CW RINGTONES for your CELL PHONE

Many of today's cell phone users assign unique ringtones to individuals listed in their call directory to alert them to an incoming call from a specific caller. A wide variety of tones are already loaded into your phone when it is purchased and other tones, songs, etc., are available via download. Why then, with all of these options available, would anyone want to spend the time to create their own ringtones? If you have ever built a transmitter using a circuit from an old Amateur Radio Handbook or bought a kit and assembled it yourself rather than buying a commercially made radio off the shelf, then you probably have a good idea why. Ham operators love to tinker with things!

So, if you are an avid CW operator like I am, why not create your own unique CW ringtones for each person on your cell phone call directory? Sounds geeky! Hey, who cares? After all, we are Ham radio operators aren't we?

Here's how I did it.

Making CW "ringtones" for the cell phone:

I downloaded a free copy of F8EHO's "EhoCW : Software CW Keyer" from the internet - http://www.f8eho.net/eng/ . One of the features of the software allows the user to create MP3 or WAV files in Morse code from printed text. The format that I use for my ringtone is:

` de Bernie Bernie Bernie k ` for a call received from my XYL Bernie's cell phone, or
` de w8jwn w8jwn w8jwn k ` for a call received from fellow ham, Tom Martin, W8JWN.

The software allows the user to select the speed in WPM of the recorded CW message.

Getting the "ringtones" into the cell phone:

My cell phone is a Motorola RAZR V3m, so I bought "Motorola Phone Tools" from Amazon.com for a little over $18. It came with a CD, instructions for installing the software onto the PC and two data cables. A USB to mini USB cable and a USB to CE bus cable. Phone Tools allows your PC to connect with your cell phone to synchronize phonebooks and calendars, manage phonebook contacts, manage calendar tasks and appointments, send/receive Email and SMS, and manage multimedia objects such as images and ringtones. It also allows you to connect to the internet using your cell phone. Check with your cell provider for the availability of "tools" for your brand of cell phone.

Using Phone Tools, I transferred the MP3 files created with the EhoCW program from the PC to the cell phone. Once the "ringtones" are transferred to the phone, it is a simple matter of associating a "ringtone" with a stored phone number/person in your cell phone call directory.

That's all there is to it.

I'll be listening for your CW ringtones. Have fun!

<div align="right">Mike Bray, K8DDB</div>