



Recommended calling QRGs: 7.028, 10.118/10.128/10.133, 14.058, 18.085, 21.058/21.138, 24.908, 28.058/28.158

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

FEA Crossing: 7.025 to 7.030 MHz, from 2330UTC on Fridays

FEA-100 Award: http://www.feacw.net/qrv/FEA-100_Award.htm

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The FISTS East Asia chapter (FEA) membership renewal procedure takes place every four years. All FEA members who wish to retain their membership are kindly requested to send renew@fists-ea.org an e-mail message by 31 March 2024. To identify you, please write your callsign or SWL number in the subject line. The message body should include your latest information: FISTS number, handle (nickname), callsign or SWL number, other callsigns if you have, and e-mail address. In addition, we encourage you to include your message for members or a report how you are doing lately. Please note that your message or report will be published in THE STRAWBERRY BASKET section of the next morsEAsia. Any members who do not follow this procedure are subject to deletion of membership. However, former members are always welcome to rejoin and would retain the original FISTS number. Please let us know your (old) callsign and your FISTS number (if you remember it) when you want to rejoin us. The next one is scheduled in 2028.

NEW MEMBERS

We're very pleased to welcome our latest members: Diva, VU2FFW #22123.

SELF-INTRODUCTION - DIVA, VU2FFW, #22123

I am Divakar from Chennai, India, 45 years old and an IT professional, I got my licence in Oct. 2021 and active in VHF/UHF/QO-100 and DMR. I have an academic background in electronics engineering and interested in DIY and homebrewing radios and accessories. I am working towards being regular in HF so it may take some time before I can call myself active in HF. I have learnt and practicing CW with local operators. Thank you

CAMPSITE TORAMI - TAK, JS1QIZ, #15150

On the 9th of December, I had a chance to QRV from the Campsite TORAMI, in the Boso Peninsular, Chiba, Japan. I pitched a tent in a space in the woods and spread a wire toward a tree branch about 5 meters high. The 8 meters long wire picked up the signals from all Japan and eventually, from VK where my 5 W did not reach. The meal cooked on a small wood stove was nice and FEA net in the next morning was a fun. The temperature was around 10 degrees Celsius, and I did not feel cold. Thank you, Aki-san, JL1GEL, the controller-in charge of the FEA net, for picking up my weak signal from the campsite. 73.





SOTA ACTIVATION - TARO, JR0QWW, #5578

I went to Shima City, Mie Prefecture, on business from December 15 (Fri.) to 17 (Sun.). I carried the radio and antenna and found a little time to do some radio operations in a mountain called Yokoyama in Shima City. At first, I thought Yokoyama was a boring small low mountain, but when I went there, I found it was a famous tourist spot with a clear view of Ago Bay. Alexloop was used for the antenna. The advantage of this antenna is that it is small, easily portable, and can be used immediately on a variety of frequencies. In CW mode, we were able to communicate with 45 stations in 35 minutes. It was a short but very satisfying SOTA activation.



It was a short but very satisfying SOTA activation.



Alexloop antenna and I.

BELATED CONFESSIONS OF THE DOOR BELL GHOST....., GEORGE, 7J1ATG/VK4BGR/GW3YTC AND JS2PNZ, #15076

Hello - my name is George - born in Ireland - lived in various countries before settling in Japan in the early 90's and I hold the callsigns 7J1ATG / VK4BGR / GW3YTC and recently a fixed station JS2PNZ.

Before I tell my tale - as we near the end of 2023 my sincere thanks goes out to the FEA organisers / members (and likewise A1 CLUB organisers / members) for what are, to me, two very important organisations that have formed a major part of my ham radio life in Japan. This has been the case since I was, many years ago, introduced to the FEA by Nao-san (JO3HPM) whilst I was operating (as 7J1ATG/6) one Saturday morning from my car by a beach near Fukuoka when I then lived in Kyushu. That "chance" QSO, in which Nao-san told me about the FEA, has made my ham radio life in Japan much more enjoyable - my thanks to all involved in both the FEA & A1 CLUB and my best wishes for 2024 and beyond.

Now to my "tale" - which I may have told to some FEA / A1 CLUB members over the years, after a beer or three, at one of the many enjoyable "eyeball meetings"..... I will try to tell the same story here hi hi.

My ham radio QRN noise level at my home whilst living in JA6 area was not really low..... but much better than what I moved to in Tokyo (Shinanomachi - Shinjuku area). I used to go by car (or bicycle) to a local beach to escape the QRN whilst in JA6 area - that was not so easily achieved in Shinanomachi. At first sight the new QTH in Shinanomachi looked like a reasonable place to set up a ham radio station..... a 3 storey house with a reasonably sized flat area off the 3rd floor for an antenna or three and good access to the side of the building for coax runs etc.

However - I had not anticipated the very high / near continuous QRN from within our house / neighbours houses and the near-by high rise office buildings which was regularly S8-9 on HF all bands (except 80 M) that awaited me at Shinanomachi and effectively totally limited my ham radio activity until I made my remote HF stations a year or so later. The area that my new QTH was located in was very congested with buildings - the access "road" too narrow for even a small car!



But it was my home and apart from ham radio activities - a very convenient location to live near. As mentioned earlier my ham radio activity on HF was very limited by almost constant S8-9 QRN on all bands except for the 80 M band which for some reason was "not that bad". I tried to join many of the Sunday FEA nets (1st / 2nd parts) but often failed to take part due to poor transmission level and high local QRN levels. I had not bothered much with the 80 M band during my ham radio life - but it was starting to look attractive given the better QRN level compared to the other HF bands..... so I installed a vertical that could tune "adequately" to the lower end of the 80 M band. I spent some time to

monitor the 80 M band to assess the activity and found the best possibility of QSOs - even some DX - appeared to be early mornings.

I commenced my 80 M band activity early one morning (before 5 am) and was some what surprised to hear our door bell sound soon after I started calling CQ.... “who can that be at this time in the morning” I thought - but upon opening the door there was no one about! When the same thing happened soon after I attempted my 2nd CQ call - I realised what was happening.

As part of my work I am involved in EMC (Electro Magnetic Compatibility) compliance and the related emissions / immunity testing involved and have been for years and it was clear that our door bell had an EMC susceptibility (immunity) problem. Just as background - in North America / Australia EMC mandatory compliance only requires emission testing - immunity (susceptibility) testing is not required. In the EU where most of my EMC work is related to - both emission and immunity is mandatory. In Japan the VCCI code for EMC is a voluntary code rather than a regulation - and for emission levels only - so the VCCI does not cover immunity and its voluntary nature for emissions may also account for some of the QRN sources? My “easy / quick” fix that morning was to disconnect our door bell supply and get on with my “CQ ing” and I was very pleased to have had a few good QSOs including one reasonable DX QSO - whilst thinking.... ”I will have to do some EMC countermeasure on our door bell or maybe just fit a switch to the door bell supply for when I am using 80 M band”.

I continued my new 80 M band activity the following morning - getting up even earlier to start my 80 M band activity... after disconnecting the supply to our door bell... totally unaware of the commotion my 80 M band activity was causing locally to my neighbours!

It was only later on my 2nd day of my 80 M band activity that I found out that it was not only that our door bell had an “EMC susceptibility weakness” but the “door bells” of at least 4 or 5 other close-by houses had a similar EMC susceptibility issue and I had been waking my neighbours very early in the morning (twice now) to answer their door bells..... only to find nobody was at their doors!

I heard later that there was talk of the local community arranging a watch patrol over night to “catch the offender(s)”..... and reference to “ghost callers”..... I did not go on the 80 M band after my 2nd day in Shinanomachi..... My belated apologies to my then close neighbours... IT WAS ME... Gomen Nasai.. 73s to all – George

MY NEW TOY - MASAG, JA4MRL, #15075

I’ve been working on an electronic keyer called “Yuragi II”, which was distributed by A1 CLUB last year. I built it into a case two months ago and finally completed it after a year’s work. I can connect four straight keys (including bug keys) and four paddles each, It is possible to switch 4 rigs. Soldering was fun after a long time!



SUMMARY OF FEA NET IN 2023 - NAO, JO3HPM, #15008

Many stations participated in 2023 again. Thank you very much for your effort to keep FEA net active. 7J1ATG George was very active this year. He participated 97 out of 105 times. In 2021, he participated 85 times, exceeding 80 for the first time in the net history. And this year he finally exceeded 90 times. He has great passion for CW. In addition, as a non-English speakers, we are learning a lot from his English. On 6 August, we were unable to assign a controller. Therefore, instead of the regular net, we set that time as the FEA activity hour and asked the members to freely call CQs and communicate with each other. I also want to thank all the other controllers, JK7UST since 2005, JE1RZR since 2006, JL1GEL since 2014, JS1QIZ since 2015, and JA4IIJ since 2020.

You can see all results at http://www.feacw.net/grv/FEA_Net_Result.html. Now solar cycle 25 is approaching its peak and HF propagation is improving. We are waiting for more CW lovers from all over the world to join us. We always welcome you, even if you are not an FEA member. See you at the FEA net!

Summary table in 2023.

	Part 1 (7 MHz)	Part 2 (14 MHz)
Total number of nets	53	52
Average participants per net (including controllers)	8.0	6.0
Number of actual participants (including controllers)	24	22
The day with most participants	11 stations (13 May, 14 Oct.)	10 stations (19 Mar.)
Number of nets with no participants	0	0
The persons who participated most (excluding controllers)	7J1ATG (51 times)	7J1ATG+JS2PNZ (46 times)
The day with most countries	none	8 Jan., 22 Jan., 19 Feb., 26 Feb., 19 Mar., 21 May, 30 Jul., 5 Nov., 3 countries
Countries	JA	BV, JA, KH2, VK, YB, ZL

Participants list excluding controllers.							
Call	Part 1+2	Part 1	Part 2				
7J1ATG+JS2PNZ	97	51	46	JF3KNW	3	2	1
JJ1FXF	77	46	31	VK3DBD/ZL+ZL/G3SCD	3	0	3
JO3HPM	76	42	34	JE1OFR	2	2	0
JE1TRV+JS2AHG	63	44	19	JA4MRL	2	1	1
JL1GEL	49	34	15	BX8AAD	2	0	2
VK6RR	41	0	41	VK3DRQ	2	0	2
JA4IIJ	38	32	6	JE1LGY	1	1	0
JK7UST	36	17	19	JE6AJO	1	1	0
JS1QIZ	35	33	2	J12GZC	1	1	0
JE1RZR	34	21	13	J10SFV	1	1	0
VK5GG	21	0	21	JR3FOX	1	1	0
JH2HTQ	17	17	0	JR7OEF	1	1	0
JG1BGT	12	12	0	JF1JDG	1	0	1
JM4AOA	4	4	0	J17FBM	1	0	1
JA9MAT	3	3	0	KH2/KF5JC	1	0	1
JJ1TTG	3	3	0	VK5LA	1	0	1
				YB0ISE	1	0	1
				ZL1HJ	1	0	1

FEA CW NET RESULTS: NO. 980 TO 993 - NAO, JO3HPM, #15008

No.	Part	Date (Y/M/D)	Start Time (UTC)	End Time (UTC)	Freq. (MHz)	Controller	Participants
993	2	2023/12/31	08:00	08:28	14.054	JE7YTQ	VK6RR, JO3HPM, JL1GEL, JS2PNZ
993	1	2023/12/30	23:00	00:15	7.0265	JS1QIZ	JO3HPM, JE1TRV, JK7UST, 7J1ATG/2, JA4IJJ, JJ1FXF, JL1GEL, JE1RZR
992	2	2023/12/24	08:00	08:21	14.0545	JO3HPM	VK5GG, 7J1ATG/2, JJ1FXF
992	1	2023/12/23	23:00	00:18	7.026	JA4IJJ	JE1TRV, JS1QIZ, 7J1ATG/2, JL1GEL, JO3HPM, JJ1FXF
991	2	2023/12/17	08:00	08:17	14.054	JL1GEL	JK7UST, JO3HPM, VK6RR
991	1	2023/12/16	23:00	00:09	7.0245	JS1QIZ	JO3HPM, 7J1ATG/2, JJ1FXF, JA4IJJ, J1BGT, JS2AHG, JL1GEL
990	2	2023/12/10	08:00	08:13	14.055	JE7YTQ	JO3HPM
990	1	2023/12/09	23:00	00:02	7.026	JL1GEL	JS1QIZ/1, 7J1ATG/2, JO3HPM, JE1TRV, JA4IJJ, JJ1FXF
989	2	2023/12/03	08:00	08:26	14.0545	JO3HPM	VK6RR, JK7UST, JL1GEL, 7J1ATG/2
989	1	2023/12/02	23:00	00:05	7.026	JA4IJJ	JS1QIZ, 7J1ATG/2, JE1TRV, JJ1FXF, JH2HTQ, JL1GEL, JO3HPM
988	2	2023/11/26	08:00	08:25	14.0549	JL1GEL	7J1ATG/2, JO3HPM, JS2AHG
988	1	2023/11/25	23:00	00:02	7.006	JL3YMV	7J1ATG/2, JA4IJJ, JL1GEL, JS2AHG, JH2HTQ, JS1QIZ/1
987	2	2023/11/19	08:00	08:24	14.054	JE7YTQ	JS2PNZ, JO3HPM, VK6RR
987	1	2023/11/18	23:00	00:02	7.0265	JA4IJJ	JE6AJO, 7J1ATG/2, JO3HPM, JJ1FXF, JH2HTQ, JE1TRV
986	2	2023/11/12	08:00	08:18	14.054	JO3HPM	VK5GG, VK6RR, JS2PMZ
986	1	2023/11/11	23:00	23:53	7.0275	JL3YMV	JE1TRV, 7J1ATG/2, JK7UST, JH2HTQ, JL1GEL, JJ1FXF
985	2	2023/11/05	08:00	08:35	14.054	JL1GEL	VK5GG, VK6RR, JS2PNZ, JK7UST, JO3HPM, BX8AAD
985	1	2023/11/04	23:00	00:11	7.027	JE7YTQ	JO3HPM, JS2AHG, 7J1ATG/2, JA4IJJ, JH2HTQ, JL1GEL, JJ1FXF, JS1QIZ, JG1BGT
984	2	2023/10/29	08:00	08:27	14.055	JE7YTQ	JS2PNZ, JO3HPM, VK6RR
984	1	2023/10/28	23:00	23:59	7.0265	JL3YMV	JS1QIZ, JE1TRV, JL1GEL, 7J1ATG/2, JJ1FXF, JA4IJJ, JH2HTQ, JG1BGT
983	2	2023/10/22	08:00	08:27	14.054	JO3HPM	VK6RR, JS2PNZ, JL1GEL, JJ1FXF
983	1	2023/10/21	23:00	00:07	7.0025	JA4IJJ	7J1ATG/2, JS2AHG, JO3HPM, JJ1FXF, JH2HTQ, JS1QIZ
982	2	2023/10/15	08:00	08:31	14.054	JL1GEL	JK7UST, VK6RR, JS2PNZ, JO3HPM, JJ1FXF
982	1	2023/10/14	23:00	00:22	7.026	JL1GEL	JS1QIZ, 7J1ATG/2, JO3HPM, JE1TRV, JA9MAT, JA4IJJ, JH2HTQ, JJ1TTG, JG1BGT, JJ1FXF
981	2	2023/10/08	08:00	08:47	14.044	JE7YTQ	JO3HPM, JL1GEL, JS2PNZ, JS2AHG, JJ1FXF
981	1	2023/10/07	23:00	23:54	7.007	JS1QIZ	JO3HPM, JA4IJJ, JE1OFR, JL1GEL, JS2AHG, JH2HTQ, 7J1ATG/2, JA9MAT
980	2	2023/10/01	08:00	08:30	14.054	JO3HPM	VK5GG, VK6RR, JK7UST, JS2PNZ, JL1GEL
980	1	2023/9/30	23:00	00:10	7.026	JA4IJJ	JK7UST, 7J1ATG/2, JO3HPM, JS1QIZ, JS2AHG

FINALE

In 2023, there was a lot of news about generative AI. When I heard about it I remembered an old “doctor” script ran on GNU Emacs. If we got bored programming and became neurotic, this pseudo-therapist would give consultation to us. Conversation with the computer was somewhat strange. The emergence of a generative AI that responds to CW QSO in real time may not-so-distant future. When that happens, will we be able to distinguish whether we are communicating with a flesh-and-blood human being or a generative AI? I think that the reason why we enjoy the QSO is because we feel the sincerity of the other person for mutual understanding in the conversation. Such a feeling may be the key. What do you think? I pray for a peaceful world. 73/88 and stay sober de Nao.