



Straight Key Century Club

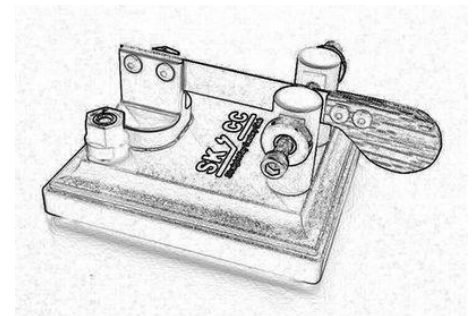
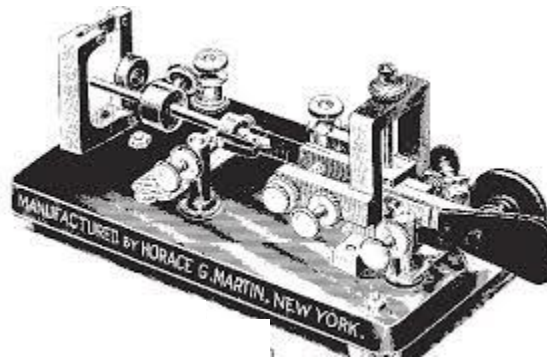
Presentation by Ron Bower, AC2C

Modified by Ted Rachwal, K8AQM/VE9AQM

Modified by Dave Vittum, W1DV / TL8DV



- To Promote and Preserve the Art of CW in its Original Form by the use of Mechanical Keys
- Straight Key
- Bug (Semi-Automatic)
- Sideswiper (Cootie)



- Formed in January of 2006 following the Annual ARRL-Sponsored Straight Key Night (SKN)
- Started with a QRZ.com forum discussion with the intent of having a Straight Key Night every month
- Tom Petersen, KC9ECI, formed the Straight Key Century Club and became SKCC #1
- Within days there were well over 100 members
- Currently over 28,000 members world wide and growing daily

- Membership is free
- Open to any licensed Radio Amateur with an Interest in Mechanically Generated CW
- SKCC numbers are issued for life
- Incorporated and Approved under IRS Section 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt in 2014



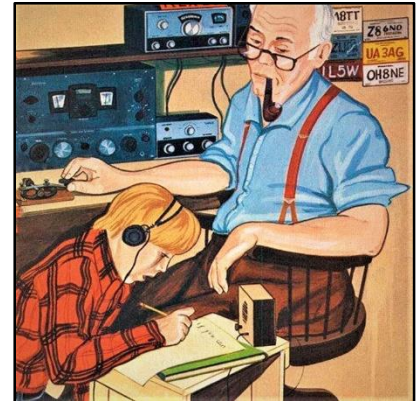
- **SKCC welcomes all CW operators – no minimum speed requirement**
- **Very Friendly Operators – QRS if needed**
- **Short QSO or Rag Chew – your choice**
- **Slow Speed Saunter Every Month (<12 wpm)**



- **New CW operators need a safe haven where they can get on the air and not have to worry about making mistakes**
 - ✓ **Maybe for that first CW contact without the stress or fear of worrying about fouling up**
 - ✓ **The goal is to take away that fear, because WE DON'T CARE IF YOU MESS UP!**
 - ✓ **The Straight Key becomes a great leveler – few can do 20+ WPM on a straight key for too long**

- **SKCC's guiding philosophy is two-fold:**
 - ✓ **Keep it Simple**
 - ✓ **Rely on the "Honor System"**
- **Earn Achievement Awards by working other SKCC members**
- **Many levels of achievement awards are available**
- **The SKCC Family is all about Quality not Quantity**
- **A great opportunity for members around the world to enjoy QSOs at a reasonable speed**

- “Elmer” Tab on SKCC Website
 - ✓ Lists ~75 Members (World-Wide)
 - ✓ Available for 1-on-1 Practice & Coaching
 - ✓ Includes email address for each Elmer
- 7114 kHz / 14114 kHz
 - ✓ (Unofficial) “watering hole” for practice and QRS contacts
 - ✓ Many Elmers monitor these frequencies

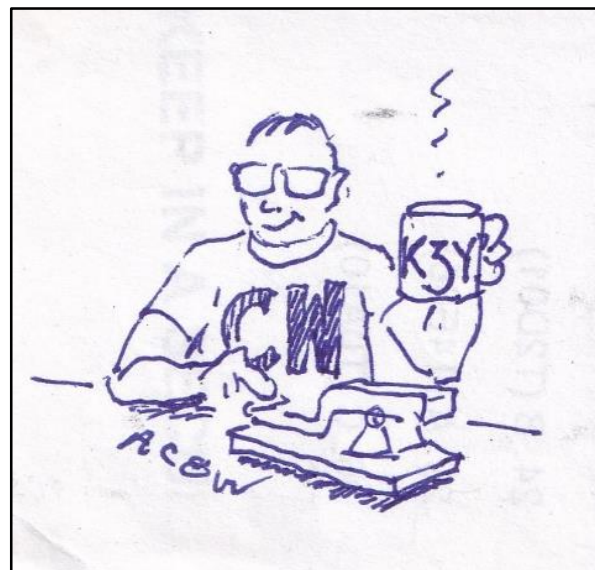
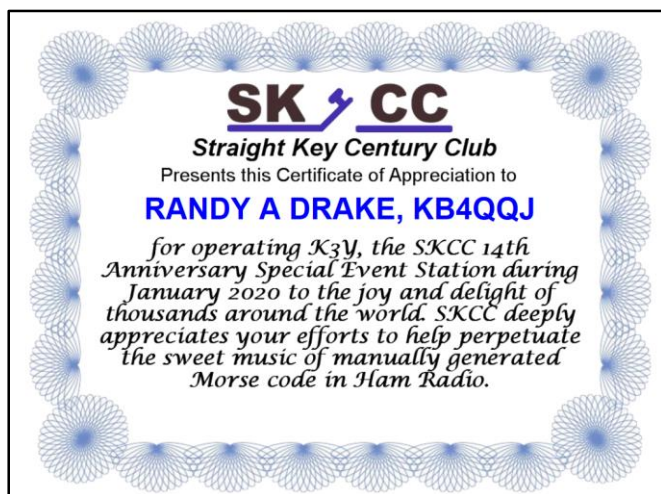


- **Monthly Operating Activities:**

- ✓ Slow Speed Saunter – 24 hour events 1st day of each month
- ✓ European Sprint – 2-hour event on the first Thursday of each month (Tied to BST)
- ✓ Weekend Sprint – 36-hour event on the second weekend of each month
- ✓ Weekday Sprint – 2-hour event on the fourth Wednesday of each month
- ✓ Asian Sprint – 2-hour event on the second Friday of each month
- ✓ Oceania QRS Saunter – 1-hour event on the third Saturday of each month



- Since 2007, the club has held a month-long anniversary celebration event every January
 - ✓ 2007 : K1Y
 - ✓ 2008 : K2A
 - ✓ 2009 – 2023 : K3Y (SKM)



Canadian Straight Key Month

- Since 2021, the club has held a month-long Canadian celebration event every September

✓ 2021 : VE9SKCC

✓ 2022 : VC3Y

✓ 2023 : VC3K



VE9SKCC/
CANADA SPECIAL EVENT 
September 2021
SK CC
Straight Key Century Club

| Confirming QSO with | Date Day / Month / Year | UTC | MHz | RST | MODE |
|---------------------|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| | Sept. 2021 | | | | |

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VC3K



CSKM

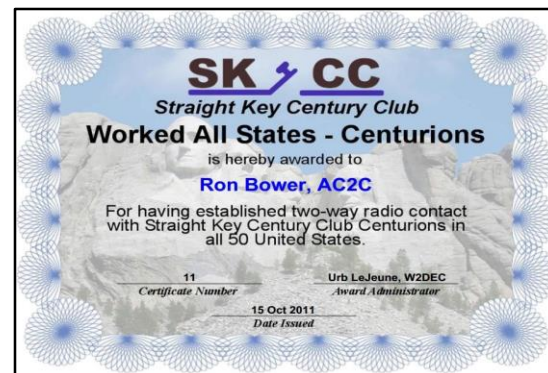
Canadian Straight Key Month
Mois Canadien de la Clé Droite
2023

- A wide collection of operating awards:
 - ✓ Centurion – Log QSOs with 100 unique members
 - ✓ Tribune – Log QSOs with 50 unique Centurions
 - ✓ Senator :
 - ✓ Earn Tribune x8 (400 different Centurions)
 - ✓ Log contact with 200 different Tribunes



Awards (continued)

- Worked All States
- Worked All Continents
- DXC/DXQ Awards
- QRP Awards
- Miles per Watt
- Rag Chew
- Triple Key
- Prefix award
- Canadian Maple Leaf



- **The Marathon Award**
 - ✓ 100 at least 60 Minute QSOs
 - ✓ 100 different SKCC members
 - ✓ SKCC Qualified Keying Devices
 - ✓ Currently (July '23) – 22 awards



- **SKCC Home Webpage**
- **SKCC Sked Page**
- **Groups IO User Group**
- **SKCC Logger Application**
- **SKCC Skimmer**
- **SKCC Beginner's Corner**
- **QSL Bureau**
- **Quarterly News Letter**

- **Nine-Member Board of Directors:**

- ✓ Doug, N3PDT, President
- ✓ Randy, KB4QQJ, Vice President
- ✓ Ron, AC2C, Treasurer
- ✓ Ted, K8AQM, Secretary
- ✓ Rick, VA3FRL
- ✓ Drew, AF2Z
- ✓ Mark, K7MJG
- ✓ Randy, N8KQ
- ✓ Dave, W1DV



- **Activities**

- ✓ **Brag Manager, Josh, W9HT**
- ✓ **K3Y SKM Coordinator, Drew, AF2Z**
- ✓ **QSO Party Manager, Randy N8KQ**
- ✓ **SKS Manager, Cathy, W4CMG**
- ✓ **SKSE Manager, Leon, OS0S**
- ✓ **SSS Manager, Dave, W1DV**
- ✓ **WES Manager, Ken, WB2ART**
- ✓ **Canadian Straight Key Month (CSKM), Ted K8AQM/VE9AQM**



- **Awards**

- ✓ Senator Administrator, Ron, AC2C
- ✓ Asst. Senator Administrator, Phil, K3EW
- ✓ Tribune Administrator, Ron, AC2C
- ✓ Asst. Tribune Administrator, Phil, K3EW
- ✓ Centurion Administrator, Ron, AC2C
- ✓ Asst. Centurion Administrator, Phil, K3EW
- ✓ DX Administrator, Ron, AC2C
- ✓ Canadian Maple Awards, Fred, VE3FAL
- ✓ Marathon Administrator, Cecil, K5YQF
- ✓ QRP x1/x2 Awards Manager, Fred, VE3FAL

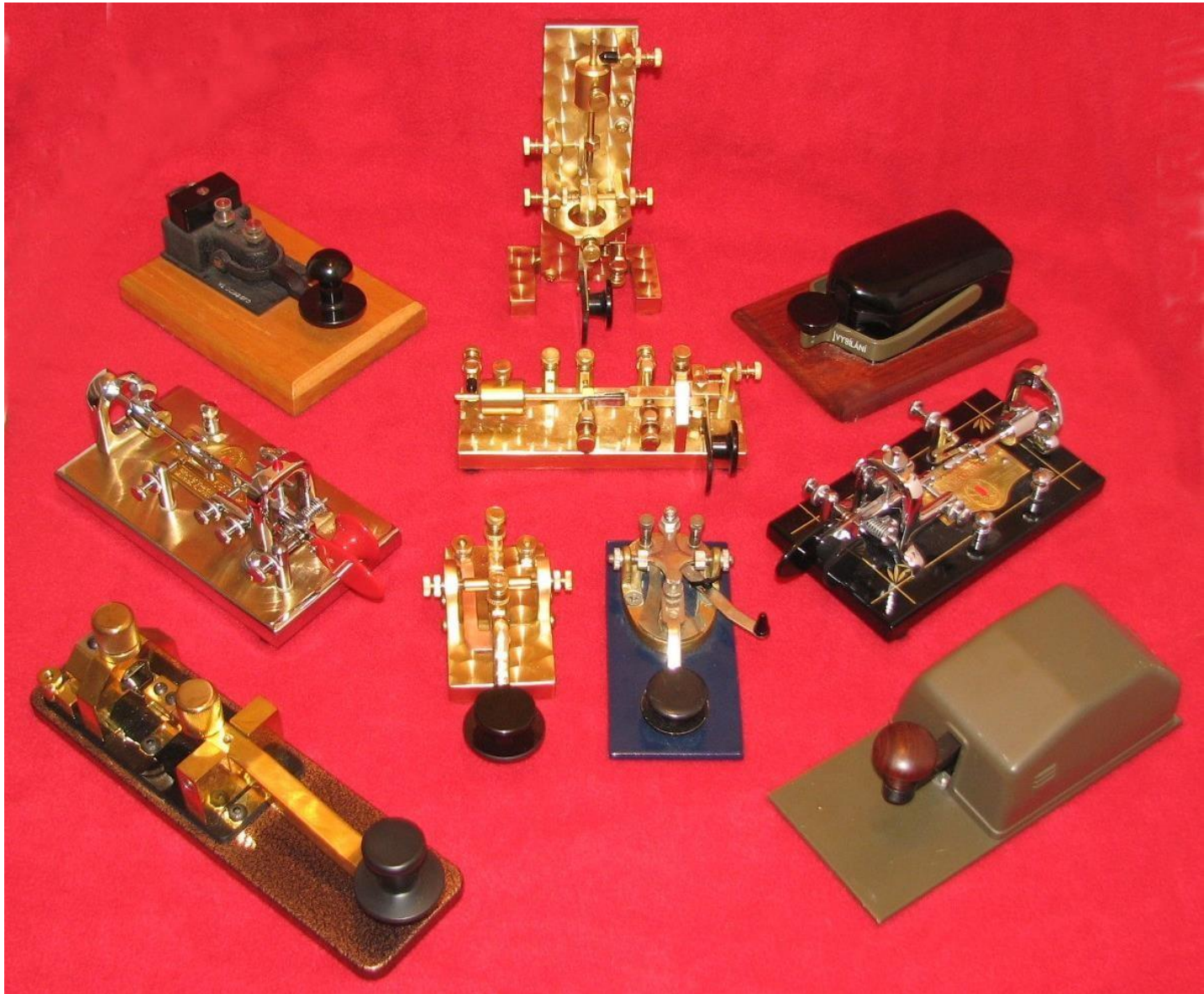
- **Awards (continued)**

- ✓ Prefix Administrator, Ron, AC2C
- ✓ Rag Chew Administrator, Mike, W3QT
- ✓ WAC Administrator, Ron, AC2C
- ✓ WAS Administrator, Mark, NX1K
- ✓ Triple Key Administrator, Dave, W3NP

- **Other**

- ✓ Calendar Manager, Randy, KB4QQJ
- ✓ Membership Manager, Randy, N8KQ
- ✓ Elmer Manager, Dave, W1DV
- ✓ QSL Bureau Manager, Ted K8AQM
- ✓ SKCC Rag Chew Newsletter, Ted, K8AQM
- ✓ Webmaster, Alton, N4IDH
- ✓ Asst. Webmaster, Ron, AC2C

Some Mechanical Keys



**Any Questions
or
Comments ?**