

The SKCC Centurion

The official newsletter of the Straight key Century Club

VOLUME 03, ISSUE 01

JANUARY 2009



Where did the time go? It seems like just yesterday that we were ushering in a new year.

- 1283 new members
- 119 new Centurions (11900 contacts submitted in logs)

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- 61 new Tribunes (3050 contacts submitted in logs)
- 6707 K2Y Contacts
- Record WES participation (154)
- 24460 WES QSOs
- Record SKS participation (72)
- 9533 SKS QSOs
- 13716 SKCC Yahoo! Groups messages
- 553 DX members (non-USA)
- Members in 67 countries

Are you tired yet? That is a lot of brass pounding and membership activity in 2008. Give yourselves a hand. You deserve it.

Who IS SKCC # 5000?

Gary Jones, KJ4IJK of Palmetto, FL is Straight Key Century Club member number 5000. Congratulations! "It is great to be the 5000th member and see so much interest in CW", says Gary. Welcome Gary and a bunch of CW operators are looking for your number.

Here is what Gary says about his background.

I am 55 years old and received his first license at age 13. Back then, you usually started as a novice and worked to get your CW speed up to qualify for higher licenses. Learning CW was challenging for me, much more than the theory part of licensing. My first contacts were at a shaky 5 WPM but I managed to get up to 13 WPM to pass the general exam. I used what would be called boat anchor equipment nowadays and operated CW exclusively (although I had AM, that wasn't as interesting).

My interest in radio waned as I went to college and started working. Lately I've had the urge to get my license again, so I studied and passed my general at a recent local hamfest. Although there is a lot of options for hams nowadays, CW still has an big appeal to me. I need some work to be able to copy at higher speeds like 20 WPM and over, but, CW has never left me and has been like a song I can't forget.

I plan to put together a simple station right after the holidays and will get a nice straight key to get started. I've been doing some CW listening practice online. I look forward to QSOs with other SKCC members and will look out for those learning CW and encourage them at whatever speed they can do.

Thanks and 73,
Gary. KJ4IJK
SKCC #5000

PH6SKCC Call Active For SKCC Third Anniversary Event

Jan-Pieter Oelp, PA3CLQ, has secured a special callsign, PH6SKCC from the Netherlands' administration, Agentschap Telcom, to help celebrate the Straight Key Century Club third

anniversary.

When asked about the reason for securing the callsign Jan said, “Yes, the third anniversary SKCC celebration was the reason/ motivation to get this call. P??SKCC was my first choice and P??SKC my second. A suffix with four digits like SKCC is not usual here, it’s a privilege, so I’m happy with the PH6SKCC call.”

PH6SKCC will be active 01 January, 2009 through 28 January, 2009 near the following frequencies (+- QRM)

1820 kHz
3550 kHz
3566 kHz (SSK)
7033 kHz (SSK)
10120 kHz
14050 kHz
14055 kHz (SSK)
21050 kHz
21055 kHz (SSK)
28050 kHz

Check <http://www.obriensweb.com/sked/> for times when Jan is QRV.

CQ COMMUNICATIONS ACQUIRES WORLDRADIO MAGAZINE

How Your WorldRadio Subscription Will Be Honored By CQ

CQ Communications, Inc., publisher of CQ Amateur Radio, Popular Communications, and CQ VHF magazine, has acquired WorldRadio magazine. As part of our responsibility of that acquisition, we will be fulfilling WorldRadio subscriptions with publications from the CQ Group.

WorldRadio will continue to be published as an online-only magazine, but our current plan is to make it open-access, without charging for subscriptions.

Since there are several different possible subscription situations with our new friends from WorldRadio, we have several different solutions designed to fit everyone’s needs. We are confident that one of the solutions will fit your personal situation, and we pledge to work with you to the best of our ability to make the transition as smooth and pleasant as possible. However, you have choices to make!

Here are the situations that we’re anticipating:

Regular (Non-Life) WorldRadio Subscribers

Current subscribers to WorldRadio will receive one issue of CQ for each issue of WorldRadio they are currently scheduled to receive. For instance, if you have 18 issues of WorldRadio still due, you will receive 18 issues of CQ instead.

If you are already a subscriber to CQ, we will add the

WorldRadio issues to your existing CQ subscription.

You will also have the option of having your WorldRadio subscription fulfilled with either Popular Communications magazine, or CQ VHF magazine on a year for year basis. That is, if you have 12 issues remaining on your WorldRadio subscription and decide that you’d rather receive CQ VHF instead of adding on to your CQ sub, we’d set you up with a year’s worth of CQ VHF, which means you’d receive the next 4 issues of CQ VHF, which is a quarterly publication.

Life Subscribers to WorldRadio

Here’s where things get more complicated!

Many subscribers to WorldRadio have signed up for a very deeply discounted lifetime subscription. None of the subscription price you paid for that Life Subscription has come to CQ, making it economically impossible for CQ to continue to honor your old WorldRadio Life Subscription. But, you’re not going to be left out in the cold. Instead, we will honor the full amount you paid for your WorldRadio Life Subscription, and apply that full amount to: A) A new subscription to CQ if you don’t already subscribe, at the regular CQ subscription rate of \$36.95 per year, or B) Apply the amount you paid to a subscription to one of CQ’s sister publications, CQ VHF, or Popular Communications.

For example, if you paid \$100 for a WorldRadio life subscription way back in 1987, and have received issues ever since, we’ll credit the entire \$100 towards a new CQ subscription, which will have CQ coming your way for the next 33 months (\$100 divided by \$36.95 = 2.71 years which we’ll round up to 2-3/4 years or 33 months).

What if you also have a life subscription to CQ? You have to option of transferring your “Lifetime Value” to another of the CQ Publications: Popular Communications, or CQ VHF, using the same calculations as described above. For instance, if you have a \$100 “Lifetime Value” to your credit and decide that you’d like to receive Popular Communications, the subscription you’d receive would be 37 issues (\$100 divided by the Popular Communications rate of \$32.95 = 3.03 years, which we will round up to 37 issues).

If none of the above life subscription solutions fits your interests, there’s still another option available to you: Use your “Lifetime Value” to purchase items of equal value from the CQ Bookstore. That includes books, CDs, calendars and apparel, and that value may also be applied towards any shipping charges.

We want to make you as happy as possible during this transition. Think about how you’d like us to handle your personal situation. If your choice is to receive CQ (or extend your current CQ subscription) no action is necessary – your subscription will begin with the February issue (or extended appropriately). If you’d like to receive one of our other publications, please notify us in writing by mail or fax by January 5th. Simply jot down your complete World Radio address label information and note your magazine choice below it. Mail/fax this information to us at CQ Communications, Inc.

25 Newbridge Road, Hicksville NY 11801, fax 516-681-2926.

And remember, WorldRadio will continue to be published as an online-only magazine, with open-access through the CQ web page <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com>, without charge.

Dr. Strangekey or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Code

Submitted by Joe K8MP

It was autumn, 1961, and I had just begun seventh grade at Bay Village (Ohio) Junior High School. Over the summer, several buddies and I had been bitten real hard by the radio bug. One guy had a small transistor radio that received short-wave broadcast frequencies. We'd listen with rapture to Radio Moscow, HCJB in Quito, HER3 in Berne, and others.

For my home listening pleasure, I had a Zenith AM broadcast-band receiver, with the famous "Wave-magnet" loop antenna. At night, I'd listen in bed and pick up stations like KMOX in St. Louis, WWL in New Orleans, and a station in Waterloo, Iowa whose call-sign escapes me right now. OK, enough background info. I think you get the picture.

Seventh grade was my first year with what we had previously called "The big kids." (aka Junior high schoolers). That meant extra-curricular activities like math club, football, chess club, and..."What's that?" "There's a radio club?" Wow, I was in fat city.

A local ham, K8JHZ, was the club's leader. Six-meter old timers may remember Art as Kilowatt-8-Jolly-Happy-Zombie or as his radio-buddies called him, "Gravel Art", because of his rough voice characteristics. Art really taught us. He drilled us with theory and the code.

I hated CW practice. It was hard and I was sure I'd never master the 5 words-per-minute to pass the Novice test. I can't remember if I voiced it or just thought it, but I distinctly remember wondering: "Why in the world would anyone ever want to you use Morse code on the radio when you can just talk?" But worse news was still to come.

After several weeks, our radio club got canned. It turned out there was a rule stating that club leaders had to be part of the school staff. One of the science teachers volunteered to take over, but it just wasn't the same. "Fat City" had shriveled up. Or had it?

Ol' Gravel Art came to the rescue by referring us to the West Park Radiops club. They were running a Novice and Tech class in the area. Most of the school clubbers joined that class and we all had our "tickets" by the following June. That's right, they taught us for several hours every Saturday for nearly the entire school year. It was a good thing too, because it took me that

long to get my code speed above 5 wpm.

For the record, I can't remember a single thing they taught but boy do I remember the stories they told. There were stories about DXing, and lightning hits on towers, and being able to hear your own signal after it went all the way around the globe. Those things lit up the imagination of a 13-year-old.

I still remember the day my license arrived in the mail. I wasn't home when the mail man came but I remember walking in the side door and reading in big letters on mom's black-board:

"CONGRATULATIONS WN8ETC !!!"

It took a few seconds to register. After all, the only Ham calls I had ever heard were those of my elmers (Art, K8JHZ, Steve, W8DIA, and Dick, K1RAW/8, (or "Numero Uno" as they call him in Ten-Ten International) and maybe a few calls at the Novice class.

Eventually it sank in...

That's a Ham call on that black board !!! In those days, you didn't know if you passed your test until the license arrived in the mail. That was an excruciating 8 to 10 weeks. But I now had my own call-sign !!!

The next step was to acquire a rig, a key, and get an antenna up. My dad bought me a Heathkit DX-40 from one of the local guys and a high-school-aged Ham (Steve, W8DIA) moved in across the street who lent me a 40-meter dipole. I can't remember where I got my first key from. Oh, I also needed a crystal for the 40-meter novice band. I bought one locally and was ready to go.

QSO's were short and infrequent at first. But after a while, I got the hang of things and began making friends on the air. I worked most of the guys who had crystals within 5 or 10 Khz of my crystal. There was also a sort of pecking order amongst us. Guys who had WN8XXX calls issued before mine were given special honor as "the experienced ones", while those whose calls followed mine were expected to pay their dues.

But we all stuck together, especially when do or die time came around, even though each of us had to face it individually. We each had a year to upgrade or die an agonizing radio death.

(OK, that's exaggerating a bit, but most folks who didn't upgrade to General during or soon after their one year sabbatical to Novice land, ended up permanently QRT, or worse yet, stuck in Ham radio purgatory as a life-time Tech)

A couple of us tried the General test a tad prematurely. We pretty much knew we weren't ready, but we wanted to know what 13 words-per-minute sounded like. We took the test at the Cleveland Hamfest in the winter of 1962/63. I flunked the code miserably but heck, I still had several months of life as a Novice left, so I was OK. And I got to meet K8ETC at the hamfest, so that was cool.

By the way, in those days, if you flunked the code, you were done for the day. You only got a crack at the written exam if you passed the code test. Another bad thing was that the FCC

only had permanent staff in a few cities. In Cleveland, they only came around quarterly, unless it was for a hamfest or other special event. And it was an intimidating thing when those Feds walked in for a testing session. When you're 13 or 14 and have been drilled and grilled about the FCC rules and regs, you kind of got nervous around those guys.

But I'm off track again. Just how did I learn to love the code? I don't know. I just did. I didn't have a choice. It was CW contacts or stay off the radio. The loving came with just doing it. If I had never been forced to learn and use the code, I would never have known what I was missing.

I finished up those last few months as a Novice and had a ball. I got to have eyeball QSO's with other teenage Hams in the area and we'd always compare notes about what far-off stations we had worked. When WN8DXB told me he had worked Hawaii, my mouth dropped open. (or was it Jim's brother Jerry, WN8DXA?). Either way, nobody can do that on 40 meters, or at least that's what I had thought.

Well, I finally passed the General test, even though it took me 3 more tries. Ironically, the code wasn't the problem. I was copying close to 20 wpm at the end of my Novice year, but I flunked the written test twice before finally passing. Boy that was a good feeling. But it only lasted until 1968. That's when something called "Incentive licensing" came along. That's another story for another time.

So what's the point to this writing? If you think you might like code, try it out. Not just a QSO a week or even one a day. Pretend you're stuck on CW like we were in the 60's. In a few months you won't know yourself. Your code speed will double or triple just by doing what's fun, which is being on the radio and making contacts.

One more thing that will enhance your CW experience is to do an internet search for "Your Novice Accent" and read it. Some of the info is out-dated but most of it will be helpful. Forty-six years later, I still practice some of the things in that article.

Editor's Soapbox

Mark Saunders, KJ7BS SKCC 2240T

Let me share with you an observation. The SKCC email reflector is a very civil place.

I have membership in over fifty email lists for my many hobbies: amateur radio, rocketry, computers, shooting, camping, and fishing. There are times on most of these email lists where members get very nasty to the point where several members leave because of hurt feelings or insults. This is very destructive to the group and the amazing thing is the "list moderators" let it happen.

Let me compliment our list moderators here and on the SKCC forums. They do a great job keeping everything civil and everyone friends. The very few instances of escalating dialog in our list and forums have stemmed from not being able to adequately express emotion in the written word and someone

misinterpreting the meaning of something written. When the parties understand the conflict, they remedy it themselves.

I also want to compliment all SKCC members for their understanding and patience with our new members. Remember how you felt when you joined the club. You were unsure of putting your fist on the air. For some this was your first time with CW, let alone a straight key. The some of us graduated to bugs, cooties, or sides wipers, there was a lot of patience there. I remember how I was encouraged to practice and even get on the air when I got my Vibroplex Lightning Bug. I am not alone, you know how you are. If it were not for the encouragement from members who already had a bug fist, I'm not sure I would have stayed with it.

Now that we have established SKCC members are helpful and have a lot to offer, lets see if we can spread this to our global membership by helping them organize and run sprints and sprintathons. I'm sure they would like to participate with us, but are stifled by the lack of propagation and time differences.

Keep up the good work everyone, people are taking notice of our efforts. We have an outstanding club and I am proud to be a member.

Now go pound some brass!

SKCC Contest Results

SKS Sprint

December 24, 2008

This month's theme, show us your shack, key, or antenna decorated for the holidays.

Visit the SKS page <http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/> for full results.

There were 59 participants and the club call K9SKC was operated by Neil KE5WIK with a score of 319.

Category 1 – 1 Watt or less

1st Place Randy KB4QQJ - 0 points

2nd Place None

3rd Place None

Category 2 – >1 to 5 Watts

1st Place Don N1LU - 283 points

2nd Place Dan N4FI - 183 points

3rd Place George N2JNZ - 134 points

Category 3 – >5 to 100 Watts

1st Place Tom K4GZB - 1320 points

2nd Place Don WA1BXY - 1135 points

3rd Place Russ K0LUW - 1061 points

Category 4 – >100 Watts

1st Place John K4BAI - 2015 points

2nd Place None

3rd Place None

WES Sprintathon

November 9, 2008

This month's theme was dedicated to Bill, NT9K in recognition of his dedicated service to SKCC as sprint manager, now retired.

Visit the WES page <http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/wes/> for full results and to see the handy work of some of our members.

There were 94 participants and the club call was not used, but NT9K was the bonus call for this event. Bill, NT9K scored 1245 points.

Category 1 – 1 Watt or less

1st Place None

2nd Place None

3rd Place None

Category 2 – >1 to 5 Watts

1st Place Randy KB4QQJ - 637 points

2nd Place John KW4JS - 316 points

3rd Place Jason NT7S - 110 points

Category 3 – >5 to 100 Watts

1st Place Russ K0LUW - 5917 points

2nd Place Mark AD5WI - 4859 points

3rd Place Chas K8IJ - 3245 points

Category 4 – > 100 Watts

1st Place Phil KL8DX - 2414 points

2nd Place John K4BAI - 275 points

3rd Place Jack AE6GC - 97 points

New Members

4948, W5YW, LSU-Highland Road Observatory Station, Baton Rouge, LA

4949, G0UYG, Andy, Stokesley, United Kingdom

4950, AE4PC, Phil, Garner, NC

4951, KD2MU, Lou, Miller Place, NY

4952, 9V1VV, John, Singapore, Singapore

4953, NC4JP, John, Raleigh, NC

4954, I0QM, Bob, Rome, Italy

4955, N3DQU, Jay, New Castle, PA

4956, KG7AS, Brent, Federal Way, WA

4957, KI6LNY, Robert, Hacienda Heights, CA

4958, NO5W, Chuck, The Woodlands, TX

4959, WB2LHP, Jim, Camillus, NY

4960, WB9URN, Allen, Plainfield, IL

4961, WA6YAO, Bob, Yorba Linda, CA

4962, K0CW, Charles, Webster Groves, MO

4963, AK7O, Jack, Salt Lake City, UT

4964, VE2JCW, Jean, Saint Jerome, QC, Canada

4965, N3WT, John, Jefferson, MD

4966, KD6AEW, Rick, Orangevale, CA

4967, KB3BKJ, Lene, Silver Spring, MD

4968, KA2BVC, Al, Holley, NY

4969, KK9D, Dale, Wisconsin Rapids, WI

4970, W4ALE, Ron, Jefferson, GA

4971, N9AUG, Larry, Sunbury, OH

4972, NQ4D, Roy, Hayden, AL

4973, W1TF, TY, Statham, GA

4974, WA4VCB, Louie, Pensacola, FL

4975, K5ZU, John, Russellville, AR

4976, VE3LC, Norm, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

4977, VE1RO, Randall, Nova Scotia, Canada

4978, WW0W, Dave, Grand Haven, MI

4979, K2XC, James, Keeseville, NY

4980, VA6AW, Gary, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

4981, AJ4LE, Frank, Ormond, Beach, FL

4982, KG4HTT, Victor, Sterling, VA

4983, AB7CB, Dave, Boise, ID

4984, KG4WNA, John, Crestwood, KY

4985, KE9ZK, Kevin, Winnebago, IL

4986, NR9B, Bill, Muskegon, MI

4987, AC4FZ, Wallace, Lillington, NC

4988, K8YLL, Dave, Bellefontaine, OH

4989, AA8IV, Richard, Findlay, OH

4990, WA4FUU, Richard, Pensacola, FL

4991, KC9QQ, Fred, Martinsville, IN

4992, KD8JJ, Samantha, Bellefontaine, OH

4993, KB5SXC, Elbert, Leo Sherman, TX

4994, WB5ZCK, Phil, Village Mills, TX

4995, N0HER, Rich, Arvada, CO

4996, N8KCX, Ken, Cleveland, OH

4997, AA0GK, Brian, Jonesboro, AR

4998, W5AJD, Jerry, Baton Rouge, LA

4999, W0SZV, Eldon, Hawk Point, MO

5000, KJ4IJK, Gary, Palmetto, FL

5001, WB5NHH, David, Folsom, LA

5002, WB8SHO, Charles, South Charleston, OH

5003, WD5BTU, Tammy, Pflugerville, TX

5004, VE1GW, Geoff, Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada

5005, N3TL, Tim, Athens, GA

5006, WB2OQQ, Peter, Massapequa, NY

5007, AG3W, Alan, Pittsburgh, PA

5008, YC2EUZ, Dadang, Temanggung, Indonesia

5009, N4QX, Brennan, West Hartford, CT

5010, G3LHJ, Derrick, Newton, Abbot, Devon, United Kingdom

5011, S52CC, Vince, Maribor, Slovenia

5012, K1EAR, John, Rochester, NH

5013, WB5JWI, Les, Houston, TX

5014, K14GKS, Ed, Pell City, AL

5015, N6FME, Fred, Sparks, NV

5016, K3TM, Roger, Union, Bridge, MD

5017, W5TU, Bob, Richardson, TX

5018, KC2ILU, Dave, Fort Ann, NY

5019, K2IZ, John, Copiague, NY

5020, K4RIX, Charlie, Decatur, AL

5021, G4SPE, Gerry, Wiltshire, United Kingdom

5022, YC2BG, Bambang, Jogjakarta, Indonesia

5023, W3CKU, Jim, Chambersburg, PA

5024, KE6ACH, Yoshio, Granada Hills, CA

5025, OK1RP, Petr, Kostice, Czech Republic

5026, N0OSC, Drue, Red Oak, IA

5027, KE5ULV, Phil, Little Rock, AR

5028, OK1SP, Julius, Praha, Czech Republic

5029, WA4LLR, David, Burnsville, NC

5030, PD5CW, Jeroen, Oud-Gastel, Netherlands

5031, PH6SKCC, Jan, Geertruidenberg, Netherlands

5032, N9ZI, Terry, Decatur, IN
 5033, AB2ZI, Kevin, Hauppauge, NY
 5034, WA6UHO, Larry, Fall River Mills, CA
 5035, WB2VUF, Bob, Morris Plains, NJ

SKCC Awards

Centurion

258, AE6GC, 4461C, Jack, San Francisco, CA, 22 December, 2008
 259, K9PL, 258C, Philip, Morton Grove, IL, 22 December, 2008

Tribune

138, W4UCZ, 3609C, Mark, Atlanta, GA, 13 December, 2008
 139, W0CI, 2096C, Jerry, Urbandale, IA, 14 November, 2008
 140, KC9KHG, 3687C, Randy, Woodstock, IL, 14 December, 2008
 141, WL7WH, 2940C, Bob, Anchorage, AK, 14 November, 2008
 142, KE5WIQ, 4730C, Neil, Sugar Land, TX, 24 December, 2008
 143, N2UM, 3041C, Gary, Farmington, NY, 26 December, 2008
 144, KL8DX, 3800C, Phil, Denali National Park, AK, 26 December, 2008

Key Of The Month



The key was made at the University of Michigan's School of Engineering and was probably used for classroom demonstrations. The best guess is that it dates from somewhere around 1910-1920. The key has both "make" and "break" contacts and makes a very musical clickity-clack sound when used. There are no adjustments but it is easy to use and has a good feel anyway. I'm a graduate of U of M so owning and occasionally using this key is extra special for me.

If you would like your key featured in Key of The Month, send your picture and a short description to kj7bs@cox.net.

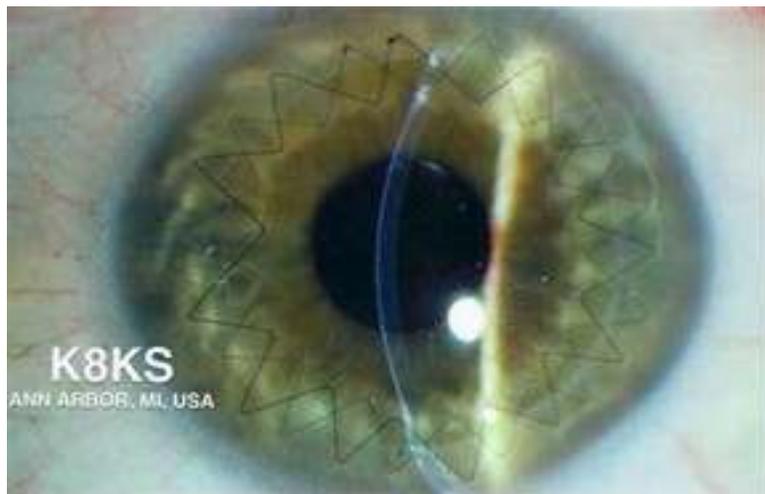
Shack Of The Month



VK4JAZ—The band must be cooperating because against all expectations, I had a fb qso - 559 - with Stan, ZL2BLQ on the evening of 24 November. My QTH is Brisbane, Australia and his is Greytown, New Zealand. That's a distance of 2,477 km. My rig was a 20m RockMite that puts out all of 500mW. My key was a 100 year old GPO straight key. Stan was putting out 80W. He also is the custodian of ZL2SWR club station, so that's two very valuable points towards my 1xQRP award. See my rig and key in the attached pic.

Email pictures of your shack with a description to kj7bs@cox.net.

QSL Of The Month



Send images of your QSL card and see them posted for all members to see. Email images to kj7bs@cox.net

Member Products

Wooden Key Bases

George Osier, N2JNZ, makes beautiful key bases for your keys. "I have made bases in Redheart, Chechen and Santo Mahogany in 5/8 and 1 inch thickness. I finish the bases in Minwax Wipe On Poly Gloss which gives a great shine but doesn't make the wood look like its covered in plastic" says George. Samples of the bases are on the SKCC YAHOO group under PHOTOS and then to the N2JNZ Keys Folder. These are made from exotic woods and some are almost too pretty to drill holes into for mounting your key. Contact George gosier@twcny.rr.com for a list of exotic woods currently available. Key base pricing is \$10 each plus \$5 USPS Priority Mail shipping.

Here are two samples of his work. On the left is Redheart and on the right is Chechen.



These key bases are 8 1/2 inches long, 5 1/2 inches wide and 1/2 inch thick. These will make any key look good and will be a nice addition to your shack.

Gold SKCC Stickers

Mark Saunders, KJ7BS, is making Gold SKCC stickers available to all SKCC members. These stickers are 1 inch in diameter peel-and-stick gold foil stickers. The gold stickers come 63 to a sheet on an 8 1/2 x 11 inch page. The sticker has the SKCC key logo centered on the sticker and member numbers can be printed below the logo, including Centurion and Tribune designators. Pricing for the Gold SKCC stickers is very reasonable \$0.60 per sheet of 63 plus shipping.



- 1 sheet (63) \$1.19
- 2 sheets (126) \$2.18
- 3 sheets (189) \$2.78
- 4 sheets (252) \$3.38
- 5 sheets (315) \$4.15
- 6 sheets (378) \$4.75

- 7 sheets (441) \$5.35
- 8 sheets (504) \$6.12
- 9 sheets (567) \$6.72
- 10 sheets (630) \$7.32

(Prices include shipping)

Quantities over 10 sheets, please contact Mark for postage quote. Processing is 5-7 days excluding weekends. Orders and payments via PayPal to kj7bs@cox.net, USPS money order or check to:

Mark Saunders
13226 N. 62nd Dr.
Glendale, AZ 85304

Please include the above pricing when ordering,

The SKCC Centurion

13226 N. 62nd Dr.
Glendale, AZ 85304
Phone: 623-606-1976
kj7bs@arrl.net

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@yahoo.com with Subscribe in the subject. (485 members subscribed to electronic delivery)

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](telnet://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>.

SKCC Elmers—Jeff, K9JP (SKCC # 3008) manages the group of SKCC members serving as Elmers for the club. Anyone wishing assistance can visit the SKCC Elmers page for more information, <http://www.skccgroup.com/elmers.htm>.