

The SKCC Centurion

The official newsletter of the Straight Key Century Club

VOLUME 02, ISSUE 01

JANUARY 2008

K2A Operations

January 2008 marks the second anniversary of the Straight Key Century Club and we are celebrating by using special event callsign K2A in each of the 10 U.S. call areas plus Alaska and Hawaii. K2A stations will operate on all bands except 60m for the entire month of January. That is a lot of available operating time, 8929 hours to be exact.

Members of the Straight Key Century Club are invited to participate by taking a turn as guest operator for the K2A station in your respective call areas. It is easy to get a time slot for guest operations of K2A. Simply follow these steps:

1. Review the operating schedule at <http://www.skccgroup.com/cgi-bin/calendar.pl> and find a time slot that does not have a K2A entry for your call area.
2. Email the K2A coordinator for your call area with the dates and times you wish to operate K2A.
3. Your coordinator will schedule you if the time slot is available and confirm with you that you are scheduled. **DO NOT OPERATE UNTIL YOUR COORDINATOR CONFIRMS YOU HAVE THE TIME SLOT.**
4. Download the K2A Mini Logger program from the download link on <http://www.skccgroup.com/k2a>.
5. Use the Mini Logger, the preferred method, or keep a paper log if you must.
6. Send your coordinator your log files when your operating time is complete.

Several members have expressed uncertainty about operating because their speed is slow and don't want to be a burden on the K2A operations. Nothing could be further from the truth. We want all members to help celebrate our second anniversary as a club.

K2A Volunteer Coordinators

- W0 - Brad K0DBK k0dbk@comcast.net
W1 - Barry WB1EDI wb1edi@hotmail.com
W2 - Dave W1DV davevittum@icdinternational.org
Larry W2LJ Makos327@worldnet.att.net (backup)
W3 - Michael KC2EGL kc2egl@yahoo.com

- Ron AC2C actwoc@gmail.com (backup)
W4 - Bill NT9K Bill@nt9k.com
Randy KB4QQJ kb4qqj@yahoo.com (backup)
W5 - Frank KB4T kb4t@arrl.net
W6 - Gordon N6WK n6wk@skccgroup.com
W7 - Mark KJ7BS kj7bs@cox.net
W8 - Don NN8B nn8b.oh@gmail.com
W9 - Jeff K9JP k9jp@sbcglobal.net
KH6 - Gordon N6WK n6wk@skccgroup.com
KL7 - Mark KJ7BS kj7bs@cox.net

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Please do not be intimidated by this event, we want you to be a guest operator. Remember, if you sign up for a time slot and then decide later not to operate, that is fine, just let your area coordinator know so they can make that time available to someone else.

Operations for K2A are already underway and by all appearances, off to a very fast start. Some members have already worked stations in all 10 call areas plus Alaska and Hawaii.

The special event station operations was originally envisioned as a way to celebrate and spread the word about the Straight Key Century Club. However, it has morphed into a friendly competition between members to see who can work all K2A stations, work all K2A stations on all bands, etc.

2007 In Review

This past year went by so fast, but it was filled with lots of accomplishments for the Straight Key Century Club and lots of changes for amateur radio. See if any of these ring a bell.

First and foremost, the club membership has grown from just over 2500 to just over 4000 almost doubling our membership.

We saw the total elimination of the Morse code testing requirement to earn an amateur radio license. Similarly, we saw the reduction of license classes reduced to three, Technician, General, and Extra. Novice and Advanced class licenses are no longer being issued by the FCC, but they will continue to exist until all holders upgrade, drop out, or go silent key.

The Monthly Weekend Sprints also grew in popularity and was renamed the Monthly Weekend Sprint-A-Thon.

We had our first Junkbox wars as part of a Monthly Weekend Sprint where members had to construct a keying device with-

out using any power tools and then operate the weekend sprint with it. What a hoot. Some of the hand made keys and bugs were interesting to say the least.

The list of Centurions broke the 100 member mark and is continuing to climb.

We had our first Young Buck awarded. This is not an easy award to earn. You must collect the ages of members and add the inverse of the ages together to equal one point, not an easy task.

The K3UK SKCC Sked page was put online and receives a lot of traffic each day. So much traffic that it had to be redesigned because of the load put on it.

The SKCC web pages continue to undergo enhancements offering new features and content.

2007 Hall Of Fame Inductees

The Straight Key Century Club Hall of Fame recognizes members who exemplify the ideals of the Straight Key Century Club. Each year the SKCC Hall of Fame nomination committee selects club members for induction to the Straight Key Century Club Hall of Fame. The 2007 Hall of Fame members are keeping alive the traditions of CW operation through their on-air activities and behind the scenes efforts, and have become ambassadors for the club. Inductees into the Hall of Fame have earned the recognition and respect of the Straight Key Century Club membership. Induction into the Hall of Fame cannot be refused and is irrevocable.

Let it be known, that the following members have earned Straight Key Century Club's highest honor, without who the Straight Key Century Club would not continue to grow or be as well organized as it is today.

NT9K - Bill Crosier SKCC #1926 - Centurion #69 - Tribune #9 - Bill managed the SKCC Weekend Sprint, which later became the SKCC Weekend Sprint-A-Thon. Bill introduced themes into this event, which make these events both fun and challenging.

K2RFP - Dick Pav SKCC #2099 - Centurion #59 - Tribune #18 - Dick has written several computer programs for the Straight Key Century Club membership; Awards Certificate Generator, SKCC Helper add-in and K2A Mini Logger.

KJ7BS - Mark Saunders SKCC #2240 - Centurion #56 - Tribune #20 - Mark writes, manages, and publishes The SKCC Centurion, the club's monthly newsletter, and makes it available to anyone wishing to receive it.

Please join us in congratulating Bill Crosier (NT9K), Dick Pav (K2RFP), and Mark Saunders (KJ7BS) for this accomplishment.

WA2YL, Jan Scheuerman SK



WA2YL—SKCC 1397

Jan Scheuerman, WA2YL, became a Silent Key on December 24, 2007. One of her greatest interests was ham radio. Her CW (Morse Code) was a familiar sound to Southcar and Eastcar hams all along the highways as she drove often between her home in Cape Coral, Florida, and her family in New Jersey.

Jan was licensed as WN2JCE in 1963, followed by WB2JCE, KJ4N, and finally WA2YL as an indication of her great interest in and work with the YLRL (Young Ladies' Radio League). The YLRL group supports female participation in ham radio by sponsoring contests, encouraging public service, and awarding annual scholarships to upcoming YL's. She was part of the first all-female DXpedition to Niue Island in 1988.

Jan was also very active in the QCWA (Quarter Century Wireless Association) and a good recruiter for both organizations. As a member of the International Administration Committee, her opinions were highly respected. She held office as secretary in the local chapter and was an active supporter of the QCWA national scholarship program.

She was a member of the ARRL (American Radio Relay League/The National Association for Amateur Radio) for many years. She served several years as Section Traffic Manager in Southern Florida. A very sociable YL, Jan enjoyed attending "hamfests." She was well known even at the large Dayton hamfest. Her local activities included participation in the Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club and an assignment as hospital communicator with ARES in Lee County.

Jan operated at the ham message booth near the entrance to the Miss America Pageant for thirty consecutive years sending NTS (National Traffic System) messages back home for the contestants and pageant visitors. She had fun getting to know the girls.

Her non-ham accolades include being honored by the ABWA (America Business Women's Association) as "Woman Of The Year" before she moved to Florida.

As a member of the First Baptist Church in Cape Coral, her musical talents were greatly appreciated as she played in the Praise Band. She was not afraid to witness for our Lord and enjoyed many Christian friends.

Jan battled Cancer for 14 years beginning with thyroid cancer. She founded the Suncoast Chapter of THYCA (Thyroid Cancer Survivors Association), a support group for thyroid cancer survivors and their families. She is survived by a son, two daughters, two step-sons, two sisters, and six grandchildren. She will be missed by many.

Solar Cycle 24 Begins

Solar physicists have been waiting for the appearance of a reversed-polarity sunspot to signal the start of the next solar cycle. The wait is over! A new solar cycle is under way. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said Friday that the first sunspot of a new 11-year cycle has appeared in the sun's northern hemisphere.



Last April an international panel of solar experts forecast that Solar Cycle 24 would start in March 2008, plus or minus six months. The panel was split between those predicting a strong or weak cycle.

This sunspot marks the beginning of Solar Cycle 24 and the first step toward a new solar maximum. Intense solar activity won't begin right away. Solar cycles usually take a few years to build from solar minimum (where we are now) to Solar Max (expected in 2011 or 2012). It's a slow journey, but we're on our way!

Editor's Soapbox

Mark Saunders, KJ7BS SKCC 2240T

I had an instructor at a technical conference once tell me, "If you want to see how much you don't know about something, teach it. If you want to learn a lot about something, teach it." Those two statements ring true.

Through my efforts to bring the Straight Key Century Club stimulating and different content in this newsletter, I have learned a lot about amateur radio, solar cycles, and human nature. I've been a licensed amateur operator for almost 15 years and while the technical aspects of this hobby really appealed to me, I really had not taken advantage of them. I've not really done anything from scratch besides building antennas.

I was given an amplifier basket case last month and thought I would find someone who would like to revive it from the dead. It really looked like it needed a professional. This beast is in a cabinet four feet tall eighteen inches deep and two feet wide and the power transformer weighs twice that of a sixteen pound bowling ball. A bit more than my abilities, I thought.

Being a tinkerer and rather handy at taking things apart and

putting them back together again, I thought it could not hurt to take a peak inside. Opening the cabinet revealed three sections which turn out to be the power supply, the input/output tuning, and the RF deck. The power transformer, blower, and some yet identified parts were loose inside. I was really most curious about what tubes generated the RF and what this large of an amplifier would generate.

I don't know if this thing ever worked, but it had two tubes in it with glass chimneys. Pulling the tubes revealed they are Eimac 4-400As (looks like 3-500Zs). A quick check indicated a pair of these will generate nearly 2KW in AB2 grounded-grid configuration. I quickly learned Tetrodes do not make good RF amplifiers in GG circuits. I began thinking about fixing it myself. Wrong thing for me to do.

When I set my mind to something I do it and learn from it. The first task was taking inventory of components. Tube amplifiers are relatively simple in design. It's all the bells and whistles that add complexity (ALC, multi-band operation, QSK, meters, etc.). One of the tubes had a broken filament and cannot be used. Now I'm down to one 4-400A tube, which will not generate a legal limit CW amp.

Now I've set my mind to doing the HF tube amplifier, but have only one tube. What to do? Since Tetrodes, which the 4-400A is, don't do to well in GG circuits for RF amplifiers, what about a 3-500Z? Most of the parts will work with the 3-500Z and I am sure I can sell the 4-400A and apply it towards 3-500Zs.

I searched the internet and my handbooks and found several nice tube designs that I may use. I also found a QSK project (maybe in a future issue of The SKCC Centurion) for the amp to boot.

So now the question I have to answer, one, two, or three 3-500Zs in the amp?

SKCC Contest Results

SKS Sprint

December 2007 Any worry that the Christmas night SKS would be poorly attended proved wrong. Turn-out was fantastic! I thought I would come back into town and have to process eight or so scores, but you folks kept me busy. I apologize for taking longer than usual this time to post scores. I was out of town visiting family the week of the sprint, and am still on vacation this week - which means I am busier than usual trying to get things done at home that I put off until the holidays! There were 35 members participating.

Congratulations to **John K4RUM** for taking first place, and to **Bert W5ZR** and **Jack W7QQQ** for taking second and third place, respectively.

WES Sprintathon

December 9th Theme: Non-Member Sprintathon

Weekend Sprintathon Sunday December 9th, 0000-2359z

This is the first Weekend Sprintathon on the new 2nd Sunday schedule.

The twist this month is to try and work as many non-members as you can. Each non-member is worth 10 bonus points. (NEW for this sprint only) Each Centurion is worth 5 bonus points as usual. Each Tribune is worth 10 bonus points as usual. K9SKC is worth 25 bonus points as usual. There were 57 members participating.

Congratulations to **Jack W7QQQ** for taking first place, and to **Ron AC2C** and **Bert W5ZR** for taking second and third place, respectively.

New Members

- 3753, WN2WNC, Ken, New Berlin, NY
 3754, W9JQ, John, Atlanta, IL
 3755, N5KIP, Dick, Baton Rouge, LA
 3756, N2JDQ, Steven, Freehold, NJ
 3757, KE7OTO, Gary, Beaverton, OR
 3758, KC0IEM, John, Gowrie, IA
 3759, KD5QQD, James, Irving, TX
 3760, WE1M, Gary, Statford, CT
 3761, KE1AU, Bob, Meriden, CT
 3762, WB5MAJ, Fred, Honey Grove, TX
 3763, K0GM, Chris, Littleton, CO
 3764, WB4TLI, Steve, Farmer, NC
 3765, W4ONC, Joe, Norfolk, VA
 3766, K7JBU, Bob, Eagle Point, OR
 3767, NO0N, Barney, Clubb, MO
 3768, KF6PQT, Jason, Burbank, CA
 3769, KG2LI, David, East Windsor, NJ
 3770, KK4OY, Charley, Soddy Daisy, TN
 3771, KG8KR, Robert, Dover, OH
 3772, YO6EV, Petru, Sibiu, Romania
 3773, WB8ENE, Arthur, Mantua, OH
 3774, KI4SNS, Doug, Seminole, FL
 3775, KA1MDQ, Paul, Mashpee, MA
 3776, W4JHU, Alexander, Fairfax Station, VA
 3777, IS0VSG, Gianni, Sassari, Sardinia Island, Italy
 3778, WA1YIH, John, Topsham, ME
 3779, N5LUL, Brad, Amarillo, TX
 3780, W5CRT, Mike, McKinney, TX
 3781, KG6QNK, Dirk, Oceanside, CA
 3782, WC7C, Gordon, Ephrata, WA
 3783, KC9JVB, Bob, Eau Claire, WI
 3784, WB2YDS, Tom, Shoreham, NY
 3785, KA5BGQ, Joe, Plano, TX
 3786, K6BKB, Doug, Culver City, CA
 3787, N8JIW, Don, Shaker Heights, OH
 3788, K9CIS, Frank, Decatur, IL
 3789, AI5T, Gary, Driftwood, TX
 3790, N0MRK, Mark, Duluth, MN
 3791, KS1U, George, Quaker Hill, CT
 3792, KR7RK, Keith, Tucson, AZ
 3793, W8JLT, John, Harrison, MI
 3794, WD6GLA, Bob, Kingman, AZ
 3795, K1HO, Ernie, Sorrento, FL
 3796, WA0PWK, Steve, Wichita, KS
 3797, K0UM, John, Libertyville, IL
 3798, N2JSO, Ron, Andover, NJ
 3799, KB3NNO, Richard, Knoxville, MD
 3800, KL8DX, Phil, Denali National Park, AK
 3801, NU7G, Jim, Roosevelt, UT
 3802, K4RLO, Rod, Primm Springs, TN
 3803, KE3OQ, Mike, Nazareth, PA
 3804, LW3EX, Walt, Munro, Argentina
 3805, K7QB/IN3QBR, Mauro, Charlotte, Trento NC, Italy
 3806, N8XE, Jason, Hilliard, OH
 3807, K4WY, Jack, Fairfax Station, VA
 3808, ZS6JBJ, John, Witbank, South Africa
 3809, KE5HOB, John, Houston, TX
 3810, WI4M, Sid, Richmond, KY
 3811, KI4NFZ, Judie, Chesterfield, VA
 3812, KB3PUW, Paul, Hundingdon Valley, PA
 3813, W2CUA, George, Columbus, IN
 3814, KA1ANW, Sid, Sharon, MA
 3815, K8QH, Dave, Holt, MI
 3816, KD7EJI, Paul, Everett, WA
 3817, K0IDT, Ron, Lincoln, NE
 3818, KK9U, Mark, Fort Wayne, IN
 3819, K1OPQ, Dave, Contoocook, NH
 3820, WY0V, Gary, Sioux City, IA
 3821, NE2J, Jeff, Coram, NY
 3822, WA6IYH, Jim, Scappoose, OR
 3823, NV4I, Joe, Goose Creek, SC
 3824, KB4BLU, Jim, Fuquay, Varina, NC
 3825, VE7JZ, John, Kelsey Bay, BC, Canada
 3826, VE7AXU, John, Delta, BC, Canada
 3827, AC7TE, Darrell, Spokane, WA
 3828, KE6EX, Dave, Algonquin, IL
 3829, KE7GUY, Jim, Henderson, NV
 3830, WB9CAC, Bill, Tempe, AZ
 3831, KC8TAD, Robert, Zanesville, OH
 3832, WA4WKL, Jukian, Pensacola, FL
 3833, W1LWT, Lee, Lisbon Falls, ME
 3834, WA4FUY, Larry, Taylors, SC
 3835, KD6CYL, Dennis, Pittsburg, CA
 3836, WD5CBW, Dan, Harrison, TN
 3837, WN9E, Eric, O'Fallon, IL
 3838, KD8BIN, John, Toledo, OH
 3839, VK6AI, John, Hamilton Hill, Australia
 3840, K6AJ, Mike, Paso, Robles, CA
 3841, KR4OW, David, Eustis, FL
 3842, KI6MMI, Bonnie, Vista, CA
 3843, GM0GMN, Jim, Largs/North Ayrshire, Scotland
 3844, NJ3Z, Mike, Palmyra, PA
 3845, N1ONE, Bill, Leominster, MA
 3846, K8AF, Russ, Brighton, MI
 3847, NT8K, Bob, Akron, OH
 3848, WB4BTL, John, Fredericksburg, VA
 3849, W3GDM, Gary, Dade City, FL

3850, W5CN, Marcus, Austin, TX
 3851, W5TDY, Jerry, Ball, Ground, GA
 3852, W4RK, Bill, Jefferson, City, MO
 3853, N5URL, Bob, Oklahoma, City, OK
 3854, KC9HDS, Carl, Onalaska, WI
 3855, KN7D, Val, Kaysville, UT
 3856, N4URW, Joel, Pam Bay, FL
 3857, KB8MCZ, Dave, New London, WI
 3858, VE6AAT, Craig, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
 3859, WS9E, Joe, Schofield, WI
 3860, W9JR, Rich, Richland Center, WI
 3861, KJ8O, Joe, Troy, MI
 3862, KE0BN, Randy, Madison, WI
 3863, KF6MPD, Gregg, Chatsworth, CA
 3864, N3GGT, Ronald, Doylestown, PA
 3865, ZL2AIX, Alistar, Gisborne, New Zealand
 3866, KR2Q, Doug, Randolph, NJ
 3867, N0SA, Larry, Oakville, MO
 3868, WB4POL, Cap, Melbourne, FL
 3868, WB4POL, Cap, Melbourne, FL
 3869, KE4RVT, Dwayne, Canton, GA
 3870, K9ZPY, Dale, San Francisco, CA
 3871, WB9GKM, Gregory, Chicago, IL
 3872, KB3IPY, David, Montoursville, PA
 3873, K8RC, Bob, Cincinnati, OH
 3874, WA8UPD, Lyn, Caledonia, MI
 3875, KA2BSK, Eric, Jackson, NJ
 3876, KQ6YV, Hap, Boulder Creek, CA
 3877, N7AAL, Steve, Montesano, WA
 3878, N2HHH, Howard, Freehold, NJ
 3879, K7KBS, Geoff, Darby, MT
 3880, AA2JZ, Carl, Inverness, FL
 3881, N0JPP, Keith, Grandview, MO
 3882, PA0NCV, Nick, Leiderdorp, Netherlands
 3883, N9EGM, Jim, Dupo, IL
 3884, WA7HDI, Joe, Yuma, AZ
 3885, K7TQJ, Bob, Prescott, AZ
 3886, PA3DEU, Dick, Haarlem, Netherlands
 3887, WW9DF, David, Marengo, OH
 3888, WA4IPZ, Gene, Memphis, TN
 3889, WA7ITZ, Ray, Salt Lake City, UT
 3890, W8EQ, Dan, St. George, UT
 3891, N4HYK, Dock, Port Saint Lucie, FL
 3892, KE4RQ, Clark, Marietta, GA
 3893, N9FC, John, Indianapolis, IN
 3894, W4PDZ, Jim, Woodstock, GA
 3895, K1MLP, Mark, Billerica, MA
 3896, W1ZUB, Stu, Nashua, NH
 3897, K4BTC, Jeffery, Charleston, SC
 3898, N8RQJ, Harold, Columbus, OH
 3899, W9JG, Jay, Janesville, WI
 3900, IZ0ETE, Emanuele, Poggio Mirteto, Italy
 3901, KB3NWP, Andrew, Zion Grove, PA
 3902, WD8LQT, John, Woodbine, GA
 3903, KF7TY, Tapio, Ellensburg, WA
 3904, AA2KI, Fred, Ocean City, NJ
 3905, WT0V, Bill, Epworth, IA
 3906, KD9F, Gary, Pontiac, IL
 3907, KC9CXH, Jeff, Tampa, FL
 3908, W2EP, Paul, Titusville, FL
 3909, GM4LHJ, Joe, Edinburgh, Scotland
 3910, N6HE, Ray, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA
 3911, N8WAY, Anton, Mount Horeb, WI
 3912, KL7VX, Steve, Palmer, AK
 3913, K9XB, Robert, Sheboygan, WI
 3914, W8SYD, Byron, San, Antonio, TX
 3915, K7HIQ, Jody, Bend, OR
 3916, ZS6BQS/ZS2AA, Pierre, Benoni, South Africa
 3917, K0EX, Mark, Colorado Springs, CO
 3918, KA9TBU, Maurey, Reedsburg, WI
 3919, K5LYT, Robert, Corpus Christi, TX
 3920, WW5W, Gerald, Manassas, VA
 3921, W4CFH, Charles, Edgewater, FL
 3922, KI4RNY, William, Hope Hull, AL
 3923, NW2A, Joe, Syracuse, NY
 3924, AB0OX, Jack, Somerset, NJ
 3925, KC2RVT, Edith, Brooklyn, NY
 3926, K9EX, John, Royse City, TX
 3927, KL7IBT, Jim, North Pole, AK
 3928, KB0BYK, Gilbert, Marshfield, WI
 3929, KG8WF, Vince, Williamsburg, MI
 3930, K2MYS, Bob, Egg, Harbor Township, NJ
 3931, WA1KXH, Bob, Winsted, CT
 3932, W1LVT, Lenny, Richford, VT
 3933, KD8EPQ, Thomas, Kingsley, MI
 3934, K9TCG, Dave, Speedway, IN
 3935, K4DEY, Alan, Lillian, AL
 3936, KB4OOW, Richard, Wedowee, AL
 3937, W0AVQ, John, Scott City, MO
 3938, WA4NLW, Ray, Hawthorne, FL
 3939, WD5JYF, John, Fairview, TX
 3940, N3TXH, Ernesto, Pittsburgh, PA
 3941, N8GU, Bob, Plain City, OH
 3942, K7BUG, John, Ukiah, CA
 3943, KK7XE, Dennis, Stanford, MT
 3944, KZ1A, Mac, Staunton, VA
 3945, K5ZOL, Bob, Dallas, TX
 3946, VE5BCS, Harold, Lake Saskatchewan, Alberta, Canada
 3947, W1WSN, Steve, Margate, FL
 3948, W2MYA, Greg, West, Caldwell, NJ
 3949, WC0W/V31TP, John, Jefferson City, MO
 3950, K0PT, Paul, King George, VA
 3951, WA6MON, Alan, Trabuco, Cyn, CA
 3952, N2JNK, Jerry, Kingston, NY
 3953, K5PBR, John, San Antonio, TX
 3954, ZS6AVP, Clive, Krugersdorp, South Africa
 3955, W3DBJ, Darryl, Smyrna, DE
 3956, KC1BH, Jerry, Bedford, VA
 3957, KP2YL, Ann, Roseville, CA
 3958, KU2A, Nick, New Boston, NH
 3959, K8JV, Jim, Bloomfield, MI
 3960, K9GSD, Larry, Dyer, IN
 3961, NI0R, Roger, St. Joseph, MO
 3962, WB4POL, Mike, Melbourne, FL
 3963, W7QU, Ron, Battle Ground, WA
 3964, WB4OMN, John, Clinton, NC
 3965, KE5RPM, Archibald, Lafayette, LA
 3966, W5RRD, Amateur Radio Rail Road Club,
 Escatawpa, MS
 3967, W8JWA, Jim, Kettering, OH

3968, KB9RNM, Gene, Monee, IL
 3969, NI5G, Bing, Medanales, NM
 4000, AA3UJ, Seung, Soo, Dresher, PA
 4001, N1BAA, Jose, Amhurst, MA
 4002, W8BS, Jim, Little Hocking, OH
 4003, W6FG, Ross, Morro Bay, CA
 4004, K5NOW, Hal, Springdale, AR
 4005, K4QDX, Jim, Memphis, TN
 4006, N7SHM, Dan, Helena, MT
 4007, N2KMF, Bill, Queensbury, NY
 4008, WR7Q, Bob, Murray, UT
 4009, KE5RSX, Jimmy, Belmont, MS
 4010, KE7NOO, Jim, Everett, WA
 4011, KC8MIC, John, Cedar, Rapids, IA
 4012, KK1X, John, Ayer, MA
 4013, NO9T, Jim, Chicago, IL
 4014, N9OL, John, Evansville, IN
 4015, W5TEH, Lee, Marfa, TX
 4016, K4BVL, Al, Fort Lauderdale, FL
 4017, W7NVQ, Kelly, Twin Falls, ID
 4018, W1ZE, Bruce, Phippsburg, ME
 4019, W4KLY, Paul, Stone Mountain, GA
 4020, KD8WA, Dave, Philo, OH
 4021, G0BAK, Bill, Leeds, England
 4022, WA9ZYC, David, Warsaw, IN

SKCC Awards

Centurion

141, NY6P, Lee, Reseda, CA, 28 December 2007
 142, KB4QQJ, Randy, Burlington, NC, 28 December 2007
 143, KØIVK, Joe, Springfield, MO, 28 December 2007
 144, K1NV, Jon, Pahrump, NV, 28 December 2007
 145, W5ZR, Bert, St. Martinville, LA, 28 December 2007
 146, W7DAX, Dick, Liberty, UT, 28 December 2007
 147, W7QQQ, Jack, Sierra Vista, AZ, 28 December 2007
 148, N4RE, Rick, Raleigh, NC, 28 December 2007
 149, AD5WI, Mark, Pea Ridge, AR, 28 December 2007
 150, KE7JOG, Felix, Lummi Island WA, 28 December 2007
 151, NG7Z, Paul, Bothel, WA, 29 December 2007

Tribune

59, W5GXV, Gene, 654C, Spring Branch, TX, 18 December 2007
 60, KC7YM, Dale, 387C, Green River, WY, 23 December 2007
 61, W9CC, Larry, 469C, Greenfield, IN, 23 December 2007
 62, N1LU, Don, 2252C, Tuftonboro, NH, 29 December 2007
 63, NQ3D, Mike, 2758C, Easton, PA, 30 December 2007

Tribune Multi

30m - K0LUW, Russ, Omaha, NE, 18 December 2007
 80m - K0LUW, Russ, Omaha, NE, 18 December 2007

Young Buck

K0LUW, Russ, Omaha, NE, 22 December 2007

Member Roundtable

No round table entries submitted this month.
This is your place to sound off about anything. Send your thoughts and comments to kj7bs@cox.net.

Key Of The Month



BK2UWU's key: This is the key I have made 99% of my CW contacts with. I believe that I bought it at Radio Shack in 1978. It looks a lot like a J-38 except that it has ball bearings on the trunion, 4 balls in each cup, and I installed a steel fender washer under the knob to make it a navy knob. I keep a piece of Mylar in the shorting contacts to prevent accidental keying.

The word "JAPAN" is cast in the bottom of the potmetal frame. I mounted it on a 1/4 inch steel plate for weight and glued a piece of innertube on the bottom for skid resistance.

I used it a lot for a few years during my novice and advanced period from 1978 to the early 80's. Since then I have seldom been on HF, except for participating in a number of Field Days and Morse Event stations.

I have used it driving mobile on a few cross country camping trips. It sat on top of my right thigh without straps and was very stable. I had a Yeasu FT-101 with a Hustler antenna on the front bumper of my pick-up truck. (The back was occupied by a slide-in camper.) I had no problem with driving safely, watching the traffic, signs, etc. Except a couple of times I missed our scheduled off-ramps by concentrating on the QSO and traffic rather than our travel plans. It was a problem copying in my head, I have never practiced that enough and still have trouble with it.

Shack Of The Month

No photos submitted this month

The SKCC Centurion

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With SKCC every day is Straight Key Night!

Operating Frequencies

These are the suggested frequencies (+or - KHz) for SKCC members to congregate and look for other SKCC members. These are suggestions only, nobody owns any frequency. Be courteous and find a clear spot.

1.820 MHz	3.550 MHz	3.530 MHz
7.120 MHz	7.055 MHz	10.120 MHz
14.050 MHz	18.080 MHz	21.050 MHz
24.910 MHz	28.050 MHz	50.090 MHz
	144.070 MHz	

Operating Events

Monthly 24 Hour SKCC Operating Event: The first day of each month from 0000Z to 2359Z is designated as a monthly SKCC operating event. For SKCC members and non-SKCC members to work each other for credit. Contact with 100 SKCC members will qualify that person for a certificate of accomplishment. Visit <http://www.skccgroup.com> for more info or contact n6wk@n6wk.com.

SKCC Sprint: SKCC Sprints take place each month on the fourth Wednesday of the month from 0100z to 0300z. Rules for participation can be found at <http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/>.

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon: Every Second Sunday of each month beginning at 0000z UTC and ending 2359z UTC. This operating event is open to all licensed amateurs. Periodically themes will be announced for upcoming weekend sprints. See <http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/wes/> for more information and rules.

SKCC Member Resources

SKCC website—Everything you need to know about the Straight Key Century Club. Check back frequently as this site changes, <http://www.skccgroup.com>.

SKCC Yahoo Groups Email List—<http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/skcc/>. A moderated email list for the exchange of ideas about SKCC.

SKCC QSL Bureau—Dan Rhodes, KA3CTQ manages this free service for SKCC members. Send and receive QSL cards for QSOs between SKCC members via this service. To re-

The Straight Key Century Club is the fastest growing CW club focusing on manual generation of Morse code. Founded in January 2006, SKCC has grown to over 3700 members in calendar 2007. Members enjoy a very active email list server, SKCC forums, monthly sprints, and a monthly 24 hour operating event. Information about the Straight Key Century Club can be found at <http://www.skccgroup.com>.



ceive your QSL cards, you need to have SASE (self addresses stamped envelopes) on file with the SKCC QSL Bureau. Dan also says non-members can send you QSL cards through the SKCC Bureau. For more information see <http://www.skccgroup.com/qs1.htm>.

Award Tracker—Don Kemp, NN8B (SKCC 0036) maintains an SKCC Award Tracker spreadsheet to assist members in keeping track of their current standings with SKCC awards. Don posts updates to this valuable tool in the files section of the SKCC Yahoo Groups <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/skcc/files/>.

The SKCC Centurion—The official newsletter of the Straight Key Century Club published monthly. The SKCC Centurion is posted on the SKCC site, in the files section of the SKCC Yahoo Groups site, and distributed via email to your email inbox. To join The SKCC Centurion email list, send an email to The SKCC Centurion-subscribe@yahoogroups.com with Subscribe in the subject.

Spotting Cluster—Phil, AI4OF (SKCC # 600) has launched a spotting cluster and is making it available to SKCC members. Use this spotting cluster to announce your operations or to find other SKCC members to work. Point your Telnet client to skcc.matrixlist.com:7300. Login using your callsign.

SKCC Sked Page—Andy, K3UK (SKCC # 1325) maintains an interactive web page where SKCC members can arrange a meeting with other members to work towards SKCC awards or just to rag chew. Check it out at <http://www.obriensweb.com/skccsked/skccsked.php>.