



B Reactor – the showplace of the Manhattan Project National Historical Park

Annual Report

FY 2022

This is the first Annual Report produced by BRMA, with hopes of starting a precedent that will carry on for many years to come. Previous years have been summarized in the Moderator that is published in January, April, August, and November, however the Board of Directors opted to publish a separate Annual Report and this is the product for 2022.

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Table of Contents

To Our Membership & Supporters	1
Strategic Highlights	1
2022 Overview and Summary	4
Financial Statements	7
Statement of Financial Position	7
Statement of Comprehensive Income (Profits and Losses)	7
Statement of Changes in Equity	7
Committee Status Reports	8
President's Update	8
Vice President's Update	8
Secretary Report	8
Government and Community Relations Report	8
Interpretive Projects	9
Membership Chair Report	10
Historian Chair Report	12
Products and Sales Report	13
Treasurer's Annual Report	15
2022 ANNUAL Inflow - Outflow – 1/1/2022 through 12/31/2022	17
Communications Annual Report	18
Founder Emeritus Annual Report	18
National Park Report for 2022	18
Contact Information	23
Organizational Information	24

2022 Saw B Reactor and Pre-Manhattan Tours return after a 2-year lapse due to Covid 19 restrictions.

To Our Membership & Supporters

Strategic Highlights

These are the highlights of 2022:

- Return of tours following the Covid-19 Pandemic
- A change in Management within the National Park Service for MAPR
- Positive changes to the BRMA Souvenir Sales program
- Submittal of the Du Pont story for publication
- Successful Tour Program with Approximately 167 Tours; B-Reactor had 5,521 Visitors; Pre-Manhattan Historical Tour had 146 Visitors; all 50 States represented and 27 Countries represented.
- Inflow to the B Reactor Museum Association in excess of \$15,000 from Dues, Donations and Souvenir Sales
- Membership now at 114 Individuals/Organizations
- The National Park Service placed most of its focus on Community Outreach during 2022 and continued development of content for the NPS Website for The Manhattan Project National Historical Park
- 4 Quarterly “Moderator” newsletters were published during 2022, with one noted article written and published by our Historian Chairperson (Burt Pierard) titled: THE CO-ORDINATE CLUB (The Formative Years 1943-1946)
- Work continued on the editing and review of a document that was initiated by Del Ballard several years ago covering the history of the B Reactor Museum Association. Incidentally Del, who is a founding member of the organization, was named Founding Member Emeritus by the Board to recognize his historical and continued efforts in support of BRMA.

Looking Ahead

The BRMA board looks forward to Calendar Year 2023 and what is in store for the B Reactor Tour program as well as the Pre-Manhattan Tour program. As of the writing of this document, the tours have begun with full bookings for all of April 2023 and most of May 2023.



Over 5500 visitors participated in tours in 2022, and with an early start in 2023, we anticipate that number will increase.

There appear to be some changes in the makeup of the BRMA Board of Directors during 2023 since 1 position has not been filled for two years now and our Vice President (John Fox) has stepped down from his role on the Board. We anticipate that those that have returned and the new members of BRMA may yield individuals available to step up and fill these positions during 2023 and 2034.

Since this is the first year that BRMA has published an annual report, we look forward to improving our communications through continued improvement in the BRMA saga and history.

BRMA GOALS for 2022

1. Identify a Sub-Committee that will meet with both DOE and NPS to determine ways BRMA can provide more direct support to each of the two organizations.
2. Submit the Dupont Story for Publication to the Oregon Scientific Journal.
3. Follow up with DOE to identify next steps for obtaining National Landmark Status for T-Plant and Publish the T-Plant HAER document in support of that task.
4. Determine next steps to obtain funding to repaint the trains at B Reactor or re-purpose the \$27,000 set aside for this task.(See February-2022 Meeting Minutes)
5. Take necessary steps to establish a “Friends of the Park” Association in the Tri-Cities.
6. Determine options for use of the Graphite blocks and spare process tubes in storage in Pasco as means of raising additional funding for BRMA and NPS.
7. Complete the document “BRMA History” which is in draft form.
8. Complete and issue/publish the 2022 BRMA Annual Report.
9. Determine means and funding to install a B Reactor/MAPR sign at the Pasco Airport or determine there is no need for one.(See April Meeting Minutes)
10. Take necessary steps to install a “Tourist Sign” (Brown Highway Marker) to mark the location of the NPS/MAPR Visitor Center on Highway 240.

11. Investigate options to meet with the NPS and DOE to establish a QR Code that would link to additional detailed information about the Reactor and MAPR history for guests during tours.
12. Review and update as necessary the BRMA Website.

BRMA GOALS for 2023

1. Review 2022 Goals and update as necessary for 2023 Organizational Goals.
2. Finalize the BRMA history document project.
3. Publish “Lost in the Telling, Making the Impossible Possible.”
4. Update the BRMA website including information on the gift shop.
5. Create new products from the process tubes and graphite.
6. Complete and publish an annual report for 2023.

2022 Overview and Summary

The year 2022 presented many challenges for BRMA. Tours were resumed after being cancelled for 2 years due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, but even during this past year a few tours were cancelled due to increases in cases of illness associated with COVID Variants.

2022 also presented new opportunities in the area of Souvenir sales for BRMA. The mechanisms for sale of merchandise for BRMA that were in place in previous years changed in 2022 due to the closing of the Whimzees Sales shop near the National Park visitors center in Richland.

As a result of the closing of Whimzees, BRMA had to find a new location for the sale of merchandise and souvenirs. Fortunately, the solution was solved by working with a new bookstore located near the visitor's center known as "Xenophile Bibliopole" located in North Richland. BRMA was able to work with the owners to establish an outlet for NPS and BRMA merchandise and souvenirs. For additional details about souvenir sales, please see the section on Products and Sales later in this report.

2022 also brought changes to the management arrangement of the B Reactor, and the overall tour program. During this past year the contractor responsible for B Reactor upkeep and maintenance changed from MSA to CPCco and Lucas Engineering. As a result of those changes, the tour program got off to a slow start in the spring of 2022. BRMA is very pleased with the new management arrangements and the professional management support B Reactor and the Tour program have received from Lucas Engineering. Indian Eyes LLC continues as the provider for the Docents for Manhattan Project tours including the B Reactor Tour Program, and the Pre-Manhattan Historical Tour.

BRMA began the calendar year with financial plans to support several activities surrounding the B Reactor and the Tour Program. Those plans were placed on hold due to factors associated with the delays in the start of the Tour program. However, during the previous year BRMA was able to support upgrades to the tour path and exhibits at the B Reactor in the form of support to the National Park Service to complete and install an exhibit called "The Reflection Room".

This exhibit consists of 34 posters that are intended to provide guests with thought provoking events covering the past 50 or so years regarding nuclear events of the past. BRMA participated with the NPS in the development and installation of the posters within B Reactor. The 2022 Tour program provided the first opportunity for our guests to participate in the Reflection Room.

BRMA's financial future is rosy, especially with the new arrangement for sale of merchandise through the **Xenophile Bibliopole** Book Store. Thanks also goes to **The Octopus Garden** in Uptown Richland and to **Visit Tri-Cities** and the **REACH** museum who also provide sales opportunities for BRMA and NPS merchandise.

Manhattan Project National Historical Park Tour Program (MAPR)

The tour program is managed by Indian Eyes LLC under contract to the Department of Energy and Hanford Contractors. Currently there are two tours conducted as part of the National Park. The primary tour is of B Reactor and 2022 is the 24th year these tours have been conducted. The second tour is the Pre-Manhattan National Historical Park tour and 2022 is the 7th year this tour has been conducted. The following is a summary of the 2022 Tour programs.

Total Number of Tours Conducted in 2022

Approximately 167 Tours

Number of Visitors

B-Reactor Tours had 5,521 Visitors.

The Pre-Manhattan Historical Tour had 146 Visitors.

Number of Countries Represented 27 Countries to include:

Australia, Austria, Belgium, China, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Island of Tinian, Italy, Japan, Madagascar, Mexico, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Great Britain, Viet Nam

All 50 states including the District of Columbia were represented during the season.

The tour season for 2022 got off to a slow start because of the concerns for the Corona Virus and the State of Washington requirements for protection from the virus for our tour visitors. The tour season actually began on Memorial Day weekend (May 26th). There were 357 visitors for the B-Reactor tours that were conducted over the weekend (9 Tours were conducted for that period of time).

We are grateful to Anne Vargus for keeping such good records of our visitor log and the record of visitor comments from each tour and publishing that report each week for all to review.

As expected, there were positive and negative comments about the specific tours, but by far the positive comments outweighed the negative comments. Many of our visitors provided comments on ways to improve the tours, but for the most part the feedback was interesting and valuable as we look toward the 2023 tour season.

The Pre-Manhattan Tours did not start until early September. There was an average of 8-10 visitors on each of the Pre-Manhattan tours conducted from September through the end of October. We look forward to getting those tours started earlier in 2023 since that tour is a very popular tour as well as the B-Reactor tours.

Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Position

- BRMA is a 501.c.3 organization founded in 1990 with the goal of supporting protection and preservation of the B Reactor and other Manhattan Project sites at Hanford.
- BRMA does not have any liabilities outside of maintaining storage for the merchandise that is sold through several local outlets.
- BRMA is in good standing with respect to financial status. BRMA plans to provide additional support during 2023 to the tour program, The National Park Service and to B Reactor.

Statement of Comprehensive Income (Profits and Losses)

- BRMA's expenses involve the costs of storage of our merchandise, replenishment of souvenirs and sale articles, and normal office/business expenses. During 2022 that amounted to approximately \$5600.00
- BRMA inflow for the past year amounted to approximately \$14800.00. Mostly associated with the sale of merchandise and donations from our membership.

Statement of Changes in Equity

BRMA's equity consists primarily of the merchandise/souvenirs and the intellectual property held by its membership. BRMA also has small investments in savings accounts at local banks, which has been set aside for support to the B Reactor and NPS.

Committee Status Reports

President's Update

Current President: Robert Franklin

The year 2022 was another of transition for the B Reactor Museum Association. We began to emerge from the COVID pandemic and returned to in-person meetings. Tours of the B Reactor and the Pre-Manhattan history resumed after a long, two-year, absence and saw a good deal of public interest. The BRMA, thanks in large part to our Products and Sales board member Rick Bond, moved the gift shop into Xenophile Books. This move has been highly beneficial to BRMA and is in many ways a natural fit as both entities are interested in preserving and promoting the history of the Hanford Site. Also in 2022 a local high school student, Augustin Dulauroy, produced a well-rounded documentary on the Hanford Site that is currently streaming on Amazon. Overall, the year was one of growth for the BRMA.

Robert Franklin

President, B Reactor Museum Association

Vice President's Update

Current Vice President: John Fox

We regret that John had to step down from his active role on the Board of Directors due to health concerns. We will miss his perspective on BRMA history and issues.

Secretary Report

Current Secretary: Charles Davis

Charles provided excellent support to the Board during monthly Board of Directors Meetings and monthly public meetings of the BRMA.

Government and Community Relations Report

Current Board Member: Maynard Plahuta

Much of the unknown risks faced by Dupont (and their solutions) have been assimilated into textbooks making their accomplishments appear somewhat pedestrian

Maynard continued in the Government and Community Relations position for 2022. He provided direct interface with the many organizations that BRMA interacts with on a regular basis and support in accordance with the Association goals. His life experiences provide him and the BRMA with positive connections and relationships with many organizations in the Tri-City community. To name a few, Department of Energy, Tri-City Development Council, Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce, TRIDEC (Tri-City Development Council). The Board is very pleased to have Maynard as a Board member and we look forward to 2023 and his continued support to the Board in his role.

Interpretive Projects

Current Board Member: Ben Johnson

The BRMA subcommittee on interpretation has continued the effort this year to have published in a scholarly historical journal an account of the very significant engineering achievement of the initial plutonium production during the Manhattan Project at Hanford. This has never been of particular interest in historical literature, or even at the recently formed Manhattan Project National Historical Park. We hope that having a published paper on that topic will be an effective way of providing a focused reference on the topic. History seemingly has evaluated those details on the basis of the technology that is currently familiar rather than on the basis of the engineering knowledge that existed at the time DuPont designers and constructors were rushed into the project. Many of the unknown risks faced by Dupont (and their solutions) have been assimilated into textbooks making their accomplishments appear somewhat pedestrian. The BRMA paper has been largely based on several documents that had remained classified for many years after the general descriptions of early Hanford had been declassified.

After being turned down by a number of journals because of various reasons, including a change in editorial organizations and being considered too technical, our paper received a favorable initial response from a British journal,

The International Journal of the History of Engineering and Technology.

But subsequently it was caught up in further delay by that journal's reorganization, due perhaps to the pandemic and/or the financial uncertainty existing in Great Britain. We remain hopeful!

Membership Chair Report

Current Board Member: Bob Carosino

BRMA has long been an organization that has had an outsized effect upon the effort to protect and preserve B Reactor and related Hanford sites from destruction or cocooning, and to make those sites more accessible to the general public, doing so with a small but dedicated group of members.

2022 continued that history. Despite two years of limited public meetings, and closures of B Reactor tours due to the covid pandemic, our membership has remained essentially constant. At the end of 2022, BRMA has 60 paid memberships who submitted their 2022 dues. This includes the members who have chosen to contribute to BRMA by becoming lifetime members. Our full membership of dues paying members is larger than this number, as BRMA recognizes that members can forget to submit dues in one year and may make payments in a subsequent year. Therefore, BRMA continues to offer membership benefits including attendance at meetings and receipt of the quarterly Moderator newsletter, to members for three years after their last dues submission. Approximately 14 additional members are in that category at the end of 2022.

In 2022, BRMA welcomed Joe Halliday as a new Lifetime member, and Elizabeth Eschbach as a new lifetime member, welcomed Melanie Piper as a new annual dues member, and welcomed back James Paglieri. During calendar year 2022, current members Joe Escamillo and Gary Fetterolf also made \$250 dues contributions and switched to Lifetime Membership. Thank you to all our returning and new members.

In addition to paid members, BRMA offers comped membership to representatives of federal, state and local governments or organizations who are partners in the effort to preserve and enhance the historical facilities at

Hanford or operate the Hanford component of the Manhattan Project National Historical Park. With these memberships included, our total membership is 114 individuals or organizations.

As members know, the costs of maintaining the BRMA organization are very low. This allows BRMA to utilize its funds to support and enhance the visitor experience at B Reactor by funding the acquisition of new exhibits at B Reactor, such as exhibits recently added to the Reflection/Contemplation Room, funding the costs of some of the videos used in the tour program to explain the process of fission of an atom, and providing other financial support to the B Reactor Museum.

Many of the models and displays in B Reactor, such as the scale model of B-Reactor in the charging room of B Reactor, were either funded by BRMA or fabricated by BRMA for the museum and have become integral parts of the current B Reactor visitor experience. Since B Reactor is a non-profit organization, dues and donations are tax deductible. Members have been generous in making not only dues payments to BRMA, but also making supplemental donations to BRMA, so that it can continue to make an impact on the B Reactor and Hanford visitor experience.

Other members who made monetary contributions in addition to their dues payments in 2022 included the following members: Charles and Elaine Davis, Del Ballard, Bruce Carlisle, Dan Carter, Michael Crawford, Connie Estep, Larry Haler, Maureen Hamilton, Lloyd and Melanie Piper, Dennis McLain, Richard Romanelli, Jim Stoeffels, John Wimett, Martin Zizzi, and Wanda Munn.

In closing, I want to thank all our members who have supported the organization through dues, donations and/or personal participation in BRMA activities. It has been an honor to have been associated with the organization during the last couple of years. It is an awesome experience to be able to talk to, and work with, many of the original group of folks who are responsible for starting the organization, saving the B Reactor and working to establish the Manhattan Project National Historical Park. I would be remiss if I didn't offer my thanks to Burt Pierard, who was the Membership chair before I took this office, and who has helped me immensely in learning this function. Of course,

he remains the editor of the Moderator quarterly newsletter, which is a tremendous responsibility, and one for which we all owe a debt of thanks.

If I have failed to mention someone in this write-up who should be listed here, I apologize in advance; please let me know and I will update our records.

Historian Chair Report

Current Board Member: Burt Pierard

During the year, Burt's primary role was to coordinate and publish the Moderator once per quarter, which he did with excellence. The Winter Moderator contained an article reflecting on the history of the Hanford Engineering Works researched and written by our Historian Chairperson, Burt. That article was titled: THE CO-ORDINATE CLUB (The Formative Years 1943-1946). An excerpt from that article is provided below.

During the spring of 1943, a group of Hanford Engineering Works civilian engineers, realizing the need for more recreational and social activities at the project, formed a social club among their fellow workers which was to become an outstanding organization within a few short months. It was rumored, but not documented, that the group was motivated by the Army Corps of Engineers building a clubhouse for their employees called The Castle Club. The article contained historical notes regarding the establishment, operation and progress of the Castle Club, and can be found in the Winter Moderator on the BRMA Website.

The summer Moderator contained another article researched and written by Burt regarding a several yearlong search for original copies of the Moderator. The article is included below.

Moderator Issue 1 Found by Burt Pierard, BRMA Historian. A few months ago, Del Ballard was digging through boxes of old papers to find any bits of information to use in his History of the BRMA project. In one box, he found a copy of the original Moderator, Issue 1, dated Aug./Sept. 1992, along with one copy each for the next 3 years dated January or Winter. (They were not publishing quarterly yet but obviously wanted to get a Winter issue out to align with the new officers and the plan for the year,) All 4 of these issues are

presently being scanned and will be included in our Newsletter Archives on our website soon. Anyhow, using modern terminology to call the Issue 1, the Summer 1992 Moderator, leads one to the issue you are reading (Summer 2022 Moderator) as the 30th Anniversary of the Moderator! BRMA had incorporated about 15 months before the Issue 1 publishment but it was obviously still striving to get B Reactor noticed. In his lead article Don Sandberg, BRMA President, asks “What and who is BRMA? ... We have chosen the articles in this first issue to try to give you an understanding of what BRMA is and what it’s doing.” He also took note of the April 3, 1992, National Park Service addition of B Reactor to the National Register of Historic Places but encouraged continued aggression in working to make B Reactor a museum. He said, “It is important to realize that this honor, while lending some credibility to our efforts, is not any particular assurance that B Reactor will become a museum or even be kept from destruction. The articles cited covered a variety of subjects. The most important was the scientific and engineering accomplishments that needed to be preserved. Another was the establishment of an Interpretive Center to depict not only the regional history of Native Americans, Hanford site geology, homesteader and settler history, but also the Manhattan Project and B Reactor history. Two others covered Fund Raising and the need for Public Tours.

Products and Sales Report

Current Board Member: Rick Bond

The Products and Sales committee manages all aspects of the Manhattan Project National Historical Park (MAPR)/B Reactor Museum Association (BRMA) Gift Shop operation to include the development, ordering, and sale of products, tracking items sold, maintaining records of gift shop inventory and sales, collecting and paying sales tax, developing ideas for new products, and negotiating agreements with retail outlets for additional sales opportunities.

In May 2022 BRMA found a new home for the gift shop at Xenophile Bibliopole & Armorer, Chronopolis (Xenophile Books) located at 2240 Robertson Drive, about two blocks away from the MAPR Visitor’s Center. Xenophile Books is run by Steve Woolfolk and his business partner Brian Sheldon. They buy, sell, and trade books and collectible items of all types but they also have a strong

interest in, and a lot of knowledge, of the Manhattan Project and the Hanford area. They have an amazing number of books (over 20,000), games, posters, albums, toys, etc. They also have a room dedicated to the Manhattan Project and the Hanford area with many artifacts, letters, books, etc. Steve is a retired health physicist from the Hanford Site and Brian worked at PNNL and at one time owned a bookstore in the Uptown Shopping Center. Due to their local ties, Steve and Brian have a very strong interest in supporting our local national park.

Xenophile Books has given BRMA a space in their building to display our gift shop products. They will display and sell our products, keep track of sales, collect and pay the state sales tax, and help us to maintain our inventory. They are doing this for a fee of 5% of the total sales. What they get in return is increased traffic to their shop and hopefully that will translate into increased sales for them.

We currently sell about 25 different items in the gift shop to include patches, lapel pins, medallions, stickers, magnets, coffee mugs, books, bookmarks, national park passport books, coffee mugs, water bottles, tote bags, postcards, note cards, posters, graphite dust, shutdown pellets, T shirts, sweatshirts, and caps. Our plan is to expand the number of products in 2023 to include additional books, including kid's books, a line of kid's T shirts, and a new line of adult T shirts.

BRMA currently has an inventory of products valued at about \$27,500 and the cost of these products was about \$17,000. This inventory (about \$11,000) consists of about 2,100 copies of the book "A Guide to the Manhattan Project in Washington State" and the rest is fairly evenly distributed among all of our other products.

Sales at the gift shop in 2022 were much better than expected considering that the tours were not operating for about 40% of the time due to COVID restrictions. Total sales by month were May - \$789.00, June - \$1,803.71, July - \$765.04, August - \$1,419.00, September - \$2,942.95, October - \$1,941.85, and November – \$1,277.51 for a total of about \$10,939.06. Total take by BRMA was 95% of total sales or \$10,392.10. Profit to BRMA after expenses was almost \$6,000.00.

In addition to our gift shop BRMA also sold our products at The Octopus' Garden (located in Uptown Richland), at the Tri-Cities Visitor's Center, and at The Reach Museum. We sold about \$2,300 at these three locations (primarily at The Octopus' Garden, about \$2,100). These locations do not charge BRMA for their services but are happy to support the local national park. BRMA made a profit of about \$1,200.

Total for the year BRMA did about \$13,240 in sales of gift shop items and made a profit of about \$7,200.

Treasurer's Annual Report

Current Board Member: Dave Marsh

2022 was the second year of my role as treasurer of the BRMA association. Those who served in this role prior to myself have been instrumental in helping me pick up the duties associated with the Treasurer's position. A special thanks to Del Ballard for his patience and support as I learned the details associated with the position, but also as a relatively new member of the BRMA Association.

During this past year, I also picked up a task that had begun many years prior to me joining the association and that is assisting with the completion of a document titled "The History Of BRMA". Many years ago, Del Ballard conceived an idea to document the history of this association and created a rough draft that was massaged several times over the past 10 years but was never finished. As I learned more about this association, it became clear that completion of this document was very important to the present and former members of BRMA and that it was a task I could help complete. As it turns out, we were not able to complete a formal draft of the document during the past year, but we did get to a point where fine tuning of the document is a task that can be completed in 2023 with help from the Board of Directors, and most importantly Del Ballard. I look forward to working with Del and the remaining board members to complete and publish the document in 2023.

It has been a pleasure to serve as the Treasurer for this amazing association and I look forward to the coming year and what new challenges it brings. Below is an annual financial report for the BRMA Association.

2022 ANNUAL Inflow - Outflow – 1/1/2022 through 12/31/2022**INFLOWS**

2022 Donations	\$ 508.67
<u>TOTAL Donations Rec's 2022</u>	<u>\$ 508.67</u>
Dues	\$ 465.00
Lifetime Dues Received 2022	\$ 1,000.00
<u>TOTAL Dues Received 2022</u>	<u>\$ 1,465.00</u>
Reimbursement of Annual Subscription	\$ 342.68
Souvenir Sales - General	\$ 794.40
Souvenir Sales - Octopus Garden	\$ 2,108.95
Souvenir Sales - Xenophile Bookstore	\$ 9,553.28
Souvenirs Sales - Visit Tri-Cities	\$ 43.69
<u>TOTAL Souvenir Sales Inflow</u>	<u>\$ 12,500.32</u>
Investment Income	\$ 219.00
<u>TOTAL Investment Income \$</u>	<u>\$ 219.00</u>
 <u>TOTAL INFLOWS</u>	 <u>\$ 15,035.67</u>

OUTFLOWS

Office-Business Expenses	\$ 319.09
<u>TOTAL Business Expenses</u>	<u>\$ 319.09</u>
Book Purchase "Nowhere To Remember"	\$ 300.00
Reimburse Double Payment To Ambrose Tours	\$ 130.00
Souvenir Purchase Re-Supply	\$ 3,751.77
Souvenir Sales Advertising	\$ 194.67
Souvenir Sales Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 200.00
Souvenir Storage-Atomik Properties	\$ 715.00
<u>TOTAL Souvenir Sales Outflow</u>	<u>\$ 5,291.44</u>
 <u>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</u>	 <u>\$ 5,610.53</u>
<u>2022 OVERALL TOTAL</u>	<u>\$ 9,425.14</u>

Communications Annual Report

This position has been vacant since early 2022. Our President has filled this role since that point in time.

Founder Emeritus Annual Report

Current Board Member: Del Ballard

Last year, after 15 years as Treasurer, Del relinquished that job to a new member of BRMA, Dave Marsh, and it was suggested that Del remain on the Board of Directors as a board adviser but without an official job.

Del has been on the board every year since he helped found BRMA in 1990, serving in positions of secretary, president, treasurer, or chair of several committees. Consequently, this year, the Board honored him by awarding him the title of Founder Emeritus.

Del plans to be available to provide suggestions, guidance, or historical knowledge of past endeavors.

His significant involvement this year was in helping the Treasurer move forward in completing a long awaited, and much desired, document recording the history of BRMA and how the organization was successful in achieving the goal of preserving the B Reactor, and associated Manhattan Project facilities.

National Park Report for 2022

Provided by: Becky Burghart, Manhattan Project National Historical Park (MAPR) Hanford Site Manager (Excerpts from the NPS Input to the BRMA Moderator 2022)

Park Staffing

Superintendent Kris Kirby accepted a new position with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Wyoming. She will be the Wyoming Associate State Director based in Cheyenne, WY. Kris was the first permanent superintendent for the Manhattan Project NHP and served in that role for almost six years. Kris has built and nurtured many important relationships and partnerships over the past five years including the relationship with BRMA.

In November, Wendy Berhman, who stepped into the Acting Superintendent role in August was named the new permanent Superintendent. She started her new position on December 4. Wendy was in the acting superintendent role since Kris Kirby's departure in August. The transition between Kris and Wendy was smooth and seamless. Wendy has worked for the National Park Service for over 30 years, most recently as program planner for the NPS Washington Office. Wendy and her husband reside in East Denver with their twin 17-year-old son and daughter.

Digital Outreach:

The Visual Information Specialist (VIS) Team continues to develop quality content for the park website. They recently finished up a major overhaul of the Plan Your Visit section of the website (<https://www.nps.gov/mapr/planyourvisit/index.htm>). That section offers a lot of visual appeal and clear navigation to help visitors plan their visit to the park. As the website text was updated, the National Park Service (NPS) team was deliberate in sharing various ways visitors can have a park experience within each of our communities. Each of the park communities (i.e., Los Alamos, Oak Ridge, and Tri-Cities) have many places that help tell the social history of the Manhattan Project. With the NPS App, NPS crafted a community-based park experience that is available for visitors to enjoy all year at any time of the day. The NPS continues to develop content for the app including more self-guided tours and trip plans. In 2022, the VIS Team also started to revise the Learn About the Park section of the website.

The NPS continues to build its digital presence as well. NPS currently reaches about 35,000 people each month on social media, and each month, gains new followers.

Community Programs:

During the spring, the NPS partnered with Richland Parks and Recreation to offer Popup Play Days and other family-friendly programming. NPS also worked with the REACH Museum in 2022 on a variety of education and interpretation programs.

NPS also hosted two Ride with a Ranger programs this year in collaboration with Bike Tri-Cities, the REACH Museum, and Wheelhouse Bike Shop.

Every year in April, the local Park Service celebrates National Park Week with a National Junior Ranger Day program at Sacajawea Historical State Park. Another annual activity that has been cancelled by COVID over the past two years is the Salmon Fest on April 26 and 27. NPS partnered with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, providing an activity at Salmon Fest.

The Hanford NPS team started a new program in partnership with the REACH Museum called Junior Ranger Park Explorers. This new series of free programs engages families and children of all ages in activities that explore Richland's nature and history at different neighborhood parks.

NPS hosted the Lights for Peace event on August 9 to commemorate the atomic bombings of Japan at Howard Amon Park. Prior to the August 9th activity, a community event was held where residents could write messages of peace on the bags that were used for the luminarias at the August 9th event. NPS continues to work across the park and with Pearl Harbor National Memorial (NM) to help mark the 77th anniversary of Pearl Harbor. Oak Ridge hosted an event with luminarias on August 6. The Pearl Harbor NM set up luminarias on the USS Arizona Memorial on August 7. Los Alamos hosted an event on August 8, and Hanford's program closed these series of commemoration events. About 100 people attended the Hanford event. Mike Baker from the New York Times attended the event and wrote an article titled, "A Proud Nuclear Town Grapples with How to Remember the Bomb" published on September 10.

In October for the first time, NPS staff offered a public ranger hike up Candy Mountain with staff from Whitman Mission. This program was well received, and it is anticipated the park will offer a similar program again in 2023.

On December 8, it was announced that all three of the Manhattan Project NHP communities (Tri-Cities, WA; Los Alamos, NM; and Oak Ridge, TN) were designated as World War II heritage sites. These new additions follow the inaugural designation of Wilmington, North Carolina in September 2020. The American World War II Heritage City Program honors the contributions of local

towns, cities, counties, and their citizens who stepped into the workforce to support America's war effort during World War II. Only one American World War II Heritage City can be designated in each state or territory. To learn more about this program, visit:

<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/worldwarii/americanheritagecity.htm>

And lastly, Manhattan Project NHP takes center stage as the national stamp in the highly anticipated 2023 Passport to your National Parks® Stamp Set released by Eastern National on November 1st. The national stamp is the large center stamp in a collection of 10 stamps that honor national parks. The 2023 national stamp features three photos from Manhattan Project NHP locations in New Mexico, Tennessee, and Washington. The park was selected because its locations and historical buildings represent the nation's diverse geography while weaving together many themes of national importance. The national stamp features three historic buildings: B-Reactor in Hanford WA; Pond Cabin in Los Alamos, NM; and X-10 Graphite Reactor in Oak Ridge, TN. You can purchase the set at <https://shop.americasnationalparks.org/store/category/30/279/Stamp-Sets> and at Xenophile Bibliopole bookstore in Richland.

Passport To Your National Parks® 2023 Stamp Series

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2023 North Atlantic Regional Stamp

Minute Man National Historical Park interprets the sites and legacy of the opening battle of the American Revolution. Here, British colonists risked their lives, defending their ideals of liberty. The fighting raged over 16 miles from Boston to Concord and included some 1,700 British regulars and over 4,000 Colonial militia.

2023 Mid-Atlantic Regional Stamp

First State National Historical Park celebrates its 10th anniversary in 2023. The park consists of six sites throughout Delaware and Pennsylvania. These sites honor the fabled course of the people who have worked for more than 300 years to make the world a better place through the pursuit of self-determination and human rights.

2023 National Capital Regional Stamp

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National Historic Site celebrates the life and legacy of Mary McLeod Bethune and served as the first national headquarters of the National Council of Negro Women. It was here that Mrs. Bethune and NCNW advanced the interests of Black women during the Civil Rights Movement.

2023 Southeast Regional Stamp

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park – On June 27th, 1864, the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain would become one of the more costly battles of the Atlanta Campaign. Today, the park preserves almost 3,000 acres of battlefield as well as the story of the Atlanta Campaign.

2023 Rocky Mountain Regional Stamp

Bryce Canyon National Park celebrates in 2023 the 100th anniversary of its establishment. Located along the edge of southern Utah's Panguitch Plateau, Bryce Canyon features sublime vistas, dark night skies, and the world's most colorful concentration of otherworldly rock spires known as "hoodoos."

2023 Pacific Northwest & Alaska Stamp

Olympic National Park – a Pacific Northwest gem – turns 85 this year. The park is vast, surprising, and magical! Miles of undeveloped coastline, a sprawling wilderness of glacier-crowned mountains in the heart of the park, and iconic misty rainforests carpeted in moss and ferns beneath a cathedral canopy of maple and evergreen.

2023 Southwest Regional Stamp

President William Jefferson Clinton Birthplace Home National Historic Site – Built in 1917, the home on South Harvey Street in Hope, Arkansas is where 42nd President Bill Clinton, born William Jefferson Blythe II, spent his formative years. The community and his family helped shape who he would become as an international statesman.

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**The Manhattan National
Historical Park
occupies Center stage
on the 2023 Passport to
Your National Parks
Stamp Series**

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