



Dots & Dashes

What

Hath

God

Wrought

The Official Publication of the Morse Telegraph Club, Inc.

Vol. 43, Issue No. 1 • Winter 2017-2018

MUSEUM VOLUNTEER KEEPS TELEGRAPHY ALIVE

This article, written by Jocelyn Turner, is reprinted from the Herald Tribune

You don't always appreciate what you have until it's gone. The same could very well be said for telegraphy, or the use of Morse code.

Grande Prairie Museum volunteer Merle Shockey still communicates using those dots and dashes, sending messages to Ontario and elsewhere in North America with his home system.

But the original form of digital communications is not seen much anymore.

"In order to be hired on the railroad as a telegraph operator, you had to send and receive 20 words a minute," he explained. Once I was 18 and I managed to do that, then I was hired on the railway.

That was 1950. Most of our communications then was by telegraph and as time went on, like five or 10 years, we started getting telephones that we'd communicate with, and then pretty soon the teletype came in. Then the radio started coming in where they could talk to one crew and then crew to dispatcher and that sort of thing."

Starting out, Shockey worked as a relief for

operators going on holidays for a week or two at a time. He said he pretty much lived out of a suitcase in the early years of his career, going from city to city.

"I got to see a lot of the country," he said. "After you built enough seniority, you moved into a permanent job and you could sit there as long as

you wanted, but it was mostly night shifts or afternoon shifts. I always said I worked (only) 20 years in the day time."

Learning Morse code, he said, is like learning another language, something you have to be consistent with to be able to pick up.

Shockey said about 20 years after he started working, the telegraph offices started to close, as everything was coming by phone and radio. He moved into another department, the train dispatcher department, now called centralized traffic control. He worked in Winnipeg dispatching trains before moving to Edmonton. He worked in Edmonton for 20 years



Telegrapher Merle Shockey demonstrates how the telegraph works while at the Grande Prairie Museum.

JOCELYN TURNER/DAILY HERALD-TRIBUNE

Dots & Dashes

The official publication of

The Morse Telegraph Club, Inc.

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Local Chapter Members: Members of local chapters should send all correspondence regarding address changes, membership renewals and similar information to their local Chapter Secretary/Treasurer. If you do not know your Chapter Secretary/Treasurer, please inquire with the International Secretary/Treasurer to obtain the necessary contact information.

Your Articles and Stories: MTC is always looking for original photographs, stories and articles about your experiences in telegraphy or radiotelegraphy. Please send articles and news stories to the Editor of *Dots & Dashes*.

Telegraph Talks and Demonstrations: If you or your local chapter should schedule any demonstrations, talks or other special events, please notify the International President so he can publish your event in our on-line calendar.

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The next issue of *Dots & Dashes* is scheduled for publication on March 30th, with submission deadline three weeks prior to that date.

➡ This ad runs routinely in the *World Radio News*:

Morse Telegraph Club

Landline Morse is Alive and well!

Dots & Dashes newsletter
The Ace Holman national telegraph office & hub
Internet Telegraphy Railroad Telegraphy
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Learn more about the history of the telegraph or simply enjoy using American Morse Code and authentic telegraph equipment.

www.morsetelegraphclub.org



Sidewire

Comments from the
Editor of *Dots & Dashes*

By Jim Wilson



Winter is back so it's time to hibernate and enjoy the indoors. Please stay warm and safe inside your cozy homes. And watch out for those slippery patches of ice. Take time to re-read past copies of your

Dots & Dashes journal.

In my previous Sidewire comments, I revealed the secret that I had begun the process of creating a U.S. postage stamp to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the electric telegraph. Recall that on May 24, 1844, the electric telegraph was demonstrated to the U.S. Congress. Samuel "Finney" Morse was at the telegraph key in Washington, DC and his business partner, Alfred Vail, was at the key in Baltimore Maryland. This event marked the beginning of our modern electronic revolution.

After I started the ball rolling on a U.S. postage stamp to commemorate the telegraph, it occurred to me that you, our Canadian members, also might like a telegraph postage stamp. So, I am now proud to announce to you that I initiated the production of a Canadian postage stamp commemorating the electric telegraph. But alas, the Canadian Postal Service informed me that this was American history, not Canadian history. Darn!

With a New Year come new opportunities to demonstrate the telegraph to a curious public. If you can, please volunteer to do a demo. And a new year means that you're 2018 MTC dues need to be mailed to our new International Secretary-Treasurer, Richard Williams or to your Chapter Secretary-Treasurer. Write that check right now. And send me an article for publication, your experiences as a railroad telegraph operator. Our members want to read your story.

Jim Wilson

President's Line

Jim Wades, President
Morse Telegraph Club, Inc.



Hopefully, this issue of the President's Line finds everyone in good health.

2018 promises to be a good year for our organization. We finally have a new International Secretary Treasurer! Richard Williams has agreed to take this position and is already "on the ball," taking on the duties in a very proactive manner. Richard has an excellent professional background in finance and accounting, auditing and other applicable areas. Our thanks to Richard for taking on this responsibility.

Speaking of the International Secretary-Treasurer's position; this is, of course, dues season. Dues notices will be mailed soon. While the process is essentially the same as in previous years, the address to which dues should be mailed has, of course, changed. Please await receipt of the annual dues notice before proceeding with payment.

2016 and 2017 were difficult years for MTC. Illness and the ravages of time have impacted several Chapters, which lost key leadership and dissolved. Members of dissolved chapters are encouraged to join a neighboring chapter or renew as a Grand Chapter member.

Membership is, of course, extremely important to an organization such as ours. Active members can do much to recruit new members. There are numerous ways to do this. Radio amateurs who are active in local clubs can certainly "talk-up" MTC. A simple presentation on the history of telegraphy or telegraph instruments can spark an interest in others. A table at a ham radio swap meet populated with interesting telegraph instruments and some sample copies of *Dots & Dashes* can prove very appealing.

Railroad organizations are also a potential source of members. Retiree associations, railway historical society chapters and so forth offer an opportunity to talk about MTC. If one has a formal presentation arranged, your International President can provide a Power Point presentation, which is ready to go. Some sample copies of *Dots & Dashes* can

continued on page 5

continued from front page

before retiring and moving to Grande Prairie in 1990.

“It just like riding a bicycle, once you learn it you never forget it,” he said. “The last time I actually used telegraph with the railroad was about 1974 or 75.”

A telegraph operator had an important job. Messages would come across the telegraph that operators would have to double check to ensure that trains coming along the line were making their destinations.

In the fall of 1950, there was a major train wreck that killed 17 people west of Jasper.

“The telegraph operator that was involved, he had a court case the next spring and John Diefenbaker was his lawyer. The rules and regulations were: when you copied a train order at that time, it said you should listen to the repeats of the other operators. You had to trains coming, one operator would copy saying the train was going to meet at a certain place and the other guy would

copy the same one. Basically, you had to have the same (information) on both train orders but in this case they got things mixed up and the train went by where it was supposed to meet and it hit the other one head on. That was the first fall that I worked,” he said.

“(in court) John Diefenbaker said that it doesn’t say you definitely have to check the repeats just said you should, so after that court case they changed the rule book.”

The art of Morse code for communication is dying. Shockey said most people younger than 65 probably do not know how to do it, adding that he’s not sure if there are any other telegraphers in the area. But to see how it’s done, Shockey said he’s at the museum for special events and occasions, teaching youngsters how to send Morse code messages with the system set up there.

“When the kids come in here, I always teach them the word, ‘Hi’ because it’s for dots and two dots. And they’re not long picking it up,” he said.

‘MY GOD, I‘M...’ LAST WORDS OF A HERO WHO SAVED 208 LIVES.

Submitted by Doug Rowlands, member of the GO Chapter in Ottawa, Canada

Wireless operator from Almonte stuck to his duties as steamer struck rock in 1909.

One summer day in 2014 a Toronto resident, new to the area, was driving along a concession road outside Almonte (just West of Ottawa, Ontario) and noticed a weather-beaten and rotting plywood sign on the edge of a cornfield. It marked the birthplace of George Eccles, who died in 1909 while trying to save the passengers of the SS Ohio, a 340-foot steamer that struck a rock off the coast of British Columbia in the dead of an August night. He had used wireless telegraphy to alert two nearby ships of the emergency, provided the location and stuck to his duties until more than 200 passengers were safely disembarked. Heightening the drama were his final, desperate transmissions: “Passengers all off and adrift in small boats. Captain and crew going off in last boat, waiting for me now. Goodbye. My God, I’m...” It seems he lost his life when he went in search of a shipmate below decks.

The driver thought to himself, here was a local hero being commemorated - and wondered how it was that the sign had been allowed to deteriorate so badly? Making inquiries, he also learned that Mr. Eccles was buried in Almonte’s St. Paul’s Anglican Church cemetery without a stone or marker! In early November 2017, as a result of the driver’s resolve, a group of politicians and local heritage activists gathered at the old Eccles farm to unveil a brand new sign, this one coloured and laminated – and meant to last!

What is remarkable about the George Eccles tale is the way he was celebrated as a hero around the world while living his own story of personal redemption. In 1909 wireless transmission was so new a technology that he is described as the first wireless operator to die in a shipping accident – three years before the Titanic. (He is recognized on a plaque in Manhattan’s Battery Park at a monument erected to “fallen wireless boys.” George was born in 1873 and learned telegraphy

at the Almonte CPR station. He then went on to work in the rail yards in Winnipeg, Manitoba where, in 1905, he was held responsible for a communications error that resulted in a head-on train collision with at least one fatality – as a result he was dismissed. The ensuing investigation revealed that, at the time, he had been working his telegraph position for some 36 hours straight! He then moved on to Seattle, WA where he secured employment with the firm that operated the SS Ohio to Alaska. And, as a cruel final irony, George

had given notice of his resignation just before departure – it was to have been his last sailing!

The prime mover behind this tale has remarked that Eccles has shown to the world what a man's sense of duty is – that such acts of nobility and selflessness never get old.

Excerpted and edited from a newspaper article appearing in the Ottawa Citizen and written by reporter Kelly Egan

President's Line continued

be obtained by contacting Jim Wilson, our *Dots & Dashes* Editor. For important events, we have table-top glass display cases containing telegraph instruments and ephemera, which can be loaned. Unfortunately, they probably can't be shipped, so the geographic coverage is limited, but for events in the Eastern, Central US or Ontario, Montreal, etc., we can probably arrange to transport them if sufficient notice is available.

On a related note; springtime often results in requests for "signaling classes" from scouting organizations. Several years ago, we were receiving so many requests for these classes that we finally purchased a quantity of code practice oscillators and similar devices and built up a

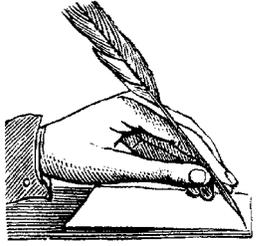
"scout signaling kit." This is available for loan as well. If you receive a request of this type, please contact your International President. We can ship the signaling kit to you. We can also provide a nice article on a recommended procedure for putting on a very successful scout signaling class...lessons learned from first-hand experience.

Now that we have a new International Secretary-Treasurer in place, your International President is going to concentrate on member recruiting, outreach, education and rebuilding our roster of leadership.

Let's get out and spread the word!

*Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year to
MTC members!*

*former International Secretary-
Treasurer Cindy Galyen.*



Letters to the Editor

October 22nd

At our FALL meeting yesterday, I submitted my resignation as Secretary-Treasurer of the Vancouver Chapter. Upon submitting my resignation, a motion was passed dissolving the Vancouver Chapter, so our chapter will no longer exist after February 1st 2018.

I will collect the dues for 2018 and prepare an updated roster. Members will send their 2018 dues to Richard Williams.

I have done official work for the Morse Telegraph Club for almost 30 years: 10 years as Secretary-Treasurer in Ontario, 10 years on the Board of Directors, and 5 years as International President. Also, I wrote the Vancouver Chapter newsletter four times each year.

I feel sorry that this has come to pass and I have made some wonderful friendships during the years. I served as Secretary-Treasurer and International President.

73, Larina Shaw

November 3rd

OK on another fine job on *Dots & Dashes* and thank you for printing my letter to the editor on page 8 of the FALL issue. It must take lots of time and work to put it together and takes time away from your ham radio hobby.

Oh yes, your "secret message" in the FALL issue read "Don't become a statistic. Give your full attention to your driving, and avoid climbing ladders." I stay off my ladder.

I am working on a short article and will send this to you soon. So be on the lookout for it.

*Many thanks again and 73,
William Eggelston, NOWM*

November 4th

In response to David Quaglina's letter in the FALL 2017 issue of *Dots & Dashes* asking about the origin of "SOS," here is what I know.

SOS is not actually letters. It is expressed that way as a memory aid or mnemonic. In radio

practice, SOS is actually what we call a "prosign" like our sign-off, which is expressed as "SK" or sometimes "VA." The double dash is expressed as "BT." The newest character, @ is expressed as "AC." When written, SOS should properly have a bar over the top of the letters like other prosigns. The bar of the top indicates the prosign is sent as one character. So, did-dit-dit-dah-dah-dah-dit-dit-dit makes an utterly distinctive and frankly heart stopping sound for those of us who have heard it on the air.

Because writing out letters is just an aid to remember the prosign, all the supposed meanings for the letters came along later. For instance, I've heard the SK prosign explained as meaning "Silent Key" which now we use to refer to our brothers and sisters who have passed on. But when the same prosign is written as VA, I've heard it explained as "Vale" or "Farwell" in Latin. (I'm glad we don't use "BY-BY.")

Now here's what I don't know. We hear from the story of the Titanic that the operators send both "CQD" and the relatively new "SOS" because there had not been a standard usage established yet. Was "CQD" a prosign sent as one character or was it a code like radio Q-signals?

*73,
Charles Hays
DI Chapter*

November 4th

A couple of things I would like to mention. You had a note about Silent Key Roy Geldart sent in by Kristine Love. If you will look back in the winter edition 2016-17 you will see a picture and write-up about Roy that I sent in. I attended his memorial service, and coincidentally, when I worked in Vancouver in the 1950's, Roy's father, Claude, was my boss. He is also related to me by marriage.

I was saddened to see the Silent Key of Eugene Prusak of Winnipeg, a longtime friend. I will send you two new Silent Keys for the next edition: Fred Fowler and Ed Yagilashek.

I will also get something written about my 28

years in an official position for the MTC. As soon as there is a vacancy, I will be moving into an assisted living facility, so I've been busy gradually divesting "stuff." I will send my new address when I move.

73,
Laina Shaw

November 17th

Please, no more tiny dots and dashes for the newsletter puzzle. At age 93, I am a retired General Agent for the Chessie System railway CSX in Richmond, Virginia. I am also an infantry combat veteran of WWII. I would like to share my experiences as a railroad agent and telegraph operator with your readers.

After I graduated from high school, my father, Loche Livesay, taught me to telegraph and the railroad agency work. I then went to work relieving the agent for about two months and was told to stay there and relieve the first trick telegraph operator, who had become ill. This assignment lasted for about 4 ½ months in 1943. Here is where I got in over my head because I was not a hot operator and I had not had any typing in high school. I copied telegrams with a pencil and paper and slowly typed them on the western Union telegram forms.

There was an operator at Huntington (HU) working for Western Union. He signed 'D'. When I would copy, I would get behind and open the key to break the circuit. I would catch up and 'D' would increase his speed of sending and I would get behind again and so forth.

At this time, ration boards sent and received long telegrams, sometimes three or four hundred words. Needless to say, this would take a considerable amount of time because 'D' refused to lower his sending speed to my ability. After a month of this, an extra list telegrapher, Roy 'Shorty' Long, arrived to relieve the second trick operator. He was standing by the desk and saw immediately what I was up against. He sat down at the typewriter and copied as fast as 'D' was sending without breaking.

I had a four hundred word telegram to send from our local ration board. Roy removed a weight from the dot portion of the bug and commenced sending. 'D' immediately opened the circuit. Roy increased his speed and it took a while for 'D' to copy Roy's very fast Morse code. After 'D's experience with Roy, I had no more trouble with him. In fact, it became so slow that I was tempted to ask him to speed up the sending, but kept quiet because I knew what would happen.

Another instance which I thought was probably unique happened. I had watched a west bound passenger train #143, which had on the rear General Superintendent, L.A. Grubbs' business car. As I came in the passenger waiting room, a lady and her son stopped me and told me her son wanted to send \$100 by wire. At that time, Western Union would take money in and send a wire to its destination for delivery to the addressee. So I took the lady's money and the cost of the telegram and proceeded to send a Western Union money order to 'D' at Huntington (HU). While doing so, I noticed the lady and her teenage son had not gone anywhere and were looking up at the telegraph wires.

As soon as I had completed sending, this lady, who was from up on the mountain, came back in; she wanted to talk to me. She asked, "Where is our money?" I told her, I wired it to her son at whatever army based was stationed. She replied, "No you didn't. We watched the wires and no money was on the wires." I thought this was very unusual and I was also the first one to think, "We do not know what we do not know."

I have other stories but would rather be content with those two that happened to me at an early age. Thank you very much for your work in getting the *Dots & Dashes* newsletter done for the Morse Telegraph Club, Inc.

*Sincerely,
Jim Livesay
Richmond, Virginia*

For you engineers, here is a site that will bring you a laugh: Youtube Dilbert cartoon The Knack.

After taking on official positions with the Morse Telegraph Club for 28 plus years, I decided it was time to resign. I am now legally blind, and getting up in years—close to 89. I thought I would reminisce about some of my experiences during that time. This included nine years as Secretary Treasurer of the Maple Leaf (Ontario) Chapter; 10 years as an International Director; five years as International President, and the rest as Secretary Treasurer of the Vancouver BC Chapter.

During this time I visited every Canadian chapter and a number of chapters in the USA. I can brag that I have been in every state in the USA, including Alaska and Hawaii, and every province in Canada, including the Yukon and the Northwest Territories.

Starting out as S/T of the Maple Leaf Chapter, one of my first jobs was to transfer some members to the newly chartered Edmonton Chapter.

Then I received a letter from a chap who asked me not to send the *Dots & Dashes* to his father who was in jail for killing his mother. The father's name was Arthur Morgan, the same name as my uncle in Manitoba, who was also a Morse operator.

Then there was a Morse Day meeting in Toronto, when as Secretary Treasurer. I was an hour late. We lived 120 miles away, and Dr. Harry Toop, an MTC member used to hitch-hike from Windsor, another 120 miles further to ride with us. We stopped for coffee on the way, and Harry's pant zipper broke. The meeting was next door to a large department store, but Harry insisted on finding a second-hand store. We turned off the freeway, found one run by the Salvation Army, and had to buy another belt at one run by the Catholic Church. In the meantime a guest was waiting to be picked up at a local hotel. Thanks to Tom Hamblin, the president, he held up the meeting until I got there.

While Secretary Treasurer of the Maple Leaf Chapter, we built the membership up to 175, and my husband and I attended meetings in quite a few Ontario cities. I enjoyed meeting a lot of great people while being on this executive, and when we moved to the west coast, I was presented with an engraved KOB set with the caption "PRESENTED TO LAVINA SHAW (SINE MA) BY THE MAPLE LEAF CHAPTER APRIL 24, 1999"

I took over as International President in 2002 and attended in 2003, a telegrapher's gathering, with lunch in a boxcar at the huge Expo Railway Park at St. Constant, Quebec (near Montreal).

We sent French and English telegrams in Morse during our visit. The evening was a lovely barbecue and swim at the home of J. P. Vermette. On the way we visited the North Bay division of the Maple Leaf Chapter and saw the newly renovated CPR station with a miniature train running through the rooms on a track near the ceiling. We stopped at Huntsville visiting Russ Nicholl and his wife. Russ was responsible for having many Morse demos and bringing the Portage Flyer Tourist train back to Huntsville. It had been, for years, across the lake from our home in St. Thomas, Ontario.

In 2002, I visited the Edmonton fall meeting, and met member Ab Krauter for the first time, and who grew up 18 miles from my home in Manitoba. One of my earliest memories was his aunt and uncle being killed at a crossing near my station home, and the bodies were brought into our waiting room.

Every year I presented a President's Award to a chapter who I thought did a lot to promote the heritage of the Morse Code, and in 2003, it went to Medford, Oregon. Dave and Beth Phillips, assisted by other members built three telegraph stations at the Medford Miniature Railroad Park. It was a lot of fun riding around on the trains, and sending some Morse messages besides.

April, 2004, I presented it to Saskatoon. I had worked in this city as a telegrapher so renewed acquaintances with operators with whom I worked.

The hi-lite of my term as President was driving from the Pacific to the Atlantic to present the Award to the Baltimore-Washington Chapter. We were treated royally there with passes to the museums, passes to ride the tourist ferry around the Baltimore Harbour. While there I met Richard Williams, President of the Chapter, who is now our International Secretary, and Jim Wilson, editor of *Dots & Dashes*. From Baltimore we made an official visit to Samuel Morse's former home Locust Grove at Poughkeepsie, NY and Speedwell in Morristown, NJ where Alfred Vail and Morse worked on the invention of the telegraph. From there we headed to Vermont to visit Wes and Mary Burnham on their farm. Wes was an International Director at that time.

While out East, we called on our famous Ace Holman, had lunch with him and met his two lovely daughters—Toni and Cindy. Ace's home was unbelievable—he had telegraph equipment in every room, including his kitchen and two garages—what a collection!! He also ran the KOB

hub from his home. Another person we called on was Bill Moyer from Waynesboro, PA. Bill had a telegraph office in a closet, and another in his bedroom. Having had a major stroke, Bill could still telegraph and got around quite handily speeding with his scooter.

Coming back west, we met with chapter members from Freemont, Nebraska. My husband Earl also repaired the telegraph equipment in the Omaha Railway Station museum. We met with Bill and Blanche Dunbar (Bill was a former International President) in Normal, Illinois and had lunch in Rochelle, Illinois with Jim Adkins (who preceded me as President), his wife Dolly, and International Secretary Treasurer Keith Lebaron and his wife Jo-Anne. Then we visited International Director Sid Vaughan and wife Charlotte in Des Moines, Iowa. Next stop was Dillon, Montana to have lunch with John Barrows, former *Dots & Dashes* editor and his wife Roberta. Last stop was to meet L.R. Keith, who now lives in Ritzville, WA and is an excellent telegrapher and has put many demos.

Another President's Award was given in 2006 to the Southern California Chapter headed by Cathy Stanfill. The meeting was held in Garden Grove, CA. and what a wonderful reception we received—a lovely cake, and gifts. We were accompanied by Chuck and Ann Beckett from the Maple Leaf Chapter in Ontario, of which Chuck was a former Secretary Treasurer.

Other stops we made at another time and had lunch were the Seattle/Tacoma and the Portland Chapters. Harry Haley, from the Portland group, nicknamed me “El Presidente”.

I also cannot forget the two reunions we had in Dearborn and Montreal. They were most enjoyable.

The Morse Telegraph Club has been like a large family to me and I have met many wonderful people. I was pleased to be able to help keep the heritage of the telegraph alive.

Thanks for the opportunity!

Larina Shaw

WELL THIS COMMUNICATION WAS BETWEEN TWO BROTHERS

by Sam Orlando

My Grandfather (Job R. Sheeter) and James Sylvester - who my dad always referred to as Uncle Buzz.

J.S. “Buzz” Sheeter was somewhat of an entrepreneur and had moved between Pennsylvania, Buffalo NY, Chicago, and ultimately to Detroit.

Job had come to Detroit from a small town in the Allegheny mountains of Pennsylvania to work for that Henry Ford fella in Detroit around 1910. I have a rejection letter from Ford Motor company to my grandfather, however he was able to secure steady employment at Packard motors in Detroit and then sent for his wife and 8 children to come by train to join him in Detroit. Three more children, my father being the youngest would be born at the family home on Cadillac Avenue in Detroit. Job also operated a key shop and saw sharpening business in the basement of that house. That is Job and his daughter Dorothy on the porch of Cadillac Avenue. Cadillac Key shop would continue to be run by my father well into his retirement as a sideline business.

Buzz did come to Detroit, and after working for several years at dairy companies in the city, secured financing and launched Sheeter's Dairy Company in Detroit.

So I would say the \$7 sent by wire to bring J.S. Buzz Sheeter here to Detroit for that visit in August of 1915 to stay with his brother and family had paid off. My father, born in 1921 was also named James - after his uncle Buzz.

The dairy folded during the 1930's. Buzz returned to Buffalo, NY.

I had the telegrams in a box of papers from my grandfathers key shop and dairy related items that have been saved over the years. I still have a number of workbenches, cabinets and related items from Cadillac key shop in my workshop at home.

Sending cash by wire - well before ATM's, EFT, Bill Pay, direct deposit, iPay, or PayPal that we take for granted today.

CHAPTER NEWS

Maple Leaf ON Chapter

Members of the Maple Leaf Chapter met on Saturday October 28th at the Sharon Temple Museum in the Town of East Gwillimbury, Ontario. They were treated to a guided tour 11:30 to 12:30 of the 1832 Quaker temple. This temple was built by the "Children of Peace" following the War of 1812. The tour included nine buildings. A yummy lunch followed the tour. Sandwiches and a hearty soup fed the bodies and souls of our aging MTC members.

Meanwhile, ON Chapter members have been having fun doing Morse demonstrations at various locations during the past year. We look forward to more activities during 2018. Members are starting to make use of the Morse KOB program to introduce the kids and their parents to Morse code.

Chapter President, Tom Hamblin explained that he had to turn in his driver's license due to some of the Parkinson's symptoms that he has. But, Tom, cheers his wife, who is willing to drive him to MTC events.

The club thanks Jim Eadie, VE3DCX, for volunteering to serve as the new Chapter

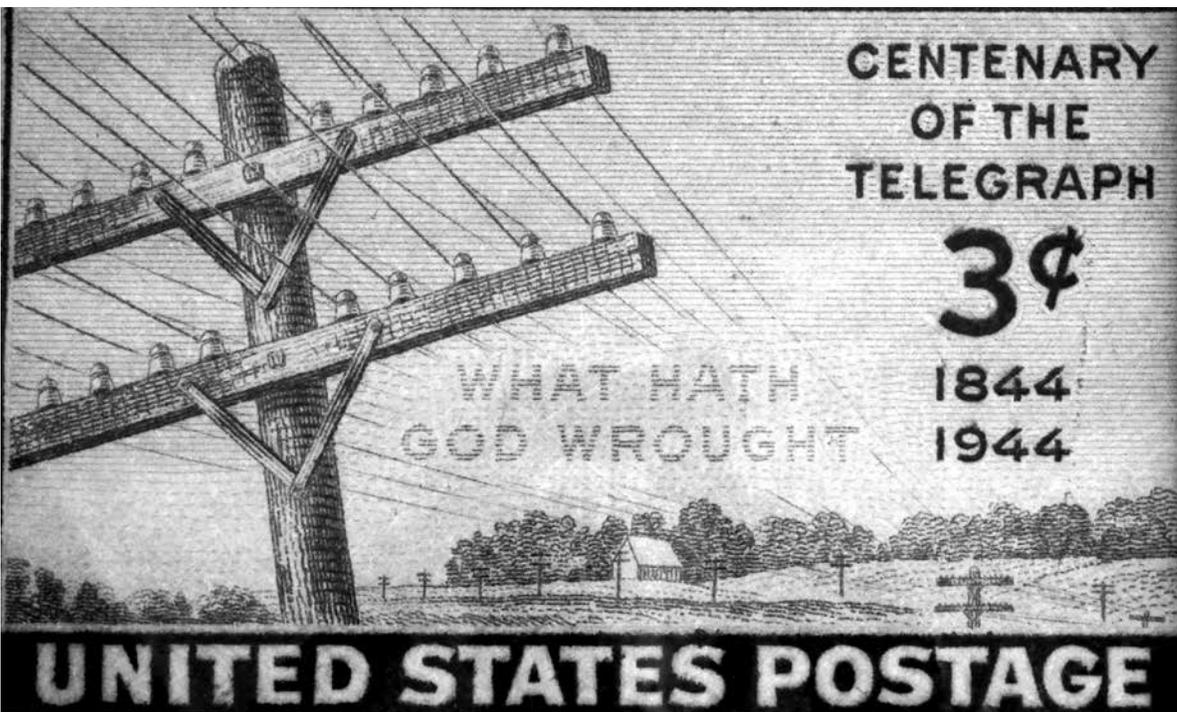
Historian. Jim is a new member, a former forensic examiner, a sheep farmer, and a freelance journalist.

The chapter reminds members that Morse operators all over Canada and the U.S.A. use the Allstream/MTC Morse Hub by dialing 416 642-4070. If in Toronto 1 888 822-3728. There is a low speed code practice session starting at 9pm Eastern Local Time on Monday through Friday during Spring, Winter, and Fall for anyone wanting to brush up on their Morse.

The Chapter also notes that one of their members Neville Robert Mulvhill, became a silent key on August 8th, 2017. "Though his key is closed, we will remember him."

Washington-Baltimore WA Chapter

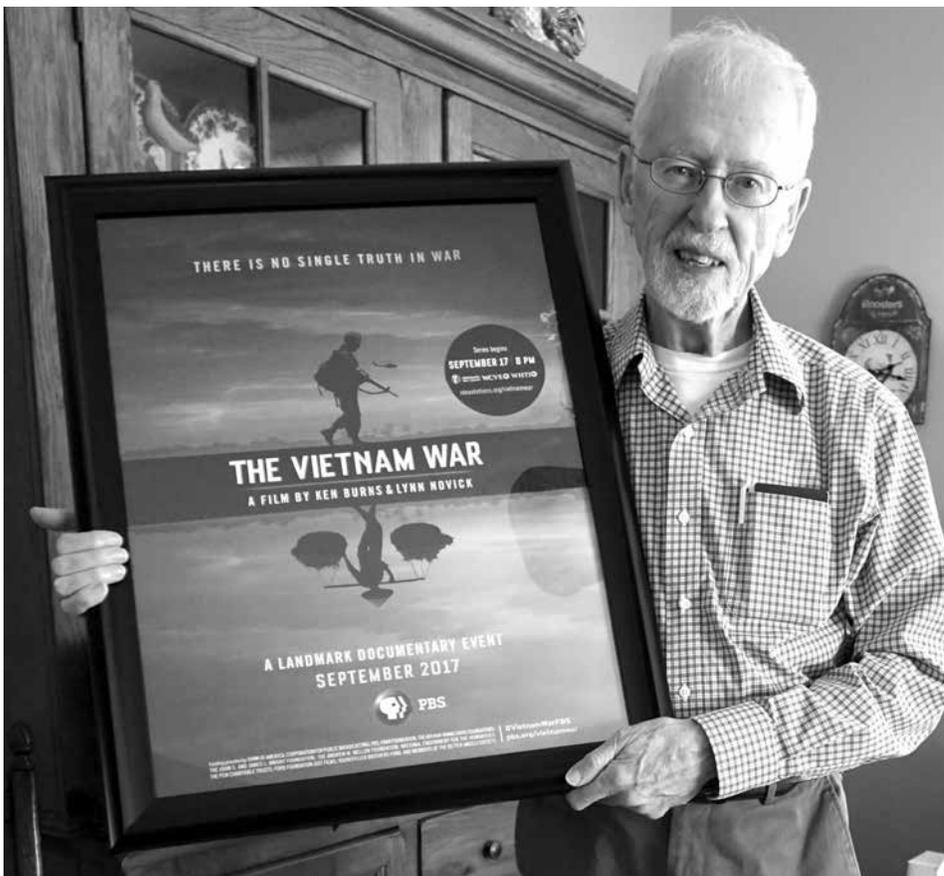
While unusual frigid winter weather curtailed activities of chapter members, the next WA Chapter event will be on February 3rd. "Frostfest" in Richmond, Virginia is an annual event enjoyed by many of our WA members. During the year 2017, two members became Silent Keys and we gained three new members.



MTC member Matt Wilson discovered this commemorative 100th year U.S. postage stamp and presented a framed copy to his Dad as a Christmas gift. Matt knew that the design of a 175th commemorative U.S. postage stamp is in progress. Note that postage for a one ounce letter increased from 3 cents in 1944 to 49 cents in 2018, an inflation rate of 1,600%!



Ed Hazen and Sue Holbink read Dots & Dashes



You editor, Jim Wilson, displays a poster of the Ken Burns ten part documentary film series about the Vietnam War. The Public Broadcasting System (PBS) presented this framed poster to Jim in November for his participation in a live discussion of the film at the PBS studio in Richmond, Virginia.

Jim was drafted into the Army and served for twelve months in Vietnam as a member of the Army's 128th Signal Corps (October 1967 through October 1968). Jim comments: Where did 50 years go?



On page 10 of the FALL 2017 issue was a story titled, "A Newsboy Recollects the Days of Trains in Carrollton, Ohio." The story was written by Lynn Wilson in 1961 about a train station with its arriving nightly steam train, his recollections from around 1927. Since then I received photographs snapped in 2017 of that train station, which still exists, now serving as a restaurant. Here are a few of those exciting photographs.



SECRETARY-TREASURER RAMBLINGS

Jim Wilson sent me over 30 address corrections for the Fall issue of Dots and Dashes, as well as many returned copies for incorrect addresses. Jim was in the process of re-sending the Fall Dots and Dashes to the updated addresses. I want to stress the importance of promptly notifying me of your updated address. The high cost of postage to US and Canada makes this ever more important. If you know of a member that has moved or is deceased, please let us know via a contact point in this newsletter. My phone, email and US mail address are included in the last sentence below.

I had a very interesting telephone discussion with our International Vice President, Chris Hausler. During the conversation, I was able to hear live telegraphy of OS train reports in the background. Since I have been out of touch with telegraphy for so many years, the sounds was quite refreshing. Chris depth of telegraphy knowledge was very impressive. Chris is a great source of information on Slowspeedwire, Morse KOB and telegraphy internet groups.

Luc Bonneau, Secretary-Treasurer, Montreal/Ottawa GO Chapter, sent an informative email sharing ongoing Chapter activities. The GO Chapter President and Luc donate around 700 hours of telegraphy yearly during 22 summer weekends to Exporail, Canada's largest railway museum. Thanks to both of you for your huge contribution of time and effort to keep telegraphy alive. Luc and I are working to get the Chapter roster updated. The GO Chapter, one of MTC's largest Chapters, covers a lot of territory with many members 125 to 150 miles away from Montreal. Thanks Luc for your dedication to Morse Telegraph Club.

I received a very nice letter from Len Solomon, President of the former Saskatoon KN Chapter. Len sent a \$100 donation to MTC as a parting gift from the former Saskatoon KN Chapter. Thank you, Len!

I have been in touch with our past president, Lavina Shaw, whom I met in at a WA Chapter Morse Day luncheon in Baltimore when I was WA chapter president. During 2018, Lavina has told me she will retire from her many years as an official of Morse Telegraph Club. Many MTC members will remember Lavina from her visit to their chapters. Thanks to Lavina for her many year of dedicated service to Morse Telegraph Club.

I want to give a huge THANKS to our International President, Jim Wades for "wading" me thru this tedious transfer process and for doing double duty in the absence of a Secretary-Treasurer.

Some of the many Chapters I have heard from recently include DI Lavina Shaw, MO Bill Tchir, SX Betty Watterson, MA Burton Stenslie, KN Len Solomn, TD Al Skornica, SQ Cathy Stanfill, MA Burton Stenslie, ON Don Laycock, GO Luc Bonneau, MW Robert Pluntz, AT Mike Favre, ON Don Laycock, FX Clyde Francis and many others. I would like to stay in touch with each Chapter Secretary-Treasurer or other official. Please send your rosters, remarks, comments or any other communication to me runnerrichard@hotmail.com. You can also send mail to me at PO Box 181591, Coronado, CA 92118 or call my cell phone at (703) 407-7461.

Richard Williams

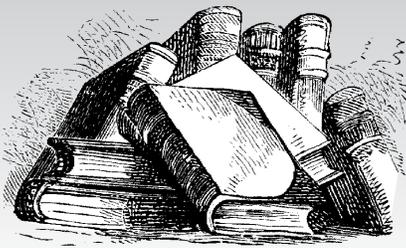
THE POSTAL RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE LIBRARY

The year 2017 included significant accomplishments at the Railway Mail Service Library (RMSL) at 117 East Main Street in Boyce, Virginia.

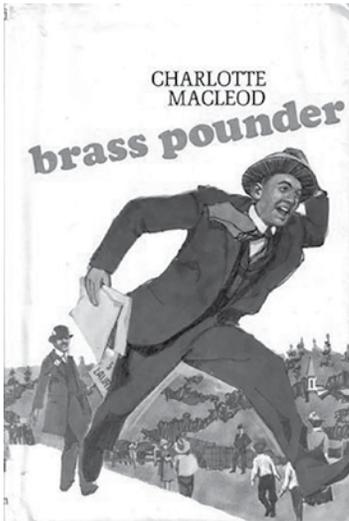
A March 2017 presentation at the Gaithersburg, Maryland Historical Society led off the

year's events. MTC member Frank R. Scheer summarized Railway Post Office routes serving Washington, DC. He also updated an article about Railway Mail Service and Postal Transportation Service badges that was published in the Antiques and Auction News, as well as a complete article

continued page 18 



J. Chris Hausler's BOOK & MOVIE REVIEWS



The first book I'm reviewing is *Brass Pounder* by Charlotte MacLeod published in 1971 (Library of Congress Cat. No. 75-154966). MacLeod (1922-2005) is best known for authoring quite a number of mystery fiction novels both under her own name and under the pen name of Alisa Craig. That said, this book

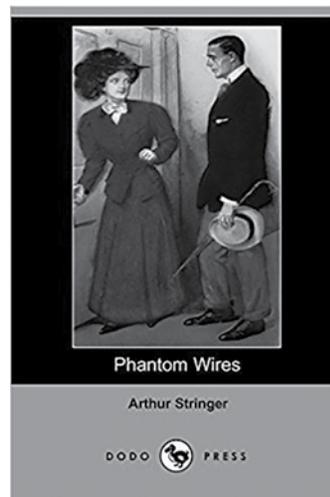
is somewhat of an exception as although she presented the book as fiction, as Huck Finn said about his adventures in Mark Twain's, "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" MacLeod said that this book is "mostly true, with some stretchers".

This book is in fact a sort of biography of a young telegraph operator, taking place mostly in the Maritimes in Canada, during much of the first two decades of the 20th century. The book ends with the character's apparent final departure from telegraph service likely about 1920 at about age 30. Although, again, advertised as fiction, the story is based on the life of a real boy, Charlotte's father, Phil MacLeod, and like with this "character", the events portrayed in the book are mostly true. However, in order to form a continuous narrative she said she had to "amplify" her father's recollections somewhat.

The resulting story is a humorous and light hearted look at the telegraph industry and the life of a young telegraph operator during what was probably the peak period in the popular use of the Morse telegraph system. Growing up in Saint Stephen, New Brunswick, young MacLeod became a messenger for Western Union in the middle of the first decade of the new century at a time when the Morse telegraph was the only efficient means

of fast long distance communications. Phil's older brother Paul was already an operator. This was at a time when, at least in their own minds, telegraph operators saw themselves as aristocrats, earning good pay as compared to other available local employments. Phil saw the "light" too and in the classic manner he also came to the key. The rest of the book details his many adventures and travails as a young and competent telegraph operator as well as other interesting and entertaining events which occurred along the way. In addition, the book is an intriguing look at people's attitudes and life in general during that period of time.

I found the book to be a thoroughly enjoyable read, hard to put down, and I think many of you will too. There are some minor technical errors in it but I was easily able to overlook those. I first became aware of the book as it was one of those being auctioned off by MTC member Frank Scheer, curator of the Railway Mail Service Library, in order to raise money for that organization. Although I did not win that auction, it led me to find the book available for sale from Amazon. As of this writing, copies are available from both Amazon and Abe Books. Just remember that when searching for the book, the title is two words, *Brass Pounder*, not one word "Brasspounder" as a number of other book titles use this other form.



Some of you might recall that in the summer 2016 issue of *Dots & Dashes* I reviewed a fictional book by Arthur Stringer titled, *The Wire Tappers*. It detailed the experiences of two down on their luck telegraphers, a man, James Durkin, and a women, Frances Candler. They

are brought together by a crime boss, David MacNutt, to assist him in tapping broker and other betting wires so to reap the rewards of such foreknowledge. Seeing that they were not achieving their own goals by such labor they conspire to play MacNutt's own game against him. By the end of the book our pair has married but have to flee the U.S. on a steamer for Europe to escape from both MacNutt as well as the legitimate authorities. As I stated in that review I found this book to be very wordy, too little action and too much talk, much between the two, ruminating on their repeated failures. I also stated that the author had published a follow-on book and that I would be reviewing it in the future. That future has arrived. This second book, published in 1907 is titled, *Phantom Wires*. It opens with Durkin in Monte Carlo having lost track of his wife some months before and still ruminating on his misfortunes.

One day he sees his wife in the back of a touring car posing as the pretty wife of a British lord. Stunned, he chases after the car but is unable to catch it. Still down on his luck he resorts to some second story work to acquire funds. While he is in the act of opening the safe he senses that a second person has entered the darkened room. It is his wife there to steal some valuable papers also stored in the safe. As smart criminals, did they quickly complete their work and escape? No, in keeping with most of the action in both of these books they stop and sit on the bed catching up and doing more ruminating about their misfortunes. They continue at this for so long that the person from whom they are purloining these materials returns and catches them in the act. But this is just another example where they, once again, snatch defeat from the jaws of victory.

The book goes on this way with our couple running from one peril to the next, many self inflicted due to poor planning and their own indecision. Eventually they return to New York and a final showdown with MacNutt. The second book ends with our "heroes" more or less in the same situation as they were found at the beginning of the first book, although now together as man and wife. This could have led our author to write a third book about the couple but, mercifully, I have not been able to locate such a work. *Phantom Wires* is probably a good title for this book for there is very little telegraphic content in it, even less than in the first book. It's not that the story is bad in and of itself, just that I did not find it a gripping read in any way. With this and the lack of telegraphic content I cannot recommend it. It's possible our author was trading on the apparent popularity of telegraph fiction at that time without, however, delivering much of it. But, if you have read the first book and are dying to find out the rest of our less than dynamic duo's adventures, have at it. Hard copy and Kindle reprints are available from Amazon and it can be downloaded for free from Google Books at: https://books.google.com/books/about/Phantom_Wires.html?id=O_g_AAAAYAAJ.

If you haven't already noticed, I'm rapidly running out of good ideas for this review column and at least with this second book have had to more or less scrape the bottom of the barrel. Every so often I do get lucky as with the first book in this column but that relies on getting ideas from you, the readers, for books and films to review. So, if you have any such ideas, please forward them to me. My contact information is shown on the masthead.



Welcome Aboard!

NEW MEMBERS OF MTC

Washington-Baltimore WA Chapter

J. WAYNE McCAIN of Toney, Alabama joined MTC on October 4, 2017. First licensed in 1963, Wayne's amateur radio call sign is KS0S. He currently serves as a professor at Athens College and is an active member of SARA, the Society of Amateur Radio Astronomers.

Welcome to you, Dr. McCain

"30" SILENT KEYS

News of our brothers and sisters who have closed the key



C.D. Combs Memorial FN Chapter

PAUL GREEN, age 85, passed away on December 8, 2017 in Boone, Iowa. He was born on February 29, 1932 at Milton, Wisconsin. Paul had been a dedicated MTC member until about a year ago when his health began to have more serious problems. For many years, Paul came to the annual chapter meetings, carpooling from central Iowa with Delmer Gifford and Roger Sogard.

Paul graduated from Milton High School in 1950, and then attended the Gale Institute in Minneapolis, where he learned to telegraph. He then worked as a telegrapher for 14 years for the M&ST. L and C&NW railroads. Next, he worked for the U.S. Postal service for 26 years. In 1992, Paul retired as the Postmaster from the Gowrie, Iowa Post Office.

Paul married Rosemary Presler in 1959. Paul and Rosemary had one son, one daughter, and one grandson. Rosemary preceded him in death, as did his two sisters.

Paul served as a member of the Golden K. Kiwanis, was a 50 year member of Ashlar Masonic Lodge, past secretary of the Wester county Historical Society, and a 50 year member of the Epworth Methodist Church.

Paul enjoyed following sports teams, including the Green Bay Packard's, Iowa Hawkeyes, Iowa State Cyclones, and all local sports teams. His passion was baseball, especially following the Boston Red Sox and Chicago Cubs. He had the opportunity to attend baseball games at over 40 major league stadiums.

Thanks to Richard Behrens for this information.

ROBERT STORZ, age 74, passed away on October 26, 2017 in Omaha, Nebraska. He was born on May 7, 1943 to Leo and Gurtrude Storz in Columbus, Nebraska. Bob graduated from St. Bonaventure High School in Columbus and started to work on May 7, 1943 for the Union Pacific railroad at the depot in Columbus. For eleven years he worked the extra board at different locations in Nebraska. Later he became a train dispatcher working in Omaha at the Harriman Center. Bob retired in

the year 2000 after working for the Union Pacific locomotive utilization department.

Robert married Andrea Brown in Columbus. They had been married for 48 years at the time of Robert's passing. Bob and Andrea raised two children, their daughter Lori and son James.

Robert had a special interest in old cars of the 1950's and 1960's, mostly those made by Ford. Following retirement, he volunteered for five years at the SAC museum near Ashland, Nebraska and he served as a docent for five years at the Union Pacific museum in Council Bluffs, Iowa plus seven years at the Durham museum in Omaha.

Thanks again to Richard Behrens for this information.

Washington-Baltimore WA Chapter

JAMES DYSART, age 80, of New Oxford, Pennsylvania, died on October 17, 2017. He was not a telegrapher but was very interested in telegraphy and as a component of railroad history. He did show a telegraph key as part of an event in Blue Ride Summit, Pennsylvania.

Thanks to Patricia Dysart, Jim's wife, for this brief notification. Patricia adds, "Paul enjoyed reading Dots & Dashes and he often showed me articles in it."

DONALD W. MARKS of Baltimore, Maryland passed away in May 2017. Don was a Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Train Dispatcher. He stayed with the B&O RR thru the CSX merger and ended up transferring to Jacksonville, Florida when train operations for the eastern U.S. was centralized there.

Thanks to Jon R. Nuffer, CPA for Don's estate, and to Richard Williams, who worked briefly with Don for this information.

Edmonton MO Chapter

GEORGE FREDERICK FOWLER, age 91, died on November 2, 2017. He was born on March 24, 1926. He is survived by his spouse of 68 years, Anne. Three children, six grandchildren, five great

grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, he requested donations be made to the Salvation Army.

Thanks to William Tchir for this brief notice.

PATRICK KELLY, age 93, became a Silent Key on December 14, 2017. Pat was very interested in anything radio and marine. He trained as a telegraphist in the Canadian Navy in 1942. During the war he served on ships running convoy on the North Atlantic run. He also served in various radio stations until being discharged from the Navy soon after the war. He went on to serve as telegraphist aboard Canadian Naval Auxiliary Vessels (CNAV). Most of these were scientific research vessels stationed at Esquimalt Harbor Naval base at Vitoria, British Columbia.

In retirement, Pat went on to have many hobbies, maritime research and genealogy being his two favorites. He stated writing stories and was soon publishing them. He immensely enjoyed doing the research and regaling his family and friends with his stories.

Pat was independently active and doing research until, he passes away suddenly at 93 years of age. He lived every moment of his life to its fullest, and will sadly be missed by all.

Thanks to Paul Kelly, son of Patrick, for this interesting information about his father.

PS: Pat Kelly wrote several of our past Dots & Dashes front page stories. I enjoyed hearing his radio quality voice and unique accent on the phone when he called with another fascinating story. He was a valuable member of the Morse Telegraph Club and indeed, will be missed. ~Editor Jim



Young Pat Kelly operates as a telegraphist.

Vancouver DI Chapter

JOSEPH FIFIK, age 90, passed away on December 30, 2017. He began his career as a relief agent/ Morse operator for the Canadian Pacific Railways, working in several places in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. In 1951, Joe was promoted to train dispatcher in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. He later transferred to Winnipeg as a dispatcher for a few years. Then he transferred to Montreal, where he eventually became the Director of Operations for Canada. Joe retired in 1987 and moved to Surrey, British Columbia.

Joe is survived by his wife Catherine, three children, and a number of grandchildren and one great grandchild. He was also a 4th degree member of the Knights of Columbus and a faithful member of the Vancouver "DI" Chapter of the Morse Telegraph Club.

Thanks to Laina Shaw for this interesting information.

*Thanks to the
Saskatoon KN
Chapter for their
donation of \$100
to the Morse
Telegraph Club!*

in the Mobile Post office Society's Selections monograph. On July 15th, the MRSL won second place "Best Display" award at the Lancaster, Pennsylvania lock show for its assortment of postal locks and keys that were used in Railway Post Offices (RPO's).

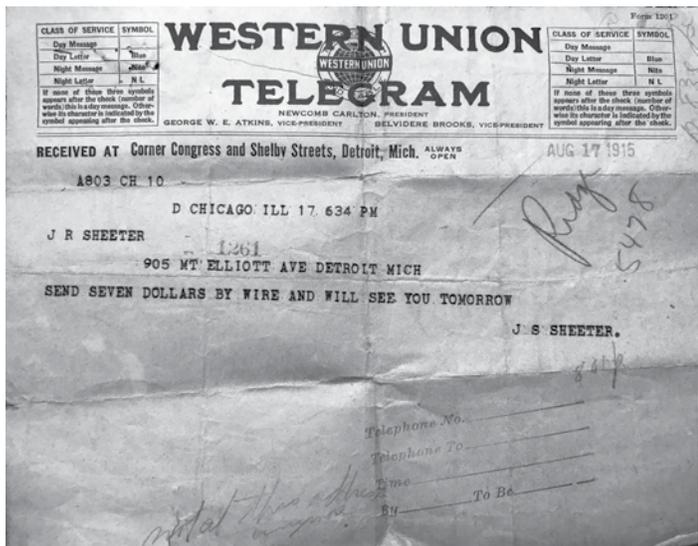
The Boyce depot received some tender loving care during the year. Jessica Shafer painted most window sashes and several doors. Also, gutter guards were attached along the roof perimeter. These small steps are incremental but important, improvements for the building preservation.

The most notable achievements of lasting value were the establishment of the Railway Mail Service Library Foundation (RMSLF) as well as the Boyce Railway Depot Foundation (BRDF). Quinton and Fran Barker served as organizing President and Vice President, while Frank Scheer

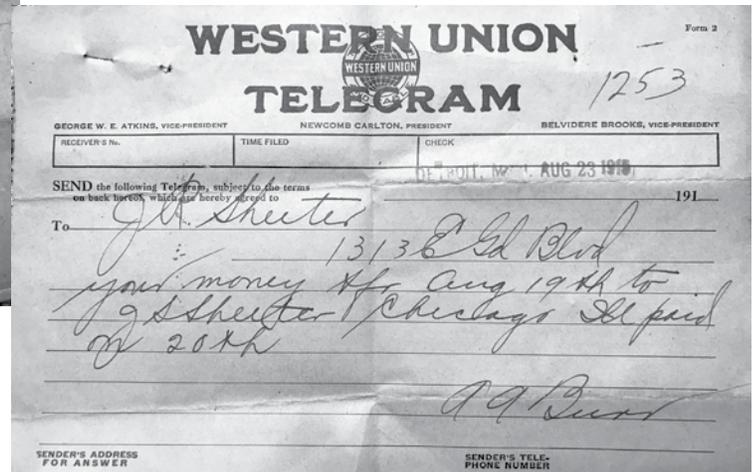
was the organizing secretary and treasurer. Approximately 40 people joined each organization and are recognized as "Founding Charter Members." Each organization received recognition by the Internal Revenue Service as non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations. Directors of the BRDF and RMSLF will select officers during their meeting on January 20, 2018.

Both Foundations are critical for the long-term management of the RMSL collection as well as preservation of the historic Royce railway depot. These are the next steps in custodial care for each during coming generations.

You may contact the Postal Railway Mail Service Library at fscheer@railwaymailservicelibrary.org and you can look at photographs on their web site: www.railwaymailservicelibrary.org.



These two 1915 Western Union Telegrams were submitted by MTC member Sam Orlando.



DO YOU KNOW?

Do you know how our sun works?

Life on earth depends upon our sun, a ball of plasma, hydrogen, and helium located about 93 million miles from earth. Our nuclear furnace converts hydrogen into helium, about 730 million tons per second, giving us sunlight by the famous formula $E=MC^2$. Yes, our sun will eventually run out of hydrogen.

Our sun operates on an eleven year sun spot cycle. The current solar cycle #24 began in 2008. This cycle is the smallest during the past 100 years. This "quiet cycle" means that our ionosphere is less activated, which means that radio communications are currently poor. Look for more sunspots with better radio conditions in the future!

HOUSE TRACK **Want Ad Section**

For Morse Telegraph Club Members

AVAILABLE: Book *Tales of the American Telegraph*. Issue #3 includes a photo layout. John B. Ryan, 11017 E. Sprague Avenue, Spokane, WA 99206.

WANTED: Re-enactors for Locust Grove, the Samuel Morse Historic Site in Poughkeepsie, NY. Please contact Andrew Stock, Curator of Education and Public Programs at a.stock@morsehistoricsite.org or (845) 454-4500 x13 if you are a Signal Corps re-enactor who may be interested in participation in history of telegraphy, including the annual Civil War weekend.

AVAILABLE: I can duplicate small wooden resonator boxes for both 4 ohm and 30 ohm main line sounders. You will varnish or paint these to suit your desires. The cost is \$25 each. Milton Hegwood, 206 Kleven Avenue, Culbertson, NE 69024, telephone (308) 278-2152

AVAILABLE: Period attire for telegraph operators of any era. Authentic reproduction hand crafted clothing will be made to your exact fit by a certified seamstress at reasonable prices. Several MTC members already have attire provided by this talented and well educated lady. Contact Valerie Mathers at (410) 768-3162.

AVAILABLE: Pen & ink railroad drawings on stretched canvas, frame print, art print and greeting cards. See these on the website of *Dots & Dashes* member Peter Hamel at Peter Hamel Fine Art American.com. Telephone (705) 472-8860.

AVAILABLE: Book. Hubert Jewell, President of the Washington-Baltimore Chapter, offers us his biography titled, *Working on the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac Railroad*. This book is chalked full of facts and descriptions of railroading and of Morse code communications. Hubert's book is available from the RF&P Historical Society, Inc. PO Box 9097, Fredericksburg, VA 22403-9097 or from the web site www.frandp.org. The price is only \$25.15 postage paid.

AVAILABLE: Crests, "Order of Railroad Telegraphers" with emblem in the center, \$12 each. Email Mary Roy at terttu@shaw.ca or mail Mary at 3874 Winlake Crescent, Burnaby, BC V5A 2G5, telephone (604) 420-1292.

AVAILABLE: Vintage Rule Books of North American Railroads, at least 30 volumes, as far back in time as 1890. To purchase this valuable set of historic documents, call, e-mail, or write to James Gaw at 54 Colonial Drive in Kemptville, Ontario, Canada K0G 1J0, j.gaw@bell.net, or (613) 258-0243

AVAILABLE: Old telegraph and railroad books. For a list of these items, send a SASE to Eugene Wood, 104 Sunset, Madill, OK 73446. (Eugene does not have an email address).

AVAILABLE: "Morse code machine" and old billing forms from the estate of Jack Griffin. Phone Kay Griffin at (321) 231-0447 or write to Kay at 12239 Montevista Road, Clermont, Florida 34711.

AVAILABLE: RR car passes & trip passes, also old Union (ORT) cards, (some over 100 years old), Postal & Western Union paper items and some WU copied on RR telegram blanks. Send a SASE for a list to Gene Wood, 104 Sunset, Madill, Oklahoma 7346-2051

AVAILABLE: Six "bugs" including 2 Dow and 3 Vibroplex, (one old with no markings), all working well, two sounders - relay, resonator box - many blank, train order forms, defunct Northern Alberta Railways schedules and many other Railroad items. These will make an excellent start or an addition to any museum or personal collection. Price \$500 Canadian. Contact Al Renflesh in White Rock, British Columbia at (604) 531-1082.

AVAILABLE: Book titled *Principles of Telegraphy* by the Department of the Navy. Teletype - Printing Telegraph Systems. Description and Adjustments, Signal Distribution Test Set Teletype - general description and theory or operation for Model 28 printers. Teletype Adjustments (2) Type Bar Printer Page Printer Models 15 & 20. Maintenance Track Bulletin #248. Parts Transmitter Distributor Bulletin 1041. Tele printer Circuits and Equipment by the U.S. Army. Call Hubert Jewell at (540) 423-1014 and make him an offer on these rare items

WANTED: Old telegraph keys to be restored. I restore vintage telegraph keys from the 1800's to the turn of the century, no cheap or contemporary keys and you must have all of the major parts. No steel lever Triumph keys please. Donate your old key and I will restore it for my own use. If you send a photograph of your key, and you want to sell it to me, let me know the asking price. Edward D. Biter, Jr., 320 Walker Road in Dover, Delaware 19904.

WANTED: A Vaughn automatic telegraph instrument which runs off a reel to reel tape recorder. This gadget causes the sounder to click away with no operator present. Years ago, Sid Vaughn, a professor from Iowa, made a batch of these. If you have one available, I would like to purchase it from you. Donald Mahoney Telephone (608) 444-0898, 1237 North Westfield Road in Madison, WI 53717.

Reproductions & Other Items for Telegraph Demonstrations and Displays

Turnkey MorseKOB Interface

- Fully assembled and tested
- Integrated USB adapter - no external cable adapter required
- Also available in RS-232 version

See <https://sites.google.com/site/morsekob/interface> for more information.



Flimsies & Other Forms



Reproduction Fountain Pens and Stylus from early 1900s advertisements

Always willing to discuss and address unique requirements

Contact Chip Morgan at MorgansElkCreekEnterprizes@verizon.net

KEEP IN TOUCH...

Your participation in *Dots & Dashes* is important. We need your stories, club news, announcements and reminiscences to keep it lively and interesting for everyone.

Jim Wilson
Editor
Dots & Dashes

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For membership changes, address updates, dues and other information dealing with membership or with chapter operation, contact your local Chapter Secretary or:

Richard Williams
International Secretary-Treasurer

PO Box 181591, Coronado, CA 92178
runnerrichard@hotmail.com
(703) 407-7461

Please do not send address changes for Dots & Dashes, dues renewals, etc., to the Editor. All mailing lists and membership rosters are prepared through the office of the International Secretary.

Ham Radio Web Sites

For those of you who are amateur radio operators, here are four current web sites that I find useful:

www.arnewslines.org
www.usrepeaters.com
www.qth.com
www.qrz.com

NOTICES & INVITATIONS

Morse Telegraph Club, Inc.
Dial-Up Information

U.S. (KB) HUB

1-269-697-4506/4508/4513
(Michigan-Ace Holman)

CANADIAN (HN) HUB

1-888-822-3728 (toll free)

MORSE KOB PROGRAM

on the web at www.morsekob.org

DUES

U.S. First Class postage \$20.00

E-mail delivery \$12.00

Canadian is now by chapter

Foreign Air Mail postage \$26.00

GARFIELD

JIM DAVIS

