



Date: June 17, 2002 Battleship New Jersey Docent/Volunteer Bulletin Vol. 1 Issue # 15

Docent Questions - "Research Committee":

The second major procedural change which you will see in the revised Docent manual involves the research done for visitor questions that cannot be answered. We still plan to implement postcards and should get them soon, however, we know that after working an eight or ten hour day with few if any breaks, it's not always possible to research the answer to difficult questions. However, there are some week days when many of the docents stand around waiting for guests. The new procedure for answering difficult questions will be as follows:

- a. Have the guest write down the question and his/her address on a postcard.
- b. If you have the time, do the research to find the answer. Turn it in to the Curator for approval before it is mailed.
- c. If you do not have the time, submit the postcard to the Quarterdeck before you leave. When a docent on the Research committee has free time, he/she will do the research for the material.

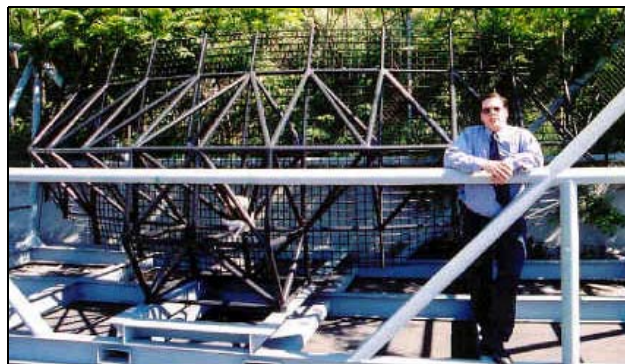
If you are interested in becoming a member of the Research committee, please sign on the sheets near the docent ready room or in the Curator's office.

Thanks!

Docent Manual Team...

AN/SPS-49 Very Long-Range Air Surveillance Radar

All 4 of the USS Iowa class battleships were fitted out with AN/SPS-49 radar. This air-search radar system provides early target detection, including long range detection of missiles, and short range local defense missiles. There are many different configurations of this radar, but the variant shown in the photo with Curator, Scott Kodger, is the AN/SPS-49(V)1 developed in the early 1970's. According to Scott, the antenna shown below will be installed aboard Battleship New Jersey as soon as a suitable crane can be contracted... hopefully - "within a few months."



From *The Jerseyman* - Answers to the questionnaire:



Please keep your ideas/comments coming, and place them in the Volunteer/Docent mail boxes!

Here's a few of your Questions with Answers...

1. Can't we offer different "Area of interest" tours to the public?

Scott Kodger: "We are in process of developing not only new and very "specific" ship tours, but new general tour routes are also due out shortly. Some sort of identical, but separate tour, running on each side of the ship (and at the same time) would be a logical approach. We also plan new Docent pins/patches to identify special Docent qualifications and specific area/tour skills... more will be coming very soon."

2. Battleship signs for the public are terrible, and parking for volunteers is worse!

Adm. Seigenthaler: "Camden City signage is in the process of installing new signs including Battleship directions, as current roadwork is completed. Camden County is also going to include new Battleship overhead signs for Rt. 676 and Rt. 30... they are all funded and scheduled. Please also note that all signage on the ship to date has been through the courtesy of our good friend Larry Engel, Executive Director of the Battleship New Jersey Foundation. We owe him a lot and our sincere thanks to him for all of his efforts."

"We are also very aware that recent parking for our volunteers has been a major headache... we can't thank you enough for your understanding and patience! Please know that we are working hard to resolve this issue. When Tweeter Center events dictate a change, we have plans to direct our volunteers to Lot #3A, between the Delaware River Port Authority (DRPA) and L3 Communications. We are also sensitive to the distance of this Lot #3A parking – to accommodate this, we are going to set up bus transport loops for the volunteers, scout encampments etc... and this should also be completed shortly."

3. Has anybody looked at providing higher physical security for the ship?

Adm. Seigenthaler: "The Coast Guard provides ongoing security for the entire Delaware River and the Battleship New Jersey. We are working very closely with them."

4. A lot of qualified naval experience on this ship... why not run some "Demo days?"

Scott Kodger: "We are looking at this great suggestion, and also the possibility of offering some "Living History" programs... There are many other offerings coming as well... The Admiral Halsey/USS Arizona display, the Battleship Development display etc... The BB16/BB62 Silver Service would also offer an exciting new display for the ship and the public. We're working on making all of these happen."

5. How about a narrative we can study for each of the CEC simulations?

Scott Kodger: "Narratives for the CEC simulations, and many other new ideas and information will be coming in the new and revised Docent Manual. The Docent Manual team has done a truly great job! We think our Docents will be very pleased with the end result."

Reminder: Please send e-mail addresses to Bruce Haegley - haegley@comcast.net, and bulletin comments or suggestions to Tom Helvig - THelvig@aol.com.