



Cape Cod National Seashore

Saturday, April 25, 2009

Kids' Signal Jam: Talking and Texting with Wires and Without

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

A free shuttle bus will run between the sites in Eastham from 9:30 AM- 2 PM. All events are free.

Coast Guard Station, Eastham- KM1CC 10AM-1 PM

- Kids can watch the original text messengers- Morse Code operators send messages around the world.
- Learn about new modes of voice communications too. Children's activities will include practicing sending S-O-S on a Morse Code key, walkie-talkies, and a geography quiz using "QSL" cards. "QSL" cards are postcards radio operators from around the world exchange to confirm their contacts.

The French Cable Hut located at Nauset Light Beach, Eastham 10 AM - 1 PM

- It is more than just an empty one-room hut; it is a place that played a role in communications between families, governments, and continents. People on different continents cheered when a telegraph message could be sent by a 3,000 mile long cable under the Atlantic Ocean. It established almost instant communications between the United States and Europe.
- The hut housed the end terminus of a transatlantic cable connecting Europe to the United States.
- Children's activities will include investigating wired telephones, circuits, and learning about old technology that changed the world.

Nauset Lighthouse, Eastham MA 10 AM - 1 PM

- Climb to the top of Nauset Lighthouse, the most recognized lighthouse on Cape Cod. Members of the Nauset Lighthouse Preservation Society will tell you stories of the light, ships, and its history.
- Children's activities will include signaling with flashing lights and how each light had its own signals so ships at sea could determine their location.

The Three Sisters Lighthouses, Eastham, MA 10 AM- 1 PM

- Find out why there are three little wooden lighthouses in the woods! Children's activities will include reflector signaling, a simple technology used for thousands of years to pass messages and signal for HELP!

Marconi Station Site, South Wellfleet 10 AM - 1 PM

- Want to learn how to save a life and assist with sending messages for the American Red Cross at a disaster? Amateur radio operators will be working at the 1901 Marconi Station Site if the weather is good. Learn how portable radio operations are set up and how little power is needed to send a message.
- A park interpreter will also be at the site to tell the story of the life-saving role that wireless played in ship to shore communications. Did this station talk to the Titanic the night it sank?

Cell phone tours: the park has a cell phone tour set up at select locations.

Salt Pond Visitor Center 2 PM

- **NASA space education program, "Communicating in Space Now and into the Future"**
Recently, NASA announced successful tests of software and satellite hardware that could essentially create an interplanetary internet. Such a communication network will open the gateway to the development of more complex missions and reliable communications for astronauts living and working upon the surface of the moon. During this talk, NASA's Rick Varner will revisit the recent space communications advances and offer speculation on visions for the future. Seating is limited for this program.

Prepared February 13, 2009- For more details visit the park's website closer to the event date www.nps.gov/caco and look in the news release section