



Recommended calling QRGs: 7.026/7.028, 10.118/10.138, 14.058, 18.085, 21.058/21.138, 24.918, 28.058/28.158

FEA Net: 7.026 MHz 2300UTC on Saturdays, 14.054 MHz 0800UTC on Sundays

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Other members of administration: Sugi JK7UST & Manabu JE1RZR

<http://www.feacw.net/> or <http://www.fists-ea.org/> (Secondary)

NEW MEMBERS

15091 Wang BG4NMY

15092 Masa JF2PDA

15093 Volk BG4IHP

15094 Kung Waiting BV call (also KB0IZA)

15095 Masa JA1CPN

15096 Ardy YC2LEV

15302 Chris HS0ZFE (also KF6VCI) transferred to EA

15512 Hans BX2ABT (also PA2BX) transferred to EA

MASA JF2PDA #15092

When I was a child, I was a radio boy. I was fascinated by radio waves propagating around the globe. I got an amateur radio license in 1979. But because I was busy with work, marriage etc., I became QRT for 30 years. Recently, I came back. I mainly enjoy portable operations now. In addition, I joined the FISTS to hone my CW skill. I'm dreaming about meeting FISTS members spread around the world. If you hear my signal, please call me. Let's enjoy our fantastic CW communication!

cq cq cq de JF2PDA pse.



KUNG KB0IZA #15094

Since I am fascinated by the beauty of Morse code I am trying to set up the required rigs for the CW operation. I hope I can make lots of DX using QRP. I am just wondering if you could give me some hints or advice in this regard. I truly believe that learning from experienced

senior operators might be a better idea than browsing the internet and trying to find the solutions there.

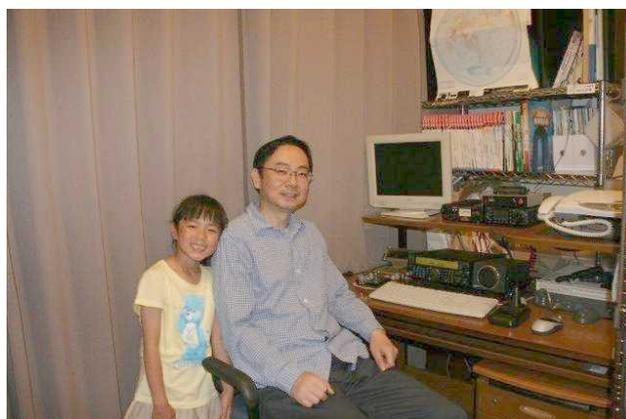
Sorry to bother you and I hope it will not be too much to ask. Thanks.

73

Stream Kung

MASA JA1CPN #15095

Hello, I'm JA1CPN Masa and I live in a suburb of Tokyo. I returned to a ham radio world 5 years ago after being QRT for a long time. Now I operate on all HF bands using a TS-590 and a delta-loop antenna with an auto tuner. CW absolutely charmed me, because it gives a station with modest equipment like mine a chance to make DX QSOs. Still I am a fledgling operator, but I want to improve my CW operation skills. I look forward to meet you on the air.



CHRIS HS0ZFE #15302

My first QSO was with a French station using an Elecraft K1 and a dipole which almost touched the lawn. It was such a thrilling and diuretic experience, hi. Nothing much has changed since then. I'm still a pretty bad op and my love affair with CW continues. Ken GM3JIG gave me some lessons but after minutes of receiving, my eyes would glaze over and he had to stop. These days, I am practising with G4FON software and as I am staying at a guest house in Nan near Laos, I have yet to find an indoors antenna solution or operate /p. Hope to meet you on the air.



“A LOT HAS CHANGED” HANS BX2ABT #15512

My family and I moved from the Netherlands to Taiwan last year October. I have lived in Taiwan before (1992-1999) and I was surprised how much has changed since then. Of course, the changes in my personal life were numerous: since I left Taiwan in 1999 I graduated, got married, had two kids, and got some new hobbies, notably gardening and my own weather station. As I wanted to add LEO satellite images to my weather station's website I renewed my interest in radio and before I knew it I passed the amateur radio novice exam in 2009 and was called PD3WHO as a result. A year later I passed the full licence exam and my call changed to PA2BX (or PA-to-BX).

By then we already had plans to move back to Taiwan. My wife is Taiwanese and the economic situation is better here than in Europe. Especially if you are a teacher, like I am. So we moved and a new challenge came along: getting a Taiwanese amateur radio licence. My knowledge of Chinese is not bad, but not great either. Still, after two months of hard study I passed the novice and second class licence tests. So, here I am: BX2ABT. Another big change.

Now I already knew basic Morse code. In the old days I used to listen to NDBs, maritime coast stations and anything else in the utility- and broadcast bands. But I never got speed. Being a ham now I can't but feel that I have to learn the art of Morse code properly and get on air with it. Not in the least because of my best ham friend - PG2W - who is a Morse code freak and an ex-RO in the merchant marine. So by using lcwo.net I now practise almost daily and my speed has gone up. I can send better than take it down, but 12 wpm is what I am most comfortable with now. That is a small, but very significant, change.

But what has changed a lot - and has shocked me - is the radio landscape in general. I used to listen to the BBC World Service 24/7 on shortwave. Now it has been reduced to a couple of hours in the morning and evening. The Voice of America is all but gone. Radio Tanpa has changed its name. Time stations JJY and BSF have gone. I have a hard time finding some maritime stations in CW. Luckily aeronautical stations are still around, as are volmet stations. Shortwave has become some sort of desert, it seems, the amateur bands included. There is

activity, but not as much as it used to be.

Of course the best change that has happened is that I joined FISTS. I am member #15512. I haven't had contact with any fellow members yet, although I have listened in on the Sunday afternoon net. We will move house this July and after setting up some new antenna's I will actively try to reach other members and participate in the net. My main set is a TS-130V, with a maximum output of 15 Watts. Semi-QRP and I like it like that. Apart from CW I do some RTTY, Hellschreiber en PSKxx, whatever comes around first. Being an ex-army telex operator RTTY is my favourite. Hellschreiber comes in a close second, but unfortunately this mode is not very popular in Asia. I exclusively run Linux on my computers with Fldigi and CQRlog as the main software for decoding and logging. I keep a website of my radio adventures, the address being <http://pa2bx.nl/PA-to-BX/>. There you can find my blog, logs, DXCC stats, info on my projects and some info on the amateur radio situation in Taiwan.

73 from Taiwan and see you on air.

“T8XO FROM JULY 21ST TO 24TH” MASUMI JA3AVO #15029

We are planning to visit Palau from July 21st to 24th with our daughter and grandchildren. Big family trip of 3 adults and 3 children. We reserved a hotel room with rental shack, so of course I am planning to operate ham radio there.

We have been assigned the following call signs: mine is T88MB, XYL (JH3PBL) is T88MP, and my grandson's (W7AED) is T88SR. But this time we all will use T8XO. My daughter (W8AVO) got her call sign at the same time when her son went to take an exam, but she is not a serious ham operator at all, so operating with 3 generations is not going come true unfortunately.

We were able to book for 4 of us on Continental Airlines using United Airlines mileage. That's why we decided to go to Palau otherwise flying there and staying at this luxurious PPR is too expensive. It was a long plan so we booked 10 months in advance. It is very difficult to book flights for free using frequent flyer miles.

If operating ham radio is the main purpose, there is a very thrifty VIP hotel in Palau too. It is a small hotel but no extra charge to use the ham radio room, luckily. The ham radio room is managed by the owner, George. Since the Palau license is valid for one year, I would like to operate from the VIP hotel one day too, if I can.

“WAITING FOR YOUR CALL!” TOMMY JG2GSY #15072 & ATSU JE1TRV #7763

8J1MORSE is a special memorial station that commemorates the 220th anniversary of the birth of Samuel Morse and the first successful Morse Code communication across the Atlantic Ocean by Guglielmo Marconi in 1901. With the advancement of radio communication technologies, the Morse Code is placed at the brink of extinction as the modern technology continues to replace the traditional arts of communication. This year, practical Morse Code examinations for amateur radio licenses will be abolished in Japan, as well as in

other countries. As the Morse Code technique threatens to disappear even amongst the amateurs, we feel it very important to preserve the Morse Code technique as a thriving and valid means of communication. Contribute to this movement to preserve the art of the Morse Code! Just jump into the Morse Code world; you are always welcome! Let us make sure that the Morse Code never disappears amongst us amateurs.

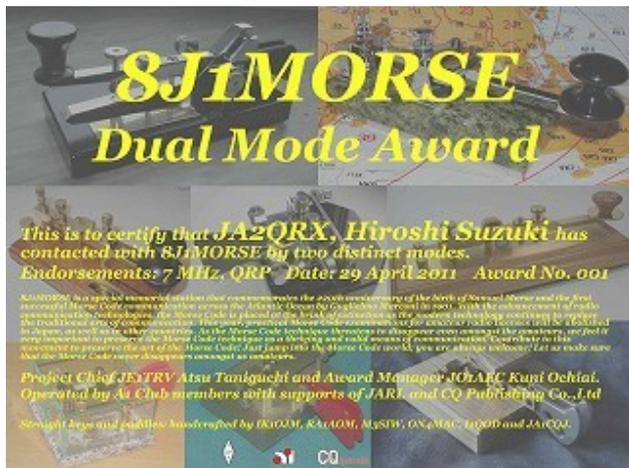
We have the official website and weblog of 8J1MORSE as shown below.

Website: <http://8j1morse.a1tokai.net/>
 Weblog: <http://8j1morse.blogspot.com/>

Our website provides basic information regarding long-term QRV plans, online log system, QSL policy and awards, etc. Please refer our weblog for short-term news and QRV schedules, etc. Of course, your comments in our weblog will be greatly appreciated.

You might consider that 8J1MORSE would be QRV only by CW mode. However, we believe it very important to be on the air by phone or digital modes as well, which makes it possible to encourage beginner amateurs to learn the Morse Code and to welcome them to the fantastic world of CW.

We will issue different kinds of awards to encourage you to make contacts with 8J1MORSE on multiple bands or by multiple modes. An example photo of one of our awards is shown below. The award application is free of charge. The detailed award rules are described in our website.



Members of A1 Club Japan will operate 8J1MORSE from 1st June to 30th November 2011. Please do not miss it! We are always waiting for your call!

Web and QSL manager Tommy Yamazaki, JG2GSY
 Project Chief Atsu Taniguchi, JE1TRV.

“JAPAN TO CANCEL MORSE CODE EXAMINATION” NAO JO3HPM #15008

The Japanese Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications has announced the abolishment of the Morse code listening examination for the first and the second class amateur radio licences. This is effective from 1 October 2011. After the day, the understanding of Morse code is only examined in the subject of regulations. In 1988, the sending examination had already been abolished. In 1996, Japanese Morse code examination was removed from the first class examinations. In 2005, the listening

examination was removed from the third class. And now all practical examinations in Japan are no longer required. But I believe Morse code will never die.

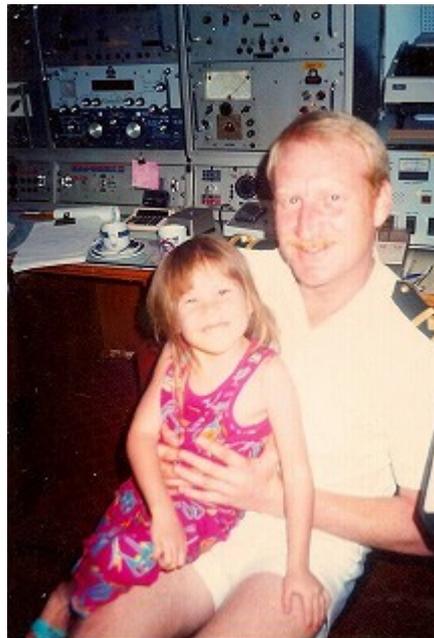
GEORGE 7J1ATG (ALSO VK4BGR) #15076

Hello Nao-san -

Nice to hear from you - I hope that you are well. Here I am in Australia at present - but will be back in Japan later this week - I have been away very often lately with work jobs etc but I have tried the Sunday Skeds a few times - but local QRN too high at my QTH. Hopefully in the Summer - I can take my rig and the battery down to the beach and we can have a QSO. Take care and regards to all the FIST net people. George

“GREETINGS FROM SINGAPORE” JOHN 9V1VV #8998

I was born in South Africa but educated in England and have lived in Israel, Sri Lanka, Thailand and now Singapore. I have been a licensed radio ham for only 8 years. From 1979 until 1987 I was a ship's radio officer working in the Far East on many kinds of merchant vessels. The photograph was taken in the radio shack of “Coral Princess” in 1987 with my daughter who was sailing with me for a while. This was a cruise ship based in Yokohama with 500 Japanese passengers cruising to China and Taiwan.



After 1987 I became an electronics engineer working in the offshore oil and gas industry. For 15 years I did not use CW and wondered how I could use it again since most commercial applications had been replaced by data transmission. Ham radio was the answer so I got my licence in Singapore in 2002.

Through CW I have met many new friends across the world, and had the pleasure of eyeball QSOs with Nao JO3HPM, Atsu JE1TRV, Manabu JE1RZR, Shin JA1NUT and several others, too numerous to mention here. CW is quite active in Japan with several CWops, FISTS and

FOC members. I particularly enjoy the FISTS EA net on 14054 KHz on Sundays at 5 pm JST.

My shack is quite simple with a K2 and a 500W homebrew linear into a homebrew remote-controlled balanced tuner and a 270 foot doublet which covers all bands 160m to 10m.

I have a small collection of keys including some Marconi Marine straight keys and a wonderful Amplidan ship's key from Denmark, which is similar to the Swedish pump. However, straight keys are rather slow and it is hard to send faster than 20 wpm without fatigue. I use a Vizkey bug on air these days, or sometimes a N3ZN single paddle with a JA3KAB bug keyer circuit.

I hope to meet some new JA CW operators on the air soon. CW is a great way to communicate because operators all enjoy mastering this unique skill, which gives more pleasure and rewards than phone or data. For JA operators it is perhaps more of a challenge because English is not a first language. I have a great deal of respect for JA CW operators who can ragchew in English.

73 de John / 9V1VV

(This is the original manuscript of the Japanese magazine "CQ ham radio" May 2011 Page 135 translated by Atsu JE1TRV. - Editor)

"QRP OTAKU" YASU JG3TSX #15089

I basically operate QRP. The QRP world is deep. Though QRP transceivers are mostly palm-size, if the propagation condition permit, they give me contacts with DX stations. A QSO using QRP brings impresses me more compared to a QSO using QRO.

In recent years I have been collecting QRP transceivers. Now I have nine lovely rigs.

Rig	Bands (m)	Mode	Power (W)
A & A Engineering K9AY QRP Morse Code CW Radio Kit	20	CW	5
A & A Engineering K9AY QRP Morse Code CW Radio Kit	30	CW	5
Elecraft K1-4	40/30/20/15	CW	5
INDEX LABORATORIES QRP PLUS	160~10	CW/SSB	5
Oak Hills Research OHR 100A	20	CW	5
Oak Hills Research OHR 100A	40	CW	5
Oak Hills Research OHR 400	80/40/30/20	CW	5
Small Wonder SW-40	40	CW	2
WILDERNESS SIERRA	80/40/30/20/17/15	CW	2

I also have three Oak Hills Research DD-1 Digital Dial and a LDG Z-817 auto tuner. The Elecraft K1-4 is my first favourite, followed by OHR 400, WILDERNESS SIERRA, Small Wonder SW-40, and QRP PLUS. But actually I like everything!

In addition, Three rookies will join them by early July.

Rig	Bands (m)	Mode	Power (W)
MFJ 9040 QRP CW Transceiver	40	CW	5
Oak Hills Research OHR 500	80/40/30/20/15	CW	5
TEN-TEC R4020 TWO BAND CW QRP TRANSCEIVER	40/20	CW	5

And next I am interested in an Elecraft KX-1, a TEN-TEC 1340, and an MFJ-9017, respectively. A lot of wonderful QRP transceivers around the world are waiting to be collected by me.

Just looking at them will heal my mind. They give me a dream. I am the QRP Otaku maybe...



"GHD GN907A-P" TAKA JF1DKB #15069

I purchased a GHD GN907A-P, fully automatic bug key with optical sensor contacts.

Before this, I bought a used Hi-mound BK-100 bug key. When I tried to use it, I felt it was pretty difficult to make accurate dash lengths. On the other hand, I knew GHD sells a GN907A, full automatic bug key. I thought I could overcome my poor dashes if I use that key. But it was very expensive, so I never thought about ordering it at that time.

Early this year, a GN907A suddenly disappeared from GHD web site. It was very funny, but I really wanted it after it became unavailable. I asked to Ujiie JA7GHD who is the president of GHD. He replied me that there was no stock of a GN907A but if you really want it, it can be built as a special order. I was much worried. But I finally decided to order one. I had to raise money by selling a lot of rigs and other equipment.

Mr. Ujiie gave me the following advice when I ordered it.

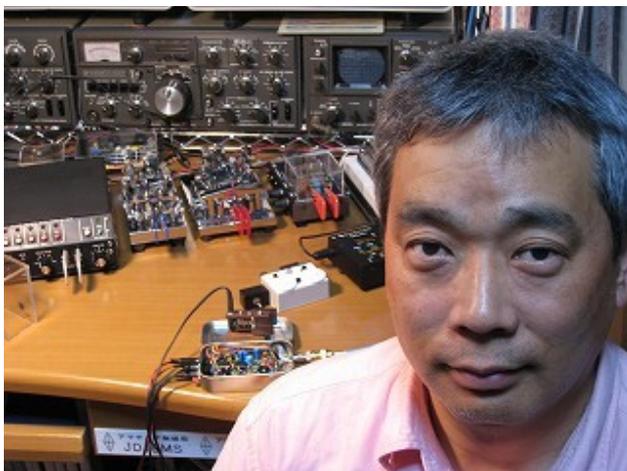
"The Morse key is sometimes compared to a musical instrument. I think the GN907A is a more difficult instrument. In general, an electrical keyer has a memory. Even if it is manipulated roughly, still it produces

beautiful code. A bug key is a manual key. We must manipulate it with accurate timing. This makes the bug key difficult to use. Moreover, GN907A is also automatic for dashes, so the operation of it becomes more difficult.”

The reason I decided to buy it was it would be easier to send dashes. Why did he say “more difficult”? The reason I found out by actually operating the key. If we push a lever of a normal bug a long time, it simply produces a long dash. But the case of GN907A, it produce an unwanted additional dash. The timing tolerance of the levers of the GN907A is smaller compared to the normal bug.

So, what should I do to use my GN907A satisfactorily? I think it can be achieved only by a lot of practice. I want to produce beautiful code like an electrical key with my GN907A. I feel a GN907A is truly magical!

<http://eagle810.cocolog-nifty.com/blog/ghdgn907ap/index.html>



TARO JR0QWW #5578

Last June, I have built up my new tower at my home as shown in the picture. Lower element is for 40m band, and upper element is for 20m, 15m, and 10m bands. I can also be QRV on WARC bands with VDP, which element you can't see in the picture. As you can see, my home location is not good, and there are forest and hills in back of my home, and this direction is towards North America. I hope to see you soon on the air



“THE 3.11 (2)” LEO JJ8KGZ #4843

Naoko, my wife, called me and asked if I was okay. She works at the welfare office as a nursing care manager. “I tried to call home to ask if our sons were safe but the connections weren't made. Did you try?” she asked. “Yeah, they were all-right”, I replied. We have a 9-year old daughter as well and her name is Noa and we were worried if she was OK at school. But I thought if something happened to my daughter her teacher would call our mobile phones which numbers were registered at school, because the service of cell-phone carriers seemed to be still alive, so we had to believe she was safe.

I saw some photos uploaded on the Internet and especially one of them taken in Enoshima dismayed me. It's one of the well-known islands near Tokyo and located on the opposite shore of Shonan beach, Kanagawa Prefecture. The seawater had gone and the bottom of the sea between the island and Shonan beach became exposed while those Tsunamis were hitting the north-east coasts. Enoshima was no longer an island but a peninsula. Some feeling like a fin-de-siecle anxiety came to me and I considered it a foreboding of a catastrophe.

“Guys, let's call it a day. We go home and see what's going on. I cancelled the reservation of tonight's booze party”, Kazuo said. We were supposed to have a welcome party for a new employer Mr. Oyama who commutes from Shimizu, the next town.

Getting home, I soon found my sons and daughter doing well and watching the TV news. As I watched every report, I was getting aware of the gravity of the situation. The Met Office had changed the magnitude of the earthquake from 7.9 to 8.4 and horrible Tsunami videos in Ofunato and Rikuzen-takada were broadcasted repeatedly.

Those reports made me gradually get a grip on reality and I became very worried about my friends who live near the epicentre. I searched for their account names on twitter but nobody tweeted just after the earthquake except for the buddies residing far from the epicentre. They said, “It was a quite big earthquake. Are U guys alright?”, “I'm worried about ~~~ who lives in Fukushima”, or “My trains cancelled and can't go home now” and so on. Actually, some of my friends in Tokyo reported their serious situations on Twitter due to the complete stoppage of all public transportation. They had to walk home taking until two or three hours late in the evening or had to choose an alternative way, staying a night at some public facilities such as community centres, public gyms and city halls. Some stayed a night at railroad stations, in hallways and staircases in subway stations.

While watching TV, some aftershocks hit in Fukushima, Chiba and Toyko area. We also felt some shocks but they were subtle. My mobile phone rang in my pocket in the late evening of March 11th and it was Charles, my friend in France. “Hiro, are you Okay? I tried to call you several times but I haven't been able to reach you since this morning. Is everybody OK?” His voice was shaking. And Tomas, OK4BX in Czech gave me a message to ask me if I was OK. Chuck, W5PG near Dallas was also worried about me and I replied on his Facebook comments. I tried to sleep around 2 AM but I couldn't.

All TV stations in Japan stopped broadcasting TV commercials and kept reporting on this most tragic

disaster for 24 hours a day. The weekend has been shot with watching those Tsunami-ravaged towns and villages and we were passively announced the report that saying the death toll from the earthquake and Tsunami. It was initially 200 to 300 but was getting bigger day by day. Seismic fire at some oil refineries in Tokyo bay-area were reported and most shocking videos for us were those Tsunami-hitting scenes, which washed away whole towns and villages.

On Sunday afternoon, March 13th, I found out that most of the friends near the epicentre were safe from the web site of FISTS East Asia and Sugi, JK7UST got on the air with his Elecraft K1 using external batteries and had QSOs on the FEA CW Net. Later we realized that he wanted to demonstrated to us radio friends that he was alive and safe even though he had no electricity, water and gas at home. Thanks to the coordinator of FISTS East Asia Nao, JO3HPM, we could see some goings-on of those friends on the bulletin board of the website.

However, things were getting worse by the minute.

We were told there was an explosion in the facility of Fukushima Nuclear Power Station.

After the earthquake, I received a lot of e-mail from friends overseas. I want to say "thank you" for their friendship.

I think readers of this newsletter have already known how things upheld in Japan for these few weeks, so I would like to write what I think of this national disaster.

First, I want to extend my sincerest sympathy to people who lost their lives in this catastrophe. I believe Japan will conquer this national crisis.

The crisis of this kind either provide an opportunity for governments to exercise strong leadership or they cruelly expose the lack of leadership ability. When the nuclear power plant had a hydrogen explosion for the first time, Edano, the Director-General of the Cabinet announced that there was little radiation-contamination and it's not harmful. But as you can see on current news, despite of the frantic efforts of fire fighters and the self-defence force who are coping with the accident, the radiation-contaminated area is expanding. It is a very productive area producing vegetables, rice and livestock and also industrial machinery. The necessary expenditure to fund Japan's reconstruction will inevitably exacerbate its fiscal debt problem. This is another disaster of this nation.

Although the government cajole people out of being panicked and broadcast straight-laced TV commercials to keep people calm down, there are some people saying that the afflicted area will never be restored because of the radioactive pollution and residents won't be able to come back their home forever. The area might be abandoned like Chernobyl and its suburbs. I am not a specialist in nuclear power issues and don't know what's going on at the site of Fukushima NPS, but it became somewhat difficult for me to trust not only electric utilities but our government.

I am not a pessimist but we are in a dense fog and cannot see any good future at this moment.

The second weekend came after the disaster.

Isao, JQ2SFZ and I will resume our scheduled QSO from tomorrow morning.

We are going to keep pounding the brass.

<The end.>

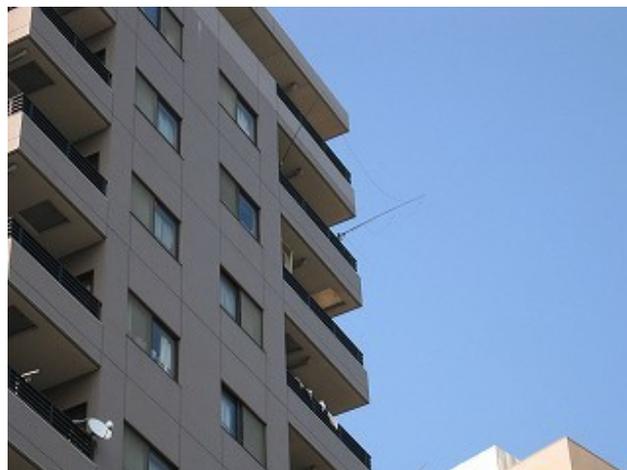
"EXCITING QRP CW OPERATION" TOMMY JG2GSY #15072

Dear Friends,

I am Tomio "Tommy" Yamazaki, JG2GSY (FISTS #15072). Some of you have kindly made a QSO with me before, in spite of my very weak CW signal. I have the first class amateur license in Japan, thus officially I am allowed to transmit with a maximum output power of 1 kW if I want. Actually now I have a 100 W rig, IC-706MKIIG, but I am always on the air by QRP with an output power of 5 W or less. There is a serious reason, or I can say "trauma" instead, for my QRP operation.

My amateur license was first issued in January 1981 when I was a high school boy. At that time, I did not have enough knowledge and experience to avoid interferences such as TVI and BCI. Soon after I started to be on the air, my neighbours suffered from TVI and BCI caused by my transmissions. As you can imagine, I had to be QRT immediately in order not to trouble my neighbours. Since then, I have become an interference-phobia patient. Hi, Hi.

In January 2003, I moved into the apartment in which I am living now. Because I had been wishing to be on the air again for a long time, finally I decided to set up a rig and an antenna in my apartment. The first thing I did was to set the output power of my IC-706MKIIG down to minimum, since QRP operation has less chance of interference than QRO operation. Furthermore, I did not have enough space to set up a big antenna, so I had no choice other than a fishing rod long wire antenna with an antenna tuner (AH-4) on my balcony as shown in the photo. Now you understand why my signal is so weak.



Honestly, at the beginning, I did not expect that I could make contacts with DX stations with my poor antenna and QRP power. However, it did not take so long for me to realize that my QRP CW signal could reach almost all over the world. I have been very much impressed to know how efficient CW mode is, and QRP CW operation has strongly fascinated me. By the end of April 2011, I could make contacts with more than 100 entities only by QRP CW.

Although I may trouble you with my very weak signal, I wish to be on the air by QRP CW also from now on. I

would greatly appreciate it if you could kindly catch my weak CW signal.

Tommy, JG2GSY

Czech Army Morse Keys

One of the most pleasant hand keys to use and extremely well made to a unique Czech design. Complete with original lead and plug. Over 50 years' old but like new and still in factory wrapping. Add to your collection or use for everyday CW. See website for latest prices and ordering options.



www.czechmorsekeys.co.uk

“JOHN K3TN” LEO JJ8KGZ #4843

K3TN, John came to Japan on business all the way from Maryland U.S.A..

He gave me an e-mail in February and asked if I could come to Tokyo to meet him but I thought it would be difficult. So I intended to introduce him some of my CW friends who would be able to guide him in Tokyo. But fortunately, I found it possible for me to make a trip to Tokyo just a week before. I booked a flight and was excited. JE1TRV, Atsu offered to arrange some eye-ball session with his local radio friends and prepared a BBQ party at his home.

I met John and his wife Carol in front of Shinagawa Station in the morning of 16th April. It was a nice and warm Sunday morning.

Taking the Yamanote line, we changed our train at Shinjuku station then aimed to Machida on the Odakyu line. An hour train ride seemed to be interesting for John and Carol. A girl wearing a cartoon costume and a golden wig got on the train at Meguro station. I thought it was the first time for them to see a cosplayer. (Costume Player) :-)

Arriving Tsurukawa station in the city of Machida, we were waiting for Atsu to come. In a couple of minutes, he came to pick us up and exchanged greetings with John and Carol. He mentioned “By the way John, how did you know Leo (me)? I think it's impossible for Leo to make a contact with you on the air because his system is not good enough to reach east-coast.”

We laughed.

It's true, Atsu!

John has been a reader of this blog and got interested in

meeting me during his trip.

We arrived at his home which is in a quiet neighbourhood. Looking at his antenna systems and taking a picture or two. And Atsu took us to his shack and John seemed to be excited sitting before those rigs and keys.

Around 11 AM, Atsu's local friends who are all Japan A1 Club members came along.

They were JA1HMK, JA4AZS, JN1GLB and his wife, JA7QIL, JQ1QHO, JJ1IZW and JQ1BWT. We are all friends and it was very nice to see some of them again. I haven't seen them since the Tokyo Ham Fair held in 2009.

The party started and we enjoyed talking and eating some typical Japanese food and drinks.



Surprisingly, JA1NUT Shin gave a call to Atsu and said he would join the party in the afternoon. John and Shin actually had a QSO before and it was quite good news for us. As I have been written on this blog several times, Shin is an Elmer of my CW activity and also has been said to be a BEACON of Japan on 40m by US stations.

It's easy to say that he joins the party but actually he resides in Mohoka, located about a 100 Km north of Tokyo, and I thought it would be a tough drive for him. Around 1:30 PM, Shin arrived and said it took two hours and a half taking Chuo freeway.

It was really a nice reunion with him and John also seemed to be happy.

Fun time passes very quickly. I had to leave for Haneda airport to catch a flight to go back home.

Shin offered me to give me a ride to Tsurukawa and it was very nice talking with him in the car. Saying good bye to him, I rushed to Shin-Yokohama to take a bullet train and go back to the airport. John and Carol were taken to their hotel in Shinagawa by Shin on his way back to Mohka.

It was a great weekend and I want to express my gratitude for those friends who shared very good time with us. And I hope John and Carol will have a great time rest of the days staying in Japan. They will go back to the US on Friday, 22nd.

(The photo is by courtesy of Atsu JE1TRV. - Editor)

“MY CW LIFE (1)” MASA JJ1IZW #15026

Comeback

I said goodbye to my company after 20 years there and moved to a new company in 2005. I was already 43 years old at that time. This career change led me to a come back into the ham radio world.

Radio history

I started my ham life in the summer of 1976 with a Panasonic RJX-601, 6 m AM/FM transceiver. I was in the second grade of junior high school. At that time there were a lot of YLs and I enjoyed chatting with them using the radio without my parents knowing about it.

In addition, I joined the Zutteru club which mainly operated 6 m band from 3000 m class mountains. When I operated from the top of the mountains, I felt the excitement of receiving dog piles.

Then due to interference problems with my neighbours, I stopped 6 m being QRV from my home and changed to 15 m using a TORIO TS-311 (10 W) and a MIZUHO MX-15 (0.3 W). But at the end of my high school days the 15 m antenna was broken by a typhoon and I stopped operation on 15 m.

After that I changed to 430 MHz FM. But some circumstance changed, such as the movement from my parent's house to live alone, the popularization of cell-phones and the internet, which gradually cooled my fever down. However, I kept renewing my license every 5 years.

CW début

Back to 2005. After I decided to leave my company, my work time decreased and I did have some free time. Suddenly I remembered my old radio life and wanted to go back into the radio hobby.

I didn't know why but I didn't want my wife to hear my QSOs. So I wanted to start new radio life with Morse code.

My license was a no-code one at that time. When I checked information on the third class license examination, I found Morse listening test was removed from the exam and became paper test only soon. My pride doesn't allow getting a known-code license by paper test only. I had to hurry. It was only 2 months for the last exam with listening!

First I tried to remember Morse code by sound pattern. But it was hard for me. Next I learned it by means of a series of words that have the same rhythm as a Morse code. I could master that in only 2 days.

Well, I did pass the exam at the Tokyo ham fair in August, fortunately. I started to listen to CW QSOs on HF bands using a new YAESU FT-817ND with full motivation. But I realized soon real QSOs were very hard to copy, because it has QRM, QRN, QSB and a high speed beyond the exam level. I was at a loss what to do...

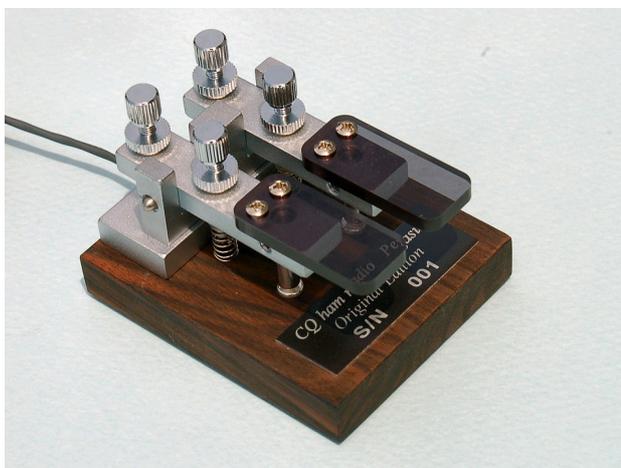


I found the scheduled QSO program of the A1 club on the Internet. It is the voluntary program for beginners to start and practice CW QSOs on the air. I got the courage to apply for it. My buddy was very kind. At last, I could début in the CW world on the evening of 23 September 2005 at 40 m. I was very lucky to meet him.

<to be continued.>

“PEGASUS” NAO JO3HPM #15008

Japanese amateur radio magazine “CQ ham radio” released the original telegraph key “Pegasus” on 13 June. The GHD TELEGRAPH KEY manufactures the key. The 100 units of the first lot were sold out the same day. Now they are preparing a next lot. The key has two vertical paddles that can be manipulated by mouse-like finger movement. A squeeze operation is performed if both paddles are held. The size is W 50 mm x D 60 mm and the weight is about 140 g. It is compact and right, so convenient for portable. The price is 15000 yen.



“BACK FROM A BIG ACCIDENT” HOZ JL1IRB #15030

I had a huge experience I want to tell you about. Huge, especially for me, one who had not had any injuries or staying hospital ever.

That day I got off for dealing with some payments at the bank. It was nice day and flowers were blooming. I was riding my folding bicycle around the city area.



Then, something happened to me and my bike. What I

remembered was just “I bent down my head to check a roughness of the road”. Next, I was found laying down on a road with my bike by a newspaper-delivery man. He called for an ambulance, and they came there. After they checked my blood pressure, consciousness and state of my injuries, they took me a hospital located 15km from my house.

The diagnosis of the doctor was: three fractures of the skull-bone, the cheek-bone and one more bone around face, and sub-arachnoid bleeding and brain contusion. These difficult English words might not be used by me if I didn't get this accident. The doctor said these were very serious injuries and you should be aware the road to recovery is not easy. My hospital life started from the moment with big anxious and much dismay.

Because I always had strong headaches laying down in a bed was not so bad. My usual life was to stay in the office from 8 AM to 10 PM or later with a huge stress. Many disappointing matters had been around me. Automotive engineering is like a bear-fighting. No room for watching any bands at night due to lack of time. No time to be on air around the chatting frequencies on 7 MHz, letting slip many opportunities to work nice DXpedition. It was really nice rest for me, really nice.

After staying five days in hospital my doctor allowed me to get discharged, although there were many failures with my body. However, the direction was not really bad and was perhaps the correct one. Bleeding in the head was not big and serious, so I didn't need to have surgery. What I got was always drip infusions, and to eat “healthy” hospital food.

I got out the hospital after 6 days of staying. My status was not good. The headaches were still awful. Both hands were a bit something like the other things. Strong Ear ringing started. On the other hand, performance of hearing of the left ear is apparently deteriorated. Sensing around right eye and mouth get paralysed. But, I was really happy to be my house, to be with my son, Yuki and wife, Rie JN1XLV. I tried to keep quiet at home as much as possible. It was not really done anyway. I did operate my transceivers, FTDX5000, FTDX9000, K3, and K1. And I was realized that owning some big rigs were not worth a thing. A person will die or may get accidents. Reducing my life and properties must be necessary for my family and also myself. I decided to get rid of the biggest rig I own. This big machine is now owned by my nice CW friend.

After 2 weeks, I was much recovered. I thought I could ride my bicycle if I took care not to get a big vibration.

I went to a tailgating party with Aki JP1BJB and Jun

JQ1BWT at SAGAMI-RIVER. We enjoyed oral chatting, and calling DX-ped at VP5 by our friend, Nao JN1RVS and some station we could hear. There was also the first time for me to have a half glass of wine, I mean, to take alcohol drink after getting an accident.

I went to a hospital for having a diagnosis and current status in the end of MAY.

Then, the doctor told me the internal bleeding in my head has gone. And no evidence of brain contusion was found. Those were matters much appreciated by me.

I finally recovered so I can go to IZAKA-YA, which is a Japanese bar. This was together with Aki and Jun.



Conclusion at this moment is that a paralysis around face, ear ringing and low performance on my left ear are still happening. However, no other bad effects have occurred in my body. I am now able to ride my bicycle, and drive my vehicle for 500 km per day. And working in the office from 8 AM to 10 PM as I used to do. But I often take extra rest. I stay home 1 out of 5 days. And enjoying monitoring all bands whenever I can.

To meet the accident might be fate., The gods would not protect me. But I am still alive without big failures. This is obviously a happy thing. Although I, like most Japanese, know the ethnic of Buddhism, I usually behave like pagan. I really appreciate God being there to protect me after the accident. You guys, who can contact me, should be lucky, because you can touch a person who survived by the help of God somehow ;-)

“FEA CW NET RESULTS: NO. 328 TO 340” NAO JO3HPM #15008

No.	Date (Y/M/D)	Time (UTC)	Freq.(MHz)	Controller	Participants
340-2	2011/6/26	0800-	14.054	JO3HPM(Nao)	VK4TJ(John)
340-1	2011/6/25	2300-	7.026	JJ8KGZ(Leo)	JP1BJB(Aki), 7N2XUZ(Sam), JF3KNW(Nobu), JG3TSX(Yasu), JK7UST(Sugi)
339-2	2011/6/19	0800-0837	14.053	JO3HPM(Nao)	VK4TJ(John)
339-1	2011/6/18	2300-2350	7.025	JG0SXC(Man)	JP1BJB(Aki),JO3HPM(Nao)
338-2	2011/6/12	0800-0852	14.054	JO3HPM(Nao)	JK7UST(Sugi),VK4TJ(John)
338-1	2011/6/11	2300-2350	7.026	JJ8KGZ(Leo)	JE1TRV(Atsu),JR0QWW(Taro),JL1HRB/1(Hoz)
337-2	2011/6/5	0800-0845	14.054	JO3HPM(Nao)	JK7UST(Sugi)
337-1	2011/6/4	2300-2400	7.026	JG0SXC(Man)	JO3HPM(Nao),JP1BJB(Aki)
336-2	2011/5/29	none	none	none	none
336-1	2011/5/29	1200-1300	7.0243	JJ8KGZ(Leo)	JQ2SFZ(Isao),JA1NUT(Shin),JE1TRV(Atsu)
335-2	2011/5/22	0800-0830	14.054	JO3HPM(Nao)	VK4TJ(John)
335-1	2011/5/21	2300-2400	7.026	JG0SXC(Man)	JO3HPM(Nao),JP1BJB(Aki),JE1TRV(Atsu)
334-2	2011/5/15	0800-0845	14.0535	JO3HPM(Nao)	VK4TJ(John),JE1TRV(Atsu)
334-1	2011/5/14	2300-2330	7.026	JJ8KGZ(Leo)	JO3HPM(Nao),JP1BJB/2(Aki)
333-2	2011/5/8	0800-0902	14.054	JO3HPM(Nao)	JE1TRV(Atsu),VE7WA(Dennis),JF3KNW(Nobu)
333-1	2011/5/7	2300-2400	7.026	JG0SXC(Man)	JO3HPM(Nao),JE1TRV(Atsu),JP1BJB/M(Aki)
332-2	2011/5/1	0800-0845	14.0535	JO3HPM(Nao)	VK4TJ(John)
332-1	2011/4/30	2300-0017	7.002	JJ8KGZ(Leo)	JO3HPM(Nao),JF3KNW(Nobu),JA1NUT(Shin)
331-2	2011/4/24	0800-0858	14.054	JO3HPM(Nao)	JA4MRL(MasaG),VK4TJ(John),JK7UST(Sugi)
331-1	2011/4/23	2300-0019	7.026	JG0SXC(Man)	JO3HPM(Nao),JE1TRV(Atsu),JK7UST(Sugi),JJ8KGZ(Leo), JP1BJB/1(Aki), JA4MRL(MasaG)
330-2	2011/4/17	0800-0850	14.054	JO3HPM(Nao)	VK4TJ(John),JE1TRV(Atsu)
330-1	2011/4/15	2300-2317	7.025	JJ8KGZ(Leo)	JE1TRV(Leo),JP1BJB(Aki)
329-2	2011/4/10	0800-0820	14.054	JO3HPM(Nao)	JK7UST(Sugi),ZL2AOH(Ralph)
329-1	2011/4/9	2300-0004	7.0235	JG0SXC(Man)	JE1TRV(Atsu),JP1BJB(Aki),JO3HPM(Nao)
328-2	2011/4/3	0800-0830	14.054	JO3HPM(Nao)	JK7UST(Sugi),ZL2AOH(Ralph)
328-1	2011/4/2	2300-0004	7.025	JL3YMV/3(Nao)	JP1BJB(Aki),JG0SXC(Man)

FINALE

Do you have a pet? My daughter wants to have a pet

such as a dog and a cat. But it is not permitted to have them in the apartment house where I live. Any good idea?
73/88 and stay sober de Nao.