



THE RADIO AMATEUR'S CODE, HAM RADIO ETHICS, HAM RADIO LORE

OR.....PLAYING WELL WITH OTHERS

A PRESENTATION TO THE AARC BY BOB PATTISON, K4DU

BACKGROUND

- The nature of early ham radio
- “The Old Man’s” (T.O.M.) efforts in QST editorials and “The Wouff-Hong”
- The Amateur’s Code by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA first appeared in 1928

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT?

- The myth of a private conversation
- The Code is a standard of conduct for which we should strive
- Based on Core Ethical Values

SOME CORE ETHICAL VALUES

FROM MURDOCH CENTER FOR ENGINEERING PROFESSIONALISM (TEXAS TECH)

- Integrity – Good Judgement in Professional Practice
- Honesty – Truthfulness, Fairness and Sincerity
- Fidelity – Faithfulness to stakeholders, Loyalty
- Charity – Kindness, caring, good will, Tolerance, Compassion and mercy
- Responsibility – Reliability, dependability, accountability, trustworthiness
- Self Discipline – Acting with reasonable restraint

SOME CONSIDERATIONS

- The danger of conflicts
- Moral authority
- Operational considerations
- Practice and Habits
- Self policing means self discipline

THE WOUFF-HONG

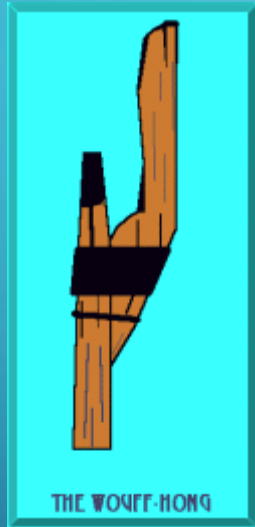
- “The Wouff-Hong is amateur radio’s most sacred symbol and stands for the enforcement of law and order in amateur operation.”

The Radio Amateur’s Handbook, 1930, page 11

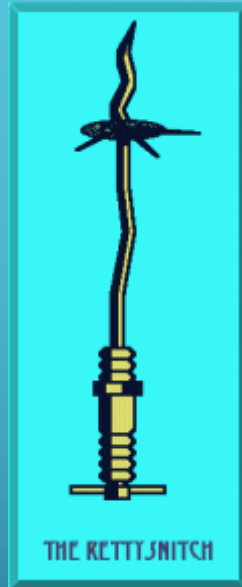
THE WOUFF-HONG & ROTTEN RADIO

- The “Rotten Radio” Series in QST by T.O.M. starting in 1917
- “A disciplinary object which to both flail bad operating practices and inflict punishment on the perpetrators’.
- “At each meeting of the Leagues Board, the Wouff-Hong stood on display, to the humbled looks of the Directors”

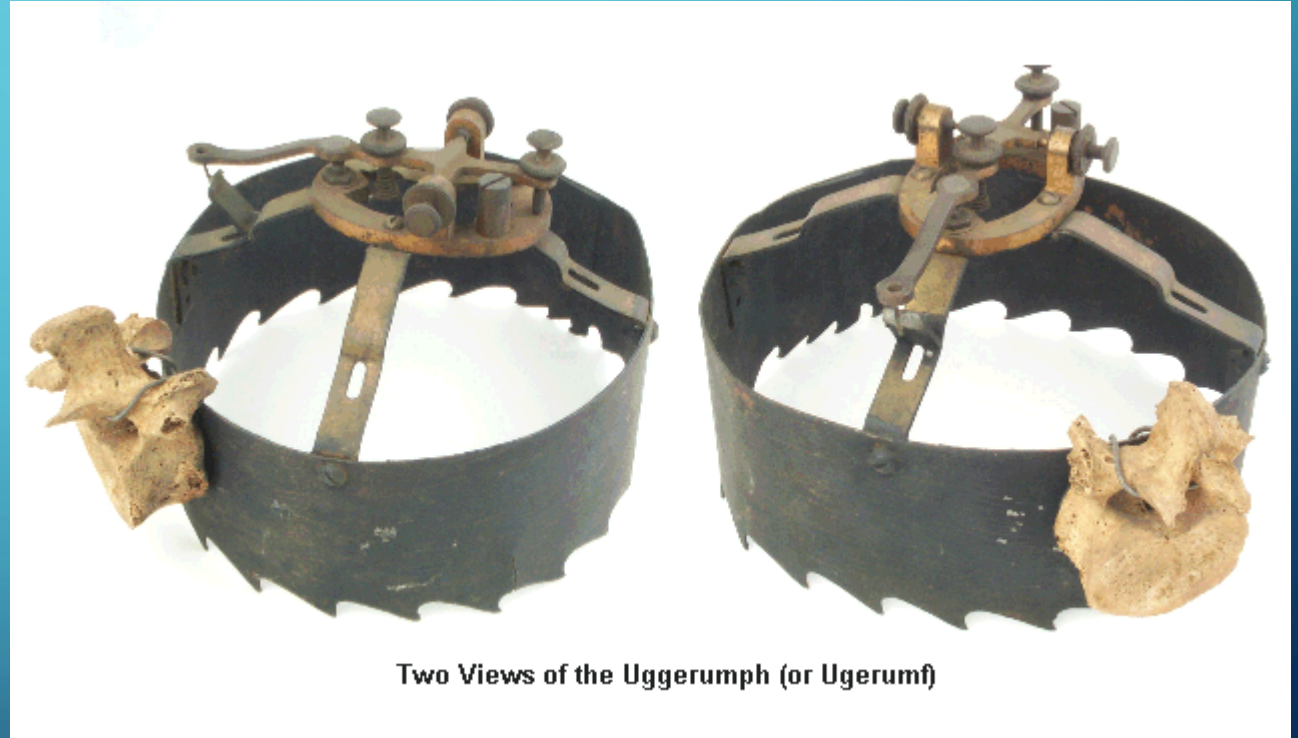
THE WOUFF-HONG AND OTHER DEVICES



THE WOUFF-HONG



THE KETT SNITCH



Two Views of the Uggerumf (or Ugerumf)

THE RADIO AMATEUR'S CODE

- The Radio Amateur is Considerate
 - Never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.
- Loyal
 - Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, the ARRL through which amateur radio is represented nationally and internationally.
- Progressive
 - The station is kept up to date. It is well built and efficient. The operators practice is above reproach.

THE RADIO AMATEUR'S CODE

- **Friendly**
 - The operator sends slow and with patience when requested (CW); offers friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kind assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the marks of the amateur spirit.
- **Balanced**
 - Radio is a hobby, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school and community.
- **Patriotic**
 - The station and skills are always ready for service to country and community

MOVING THE CODE FORWARD TO THE 2020'S

- More modes
- “Ethics and Operating Procedures for the Radio Amateur ©” by John Devoldere ON4UN and Mark Demeuleneere, ON4WW

SOME SELECTED SECTIONS

- Making contacts on Phone
- On the Repeater
- The Art of Telegraphy
- Pileups
- DX Windows
- Specific Operational Procedures for VHF and higher

THANK YOU!

- Wishing you good DX and a great experience in Ham Radio.