

Friends of ORNL  
Board of Directors Meeting  
May 10, 2021  
Minutes

<i>Board Members</i>		<i>Officer/Committee</i>		<i>Adjunct Members</i>		<i>Committee Chair</i>
John Gunning	X	President		Bob Hightower		Community Lectures, Visitor Badges
Ellen Smith	X	Vice-President		Wade Creswell	X	ORNL Liaison
Chuck Coutant	X	Treasurer, MNP		Shafik Iskander		Webmaster
David Mullins	X	Secretary		James Rome	X	Website
<i>At Large</i>				Connor Matthews		MNP, Weinberg Papers
Sydney Ball	X			Dave McVicker	X	ORNL History Room, arrangements
Bob Compton	X	Monthly Speakers Troika		Steve Stow		History, MNP, Weinberg Papers
David Fields	X			Kent Williams	X	Past President
Carolyn Krause	X			<i>Guests</i>		
Fred Peretz	X					
Janet Swift	X	ORNL Tours				

x indicates present at the meeting.

**Opening**

John called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

The meeting was held via Zoom due to the CV separation issues.

**Secretary – David Mullins**

The Minutes of the April 12, 2021 meeting were approved.

**Lab Liaison (Wade Creswell)**

Wade reported that frontline management are back working onsite at ORNL. He estimates that 40% - 50% of the staff are currently working onsite. The lab is targeting to have all staff back onsite on August 1. Guest badging and access may soon follow.

He reported that Theresa Nichols is the Team UT-Battelle liaison for retirees. Bill Cabbage is the contact for the ORNL newsletter.

**Treasurer – Chuck Coutant**

All funds are with the ORNL Federal Credit Union

Account balances as of May 9, 2021:

Savings account	\$ 156
Checking account	\$ 3,989
CD 1001	\$10,167 up \$2.19
CD 1003	\$ 4,663 up \$1.29

CD 1002 was reinvested in a seventeen-month CD now called CD 1003 at 0.5% at ORNL Federal Credit Union on April 11, 2021.

**Committee Reports:**

***Luncheon Lectures*** - Bob Compton, John Gunning, Ellen Smith

## Last month's talk

April 13th

Mark Littmann  
Science Journalist at UTK  
*Isaac Newton and Edmond Halley*

Upcoming speakers:

May 18

*Climatic and Humanitarian Impacts of Nuclear War  
Even a Pakistan-India nuclear war could produce a global catastrophe*

Dr. Alan Robock  
Distinguished Professor  
Chair-Elect, AGU College of Fellows, Associate Editor, \*Reviews of Geophysics\*  
Department of Environmental Sciences, Rutgers University

June 8

*Carbon Composites, Additive Manufacturing, Benefits, Projected Uses,  
and Potential Impact on Current Industries*

Dr. Craig Blue, ORNL

July 13

*Why Nuclear: Why Now*  
Dr. Andrew Worrall

August 10

*Battery Research*  
Dr. John Bates

**Community Lectures** (Bob Hightower, Chuck Coutant)  
No report.

**History Room** (Dave McVicker)  
No activity this month due to suspension of visitor access to ORNL.

**Membership** (David Mullins)  
At the end of April 2021, there are 49 life members and 22 annually paid members for a total of 71.  
At the end of April 2020, there were 45 life members and 37 annually paid members for a total of 82

### **Tours**

**Bus Tours** (Al Ekkebus)  
AMSE and the K-25 History Center are not open, and there are no AMSE tours.  
Virtual Tours of the Graphite Reactor and other facilities at ORNL are available at the link below.

<https://www.ornl.gov/news/take-virtual-field-trip-through-tours-ornl-facilities>

**Manhattan Project** (Chuck Coutant, Connor Matthews, Steve Stow, Bob Hightower, Dave McVicker, Jim Rushton, John Gunning)

The Children's Museum and the Manhattan Project National Historic Park reception desk are open. Newsletters are being distributed. As they move to more hours of operations additional volunteers will be needed.

**Weinberg Papers Project** (Steve Stow, Connor Matthews, Jim Rushton)

The Weinberg Papers are available online via the link below.

<https://childrensmuseumofokridge.org/weinberg/>

Syd Ball reported on the *Tribute to Alvin Weinberg*, an online roll-out / celebration of the Weinberg Papers, which was held on Tuesday April 20, 2021 at 7:00 pm. A video of the event is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EO6cdBhsT2w>.

**Website** (Jim Rome)

A brief tour of the new website was presented. Tutorials for posting on the site have been added. Jim encouraged board members to register.

**Alternate Media** - Ellen Smith reported that she had established a Friends of ORNL Facebook page. Janet Swift also has administrative privileges on the page. Ellen encouraged posting photos and videos since Facebook's algorithm promotes these items to followers' newsfeeds.

## **Old Business**

Kent Williams prepared the 2020 FORNL Annual Report. A copy will be sent to Wade Creswell for ORNL's records and a copy will be posted on the FORNL public website.

A grant request needs to be submitted to ORNL by July 31, 2021.

## **New Business**

A **MOTION** was made and seconded to publicize meetings of interested to FORNL members by email and on our website. The motion was approved.

Discussion was held concerning when we want to return to "in-person" Luncheon Lectures. ETEC anticipates that their staff will return to the building in June. A variety of dates and meeting options were discussed. Skepticism was raised regarding holding hybrid meetings with in-person and Zoom participation. Concern was also expressed that we need to maintain a presence at ETEC when possible.

The next regular board meeting: 9:30 a.m., Monday, June 7, 2021

The Board and Technical Meetings will be conducted via Zoom until further notice.  
(The Technical Meeting is the second Tuesday of the month, and the Board meeting is the day immediately preceding.)

Meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David R. Mullins  
Secretary, Friends of ORNL