The Attractions of Magnetism

Could a Little Child Be Leading Us to a Free Energy Future?

The search for new energy technology takes us to northern Idaho to meet a ten-year-old girl who won a science fair with a battery-charging motor. She describes it as an advanced design that extends the life of batteries for an amazing length of time. The motor was designed by John Bedini and built by her. We meet him first.

More widely known as an audio-amplifiers expert, Bedini's name is intertwined with "free energy" history. Witnesses saw his machines running successfully, but later others were unable to build devices according to his published instructions. His circuitry was mentioned favorably at a conference in Switzerland recently.

Aware of the controversies, with mixed feelings I drove into the Idaho panhandle, past a warehouse for survivalists' supplies. My hope is that he will give clues so others can duplicate his successes.

10-year-old Shawnee Baughman with her award-winning science

Inventor John Bedini tweaks a working model of his magnet motor

Explaining his theory about such devices, new-energy theorist Thomas Bearden is writing prolifically this year. Retired from electronic warfare studies and aerospace work, Bearden is the leading advocate of scalar potential electromagnetics, and he explains how the sea of energy we live in—an energetic flux of virtual particles—could be engineered to do work in the physical world.

Bearden also has a theory about another of Bedini's "scalar" inventions—one which can increase enjoyment of music. After a six-year struggle, Bedini was granted US Patent 5,487,057 for a mechanism for reducing electronic distortion in digital and analog recording and playback. Bearden (writing in *Explore Magazine* Vol. 7, No. 4, pp 53-63) says the patent examiner couldn't understand the mechanism, because Bedini's nonlinear optics process was not found in audio-, or classical electromagnetics textbooks. Meanwhile, John and his brother Gary were already selling the stress-defect-relieving devices. The process even works for media such as color film. Bearden explains Bedini's process as self-oscillating, optical-electronics, and hopes that even structural metals can eventually be treated with it to reduce stress defects. Is this negative entropy—self-ordering in the physical world?

Bearden adds that most really *new* things are invented not by academic teams or corporate scientists but by the lone "independent, fiercely creative people."

I meet Bedini at his business, surrounded by electronics equipment. The back room looks like a museum of small prototypes of unusual motor/generators. Some are pictured on websites http://rand.nidlink.com/John1 or http:/www.icehouse.net/john1/tesla.html.

He says his knowledge is on the internet, and now it's up to others to build the devices. He says they have to experiment themselves, and it reminds me that he taught a little girl how to make a motor which drove science teachers nuts—to see a little motor made of plastic with no return paths for the magnetics.

"The funny thing was that her father bent a coat hanger and put a coil above the motor and used it as a generator. The motor ran much longer under the load than they had expected."

John Bedini was roaming the "free energy" scene in California in the 1970s and early 1980s, collecting knowledge about medical as well as energy devices. He had an electronics business in Sylmar, and at home he experimented with windmills and other systems. The utility company objected—he was hooked up to their

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■ BY JEANE MANNING

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power lines and if his system were to backfeed, it could extinguish the lights in the neighborhood. He disagreed. As he tells it, the officials' final word was "we think you're stealing power" and they took their meter off the building. However, his lights were still on at night, because of his energy inventions, he tells me. Finally they struck a deal—he would have his power meter back but would pay a high fee for the service.

The power company almost took away their hookup to his shop, but it was in an industrial area and they would have had to remove a three-phase transformer and therefore deprive the other businesses of power. "They found that when they switched off all the power in the shop nothing (electrical) was being drawn, but the machines kept running."

He published instructions for an energy device which Jim Watson of Colorado Springs then built—large-scale with a heavy flywheel. Watson demonstrated it at the 1984 Bicentennial symposium celebrating Nikola Tesla's arrival in the USA.

At the same meeting, Bedini displayed a circuit which charges batteries. Only one engineer out of the audience—Eike Mueller of the European space agency—got up and measured Bedini's apparatus. He affirmed that it was charging the batteries.

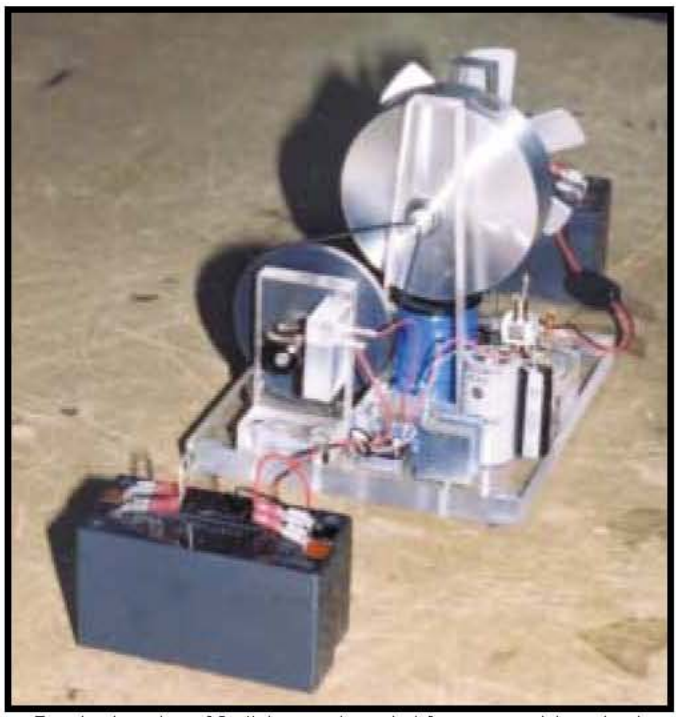
Dr. Hans Nieper's book *Revolution in Technology, Medicine and Society* states that Bedini's converter was 800% efficient in initial tests, and that 26 independent researchers successfully duplicated the device about which Bedini reported.

However, the staff of the no-longer-published magazine *Energy Unlimited* was unable to replicate the device, and consulting engineer George Hathaway criticized Mueller's measurements.

On the other hand, a presenter at the 1985 USPA conference, Ken Moore, found that his model of Bedini's G-Field Generator increased speed as its load increased. He also witnessed a Bedini prototype successfully operating.

The same year, radio KABC talk show host Bill Jenkins used his guest speaker's spot at a March 12 Town Hall forum at the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles to announce a free energy device, with Bedini and Steven Werth. The two demonstrated what was described as a Kromrey gravity-field generator with 180% efficiency, powered by a battery bank which required no recharging from an outside source.

A newspaper account said the audience included public utility representatives and investment brokers. Bedini, then 37, told the forum that he planned to make his generator universally available to the public at a nominal cost, instead of selling to the highest bidder. He described his working model as using stressed, pulsed scalar waves out of phase, to tap zero-point energy of the vacuum of space. The concept was not found in physics books, but is perfectly natural and it works, he said.



Toy-sized version of Bedini motor intended for commercial production.

Jenkins had publicly introduced concepts such as scalar interferometry through one of his radio guests, physicist Bearden.

How did the civic officials at the Biltmore forum react to a "free energy" demonstration—light bulbs strung across their luncheon plates? Bedini recalls the growled demands to remove the d___ bulbs so they could eat. "Free energy" was not a part of their reality.

Within a few weeks, Bedini was visited by two thugs who were definitely unfriendly toward his efforts to unhook from today's power structures. They had the appearance of body-builders who had just stepped out of a gymnasium, and pushed him against his shop wall while saying in a threatening manner that they expect he will continue to use gasoline. He laughs shortly while recalling the incident, but evidently knew they were serious.

Now that he has moved to Idaho, the reason "they" don't bother Bedini any more, he figures, is that he limits his models to toy-size. His model collection only demonstrates a principle—that he believes could power a house if scaled up in size. The principle involves storing discharged pulses of energy that are created while doing work with previously stored energy. The sequence is "do the work, discharge, do the work, discharge" and so on.

The devices operate in a manner contrary to conventional motors and generators, I am told. "You want the thing to do work. The more work it does, the more energy it gathers," Bedini says.

A recent model, incorporating a bicycle wheel with magnets glued on the inside of the perimeter, has a large-bladed fan—angled to slow the rotation—as the work load. Bedini unhooked part of his circuit to demonstrate the spark. He was showing how much energy is sent back to the battery, continually in step. Repeatedly the setup runs the motor for a certain length of time, shuts it off and then discharges.

Bedini is scornful of experts who have visited him and can't understand why a small motor could be charging a battery yet the motor does not slow down.

"We understand what the energy is. Tesla knew exactly what it was. And it's the furthest thing from what they want to measure with their electron-pushers."

Today's instruments all measure electron flow, he said, but no meters are available to measure what is involved in his models. What, then, is Bedini dealing with? It's electrostatic in nature, he replies, and must be converted into standard electricity.

The rhythmic pop, pop, pop sound of a Bedini device comes from a blue spark which he describes as an ultraviolet type of arc—similar to radio-frequencies but not RF. It can be accumulated and discharged in pulses which then can be converted into electrons.

If scientists want to build a big electron-pusher, the answers are on his website, he said. However, Bedini has no patience with researchers who ask for specifics such as where to buy the magnets. "Just go get them. Don't bother me." He said the devices only need to be tuned, and exact materials are not crucial. "Use the type of magnets that fit your wheel. If you don't get enough output from the coils, add more windings. Or change the geometry."

I'll visit the little girl and see if it is that easy.

Earlier this year Shawnee Baughman wanted a science fair project. She found a book with plans for a motor, but it looked boring—corks and match boxes. Her father promised the parts for a better one. He works near John Bedini, who instructed Shawnee for a couple of hours a day for a few days. She finished building it the day before the fair.

"We only tested it for like a day, left it running overnight sometimes, but sometimes we'd leave it running for an hour or two hours or something."

The other kids liked it; that's how it was voted 'best of show'. Adult judges gave her the other top prizes.

She flicks the wheel into motion and it runs.

"This is the electromagnet coil. It has the power wire and the trigger wire...The power wire carries the voltage around the electromagnet coil and it goes through to the transistor—that little black thing—then it goes through the resistor and the diode and the trigger wire follows it and then the voltage flow comes out again and returns back to the negative side of the battery. ..The electromagnet generates the power, then it spins the wheel; the electricity goes through the generator coil which lights up the light-emitting diode. Then it starts all over again."

"We've been using this battery for a month or so now. It's supposed to have only 900 spins per nine volts, and that's a nine-volt battery, so if it were to run out then it would have run out a long time ago!"

She has only changed the battery three times since building it six months ago.

Schools' involvement in the new-energy field adds impetus. Andreas Manthey is an instructor who organized a Study Group for Free Energy at the Technical University of Berlin, Germany. He says the German version of my book impelled him back into new-energy research.

Jim Watson disappeared from the public new-energy scene a couple of years after the 1984 demonstration, but John Bedini and colleagues are sharing as much information as they believe that they can share. Bedini views children such as Shawnee as our hope for the future. ■

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