



W2RC/IMD

International Marconi Day
Radio Central Amateur Radio Club
Rocky Point, New York

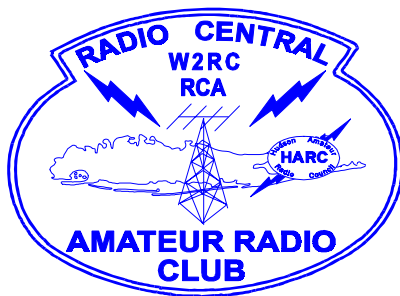
W2RC/IMD is sponsored by the Radio Central Amateur Radio Club, Rocky Point, NY, and was sanctioned by the Cornish Radio Amateur Club of Cornwall, England, to participate in International Marconi Day taking place around the world celebrating Marconi's birthday. The event includes a number of other operating sites around the world where Marconi did significant work as the father of commercial radio.

The 12 by 14 foot "Shack" housed the first wireless telegraph receiving station in the United States and is thought to be the oldest structure used for radio in North America. It was built in 1902 on a farm in Babylon (Long Island), New York for Guglielmo Marconi. The Italian physicist used the small structure to transmit the world's first shore-to-ship wireless message.

The Shack stands on the grounds of the Carasiti Elementary School, in Rocky Point, NY. Originally in Babylon, NY the building was purchased by Edwin Armstrong (the inventor of FM Radio) and given to the RCA Company, in Rocky Point, NY, where it stood for many years, as a symbol of RCA's continuation of the pioneering American Marconi Company in the United States. In 1971, RCA gave the shack to the Rocky Point School system. In 1987 the Eric Trojahn Memorial Amateur Radio Club, N2HNZ made the first wireless transmissions from the building since Marconi.

Radio Central Amateur Radio Club itself takes its name for the same nexus of historical events that attended the operation of the RCA Global Communications in Rocky Point (originally the American Marconi Company). It is therefore most appropriate that Radio Central's call, W2RC, should be heard around the world operating from this historic site in Rocky Point.

Radio Central wishes to thank the Rocky Point Board of Education, the Rocky Point School system and Mr. Henry Bookout, N2FCZ for making this event possible.





Picture of the original shack after it was moved to the RCA property in Rocky Point, NY (circa 1930). *From left to right: Guglielmo Marconi (1874-1937), Edwin Armstrong (1890-1954)*
Photo courtesy of John Etter, W2ER.