

The Club would like to thank Kat Gonderinger, WOUM, for serving as reporter, proofreader, editor, marketing manager and publisher of "The Splatter" for the last eight years.

Kat is stepping away from these tasks to pursue personal projects. Her creative skills will be missed.

Please join the board in wishing her success and happiness in all of her future endeavors.

THANKS KAT!

### MAY Meeting will be on Zoom on Wed, May 17, at 6:30 pm.

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81928642821?pwd=WXNSTjdEd Hd5emZaaDRaaENQdnFWZz09

See p.4 for more info.



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### From the Editor's Desk

Our weather has been so bi-polar here lately, I hear they're going to try cloud seeding with Zoloft!

Kat, WOUM, is stepping down from her duties as monthly assembler of the Splatter to attend to other life callings. We wish her luck with all of her projects and we're very happy that she's staying on in her educational role.

Don't miss the President's Corner on page 5 for the latest from our board president Chuck, KOITP.



Ready for Field Day 2023? Well let's get with the program! Page 6

LARC's very own, Bill Cody, K3CDY, got an article published in last month's QST. You can read it here on page 12

And now, a word from our sponsors. SHOP LOCAL! On page 14

Join us on Saturday mornings when the 'brain trust' meets for breakfast. Location can change from week to week so listen to the weekly nets or watch your email for times and locations.

Until next month – be safe and 73

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 $\mathsf{Bob}-\mathsf{NOZFV}$ 



#### From the Virtual Desk of Charles Poch, K0ITP

Sorry it's been a while, but here's some news and events for your club.

I would like to say a special "THANKS!" to the LARCfest Committee and volunteers that made this year's event successful! You know who you are. Give yourself a big round of applause!

- We're looking for help on the splatter. If you have articles, ideas, suggestions, or anything that you feel may help our newsletter, please contact Bob (N0ZFV) at <u>n0zfv@yahoo.com</u>.

- Field day is just around the corner. The club will be building antennas on May 13th for field day and future events. Contact Ed (WA7EM) at ejmohrman@yahoo.com for more details.

- Also on May 13<sup>th</sup>, and back by popular demand! we will be building VHF Yagi tape measure antennas. Cost is \$10. Contact me at k0itp@w0eno.org for more information and to sign up.

- May 27th will be another LARC Fox Hunt (DIY Antenna's only) at Golden Ponds Park. Contact Ed (WA7EM) at ejmohrman@yahoo.com for more details.

- May 27th - Doug Sharp (K2AD) has invited the club to his house in Firestone to participate in the W1AW/0 event. This is part of the ARRL VOTA event that is going on all year. Doug will have one of the RM HAM vans and other setups for hams to participate. Please contact Doug at doug@dougsharp.com for more info and to RSVP.

- Children's Hospital Courage Classic Bike Tour 2023 in Need of Volunteers. July 14th - 16th. More information on page XX of this month's Splatter.

- Like EMCOMM? Hate being unprepared? Need organization in your life? Then we have the group for you. LARC team is building "Incident Action Plans" (IAPs) for club events. This team will build, maintain and support plans for:

- 1. Field Day
- 2. Winter Field Day

President's

Corner

- 3. LARC fest
- 4. Fox Hunts
- 5. Holiday Parties
- 6. Generic / Special Event

IAPs have been used for managing everything from earthquakes and wildland fires to wedding receptions and birthday parties. If interested in being part of this team to make our events a learning experience and fun, contact Bob (N0ZFV) at <u>n0zfv@yahoo.com</u>.

- Reminder if you volunteer to run one of the club's nets 5 times during the year, you can get a free year's membership to LARC.

Looking for old radio equipment and test equipment. I know a guy. Contact me for more info.

Like special events? Want to help plan one. I am putting together a committee to plan a fall special event in September. Contact me if interested.

I always say this is <u>your</u> club. How can you help? We're always looking for individuals like you to help with committees and general volunteering for our LARCFest Committee, Christmas Party, and other club events. If you can help or want to be more involved with your Club, please contact a member of the board.

As always, please contact me with any questions, comments, suggestions, or Concerns.

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Thank you and 73!

Charles Poch - K0ITP K0ITP@W0ENO.ORG

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### Our May General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 17th, at 6:30 via Zoom.

Some requests for when you join our meetings:

• When you fill out your name, <u>please add your call sign</u> **after your first name**. (Example: Chuck (K0ITP) Poch). If you don't have a call sign yet, just put "no call." You can change your name field with the 3 little dots at the top right corner of your screen.

• You will be muted automatically. (If you need help getting in, call out on our club repeater via VHF, UHF, or on EchoLink). Be sure to have your video going and your volume up, so we can see, hear, and interact with you! The Zoom meeting will start at 6:30 pm with social time, ask an Elmer, meet a Board member, and general questions. The *actual meeting* begins at 7:00 pm, with intros & elections, and then Chuck, our President, will speak about our activities in 2023 and plans & ideas for 2023.

## *Going forward, this Zoom info will be the same for all Monthly General Meetings.*

Our Zoom Meetings are held and found on this link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81928642821?pwd=WXNSTjdEdHd5emZaaDRaaENQ dnFWZz09

Meeting ID: 819 2864 2821

**Passcode:** 787437 Find your local number: <u>https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kcsybGuZpe</u>.

#### If you have to miss this meeting, you can see our meetings at

HTTPS://WOENO.ORG/MEETING-PRESENTATIONS/.

### Ham Jargon

CQ

Pronounced "Seek You". HAMs call CQ when looking for someone to chat with. For Morse Code operators, this saves time, effort and keystrokes.

### **Call for Articles!**

We're always looking for articles to publish in the Splatter monthly newsletter. Topics should apply to Amateur Radio, or other closely-related topics of interest to most ham operators. Tell us about your ham radio activities and projects. Articles (250-500 words) detailing things you have done and/or built (with pictures!) are always of interest.

Submissions may be edited for spelling, grammar, content, or length if necessary. The deadline for submissions is the 25th of each month; however, submissions received after the deadline will be considered if they fit into the newsletter. If a late entry doesn't make it into the current month's news, it may be used in one of the following months.

### **Are Your LARC Dues Current?**

Did you know that your dues and/or annual renewals can be paid online at the club website (w@eno.org) using PayPal? You don't have to have a PayPal account; you can pay with a credit card (Visa, MC, Discover, AmEx), or select 'bill me later.' You can also join or

renew by mailing a check to the club (LARC, P.O. Box 86, Longmont, CO, 80502), or by giving payment to Steve Shearer (K0STE) at a club meeting when we start having them in person again. *If you aren't current on your dues, you are moved to a different mailing list and may not get club info, emails & this Splatter newsletter. Get them paid up, send email, and you're back on the list!* 

Yearly dues are only \$20 per year for an individual or for a family at the same address. You can find membership information by clicking on the Membership link on our club web page. Contact Steve at <u>membership@w0eno.org</u> if you need to know your current dues status.









### June 24th & 25th, 2023

### **Boulder County Fairgrounds Pavilion**

### 9595 Nelson Rd, Longmont Colorado 80501

**Contact Dick, KE0VT for more information!** 

### gwabi2@hotmail.com

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### Git Yer RED HOTS HERE!

#### 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Charles Poch, KØITP Vice President: Michael Ritchie, WØKKI Secretary: Pat Engstrom, W1PGE Treasurer: Don Lewis, KEØEE

ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS: Membership: Steve Shearer, KØSTE Technical: Mark Skelton, N7CTM and Bryan Gonderinger, AFØW Publicity: Steve Haverstick, KFØAGY Splatter Editor: Bob Smith, NØZFV Planning/Special Events: Dick Paige,

KEØVT

BCARES Representative: Jerry Schmidt, NØOUW

Repeater Trustee: Bryan, AFØW Education: Kat, W0UM & Bryan, AFØW LARCFest Chair: Dick Paige, KEØVT VE Team Leads: Aaron, AJ7R & Kat, W0UM

LARC Photographer: Raman Sinha, KVØN

#### Contact Us:

Email to: <u>board@w0eno.org</u> will reach all members of the Board.

Board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm. General Club meetings are held on the third Wed. of each month at 6:30 pm.

Current Club meetings are held online using Zoom and are open to all. Join us!

If you have a suggestion for a topic or for a guest speaker, or would like to present a topic yourself, please send email to <u>Chuck</u>, <u>KØITP</u>.

If you have a general interest article about ham radio that you would like to see in a future issue of Splatter, please email it to Bob, NOZFV.

Articles received by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the previous month will be considered for publication in the issue for that month.

Longmont Amateur Radio Club P.O. Box 86 Longmont, CO 80502

LARC is a non-profit organization organized exclusively for one or more of the purposes as specified in Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code Vol. 17. No.6.

#### Repeaters:

VHF: 147.270 MHz (+) 600 kHz, 100 Hz CTCSS UHF: 448.800 MHz (-) 5 MHz, 88.5 Hz CTCSS

Echolink: W0ENO-R, Station #8305 Check out these HOT LINKS!

LARC Website

Donate to our club

Our Facebook Page

Join LARC

Join ARRL

**QSO Party and Contest Information:** 

More Special Event station info

Learn more about having fun with QSO Parties

**Online HAM Seminars:** 

www.RatPAc.us K8ZT Presentations

Our Affiliate Clubs

<u>BCARES</u> <u>Mile-Hi DX Association</u> <u>Indian Peaks Radio Club</u> <u>Rocky Mountain Ham Radio</u> Northern Colorado Amateur Radio Club

<u>Grid Down, Power Up – The Movie</u>



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### Mountain Time

	VE Testing	
Laurel / Patriot Team	Every other odd month on the fourth Saturday - 9:00 Al Next Session on May 27th In person on your laptop or tablet, or on paper	M Start No Fee
LARC ARRL VE Team	Every other even month on the fourth Saturday - 10:00 Next Session on June 24th In person on paper	AM Start \$15 Fee

(			SPECIAL EVENTS	)
	3-May WED	7:00 PM	LARC Board Meeting	
	5-May FRI	:	Cinco de Mayo	
	8-May MON	7:00 PM	ARRL Colorado Section Net	
			- https://www.colorado-arrl.us/arrl-colorado-section-net/	
	13-May SAT	9:00 PM	Antenna Build Class - Clover Building / Bldr Cnty Fairgrounds	
	14-May SUN	:	Mother's Day (Mom NEEDS a Radio!)	
	15-May MON	6:30 PM	NWS Skywarn Spotter Training Online	
	17-May WED	6:30 PM	LARC Monthly Membership Meeting - Live & Zoom	
	27-May SAT	:	LARC Fox Hunt - See President's Corner in this issue	
		1:00 PM	ARRL VOTA outing at K2AD - See President's Corner in this issue	

		Recurring	
Mondays	6:30 PM	6 Meter Net - 50.160MHz (Temporarily on hold)	
Tuesdays	7:00 PM	LARC Hamlet Net - 147.27 (+) 100 Hz tone   448.8 (-) 88.5 Hz tone	
Wednesdays	7:00 PM	Digital Learning Net - every Wed on 449.45 (Not a LARC Event)	
Thursdays	:	Winlink Thursdays - see: EmComm-Training.groups.io	
	7:00 PM	RatPac.us EMCOMM Zoom (Not a LARC Event)	
		LARC Thursday Night Club Net - 147.27 (+) 100 Hz tone   448.8 (-) 88.5 Hz	
	8:00 PM	tone	
Saturdays	8:00 AM	Breakfast at Hidden Café, Longmont - monitor LARC Repeaters for changes	





# Morse Code Rhythm Patterns from A to Z

Learn Morse code with a musical approach, then practice your skills with the sheet music provided at www.arrl.org/qst-in-depth.

#### William "Bill" Cody, K3CDY

I decided to tackle Morse code as a brain exercise during my retirement years. After enrolling in the excellent CWops CW Academy Beginner class, my fi rst challenge was learning the letters. I used several teaching aids, such as Nilex Morse Tutor, Morse-It, and Morse Code World, among others. Though they were helpful, they didn't tap into the musical part of my brain.

For some reason, many technical types (e.g., hams) are also musicians. I happen to be an active musician, and after realizing that my paddle is just another instrument, I wanted to take a musical approach to Morse code. I thought that a new angle might help me and my fellow operators.

#### Concept

Assuming standard Morse code conventions, dits and dahs can be assigned the following musical note durations:

Elements	Percent Duration	Equivalent Note	Symbols	Comment
dit	100%	eighth note		
dah	300%	dotted quarter note		same as three dits or three eighth notes
letter space	300%	eighth rest and quarter rest	72	same as dah

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#### Elements

For the purposes of this article, the elements presented are only three of the four used in Morse code. The fourth element is the *word space*, which is equivalent to seven dits. I didn't include word spaces because this is an aid for learning single characters, as opposed to successive words.

#### Percent Duration

Per accepted Morse conventions, a dit is 100% duration, a dah is 300% duration, and the space between each letter is 300% duration. The duration in seconds (or milliseconds) is based on the speed (wpm) you choose, or in this case, the speed at which you set your metronome. If you don't have a metronome to help you maintain a consistent rhythm, an internet search will yield several online metronomes.

#### **Equivalent Note**

*Equivalent note* is the name of the equivalent musical symbol. For the *letter space*, which is equivalent to three dits, you'll see an eighth rest and a quarter rest next to each other in no particular order.

#### **Symbols**

This is what you'll see on the sheet music.

#### Presentation

Using the described conventions, I created a series of notes and rests representing Morse code letters A through Z. I excluded numbers because they appear to be the only logical elements in Morse code. I used a drum clef, with the eighth note

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sounding a snare drum, and the dotted quarter note

Several letters required unusual time signatures (7/4, 9/4, 11/4, etc.) to simplify presentation and maximize readability. If I left everything in 4/4 time, the music would look confusing due to the required syncopation.

Each line of the musical score is assigned to each letter of the alphabet. The metronome marking ( = 25) means that each quarter note (two dits) is worth one click of the metronome at 225 BPM — this equals approximately 18 wpm. A rate of 225 BPM is considered fast in typical music, but it is just right for this purpose. Remember that a dah is three dits, not two. The dah is a dotted quarter note, which is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  clicks; that's why syncopation occurs with many letters when playing along with a metronome.

#### Practicing

Visit **www.arrl.org/qst-in-depth** for the score, then set your metronome to 225 BPM, and get accustomed to the speed and beats per measure. For example, "A" is presented in 7/4, so repeatedly count 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 along with the metronome until you get the feel for it. Try to find the "1" of each measure. Play the score as written — first in your head, then using your key. Move on to the next line when you're ready. If you have trouble, reduce the speed until you understand the pattern, then gradually increase your speed.

The hardest obstacle is getting used to the odd time signatures and natural syncopation of most characters, but it becomes second nature with practice. Reprinted with permission; copyright ARRL See QST in Depth for More!

Visit www.arrl.org/qst-in-depth for the following supplementary materials and updates:

Morse code rhythm pattern score

William "Bill" Cody, K3CDY, earned his Technician-class license in July 2020 and General-class license in November 2020. His ham shack has a SunSDR2 DX SDR transceiver and a 66-foot end-fed half-wave antenna, for operating primarily on 20 and 40 meters. He is a CWops CW Academy student and looks forward to improving his Morse code skills. Bill is a retired IT professional with 4 decades of experience working with real-time computers for military and commercial fl ight simulators. He has been a musician since the 1970s, performing keyboards, bass guitar, and vocals. Additionally, Bill has a home studio where he provides recording and music production services.

For updates to this article, see the QST Feedback page at www.arrl.org/feedback.



William "Bill" Cody, K3CDY, is a member of the Longmont Amateur Radio Club.

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#### For LARC Patches and Club Apparel:



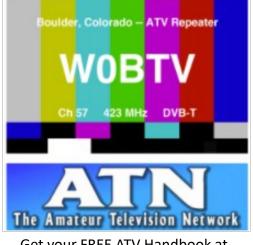
Harlan Olson, W0HLO 1531 Hilltop Dr, Longmont, CO 80504 303 717-4514

Link your King Sooper card to LARC (org #VW736)



https://www.kingsoopers.com/i/community/com munity-rewards





Get your FREE ATV Handbook at <u>https://kh6htv.files.wordpress.com/2021/02/an-55a-atv-handbook-1.pdf</u>





Dick Paige, KEOVT PO Box 1105, Firestone CO 80520-1105 (720) 220-1931 PrintingLink@hotmail.com

#### **Our Affiliate Clubs**

Rocky Mountain Ham Radio https://www.rmham.org/

Northern Colorado Amateur Radio Club http://www.ncarc.net/

Indian Peaks Radio Club https://w0ned.org/site/

BCARES https://bouldercountvares.org/

Mile-Hi DX Association https://mhdxa.org/



Clint Bradford, K6LCS

work-sat.com

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