

## CHATHAM MARCONI MARITIME CENTER (CMMC)

Come experience the sights and sounds of wireless radio history that was made right here in Chatham! CMMC plans to welcome you in 2010 to its Museum and Educational Center located on the scenic Marconi-RCA ten building complex overlooking Ryder's Cove in the Chathamport area of North Chatham. The entrance to the Museum is at 847 Orleans Road (Route 28). Plan to visit the Museum located in the historic Operations Building built in 1914 by the "wizard of wireless," Guglielmo Marconi. The station was part of his visionary wireless network intended to link America with Europe and Japan. Under the Radio Corporation of America (RCA) and known by its call letters WCC, it became the busiest ship-to-shore station on the East Coast between 1920 and 1993. The Chatham campus is notable as the only Marconi site of its era with all its buildings essentially as constructed and with no appreciable changes made to the site.

Not only did WCC relay vital messages to ships around the world, it also provided communications to brave aviators and bold adventurers – Charles and Anne Lindbergh, Amelia Earhart, Howard Hughes and Admiral Byrd at the South Pole. WCC once served as the only communications link with the hijacked passenger vessel *Santa Maria* in the Caribbean. During the First World War, it was taken over by the Navy to be a listening post and facility to test advances in technology such as loop antennas. During World War II, the U.S. Navy operated WCC as the secret "Station C" whose mission it was to locate and intercept coded messages from enemy surface vessels and submarines and from their High Command.

CMMC's museum will welcome families, tourists, tour groups, radio enthusiasts and school groups. Exhibits will include videos about Marconi's life and the role of WCC in world events, an authentic shipboard radio, artifacts from important periods in WCC's history, an opportunity for children to send Morse code and an operational amateur radio station. Here, you will be able to HEAR ship-to-shore messages and SEE the changes in wireless communication from Marconi's early inventions to RCA's global span. You will TOUCH interactive displays that will make the busy daily life at WCC come alive and LEARN about the Navy years and how enemy messages were intercepted.

In addition to our Museum, CMMC provides an educational outreach program to our local schools to support the bold new Federal and Massachusetts STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) curriculum initiative with presentations to middle and high school science classes.

Docents will be available to answer questions and lead group tours. We hope that a visit to the CMMC Museum will enrich your experience on Cape Cod and give you a greater appreciation for the many people who, over the span of eight decades, worked around the clock with tireless dedication to ensure safety on the high seas and to provide the highest level of maritime communications.

For further information about Chatham Marconi Maritime Center, please call 508-945-8889 or visit our website at: <http://WWW.CHATHAMMARCONI.ORG>