National Park Service
Department of the Interior

Manhattan Project National Historical Park
Oak Ridge, Tennessee

July 2018

Manhattan Project History in July

- Leo Szilard patented a neutron chain reaction to create explosions and the concept of critical mass on July 4th, 1934.
- Chicago Met Lab receives the first shipment of irradiated uranium on July 27, 1942.
- In July 1944 Lt. Col. Paul Tibbets began organizing the 509th Composite Group at Wendover Field, Utah.
- The first successful test of a plutonium implosion bomb took place at the Trinity Site in Alamogordo, New Mexico on July 16, 1945. The explosion was 15-20 kilotons of force. This large explosion could be seen from many miles away and was reported as an accidental detonation of an explosives bunker.

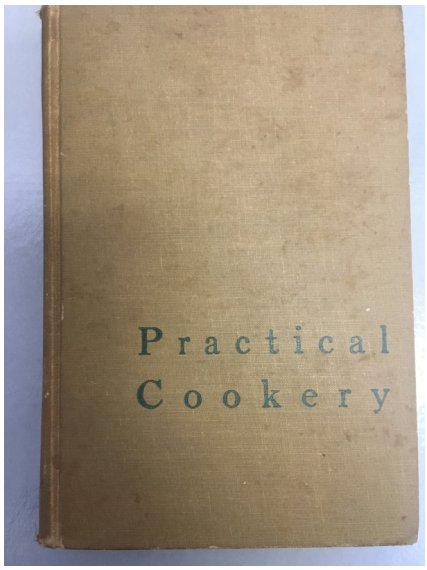
A Big Welcome to Our Newest Teacher-Ranger-Teacher, Jeremy McLaughlin. Jeremy is a Physics and Astronomy teacher at Sullivan Central High School in Blountville, TN. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Physics and Master's in Education from Radford University. Before becoming a teacher, Jeremy worked as an engineer designing electric motors for robots ranging in size from vending machines to nano-scale metrology.

NPS table at the June 14 Information Meeting on the new American Museum of Science

Spend Friday the 13th Attending Our *Secrecy, Security and Spies* Program at the Turnpike Gatehouse (2900 Oak Ridge Turnpike). The program will begin at 3:30 pm (ET) and give visitors some insight to what life in Oak Ridge during the Manhattan Project with the need for secrecy, all of the security that surrounded the city, and the threat of spies.

Ride with a Ranger Along the Melton Lake Greenway on Friday July 27th at 10 am (ET). Rangers will begin at Elza Gate Park with a discussion on the controlled access points to the Clinton Engineer Works. Along the ride we will make several stops to discuss the rich history of Oak Ridge.

Come See Us at Knoxville's First STEAMcon event at the Knoxville Convention Center on July 28th. The event will make Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics topics relatable and tangible to the public. Rangers will be discussing the people, events, science, and engineering in Oak Ridge during WWII. This is a free event is open to all ages and starts at 10 am (ET).

This Month's Highlighted Curatorial Item is from the Children's Museum of Oak Ridge's Collection. Here is a 1943 cookbook that belonged to Ruth Crumley.

Park Visitor Center Desk
at the
Children's Museum of Oak Ridge
461 W. Outer Drive, Oak Ridge, TN 37830
(865) 482-1942
or visit us at:
www.nps.gov/mapr
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