

National Park Service Department of the Interior

Manhattan Project National Historical Park
Oak Ridge, Tennessee



December 2016

Impromptu Programming All Winter Long. MAPR staff are now giving short programs on the X-10 Graphite Reactor and other Manhattan Project topics throughout the week at the American Museum of Science and Energy. These programs will be announced over museum loudspeakers ten minutes prior to starting.

Welcome Robert Johnson! Robert will be working for the park for a year as a full time Student Conservation Association intern doing community outreach and interpretation. Robert is also a part-time student at the University of Tennessee majoring in Sustainability.

Junior Ranger Books Now In Three Languages. Our Junior Ranger book has been translated into Japanese by Volunteer Shigeko Uppuluri. The booklet has also been translated into Spanish and all three versions are available on the web at <https://www.nps.gov/mapr/learn/kidsyouth/beajuniorranger.htm> and at the NPS desk.

December Dates in MAPR History

- On **December 2 1942**, Enrico Fermi and his team produced the first controlled nuclear reaction at the University of Chicago. The following November, the X-10 Graphite Reactor was completed and the B Reactor in Hanford would be completed in September 1944.
- December 7 1941 is known as "A day that will live in Infamy". The surprise attack against the U.S. Pacific Naval fleet in Pearl Harbor may have entered the United States into the war but just the day before, on **December 6 1941**, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt authorized the Manhattan Engineering District in order to create an atomic bomb.
- December 16-17 1938**, German physicists Otto Hahn and Fritz Strassman split uranium. On **December 22nd** Hahn sent a manuscript to a peer-review scientific journal after first contacting Lise Meitner on **December 19th**. Meitner and nephew Otto Frisch were able to describe Hahn's findings as nuclear fission.



Photographed by Brooklyn, Age 8.



Phone Inside the X-10 Control Room.
Photographed by Se'Dayja, Age 8.

Photography Exhibit at the Children's Museum of Oak Ridge During December. Check out our *Parks in Focus* photography exhibit highlighting the work of local Girls Inc. 3rd and 4th grade participants.

MAPR and AMSE Volunteer Appreciation Event on Thursday, December 15th. You know who you are so if you haven't gotten an invite yet call Glenda Bingham at 865-576-3200 or Effie Houston at 423-569-9778.

Learn about "Secrecy, Security and Spies" on Saturday, December 17th starting at 3:30 pm (ET) at the Turnpike Gatehouse at 2900 Oak Ridge Turnpike. The program will give some insight to what life was like in Oak Ridge during the Manhattan Project with all the security, the need for secrecy, and ever-present threat of espionage.

Interpretation Training for Volunteers Scheduled. We're holding a volunteer training on Wednesday, February 22nd all day. AMSE, ORNL Bus Tour, and MAPR volunteers are invited to attend.

**Park Visitor Center Desk
at the American Museum of Science & Energy
300 S. Tulane, Oak Ridge, TN 37830
(865) 576-6767 or visit us at:
www.nps.gov/mapr
Twitter@MnhtnProjectNPS
www.facebook.com/ManhattanProjectNPS
www.instagram.com/ManhattanProjectNPS**