



# **LICW TEACHERS OF MORSE CODE**

# THE RENAISSANCE OF MORSE CODE

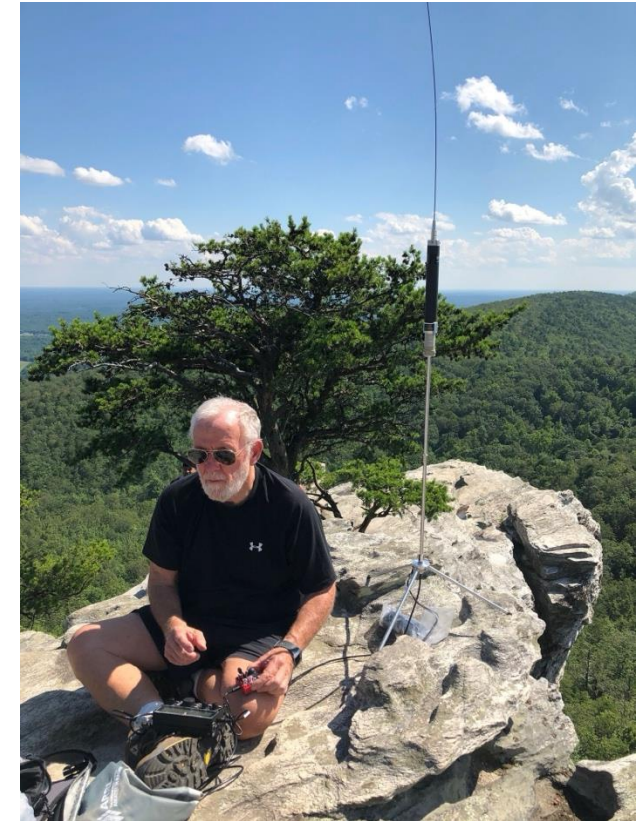


## > Morse Code in a hi-tech world

- International reach
- Reliability
- Nostalgia
- Portability
  - SOTA/POTA



**Jim N0IPA activating Mt.  
Sherman 14,000'**



**Bob K4RLC activating  
Hanging Rock State Park**

# WHY SHOULD I LEARN MORSE CODE?



## › It's Fun!

- A rewarding skill with a strong community

## › Low power & modest antenna offer Big Results!

## › Works even in poor signal conditions

## › It is the original operating mode of Ham Radio

- Connection to the origins of radio communication



# WHAT ARE WE SAYING IN MORSE CODE?



## > Messages can be simple to conversational

## > The Exchange

- Short vs. Long
- Often just a signal report and our location
  - POTA, SOTA, DX ...

## > Standard QSO (Conversational)

- 1st exchange: RST (signal report), QTH (location), Name
- 2nd exchange: Rig (radio), Antenna, Weather
- Ending: A polite goodbye

### PROTOCOL-1

(their call) DE (your call)

1. GM/GA/GE ES TNX FER (CALL/RPRT)
2. UR RST 599
3. QTH FRESNO, CA
4. NAME JIM
5. OK HW?  $\overline{\text{AR}}$

} x2

(their call) DE (your call) K

### PROTOCOL-2

(their call) DE (your call)

1. OK (John) FB ES TNX FER (INFO/RPRT)
2. RIG IC 7300 ES PWR 50W
3. ANT DIPOLE UP 45 FT
4. WX Rain ES TEMP 50F
5. OK HW?  $\overline{\text{AR}}$

(their call) DE (your call) K

# IS IT HARD TO LEARN MORSE CODE?



**Commitment of time is required**

Achievable!

**Fluency**

About a year of regular practice

**Basic proficiency**

About 4 months to get on the air

**Mastery**

Several years, but the journey is rewarding!



➤ Teaching methods [video](#)

- **Character Introduction in the Koch Method (single letter)**
- **12 WPM**
- **Character sequence based on QSO Protocol**
- **Ensure characters heard as single acoustic sounds**
- **Establish character sound familiarity**
- **Character Recognition with focus on ICR/IER**
  - Time to recognize and not dwelling on errors



# A LITTLE BIT ABOUT OUR CLUB



## ➤ Founded in 2018

- More CW operators needed / Field Day in 2017
- A way to give back to the community
- Goal: 50 members / Long Island area

## ➤ More successful than we ever dreamed

- Over 6000 members
- All 50 US States
- Over 60 countries around the world
- Over 100 Instructors and Moderators
- Over 150 Classes/Forums weekly on Zoom
- English & Spanish





# CLUB RESOURCES



- **LICW YouTube Channel**
- **LICW Newsletter**
- **LICW Facebook Page**
- **LICW This Week Podcast**
- **LICW Discord Server (Chat, Sked)**
- **LICW DMR: TGIF Network, Talk Group**
- **LICW Dropbox**
- **LICW Groups.io**
- **LICW Morse Practice Page**
- **LICW VBand Channel Page**
- **LICW Challenge Page**
- **LICW Academic Downloads**

# BEYOND CORE CURRICULUM



- **Intro to Club Resources**
- **Foundational Classes**
  - Sending Prep**
  - Building Productive Practice Habits**
  - Sending Fundamentals**
- **Women's Only**
- **Hams with Disabilities**
- **National Traffic System**
- **London Calling**
- **Fun Friday**
- **Gud Fists Sending**
- **Essential Operating Subjects**
- **Qualifying Runs**
- **Code Buddy Program**
- **CW Workshop**
- **QSO Protocol**
- **Digital Talk Group**
- **Internet CW – VBand**
- **CW Makers**

- **Boat Anchors**
- **QRP**
- **Contesting**
- **Technology**
- **Antennas**
- **DXpeditions**
- **Historical Events**

- **Morserino Users**
- **Satellites**
- **POTA and SOTA**
- **Wild About Bugs**
- **Elmer 101**
- **Portable Ops**
- **Electronic Theory**

# OUR MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES OVER 300 YL'S



- Instructors
- Moderators
- Other leadership roles

*Cathy W4CMG and Anne KC9YL accepting a prestigious award on behalf of LICW*



# COMMITMENT TO ACCESSIBILITY FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



- **Pilot Program for Autistic Adults**
- **CW for the Hearing Impaired**
- **CW for the Visually Impaired**
- **Documents, Website, Practice Page**
  - optimized for screen readers
  - used by the visually impaired





# KIDS PROGRAM



- **Developed during COVID**
- **Small classes of 3-5 kids**
  - One on one when needed
- **Ages 5 to 17**
- **U.S., Canada, and the U.K.**
- **Adult curriculum modified for how kids learn**
- **Over 600 have learned CW so far**





# QUESTIONS?

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