

THE INFO AGE MARCONIGRAPH

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www.infoage.org

May-August 2011

Member Donations Making The Difference

DONATE TODAY to Help InfoAge

**Save and transform a 1914 Marconi Wireless Station, WWI Naval Radio Station
and a WWII Landmark into WWII Living Memorial, Museum and Education Center**



The above image depicts our progress in fixing roofs at InfoAge and will be used in a campaign effort to raise needed funds.

InfoAge is a volunteer driven non-profit. We can boast of extraordinary results and the effective use of donations from members and grantors. Our investment of time and our many areas of expertise have made the difference in establishing the Camp Evans National Historic District. Let us take a moment to review some of our major accomplishments. As we step up to the next wave of challenges, we have a record of accomplishment that puts us in excellent position to ask for donations. We are also empowered to ask others to become new InfoAge volunteers to continue our work.

In our compliance report to the National Park Service we were pleased to list 18 major buildings stabilized with new roofs, 8 new heat/AC systems, 12 buildings repainted, nine restrooms repaired and lots of interior and exterior building repair work completed. Plus the TIROS TLM-18 weather satellite tracking antenna was repainted in time for 50th anniversary of the launch of TIROS I. In addition, we maintain the grounds of our 37-acre District. This is an incredible accomplishment for any non-profit.

Our 2010 membership drive brought our numbers to over 400. Member dues were raised in excess of \$10,000. The donations enabled us to purchase paint, supplies and materials for our volunteers to make more progress in saving Camp Evans. This is the magic behind our success. Dedicated and committed volunteer and members – like you – make the difference.

Our 2011 membership drive will be starting soon. Your member dues are needed plus additional donations. Encourage a friend to join by bringing that person here to enjoy our museums and exhibits. It is a good and valuable work to save Camp Evans for a future in science history education. A future that serves the needs of New Jersey schools and families today that is honoring to the amazing history of Camp Evans.

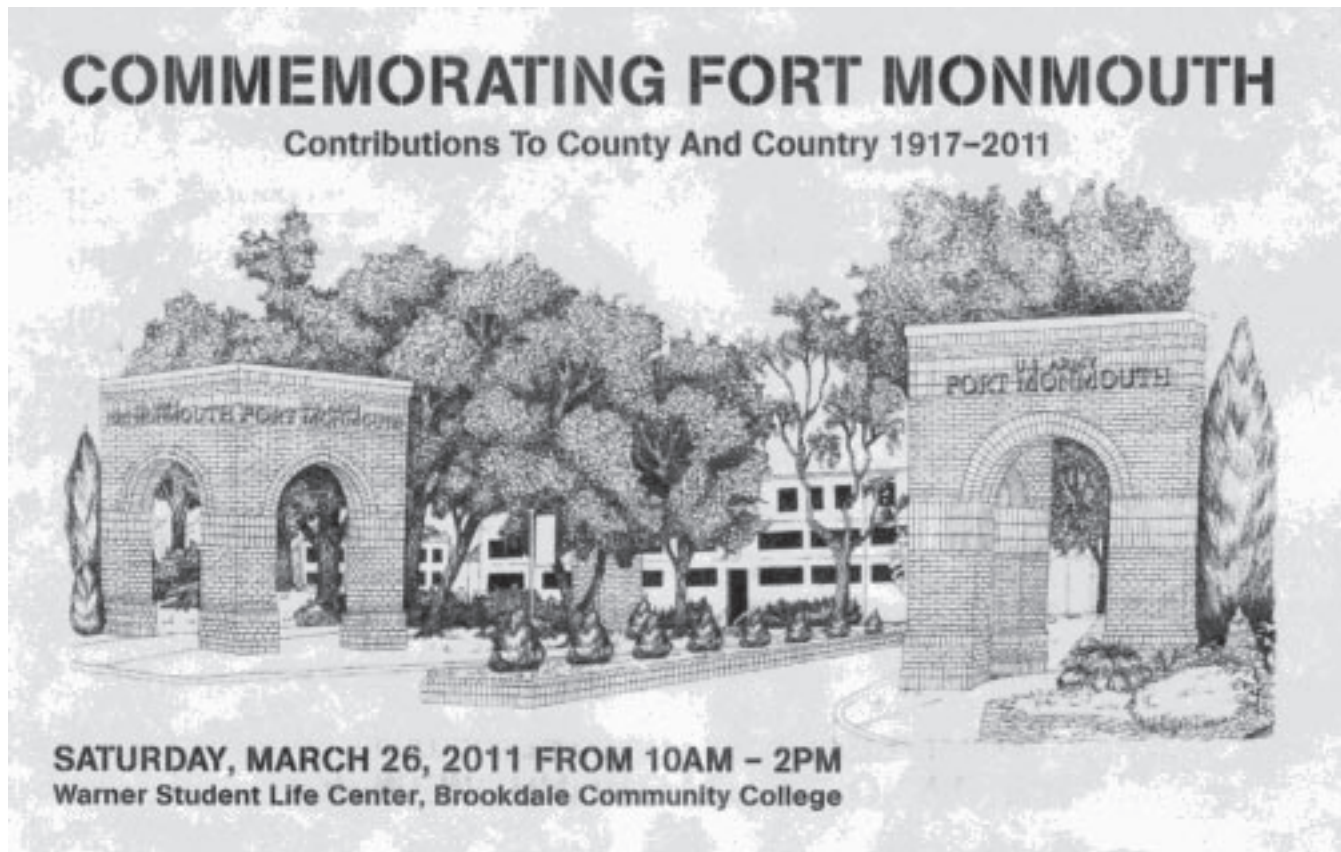
Thank you,
Fred Carl, InfoAge Director
732 299-0894 • fred-carl@infoage.org



Commemorating Fort Monmouth

John Cervini

AOC Garden State Chapter • 732-528-7854 • johntcervini@optonline.net



A few weeks ago, Paul Zigo, Associate Professor of History at Brookdale Community College, and Chairman of BCC's Center for WWII Studies and Conflict Resolution, sent an invitation to Fred Carl and InfoAge to participate in an event commemorating the many contributions made by Fort Monmouth and its satellite laboratories, including Camp Evans. It was an appropriate gesture, since, apart from the Smithsonian and the Fort Monmouth Museum, InfoAge has a goodly portion of WWII artifacts developed at the Fort.

A committee was formed to put together a meaningful display for the event. Al Klase, Ray Chase and others from NJARC, joined by Bob Perricelli and John Cervini of the AOC Garden State Chapter, as well as Evan Koblenz of MARCH, assisted in the planning. After a series of meetings, the group picked a number of equipment and technologies at InfoAge that had a significant impact on American soldiers in WWII. The artifacts were coupled with posters and photographs and set up prominently as an end-to-end display in the Student Life Center at BCC.



Left to right: E. Koblenz, A. Klase, J. Cervini and R. Perricelli

The display highlighted key technical areas that were covered by the Fort Monmouth Community and Camp Evans, and generated a lot of interest among the attendees.

- Radar – The so-called “Zahl tube” was prominently displayed. Dr. Harold Zahl, an InfoAge Wall of Honor Inductee, had fabricated a unique, high-powered tube at Camp Evans that dramatically advanced the state of the art of radar transmitters.
- Communications – Tactical FM systems and lightweight portable radios were shown. The Army had recognized the technical superiority of Edwin Armstrong’s FM invention, and used FM with stunning results during WWII. On display was a tactical radio transmitter/receiver system for the Sherman Tank, which was instrumental in allowing Sherman’s to consistently outmaneuver the more powerful German, Panzer and Tiger tanks, resulting in ultimate battlefield success.
- Radio Frequency Beacon – affectionately known as the “GI Joe” beacon because Mattel honored it by creating a toy soldier equipped with the device. The beacon played a prominent role at D-Day allowing bombers to destroy dangerous German artillery, and guiding pilots and planes to paratroop drop zones. During the Battle of the Bulge, critical supplies were successfully air lifted to American troops through the cloud covered battlefield early in the conflict.
- Electronic Warfare Jammers – During the battle of Anzio, the Germans introduce a radio-controlled Glide Bomb launched from one of their aircraft and guided to the target. One of them hit a troop ship causing 1000 casualties. Army researchers at Camp Coles and Camp Evans came to the rescue of the

Navy by providing them with an intercept receiver and a jammer that rendered the weapon useless.

- Computers- A poster display recounted some of the early development of computers in the Army and the role of Camp Evans.

The formal program included a moving tribute to Leonard “Bud” Lomell, a D-Day hero who recently passed away. M. Claire French, an InfoAge Board of Trustees member, was a guest speaker. Claire did a wonderful job highlighting the Marconi Site and Camp Evans and their contributions over a period of almost one hundred years.

The featured Guest Speaker was Major General Randolph Strong, the CECOM commander, who recently moved with the command from Fort Monmouth to Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland. Later on, MG Strong toured the InfoAge Display and was impressed with the historic presentation.



MG R. Strong CECOM Commander

The final guest speaker was Melissa Ziobro, the Fort Monmouth Command Historian, who showed an historic video of Fort Monmouth from its very beginnings to the present day. Claire French gave copies of “Camp Evans – The Untold Story” to each of the speakers. Copies of the book were also presented to Brookdale’s library and the WWII Studies Center.

Overall, the event was a very positive experience for all participants, and a wonderful advertising opportunity for InfoAge.

InfoAge Acquires An AN/PPS-6 Radar For Our Museum

Ray Chase

New Jersey Antique Radio Club • 908-757-9741 • raydio862@verizon.net

Ground Surveillance Radar (GSR) is an interesting field of radar that provides a valuable defensive tool for field commanders. Small, light, tripod mounted, they are one or two man transportable, and provide perimeter and anti intrusion protection for the local battlefield Commander. GSR's are frequently used in Laagers, fire support bases and to monitor enemy troop and vehicle movements particularly at expected intrusion locations. One Army Commander commented that "it is like having an additional 500 sentries on patrol". Solid state lightweight electronics made them possible starting sometime in the 1960's and they have seen increased use in many conflicts since then. InfoAge has had a PPS-4 GSR radar in our museum for a few years now. These small self contained sets give us the opportunity to display a complete military radar system. The PPS-4 currently on display operates in the X band (9.0 to 10.0 GHz.) and was made by Aeronica Mfg. Corp., Aerospace Div. although I suspect that it was a Bendix design. Unfortunately it had suffered some water damage and we have not yet made any attempt to restore it so it remains a static display model.

Recently an opportunity arose on the internet auction website E-Bay to acquire an AN/PPS-6 GSR radar, complete and in very good condition. An advantageous deal was made and the unit is now in our possession. This later model set is not much different from the PPS-4 in operation. It was manufactured by the Radio Receptor Division of General Instrument Corp. in Long Island sometime in the late 1960's. It was overhauled by the U.S. Marine Corps at Bartstow, CA and the seller claimed that it was operational. As soon as we can obtain a maintenance manual we will give it a checkout and operational test. We did get an operation manual with it and a full set of cables and accessories. This set weights about 35 pounds all up and can be transported and set up by one man. It is powered by a 12 volt internal or external wet cell battery. Operating frequency is in the 9.0 to 9.5 GHz range (X band). The set can detect personnel movement up to 1500 meters away and vehicle detection up to 3000 meters. The PPS-6 has motor driven scanning so it can be set up to scan a selected sector. Radars of this type operate on the pulse Doppler principle and compare returns from fixed targets with any returns from targets that are moving. Target indication is by aural sounds in a headset and a range gate control can designate the target distance.



AN/PPS-6 RADAR

The PPS-4 and PPS-6 bracket a slightly larger and more sophisticated GSR, the PPS-5 that has been through several redesign iterations and apparently is still in active use. We hope to eventually acquire one of them for the museum to fill the gap in our family of GSR radars.

Since these are all Army radars and were developed and procured from the 1960's through the 1980's, they certainly must have a Camp Evans legacy although I have no direct evidence of their lineage at Camp Evans. Any information regarding their development and support at Camp Evans would be most appreciated.

SHIPWRECKS, SHARKS, and SCULPTURE

The NJ Shipwreck Symposium

Saturday Afternoon, May 7, 2011

2 PM to 6 PM

at InfoAge, Wall, NJ

Admission is \$20 per person
(\$15 for NJHDA Members)

Reservations are required - seating is limited.

The symposium will be hosted by

Peter Hess, Esq.

The speakers are as follows:

Identifying the Civil War Paddle

Steamer *Admiral DuPont*

Joyce Steinmetz - Tech Diver, Engineer,
and Nautical Archaeologist

Shipwreck - from Scratch

Chris Wojcik - Marine Artist

New Jersey and White Sharks: Great Together!

Dean W. Fessler, Jr. – Shark Research Institute

(Intermission - light refreshments)

The Tragedy of the Schooner *John K. Shaw*

Dan Lieb - Shipwreck Researcher

The wreck of Perry's *Revenge*

Charles Buffum and Craig Hager – Co-discovers

The NJHDA Party

Saturday Evening, May 7, 2011

7 PM to 10 PM

at InfoAge, Wall, NJ

Admission is \$40 per person
(\$35 for NJHDA Members)

Reservations are required - space is limited.
Casual attire.

This fund-raising event will help NJHDA
defray the costs of expanding its
New Jersey Shipwreck Museum.

Special guests include speakers and the host of the
NJ Shipwreck Symposium.

Also featured:

Tours of the shipwreck museum

50-50 Raffle

Beverages

Hors d'oeuvres

Door Prizes

Auction

Come and celebrate our museum expansion!
Enjoy the company of our special guests as they relate
their tales of adventure, danger, and exploration.*

*80% of it known to be true!

Directions from North: Take Garden State Parkway South to Exit 100B onto Route 33 East. Continue to Route 18 South. Get off at Exit 7A. The exit will merge you onto Brighton Avenue. Follow Brighton to the bottom of the hill and turn right onto Marconi Road. After a few hundred yards, you will see a parking lot entrance on your right. Enter and follow the directions of the parking attendants.

Directions from South: Take the Garden State Parkway North to Exit 98. Bear to the right and get onto Route 138 East. Follow 138 to the Route 18 North. Follow 18 North to Exit 7. The exit ramp will put you on Marconi Road where it intersects Brighton Avenue. Go straight. After a few hundred yards, you will see a parking lot entrance on your right. Enter and follow the directions of the parking attendants. Alternately, you can use Exit 100A and get onto Route 33 East. Continue to Route 18 South. Get off at Exit 7A. The exit will merge you onto Brighton Avenue. Follow Brighton to the bottom of the hill and turn right onto Marconi Road. After a few hundred yards, you will see a parking lot entrance on your right. Enter and follow the directions of the parking attendants.

Directions from West: Take 195 East (which becomes 138 East), to Route 18 North. Follow 18 North to Exit 7. The exit ramp will put you on Marconi Road where it intersects Brighton Avenue. Go straight. After a few hundred yards, you will see a parking lot entrance on your right. Enter and follow the directions of the parking attendants.

Directions from East: Take 33 West, to Route 18 South. Get off at Exit 7A. The exit will merge you onto Brighton Avenue. Follow Brighton to the bottom of the hill and turn right onto Marconi Road. After a few hundred yards, you will see a parking lot entrance on your right. Enter and follow the directions of the parking attendants.

For reservations and directions, please call 732-776-6261 or e-mail info@njhda.org

Send checks payable to NJHDA, Inc., 2201 Marconi Rd, Wall, NJ 07719

Alterations and substitutions to the schedule may occur without notice. NJHDA, Inc. is a nonprofit charitable historical research organization. All donations are tax deductible.

Saving Building 9115 At Camp Evans

Ray Chase

New Jersey Antique Radio Club • 908-757-9741 • raydio862@verizon.net

What is 9115 and what is so important about it? 9115 is a small metal non-descript building on the South edge of the Camp Evans property outside of the InfoAge perimeter and inside the section designated to be turned over to Brookdale Community College. Actually, 9115 is most probably the last remaining example anywhere in the world of the antenna base and shelter building for the WWII SCR-271 Long Range Search Radar. The SCR-270/271 was the type of radar at Pearl Harbor that detected the Japanese attack force on December 7th, 1941. The radar at Pearl Harbor was the Mobile version SCR-270; the SCR-271 is designed for permanent installations. Other than the antenna tower and housing arrangements the equipments are the same. Please note the accompanying photographs. Fig. 1 is a view of the SCR-271 installed at Twin Lights, NJ probably around 1940/41. Note the four corner antenna tower structure emerging at the peak of the roof. Fig. 2 is a present photo of building 9115 and one can see the remains of the four antenna tower beams that have been torched off just as they emerge from the roof. Other than having less roof eaves, the buildings are identical. Earlier photos of the Camp Evans complex do show a SCR 271 antenna mounted on the building before the tower was cut off. Inside, the building is cluttered with debris but since it is a metal structure, probably galvanized, it has stood up to the elements reasonably well. The interior structure is struts and girders since it forms the structural base for the antenna tower. It is mounted on a simple concrete pad and there is some of the antenna control equipment remaining in the building, otherwise all the radar equipment has long since been removed.

Why save it?

1. It is very historic to the legacy of Camp Evans during the World War II period.
2. Being the last probable surviving example, it deserves to be saved.
3. It being structurally sound it should not be very difficult to relocate it to a new pad site somewhere within the InfoAge perimeter. It could be disassembled and re-erected or be picked up and moved intact.
4. It will be relatively easy to repaint and restore to become a creditable historical display on our campus. It could be used to display artifacts, photos and the story of the SCR-270/271 radars. Perhaps even a scale model of the complete set.

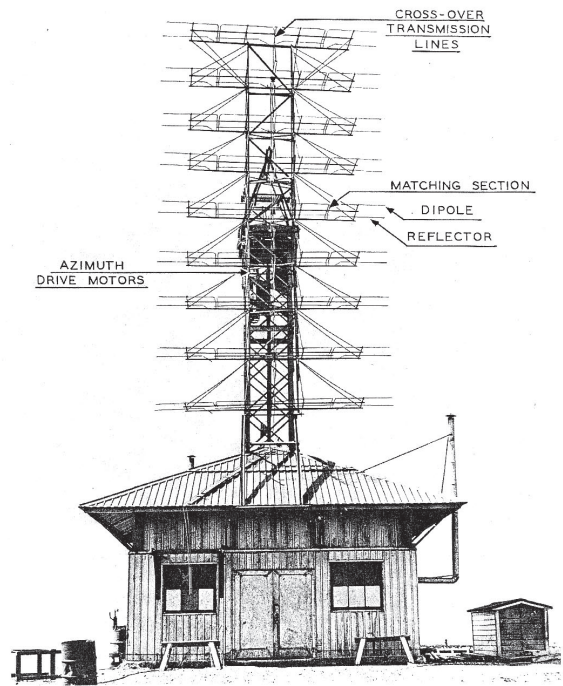


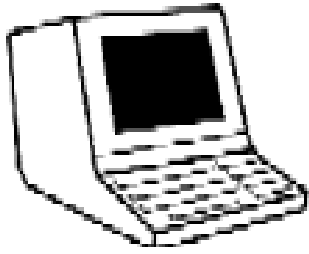
Fig. 1: The SCR-271 Antenna Array



Fig. 2: Building 9115

While the schedule for the final turn-over of the remaining buildings to Brookdale College is not known, nor is their schedule for the razing of them, Brookdale has indicated that we can have it if we want it. Therefore now is the time to plan for its future, find a new location and arrest any further degradation to this building. This is a personal plea from me to the InfoAge Board of Trustees and all others who are interested in saving this building to support a program to make it happen.

Vintage Computer Festival East 7.0



May 14-15, 2011
InfoAge Science Center
Wall, New Jersey



VCF is a celebration of computer history!

For those who fondly remember Giant Brains, punch cards, paper tape, room-sized minicomputers, building S-100 kits, hacking BASIC on 8-bit micros, discovering your first BBS, and surviving the Oregon Trail...

...and for those who just want to show their kids how it used to be!

The VCF East 7.0 agenda includes:

- 20+ hands-on exhibits covering huge variety of makes/models
- Build-your-own transistor-logic circuit workshop: \$40 parts fee
- "Teletype 101" workshop: \$40 fee & chance to win a Model '33!
- Five lectures: topics spanning UNIVAC microcomputer history
- Meet a member of the legendary Homebrew Computer Club
- Book sale: computers, engineering, math, science, electronics)
 - Consignment booth: find the computer or part that you crave
- Museum tours: vintage computers, antique radio, shipwrecks, Army vehicles, electronic warfare, amateur radio, and the famous TIROS dish)
- IBM 1130 live restoration: Norm & Brian, all the way from California
- Cool prizes, good food, and the legendary uber-nerdy VCF t-shirts

Tickets are cheap! \$10/day, \$15/weekend, FREE for kids, FREE parking too!

Saturday: 10am – 7pm Sunday: 10am – 5pm

vintage.org/2011/east facebook.com/vcfeast7

Sponsored by MARCH (Mid-Atlantic Retro Computing Hobbyists),
VintageTech, and the InfoAge Science Center

all questions: Evan Koblentz evan@snarc.net (646) 546-9999



InfoAge

Science/History Center
at Camp Evans, Wall, NJ

InfoAge Science History Learning Center and Museum
2201 Marconi Road • Wall • NJ • 07719

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The Newsletter of InfoAge Inside this issue...

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- InfoAge Acquires An AN/PPS-6 Radar For Our Museum
- Saving Building 9115 At camp Evans



2011 Calendar of Events

Saturday, May 7

NJ Shipwreck Symposium & Fundraiser Party
2AM-6PM and 7-10PM

Saturday & Sunday, May 14-15

Vintage Computer Festival East 7.0
10AM-7PM and 10AM-5PM

Saturday, June 18

InfoAge Car Show
10AM-4PM

Saturday & Sunday, June 25-26

OMARC Field Day

*For more information about these events, such as admission costs and times,
call 732-280-3000 or visit us online at www.infoage.org.*