

National Park Service Department of the Interior

Manhattan Project National Historical Park
Oak Ridge, Tennessee



February 2017

February Dates in MAPR History

- Construction for the world's first continuous operating reactor, X-10, began on February 2, 1943. Although it was built for the war effort the reactor saw a much different life during its twenty years of operation. X-10 was used for medical research, industrial uses, agricultural uses, and is where electricity was first produced using nuclear energy.
- On February 18, 1943 construction of the Manhattan Engineering District Y-12 facilities began. Y-12 was built at a cost of just under \$500,000,000 making it the second most expensive site within the Manhattan Project.
- One year after construction began in February 1944 Y-12 sent 200 grams of uranium-235 to Los Alamos, NM.
- Los Alamos received their first shipment of plutonium from the Hanford site on February 2, 1945. Five short months later the Trinity test took place in a remote location of New Mexico, proving that an implosion bomb was possible.

Training Opportunity for Volunteers. There will be a training session on Interpretation Skills on Wednesday, February 22nd starting at 9:30 am (ET) at ASME. The training will cover the bones of a presentation; the planning & structuring sessions for others, and designing an activity to engage an audience.

AMSE, ORNL Bus Tour, and MAPR volunteers are invited to attend. Please contact Effie.Houston@nps.gov to sign up.



Thirty Tennessee State Park Managers got a comprehensive tour of the park on January 26th.



Our "Parks in Focus" program is still going strong. Recently 3rd and 4th graders from Girls, Inc. of Oak Ridge visited the UT Arboretum to learn about nature photography.

Join Us in Celebrating Black History Month at a February 23rd Reception at the Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce. The reception starts at 4:30 pm (ET) and kicks off a month long photography exhibit of African-American life in the Secret City during the Manhattan Project.

Girl Scout Celebration on Saturday, March 11th. To kick off National Girl Scout week, we're partnering with the Children's Museum of Oak Ridge (CMOR) and the Girl Scouts in celebration of 105th anniversary of Founder's Day. All participants will have an opportunity to earn a Manhattan Project Junior Ranger patch. Individuals and/or troops are welcome to participate at any time throughout the day. *Bonus: All girls in Girl Scout uniforms and their families have free admission to CMOR that day.*

Included in AMSE's Museum Collection is the flag used to decorate the podium at the Army-Navy "E" Award Ceremony on Sept, 29 1945 in Oak Ridge. **The "E" Award was an honor presented to companies during World War II whose production facilities achieved "Excellence in Production"** of war equipment.

The award was created to encourage industrial mobilization and production of war time materials. By war's end, the award had been earned by only 5% of the more than 85,000 companies involved in producing materials for the U.S. military's war effort.



**Park Visitor Center Desk
at the American Museum of Science & Energy
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