

Welcome to HRU 2018



Fun with CW Workshop

These Slides Available on http://rcarc.org/presentations/Fun_CW_Slides.pdf

Fun with CW Workshop

Why CW?

Fun Break # 1 – sound of CW at various speeds

Plateaus – different mental processes in copying

Fun Break # 2 – How Fast Can you Write?

Organizations dedicated to CW

Fun Break # 3 – Audio Clip from Jean Shepherd Radio Show

Collectable Keys, Bugs, Paddles

Fun Break # 4 – Strange CW Keys

Suggestions for Improving Proficiency

CW Practice Software

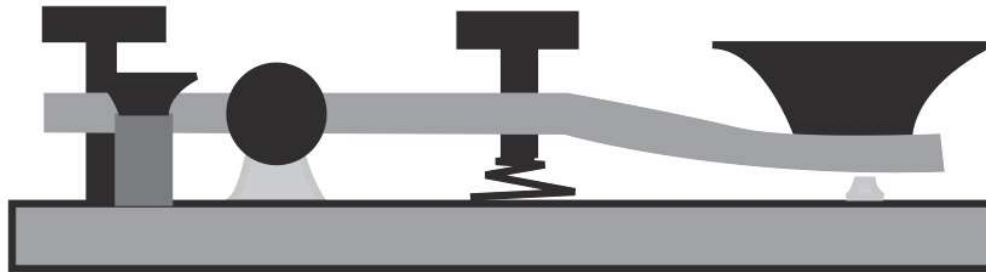
More Fun CW Software – Contest / Pileup Simulators

Morse Decoding Software

Fun Break # 5 – Straight Key Sending Trials

Fun Break # 6 – Copying Competition (if time permits)

Why CW?



CW Gets Through when Other Modes Don't

Higher TX Efficiency

Narrower RX Bandwidth

CW provides "Cranial Stimulation" and satisfaction as you decode it

Easy Homebrew / Kit Projects with Decent Performance

Fun break # 1

Let's hear CW from 5 WPM to 60 WPM



5 WPM



5 WPM, Farnsworth Spacing



10 WPM



10 WPM, Farnsworth Spacing



15 WPM



20 WPM



30 WPM



45 WPM



60 WPM

Plateaus and mental processes for copying various speeds

- Memorization of character set: 3 to 5 WPM
- Mental "lookup table" : up to 10 WPM
- Automatic reflexive letter recognition starts at about 13 WPM
- Ability to copy in your head somewhere occurs around 20 WPM
- recognition of whole words instead of individual letters above 30 WPM

Fun Break # 2

How Fast Can You Write?

At some point you will have to put the pencil down and start copying in your head or on a typewriter / keyboard.

Audience participation exercise

Determine your writing speed in WPM.

You will get 60 seconds to write this sentence as many times as you can:

THE QUICK BROWN FOX JUMPED OVER THE LAZY DOG'S BACK

Divide total number of letters by 5.

Organizations Dedicated to Promotion, Preservation, and Enjoyment of CW

The International Morse Preservation Society



FISTS Code Buddy

CW Tuesdays

Sprints

Get Your Feet Wet Activity Day

CW Net Listing Project

G3ZQS Memorial Straight Key
Contest

fistsna.org



Activities

Weekend Sprint-A-Thon
2-Hour Sprints
Euro-Sprints
Straight Key Night

Awards

Centurion
Tribune
Senator
WAS
Canadian Maple

www.skccgroup.com



CW Fun Events

Originated and Managed by Dick, K2RFP

For each CW Fun Event, you register in advance

You get a unique word list e-mailed to you

QSO Exchange = Signal report, name, and next word in your list

There's an SWL division – Copy Exchanges from Others' QSOs

You submit your log on the CW Fun web page
(Details on www.cwfun.org)

Jean Shepherd spoke fondly about the days when shortwave receivers had “romantic” names like “Sky Buddy”



This is an early Hallicrafter’s Model S19 Sky Buddy, Circa 1935

Collectable and Homebrew Keys

Fun Break # 4

Strange CW Keys web site

Homebrew Bug

Banana

Hammer

Rocking Chair

Rolling Pin

<https://sites.google.com/site/oh6dccw/strangeCWkeys>

Suggestions on how to learn code and improve proficiency

Things not to do

Practice Tapes – You will become too familiar with the text

Don't Use Visual Aids, Whatever You Do

Things to do

Listen to W1AW

Use Computer Training Software

Get On The Air !

CW practice programs

Just Learn Morse Code (KC2KY Favorite)

G4FON Koch Trainer

Morse Cat

CW Forever

Simulators – Get In Shape for Next Big Contest

Morse Runner Contest Simulator

Pileup Runner DX Pileup Simulator

Morse Decoding Software

FLDigi

CWGet

Note: I do not endorse these as a replacement for good old fashioned copying skill, but they can be helpful for improving your straight-key sending style.

Fun Break # 5

Straight key sending trials

Who's fist is good enough for a computer running
FLDIGI to copy

Fun Break # 6 (Time Permitting)

Copying competition

(10, 15, 20, 25, 30, possibly faster)