

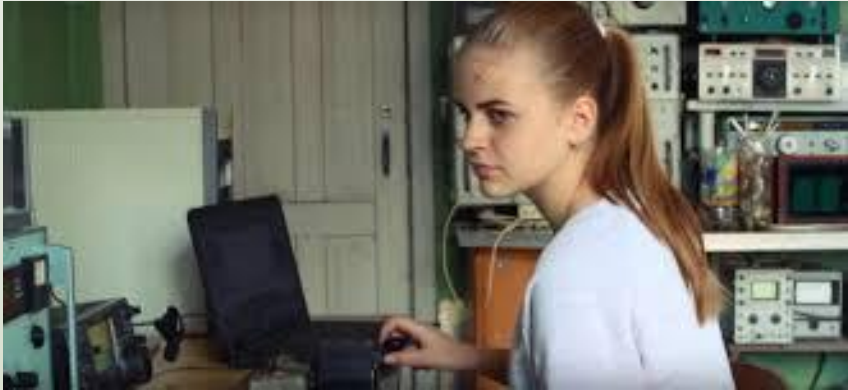
Introducing CW Academy

A solution to perpetuating the CW mode

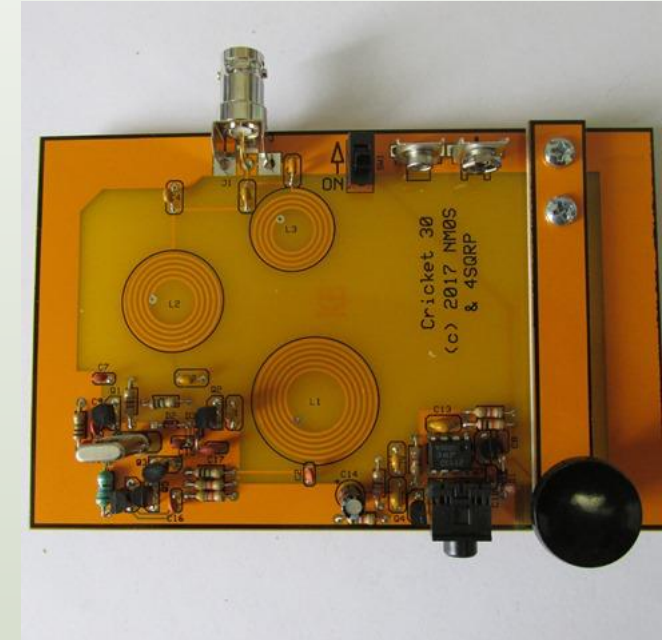
By Joe Fischer
AA8TA

Edits by Bruce Blain
K1BG

Folks still do CW?



Where does interest come from?



KX3 and KXPD3 paddle (sold separately)



The CW mode is still very popular

2018 Field Day Overall Statistics

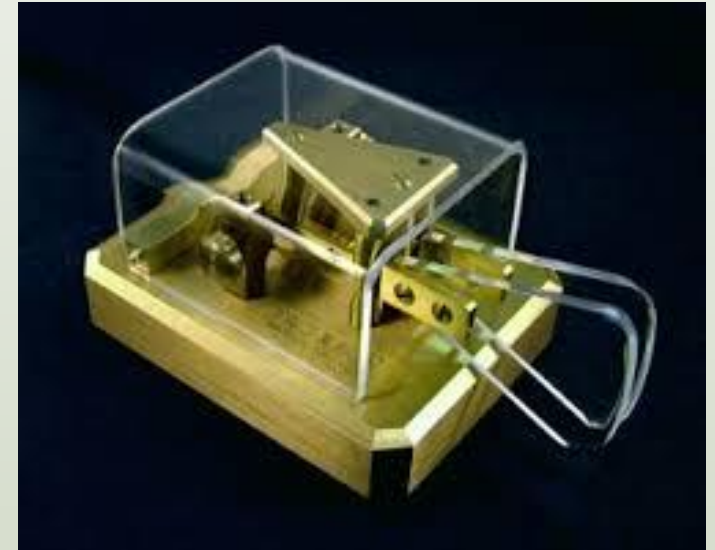
Number of Participants: 35,264

CW QSOs: 501,223

Digital QSOs: 56,532

Phone QSOs: 622,351

Total QSOs: 1,180,106



The CW mode is still very popular

2018 Sweepstakes Statistics

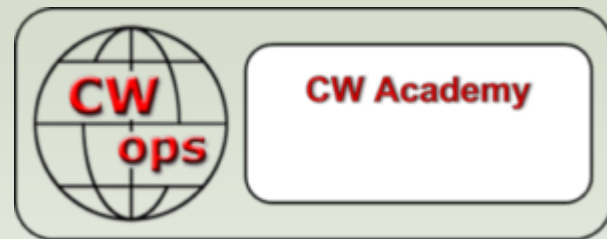
CW logs: 1,288

Phone logs: 1,705

2018 CQWW Statistics

CW logs: 5,663

Phone logs: 6,227



The CW mode is still very popular

KH1/KH7Z Baker Howland DXpedition

CW QSOs: 32,442

Phone QSOs: 18,908

Digital QSO: 17,602

2018 Ohio QSO Party

CW logs: 19,035

Phone logs: 22,137



CW Academy

About us...

- Created by CWops and its members
- Over 80 volunteer advisors
- Four levels of training
- Given three times per year
- Eight weeks per semester



CW Academy

More about us....

- More than 5000 students have completed the Beginner course since 2015
- Class days and time vary by instructor
- 4 to 5 students per class



CW Academy

Oh, and...

The classes are FREE!



What is the teaching method of CW Academy?



Teaching Method

- Beginner Level is always sent at 20 words per minute
- Course emphasizes sending as well as receiving characters at 20 WPM (we start with Farnsworth of 2 to 3 WPM).
- Farnsworth speed (spacing between characters) is increased as the class progresses
- Most popular letters are taught first, with letters being introduced in the order of their use in English language



What is needed to participate in CW Academy?

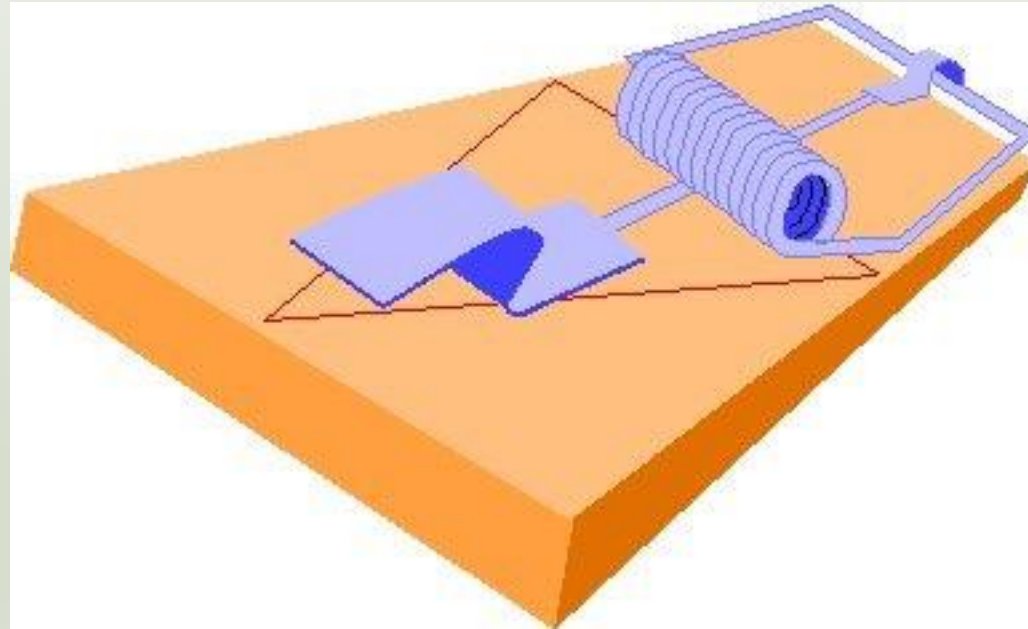
- A “paddle” (lambic or single lever paddle)
- A keyer or a transceiver with an internal keyer
- Computer
- Video camera, microphone



What if I want to use a straight key?



Stop!
It's a trap!



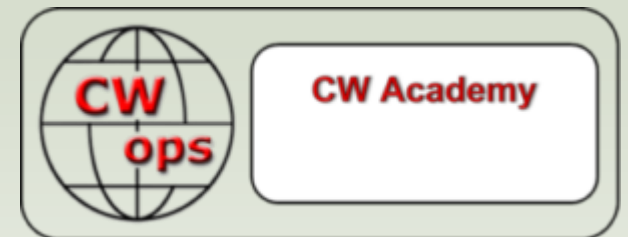
The Four Levels...



Beginner Level

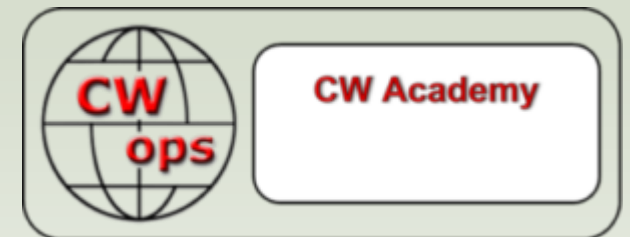
Developed with beginners in mind...

- No previous code experience/proficiency
- If you learned CW a while back but are really rusty
- If your code speed is under 10 to 12 WPM



Beginner Level

- Students are provided with a handbook (lesson guide)
- We use a program which is customized for CW Academy called Morse Code Trainer
- After session 10 on air activity is emphasized



Beginner Level

What is expected to succeed?

- Attend online sessions (2 each week)
- Practice 45 minutes each day



Beginner Level

What is the end goal of Beginner level?

- Learn Morse Code characters (letters, numbers, and some punctuation)
- Learn to head copy and send Morse Code
- Learn on-air protocols of a basic QSO
- Use skills for on-air basic QSOs



Basic Level

- If you know Morse Code, but your speed is <10 WPM
- Increase head copy and send skills using Instant Character Recognition
- Increase skills for on-air conversational QSOs
- Introduction to contesting skills



Intermediate Level

- If your code speed is 10+WPM
- You have Instant Character Recognition Skills



Intermediate Level

Class Objectives:

- Increase copy and send skills by use of contesting tools
- Increase head copy skills
- Recognize words as sounds
- Increase on-air experience with various types of QSOs



Advanced Level

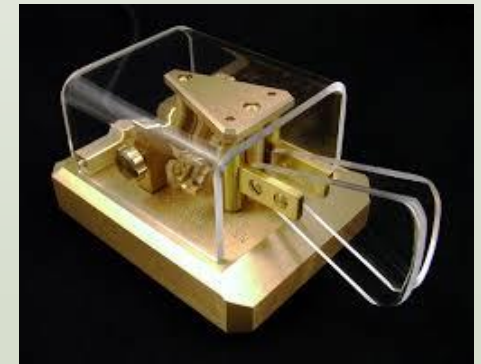
- **Advanced** is for folks who can head-copy 15+ WPM
- Class focus – On-air operating at speed of 25 + WPM
- Daily practice of 1 hour. Many on-air sessions with instructor and classmates



Advanced Level

Class Objectives:

- Increase head copy and send skills for higher-speed on-air activity
- Increase on-air experience with various types of higher-speed QSOs
- Increase contesting skills to 30+ wpm
- Recognize phrases as sounds
- Learn to copy from behind
- Increase overall skills to be considered for CWops membership



Advanced Level

- Course lasts 8 weeks, two sessions each week
- Daily practice of 1 hour



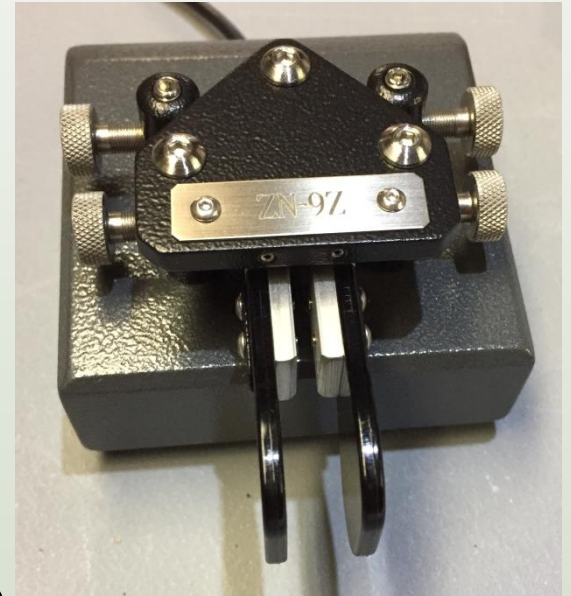
Youth Program

- Beginner Level
- Designed for youth between 9 and 19 years old
- “Fast Tracks” waiting list
- Intended to help youth get a license and/or get on CW
- Special deal with MFJ for portable antenna



Advisors

- We can always use help leading classes
- Share your love of CW and train the next generation
- CW Ops membership NOT a requirement
- One of the most satisfying activities I have ever participated in



Turn off Original Sound



To signup for CW Academy (CWA) visit

<https://cwops.org/cw-academy-2/>



Questions?

<https://cwops.org/cw-academy-2/>

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