

# *B Reactor Tours Resume In May?*

## THE MODERATOR

B R E A C T O R M U S E U M A S S O C I A T I O N



April-June

Vol. 28, Issue 2

Spring 2022

### **From The Control Room**

by **BRMA President Robert Franklin**

Spring is always my favorite time of year. Growing up in Alaska it came late of course, but it meant the arrival of warmth and flowers and more time outside. The markers are somewhat different here – the filling of the irrigation canal by my house for instance, but the budding leaves on the trees and wildflowers are familiar and comforting sights.

Spring is also an awakening, and it is in that theme that I am glad to share some hopeful news with you. Efforts are underway to resume the B Reactor and Pre-Manhattan tours after two years of dormancy. While there are no official dates confirmed yet the conversation points to starting sometime in May, COVID conditions permitting. This news is of course more than welcome. Visitation to the reactor was around 18,000 in 2019 and while this year will likely not approach that number, it is hopefully a start to surpassing it in the coming years. The B Reactor and Pre-Manhattan tours are wonderful experiences to share with everyone and contain a multitude of stories that can connect with any member of an audience. If you are interested in a tour (or want to pass on the information) any updates will be posted on the official tour website: <https://manhattanprojectbreactor.hanford.gov/>.

While the likelihood of tours is exciting for the BRMA,

there is one significant element missing – a BRMA gift shop. As many of you probably know, Debbie Burnett retired at the end of 2019 and closed Whimseys. Debbie was an excellent and valued partner of the BRMA and provided both space and sales support for our gift shop. We currently have no location and staff and the future of that entire enterprise remains in doubt. If you have any ideas (or would be willing to work the gift shop if space was available) please contact either myself or Rick Bond. As I've said many times before: it's more than money to BRMA, rather the gift shop provides visitors with a valuable service, that of a tangible memory of their visit (as well as passive advertising for the park). It is in all of our interests to have a gift shop and I hope that we can manifest something for this tour year.

We have discussed moving back to in-person meetings and will make a decision at the next Board meeting in April. A message will be sent out by the secretary with more details.

I hope you enjoy our spring issue as you begin to enjoy the changes of spring and make your summer plans. My best to you all.

Robert Franklin, President

### **From The NPS— Ranger Updates**

by **Becky Burghart, MPHA Hanford Site Manager**

As I write this article I am filled with hope and excitement that we are finally turn the corner on COVID, but I am also tempered with the reality that COVID may not be done with us. Many of our current partners and some new partners have asked to collaborate with us on programs for this spring and summer. I am really looking forward to working with community partners to offer a variety of community programs. In April, we have our first Pop Up Play Day for the year with Richland Parks and Recreation on April 7. We are hosting another Ride with a Ranger on April 9 in collaboration with Bike Tri-Cities, the REACH, and

Wheelhouse Bike Shop. On April 16, we kick off National Park Week with a National Junior Ranger Day program at Sacajawea Historical State Park. Salmon Fest is back after a two-year break on April 26 and 27. We will partner will US Fish and Wildlife Service to provide an activity at Salmon Fest. Kalina Hildebrandt arrives for her first day in the office on April 4. We are looking forward to having her on staff, and she will busy with community outreach programs this summer.

The park's Visual Information Specialist team is planning  
(continued Page 3)

The B Reactor Museum Assn. meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7 PM.  
Until further notice, we will be meeting by Zoom.  
Our next meeting will be Zoomed on April 11

## Charitable Contributions

This is a Public Acknowledgement of the generous cash contributions to BRMA. The following list covers the period, January through March, 2022.

Dell Ballard  
Connie Estep  
Gary Fetteroff  
Richard Romanell

### New Member

Gary Fetteroff switched to Life Member

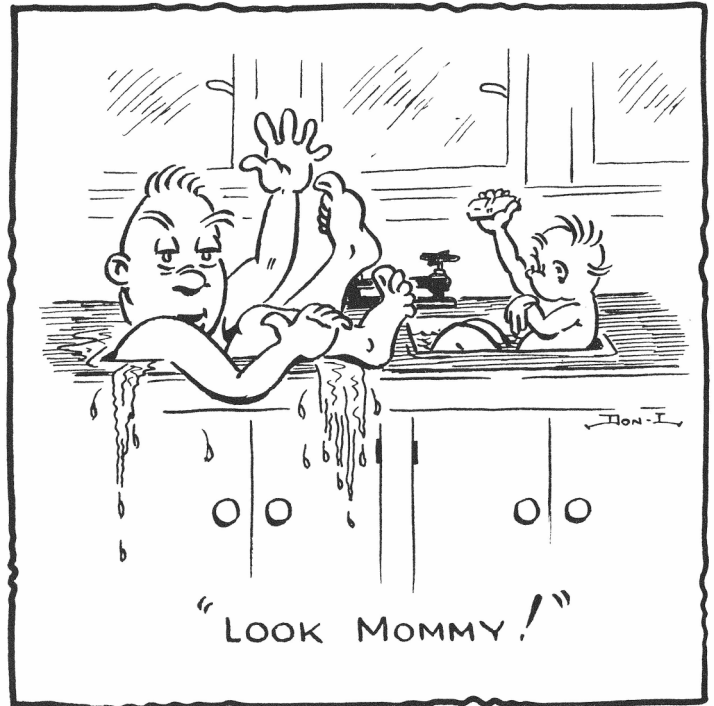
## Membership Report

By Bob Carosino, Membership Chair

**2022 BRMA MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW DUE.** Our present 2022 paid count is 47 Individual Members & 2 Groups (Atomic Heritage Foundation & The REACH). These numbers include 16 LIFE members. If you have not yet submitted your membership dues for 2022, the information to do so is provided below.

To send in your renewal, the Form is below to: Hard Copy-- Clip and send in; E-Copy--Print, Clip and Send In.

## Dupus Boomer — by Dick Donnell Contributed by Connie Estep



*Connie's Comment: Nothing like a good Spring Cleaning! People interested in prefabs know the kid is in the sink as prefabs had no bathtub. Why Dupus is in the sink is anyone's guess!*

## 2021 Renewal and New Member Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: (h): (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell): (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please print legibly)

- Renewal     New  
 Individual (\$20)    or     Senior (age 60+ - \$10)    or     Student (\$10)    or     Life Member (one time — \$250)  
*(Individual Members Only)*  
 Society/Group (\$25) Name of Voting Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional tax deductible contribution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Note: both Dues and Cash Contributions are Tax Deductable. (Tax ID # 94-3142387)**  
**No goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution**  
**If your total enclosed contribution is \$50 or less, print a copy of this application for your records. Over \$50 will be separately receipted.**

Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please make check out to BRMA)

Thank you; please mail this application with payment to:

**B Reactor Museum Association**  
**PO Box 1531**  
**Richland, WA 99352**

## From Our Gift Shop By Rick Bond, BRMA Products and Sales

The Manhattan Project National Historical Park (MAPR) and our associated BRMA gift shop have been shut down for about two years as a result of COVID. Huge BUMMER to say the least!! However, this has not meant that we had a complete lack of sales. BRMA has been making some sales through our outlets at The Octopus' Garden, Visit Tri-Cities, the Reach Museum, and Kadlec Gift Shop. The Octopus' Garden has been particularly supportive as we sold over \$800 of gift shop items to them in February 2022. Gus, who owns The Octopus' Garden, has been a very loyal supporter during the pandemic as well as before the pandemic. Please do what you can to support these businesses, and if you do stop in to The Octopus' Garden, please say hello to Gus, tell him that you read about him through the Moderator, and how much you/we appreciate his support. All these outlets have been very supportive of our local National Historical Park and essentially all the profit that BRMA makes on these sales goes back to supporting the local unit of the national park.

NEWS FLASH!! BRMA is still actively working to find a solution to our dilemma of who, and how, we will operate our gift shop once the tours start up again. Deb

### FROM THE NPS (continued from Page 1)

the development of the learn about the park section of the website. They are in the process of inventorying our current content including social media, digital app, and website material. I recently learned we have more than 400 different social media posts that we may develop into permanent content for our website. This is a huge task. We look forward to enhancing the content on our website with the amazing content that has been written over the past two years by the park's social media team.

I hope to see you sometime soon in person!  
Becky

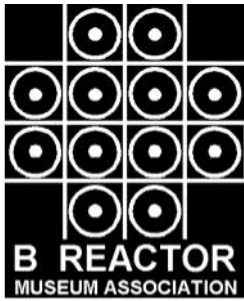
Burnett, who ran the gift shop and maintained our inventory, retired. Since the revenue from the gift shop is fairly small, because the tours only run about half the year (when running), and because the vast majority of visitors are only in the visitor's center for a short period of time before and after the tours, it is not feasible to pay a staff to manage the gift shop on a full-time basis. Thus, we are in a real bind and are trying to brainstorm ideas for how we can keep the gift shop open into the future.

I am hoping that we will be able to find a space in the Logston visitor's center to physically put the gift shop. This was the plan before the pandemic but I need to follow up with the Department of Energy (DOE) and the National Park Service to firm up the plan. I will also follow up with DOE and their Hanford contractors to see if we could possibly get some support, either staffing or funding. The large Hanford contractors provide a lot of charitable assistance to the local community and local causes and I was hoping that they would support the local national park. If anybody has any contacts with the Hanford contractors that could be helpful in this regard, please let me know asap.

Robert Franklin and I made a presentation at the March 17 meeting of the Tri-Cities National Park Commission. The meeting was attended by over 20 representatives from local and state organizations and political representatives that could possibly help out our cause. We are hoping something positive may come out of the meeting but at the very least, we got the word out to a lot of people with much influence.

As a last resort, we may be looking for people to work the gift shop on a part-time basis. These "staff" would be paid a percentage of the profits from our gift shop sales. If you know anybody that would like to work at the gift shop or if you have any ideas for how we can staff/run the gift shop, please contact me, Rick Bond, at (509) 375-1151.

<b>1st Quarter Income/Expenses By Dave Marsh, BRMA Treasurer</b>				
CATEGORY	JAN	FEB	MAR	OVERALL TOTAL
<b>INCOME</b>				
2022 Donations	50.00	15.00	3.67	68.67
2022 Dues	70.00	40.00	0.00	110.00
2022 Life Member Dues	0.00	0.00	250.00	250.00
Reimbursement of Annual Subs.	0.00	0.00	342.68	342.68
Souvenir Sales	0.00	260.89	802.20	1,063.09
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>120.00</b>	<b>315.89</b>	<b>1,398.55</b>	<b>1,834.44</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
BRMA Souvenir Purchases	0.00	72.00	0.00	72.00
Souvenir Storage-Atomik Properties	65.00	65.00	65.00	195.00
Tax Filing Washington S.O.S.	10.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>75.00</b>	<b>137.00</b>	<b>65.00</b>	<b>277.00</b>
<b>QUARTERLY TOTAL</b>	<b>45.00</b>	<b>178.89</b>	<b>1,333.55</b>	<b>1,557.44</b>



PO Box 1531  
Richland, WA 99352

<http://www.b-reactor.org>  
[info@b-reactor.org](mailto:info@b-reactor.org)

## **SPECIAL LATE ARRIVING NEWS**

**The May 9, 2022 Membership Meeting**

**will be In-Person**

**at**

**the Richland Public Library**

**7:00 PM**

**(Mask-Up required)**