



MARCONIGRAM

WORLD WIDE WIRELESS

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APRIL 2008

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UPCOMING EVENTS

What is Wireless?

April 10-11
Chatham Middle School

Member Meeting
Wednesday, April 16
Chatham Methodist Church

CMMC Archives at
the Atwood House
May 24 at 4-6 PM
Atwood House

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Join the CMMC!
We have a membership level for you:

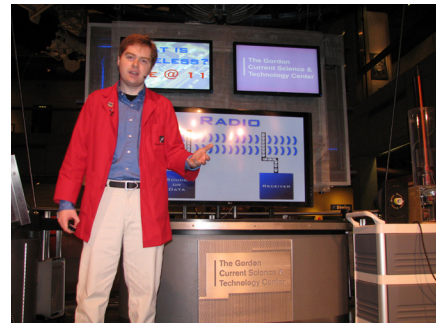
Student \$10
Adult \$25
Family \$40
Supporting \$100
Patron \$250
Benefactor \$500

Visit our website to download a membership form.

The CMMC is a 501(C)(3) organization approved by the IRS.

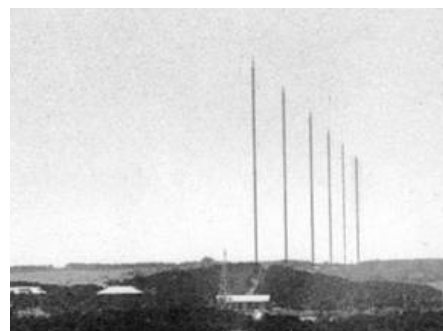
What is Wireless?

Adam Weiss, a popular lecturer at the Museum of Science, Boston, is shown here giving his presentation entitled: "What Is Wireless?" which describes both the basics of radio communication and a number of wireless technologies from Bluetooth to WiMAX. This month, CMMC will sponsor Adam's coming to Chatham for two days to give this program to the entire Chatham Middle School. This educational event will kick off CMMC's long-term initiative to bring curriculum developed by the Museum of Science to the Cape's schools. The Museum's curriculum has broad engineering content and complies with the Massachusetts Department of Education Engineering/Technology Curriculum Frameworks.



CMMC Exhibits Underway

The exhibits at CMMC are beginning to take shape! Jim Spence and Ryder Martin, who are well known for their wonderful work at the Chatham Railroad Museum and its popular diorama of the depot in the late 1800's, are focusing their creative talents on the Marconi Ryder's Cove site. They are in the planning and early construction phase of creating an impressive diorama of the 1914 Marconi station. When complete, the diorama will feature scale models of the vast array of 400-foot tall radio masts and the more powerful 1930's rhombic antennas that provided critical world-wide communications for RCA as well as the Navy's secret monitoring of enemy communications during World War Two.



Our diorama will help illustrate the enormous scale of these antennas and will become an important teaching tool by helping to demonstrate how the Chatham Marconi facility was able to earn its place as the busiest ship to shore radio station in North America. We will also have illustrations comparing this site to the South Chatham transmitting location, as well as Marconi's earlier historic station in Wellfleet that was destroyed by erosion of the seaside cliffs during fierce ocean storms.

The CMMC's Radio Committee has also been hard at work identifying possible exhibits that could demonstrate how radio technology has supported our way of life on Cape Cod. Discussions have included weather balloons, airport and lightship radio beacons, a shipboard radio station and even recreating a WCC type station where visitors will be able to send and receive their own messages.

Look for more news in the next few months to find where you can see the results of this magnificent project.

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What is Wireless? Congratulations, CMMC Rhombics!

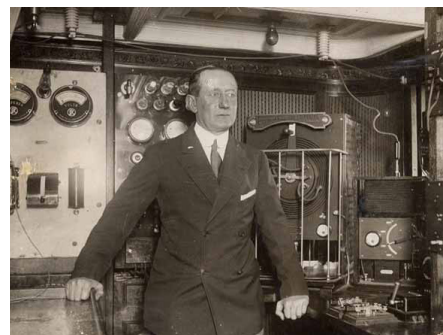
Our team, the CMMC Rhombics, acquitted themselves nobly at the Eldredge Library's 5th Annual Spelling Bee on March 9th. Ed Moxon, Bob Moss and Bob Ryder (pictured left to right) finished third in a field of ten at this spirited competition that featured such esoteric words as "syllabub," "peripeteia" and "quidnunc." The Rhombics continued undaunted until the final round when they were stumped by "fissiparous." If you do not know that word, you are by no means alone!



April Radio Anniversaries

There are two weekends in April that recall Marconi's important role in the development of worldwide radio communications.

April 12-13: Each year, Radio Maritime Day is a worldwide, on-the-air event that commemorates the important service of maritime radio officers and shore station operators who helped make the high seas safe starting almost a century ago. Radio Maritime Day is held on the weekend closest to the anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic on April 14, 1912. It was the Titanic's tragic loss of life which provided much of the impetus for building Chatham's Marconi Station. Operators around the world will be active on amateur radio bands to honor merchant and naval radio officers and operators of the past, keep in touch with friends and promote the heritage of Wireless Telegraphy. More information about Radio Maritime Day can be found at www.radiomaritimeday.org



April 26th: International Marconi Day is a worldwide celebration of the birthday of Guglielmo Marconi on April 25, 1874. According to the event organizers, it is an "opportunity for radio amateurs around the world to make contact with historic Marconi sites using communication techniques similar to those used by Marconi." This famous pioneer of wireless communication built the Ryder's Cove Complex in Chatham in 1914. Here is a link for further information www.gb4imd.org.uk/introduction.htm

