

The International Morse Preservation Society



**THE FISTS EAST ASIA NEWSLETTER**

**Volume 1 Number 2**

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# East Asia news

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## **FISTS-JA7, JE7YTO started operation**

FISTS local club of JA7 area, JE7YTO started operation in this October. Sugi JK7UST and few members got a new club call. In Japan suffixes that begin with "Y" and "Z" are for club station. They already worked with a few stations in FISTS C2C 2004.

## **We are now preparing for FISTS JA national club station**

We are now preparing to apply for a new FISTS JA national club station. All JA members can participate in this station. Please see the appendix of JA members with this issue.

## **New name competition**

Few members in EA subscribed for new name competition. Names listed below are nominated for our newsletter. We should decide new name by vote.

- 1) "FAR EAST"
- 2) "FEAST" means Fists EA Story
- 3) "FEATHER" means Fists EA together
- 4) "morsE Asia"

The winner is decided at the top poll. Please send e-mail to [jl3sik@fists-ea.org](mailto:jl3sik@fists-ea.org) for voting. If you cannot send an e-mail, a paper mail is also acceptable to the address shown above. One vote for one person is allowed. Please indicate your name, callsign and the name you take. Deadline Jan 31, 2005.

## **A suggestion of QRS On-the-Air Meeting**

It's clearly true that many FISTS EA members are interested in communicating in morse code. Apart from trying to improve your CW skills for accuracy, how about focusing on the information you exchange with the other end? I think, for most of us, especially for non native English speakers, the brain is overloaded to keep up with the flow of code, to comprehend the receiving sentences and to prepare for the next transmission. It's too much for beginners to do these at the same time! So I suggest to have a QRS On-the-Air Meeting a week or two to

focusing on only the communication in English. This might not be good to improve your head-copy skills, however, I think this kind of practice is necessary for us in addition to improving de-coding skills. The OAM can be divided into two separate meetings, the one is QRS, and the other is slightly QRQ. We don't need to have any particular rules for the QRS part except that the stations can only send code less than a certain speed, say 12 WPM. Other than that, you can send anything you want to. The meeting does not have to be a big one. It's just enough that a few stations get on the air. Doesn't that sound interesting? The question is who can take role of the control station for the OAM...

Jun JM1JOT

**We would like to inform you that Nao, JJ1XET/3 kindly joined the EA staff in charge of On-the-Air meeting (OAM). If you have any suggestion about OAM, please contact him.**

### **The first CW net (OAM) will start on December 20**

Hello Everyone,

Jun/JM1JOT has asked me to start an informal CW net for anyone wishing to practice English QSOs. The speed will be quite slow, 12-15 wpm and everyone is invited to join in. I will act as controller at first and we will see how it goes (I am not very experienced as net control). BV and JA wishing to contact each other may find it easiest through me. The net will take the form of 9V1VV first calling FEA then taking a list of stations wishing to participate. Then 9V1VV will call you each in turn and ask who you want to talk to. Then when you finish talking to your friend, you hand back to 9V1VV.

When?

Every Monday at 1200 UTC (2100 JST), starting 20 December 2004.

Where? Primary 14050 +/- QRM, or secondary 10130 +/- QRM.

See you there and let's hope for an enjoyable and relaxed time!

73 de John 9V1VV

## **About EA chapter**

### **New members**

15010 BM1BAE Will

15011 BM1BNY Lin

15100 JE7YTQ FISTS-JA7

15200 JO1ZZZ JARL A1 CLUB

### **FROM OSL Bureau**

Please see our newsletter volume 1 for details.

Mailing address of the EA QSL bureau is:

FISTS EAST ASIA QSL Bureau

Kosuke Nakamura - JM6FMW

2-9-2-201 Nakakoshima,

Nagasaki 850-0836, JAPAN

***Please note that the address of EA bureau has been changed!!!***

### **FISTS EA calling frequencies**

FISTS EA calling frequencies are proposed as follows. They are almost same as other chapters'.

30m: 10.118/10.138 (\*1)

20m: 14.058

17m: 18.085

15m: 21.058

12m: 24.918

10m: 28.058/28.158 (\*2)

(\*1) 10.118MHz is sometimes used by fixed or DXpedition stations, and is outside of the Taiwanese frequency allocation. BVs are allowed to use 10.130 to 10.150.

(\*2) BVs are allowed to use above 28.100.

160m, 80m, and 40m are narrow and crowded in Japan, so the calling frequencies for these bands are not proposed for now.

References:

BV frequencies and power

<http://www.ctarl.org.tw/bv5ya/freqpowr.htm> (Chinese; Big5)

JA Band Plans

[http://www.jarl.or.jp/English/6\\_Band\\_Plan/japanese%20bandplan.pdf](http://www.jarl.or.jp/English/6_Band_Plan/japanese%20bandplan.pdf) (PDF)

# From our friends

## **John, VK4TJ sent a suggestion for us**

Konichi-wa, Jean San:

Congratulations on your new FISTS chapter, and your first issue of the EA Newsletter. Ralph, ZL2AOH kindly forwarded copies to all of us in the ZL/VK chapter so that we know what you are up to.

Some random thoughts that might serve as topics, or help you fill up issues 2 and onwards...

1) I assume at some point you will be going into some of the FISTS awards.

Readers with web access will certainly want to view:

**<http://www.fists.org/awards.html>**

The best part of the FISTS awards program for those of us in this part of the world is:

a) They're free. No having to source foreign currency.

b) They do not require QSL cards. Postal expenses will not eat up your ham budget!

c) They can be applied for via e-mail. No delays and the service is prompt and friendly (as you would expect from a fellow FISTS member!).

2) Along the lines of number 1, there are quite a few ZL/VK FISTS members currently working on their Century Club award. With the sunspot cycle approaching minimum, I'm afraid our world of possible contacts does shrink a little. Fortunately, the ZL/VK path to Asia is one that is holding up well, despite poor conditions. Please encourage your members to make some noise on the FISTS frequencies, particularly in our late afternoon on 20 metres. They will be warmly received indeed! It's not QUITE like rare DX, but any "fresh meat" is always made to feel extremely welcome! Be sure to call "CQ FISTS", not just a general CQ, as some of our members are very focussed on completing award goals they have set for themselves, and may not respond to a general call. Many of us leave a receiver tuned to 14058 kHz all day, so it's best to stay as close to there as you can, even if it means waiting your turn for the frequency to become free.

3) Because the Asia/ZL-VK path is holding up so well, your members are uniquely well placed to pursue our "Fists Down Under" Award. See:

**<http://fistsdownunder.morsekeys.com/aboutfdu.html>** for details.

ZL2AOH reports that only one member outside VK/ZL has obtained claimed this prestigious award. You could be next, but you had better hurry, as I am aware of several very keen US

stations that are not going to give up without a fight!

4) Although your chapter has not designated 80 & 40 metre calling frequencies, your members might want to monitor 3528 & 7028 kHz occasionally, as these frequencies are heavily used by ZL/VK members, particularly in the evenings. The 40-metre path to JA, in particular, is very reliable. We have the same problems as you with band congestion, but if we keep the frequency constantly busy, others will respect our use of it, and leave us to our strange pursuits.

5) You might wish to publish e-mail addresses for your members where they are available. During these times of lean pickings on HF, many of us have resorted to e-mailing other FISTS members for skeds to complete various awards, or even just casual chats. Members should be encouraged to keep their details (including e-mail) up to date on: [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com) as well, of course. I wouldn't put the e-mail addresses up on a web site, as that will undoubtedly attract spam, but having them available in a PDF for download is probably pretty safe.

There you have it - some random thoughts. I know what it is like to try to fill a newsletter on your own, Jean san. Hopefully, the above helps in some small way....

73

John Kirk VK4TJ

### **My challenge to get my first FISTS award - by Nao, JJ1XET**

I joined FISTS EA last April. When I received very beautiful membership certificate from Jun JM1JOT, my challenge to get my first FISTS award was started. The first FISTS member I contacted was Craig K7UIE. He called CQ FISTS at 14.058 MHz. When I sent my FISTS number to him, I felt big pleasure and was proud of it.

Then last September, as mentioned by Geo in the KEY NOTE October 2004, I contacted GX0IPX at 21.058 MHz. Can you imagine how I was surprised when I received his FISTS number 1? I sent "You are 24th FISTS member for me, and yet my total point is 43." He kindly informed me "By this QSO, you get extra 5 point." Maybe I can't forget this QSO forever.

The end of last October, I found CQ FISTS at 21.057 MHz by ZL6FF. This is the call of FISTS Down Under New Zealand Club, and the operator was Stan. At the same time, he sent me ZL2SWR, the call of South Wairarapa Radio Club and ZL2BLQ, his personal call. I got  $5+3+2=10$  point during this one QSO! My point is yet under 100 and my challenge is continuing.

I'm very enjoying QSO with FISTS members. If you hear my "CQ FISTS," please call me.

## **Jun, K6KF/JM1JOT sent his recent state**

This past summer, I decided to change my jobs and left Silicon Valley where I lived in for four years. My new QTH is located in Southern California. The city is clean and organized which is good, but the big difference is my ham environment. My antenna in my San Jose house was an R-8 vertical. That worked pretty well and helped me obtain my first DXCC. Now I rent an apartment here in this new location. It was good that I could find one on the third floor with an open roof, but no space for my vertical obviously. So I bought a pair of mobile whips to make a shortened dipole. I find this antenna works better than I expected. Although the usable bandwidth is narrow, the SWR is low 1.1 without the built-in tuner so that I can run up to 100W. I worked some JA stations at about 50W with it. The biggest issue is that I need to assemble/disassemble this antenna because I don't want to have people's attention, but it should definitely be better than being forced to QRT...

Jun K6KF

## **Faqs**

If you have any questions about FISTS or FISTS-EA, please do not hesitate to contact us.

E-mail: [question@fists-ea.org](mailto:question@fists-ea.org)

### **Q1. What is FISTS?**

The FISTS Club (International Morse Preservation Society) was founded in 1987 by Geo Longden, G3ZQS of Darwen, Lancs England, after recognising a need for a club in which veteran operators would help newcomers and less-experienced operators learn and improve CW proficiency.

During the first year, membership reached 300, most of whom were in Great Britain and Europe. World wide, FISTS members now number over 5000 members, growing by up to 100 each month.

### **Q2. What is FISTS-EA?**

The East Asia Chapter was formed in 2004 by a few BVs and JAs to provide East Asian members with various services in their native languages.

### **Q3. How to join FISTS-EA?**

If you want to join us, please email to following address with your:

- Callsign or SWL number (required, if you're a radio amateur or a SWL)
- On air name (required)

- Full name (required)
- Mailing Address (required)
- E-Mail Address (required, if you have)
- Phone Number (optional)
- Year of Birth (optional)

join@fists-ea.org

#### **Q4. How much is the subscription? How can I pay?**

FISTS is not tied to any commercial interests and has no paid employees. BV and JA members subscribe to the UK produced newsletter Keynote and a local supplement FISTS East Asia. All our activities are funded entirely from modest annual fees of 5 USD (Credit Card only, using PayPal) or 500 JPY (Bank only). If you have any inquiries about payment, please contact ja2dna@fists-ea.org.

## **From the editor**

### **Waiting for your contribution! I need your help!**

Your assistance is necessary to make up our newsletters. I am always waiting for your contribution. Any kinds of manuscript are acceptable. For example, essays, introducing yourselves, shacks, rigs, keys, etc. If you write, please send it to jl3sik@fists-ea.org as plain text or MS WORD format. Thank you for your attention.

## **Contact Information**

**<http://www.fists-ea.org/>**

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