



Straight Key Century Club

Presentation by Ron Bower, AC2C

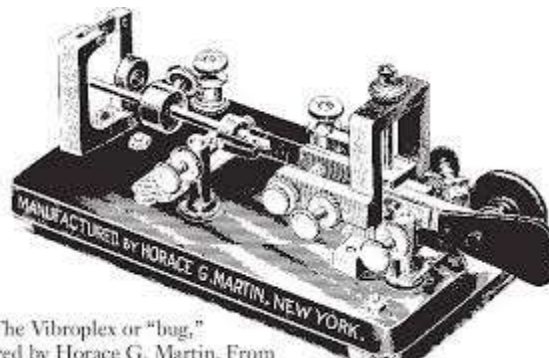
Modified by Ted Rachwal, K8AQM/VE9AQM

Modified by Dave Vittum, W1DV / TL8DV

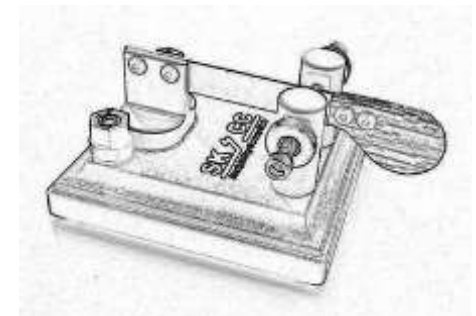
Modified by Randy Drake, KB4QQJ



- 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)
- “Key Policy Waiver” available for physical/ medical conditions



The Vibroplex or "bug,"
used by Horace G. Martin. From



- **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 24,000 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 status 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 this frequency



- **Monthly Operating Activities:**
 - ✓ **SKCC Night + 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 full weekend of each month**
 - ✓ **Weekday Sprint – 2-hour event on the fourth Wednesday of each month**



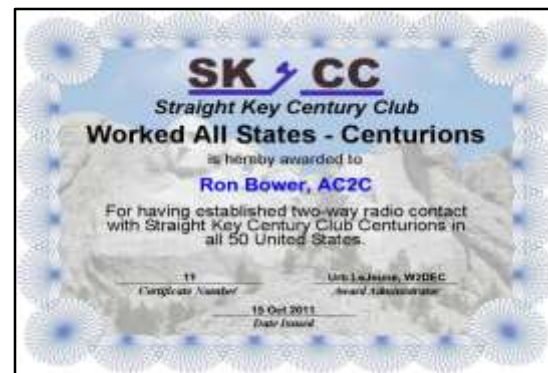
- Since 2007, the club has held a month-long anniversary celebration event every January
 - ✓ 2007 : K1Y
 - ✓ 2008 : K2A
 - ✓ 2009 – 2021 : K3Y



- 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



- 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 (Apr2021) – only 9



- **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
 - ✓ Drew, AF2Z
 - ✓ Mark, K7MJG
 - ✓ Randy, N8KQ
 - ✓ Roger, VE3RDE
 - ✓ Dave, W1DV



- **Activities**

- ✓ **Brag Manager, Curt, K2CWM**
- ✓ **K3Y Coordinator, Drew, AF2Z**
- ✓ **QSO Party Manager, Randy N8KQ**
- ✓ **SKS Manager, Rich, W4RQ**
- ✓ **SKSE Manager, Leon, OS0S**
- ✓ **SSS Manager, Rich, W4RQ**
- ✓ **WES Manager, Jeff, K9JP**



- **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, John, W9GOO**
- ✓ **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, John, W9GOO**
 - ✓ **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, Jeremy, KD8VSQ**
- ✓ **SKCC Rag Chew Newsletter, Ted, K8AQM**
- ✓ **Webmaster, Alton, N4IDH**
- ✓ **Asst. Webmaster, Ron, AC2C**



Some Mechanical Keys



**Any Questions
or
Comments ?**