific Northwest".

We had over 40,000 visitors to our website to view our on-line exhibits, historical photos, documents, and reference information. We update our website weekly and added TekTalks from the 1950s which provide great information on early employees and history of the company. We began regular postings on Twitter and our monthly email newsletter now goes to over 1,000 subscribers. We found that our newsletter also helps to solicit input as recently demonstrated with this photo of a 1960s automated test system. We had a number of responses that resulted in identifying all five individuals and a conversation with one of them to tell us more of the story behind the photo.



We had a remote booth at the Beaverton Library Science Geek Fest aimed at younger children and parents to promote STEM. Our exhibit was very popular and featured three hands-on exhibits. Our first was a “time of flight” using a storage oscilloscope to measure the velocity of a marble rolling down a ramp. Our second was our “scope art” exhibit which allows the interactive creation of art displays using 9 controls and four switches. The third exhibit was our demonstration board which allows two users to play table tennis on an oscilloscope. This still proves to be one of our more popular exhibits at the museum.

We also had a remote booth at MESA Day. MESA Day (Math, Engineering, and Science Achievement) is an annual competition that provides an opportunity for students to design and build projects, win medals, learn by doing, visit a college campus, and interact with each other. It is sponsored by Oregon MESA which is a pre-college academic program hosted by Portland State University that prepares underrepresented students with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), invention, and 21st-century skills.

Tektronix' involvement with Oregon MESA (then Portland MESA) goes back 35 years to 1985 when Tektronix supported the initial stipends for teachers to operate from 1985-1990 (the museum is a silver sponsor for MESA's upcoming 35th anniversary fundraising gala to be held in March). We showed these same three exhibits to an eager crowd of future scientists and engineers.

We also had an exhibit at the Northwest Electronic Design and Manufacturing Expo (NEDME) which highlighted the museum and our exhibits of historically significant Tektronix products. Visitors are always amazed to see the Type 101 Video Calibrator (the actual first product manufactured by Tektronix) and the Type 511 oscilloscope in operation since they are 72+ years old. We also exhibited a small portable spectrum analyzer and the first automatic and programmable oscilloscope. We also meet a number of former customers and employees with great stories and facts to add to our historical knowledge.

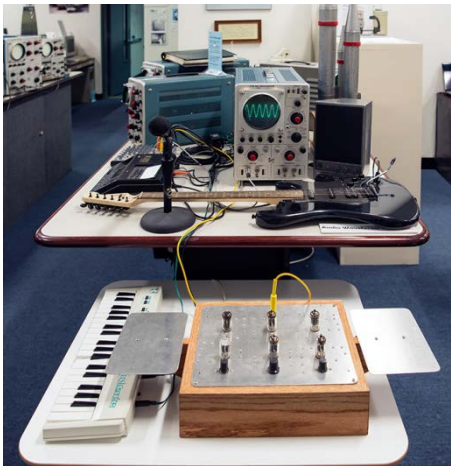
We also had an extensive remote exhibit at the Tektronix Innovation Summit which was well received. We demonstrated Tektronix' first 8 channel oscilloscope (1962), first mixed-domain (time and frequency) oscilloscope (1967), first auto-set oscilloscope (1964) and the first DMM oscilloscope (1970) along with other historically significant products.

This year we had out of state and international guests visit the museum. Our normal days of operation are Friday and Saturday but out-of-area visitors often request different days. We open the museum on request and did so 28 times this past year, more than once every other week. Other tours-by-request included Tektronix, other local companies, young children, high school and college groups, developmentally delayed adults, collectors, and former employees and spouses. We had the pleasure of extended visits with two spouses of notable employees - Delores Winningstad, wife of Norm Winningstad (who used to land his helicopter behind building 50 and started Floating Point Systems) and Romain Walling, wife of Ken Walling (7th employee of Tektronix who managed the printing department).

We continue to add unique items to the museum's collections. This year we focused on more hands-on exhibits for our younger visitors. Previously mentioned is our "time of flight" exhibit. A volunteer expanded our direct view storage terminal (DVST) exhibits with "instant art" and "cannon" programs. Instant art allows

the user to input alpha-numeric strings to create intricate and fascinating displays. Cannon requires the user to choose a velocity and angle to hit an object on uneven terrain. Both programs have proven popular with people of all ages.

We also expanded our ever-popular “waveshape” exhibit by adding an electric guitar. The guitar allows exploration into string sounds, wavelength vs. frequency, and the origin of the equal tempered western musical scale. This exhibit now features a microphone, a Theremin (always a hit with all ages), a Rodgers Organ synthesizer (a spinoff from Tektronix funded by Howard), several organ pipes, a guitar, and of course an oscilloscope. Visitors can interact hands-on with these items and see the resulting waveforms.



We now have seven different exhibits specifically designed for children to experience technology first hand. They have all proven very popular, even with high school and college students. We often have our tours derailed by these exhibits as visitors wait their turn for them.

We continue to leverage the museum’s available classroom for other non-profit group usage. We have had five such events where we open on request for meetings or presentations. Our instrument library, where any student 10 years or older, can check out oscilloscopes, function generators, DMMs, frequency counters, and other instruments continues to be underutilized. To better promote hands-on instruments the museum worked with and donated a package of instruments to the Sherwood Library to be part of their “Library of Things”. The package consisted of an oscilloscope, two microphones, function generator, speaker, and 15 different experiments ranging from how to use an oscilloscope to investigating various waveforms and their unique sounds. We hope to be able to expand this to other local libraries.

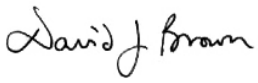
We also donated an instrument package to S1, a non-profit artist and volunteer-run center for contemporary art in Portland. In addition to performance and education programming, they have a publicly-

accessible modular synthesizer and music production library. The equipment is used in education programming, synth DIY workshops, and creative visual works in the Synth Library.

We donated a period-correct 545 oscilloscope to Site Summit near Anchorage, Alaska. Commissioned in 1959, it is one of three Nike Missile sites that protected Anchorage, Elmendorf AFB, and Fort Richardson during the Cold War, and one of 145 Nike Hercules missile sites constructed across the nation from 1957 to 1960. Friends of Nike Site Summit (FONSS) volunteers are restoring the historical site and conducting tours.

We continue to operate the museum without charge primarily due to the generosity of the space provided by Tektronix, and through donations, and modest eBay sales. One fun eBay sale we did was the Signature Scope-Mobile. Gale Morris was the first industrial designer hired into Tektronix in 1958 and his first project was to design a new Scope-Mobile. The result of his work was the Type 200 which won industry awards. Gale provided his “signature” which we applied to “limited edition” Signature Scope-Mobiles and sold. We only did a few as these require a lot of work to pack and ship and are grateful to Gale for his support of this project.

Lastly, we are finding new younger and volunteers who have never worked for Tektronix but are interested in learning and more hands-on technology experience. Our volunteers are contributing more hours to the museum and external activities. We are attracting out-of-state and out-of-country visitors. We are also attracting visitors of all ages, including those with no technology background who simply want to experience the museum and exhibits. With some tours lasting up to 3 hours, we know our visitors are engaged. Thanks to all our volunteers and our visitors in helping to make this museum possible.



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