

FISTS EAST ASIA

Newsletter Issue #29



morsEAsia

December 2008

Accuracy Transcends Speed & Courtesy at All Times

"When You've Worked A FISTS, You've Worked A Friend."

Our straightforward goals:

Further the use of Morse code.

Engender friendships among members.

Encourage newcomers to use Morse code.

FISTS EAST ASIA	Established on March 28, 2004		89 active members as of Nov. 30, 2008	
FEA Club Stations	JL3YMV	#15000	FISTS JA National Club	CC 5pts
	JE7YTQ	#15100	FISTS JA7	CC 3pts
	JO1ZZZ	#15200	A1 Club	CC 3pts
	JL3YOC	#15300	FISTS JA QRP CW Club	CC 3pts
FEA Web Site	Primary: http://www.feacw.net/		Secondary: http://www.fists-ea.org/	
FEA Calling Frequencies (MHz)	40m: 7.026 / 7.028	30m: 10.118 / 10.138	20m: 14.058	17m: 18.085
	15m: 21.058 / 21.138	12m: 24.918	10m: 28.058 / 28.158	
FEA CW Net Schedule	40m: 2300GMT on Saturdays		20m/17m: 0800GMT on Sundays	

Who's Who?				
Role	Name	Callsign	FISTS#	E-Mail Address
FEA Net Manager	Nao	JO3HPM	15008	jo3hpm at fists-ea.org
Membership Secretary	Jean	JL3SIK	9836	join-fea at fists-ea.org
Webmaster, QSL Manager, Newsletter Editor & E-Mail Distributor	Harry	JL3AMK	15002	webadmin at fists-ea.org

QSL Bureau	Please send your Self-Addressed Envelopes with IRC's or stamps (80JPY stamps for JA, 90JPY stamps for Asia) to: Akinori Harry SHIBATA, JL3AMK 4-34-10-203 Senriyama-Nishi, Suita City, OSAKA 565-0851 JAPAN
E-Mail Distribution	You can receive the morsEAsia via e-mail. Please email webadmin with your FISTS#.
Password-Locked Web Pages	Please ask webadmin <i>via e-mail</i> with your FISTS# if you don't know or forget the username and the password.

FISTS Headquarters http://www.fists.co.uk/	FISTS North America http://www.fists.org/	FISTS Down Under http://www.fistsdownunder.org/
FEA Bulletin Boards http://www.feacw.net/#bbs	FISTS Yahoo! Groups http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fistscw/	K3UK FISTS Sked Page http://www.obriensweb.com/sked/

Elecraft Tower!

Manabu, JE1RZR #15020

Hi, folks!

K3 is known with its good reputation for both RX and TX although not many guys enjoyed its performance yet. A very big chance came to here Miura city, located on the edge of Miura peninsula to see how K3 works well on 22nd November.

17 adults and 1 boy gathered at my home enjoying BBQ and curry. Some guys took a part with his XYLs. Well, the most event was serious test of K3 and K2 or other gears indeed. Atsu, JE1TRV #7763, Hoz, JL1IRB #15030, Yama, 7K1CPT #15028 brought their own K3. Also Sugi, JK7UST #7178 and Aki, JP1BJB #15039 provided K1 and KX1 respectively. So surely Miura became a place with highest density of Elecraft gear in Japan.

The result of assessment was very critical. K3 obviously seems to overcome K2 with its RX ability under severe condition while K2 shows pretty good performance when his signal enough to arm chair copy. Many pointed out K3's excellent work in full-QSK TX mode. On the other hand those who don't like DSP sound prefer K2's tone for rag-chew mode. It depends!

Which one do you like best; K1, KX1, K2 or K3?

(photo: courtesy by JE1TRV)



Heath Tower!

Harry, JL3AMK #15002

Here's a short tower of the Heathkit. Ha-ha!

Top to bottom: HM-9 wattmeter, HFT-9 antenna tuner, two HW-9 with WARC-band options, and HW-8.



Welcome to the FEA!

Editor

#15057: Hide, JF1KGX - November 10

#15058: Nisi, JA0VYI - November 10

#15059: Hiro, JO1EPY - November 11

To send, or not to send: that is the question

Harry, JL3AMK #15002

One day in November, Manabu, JE1RZR #15020 had a QSO with a U.S. station. He was aware that the W-station was a North American FISTS member. He just wanted to have a fun time with some FISTS friends. So he began to send his FISTS number, BUT he had to end the QSO while sending his FISTS number. That W-station broke Manabu's transmission with "no no" and he never answered.

The day after, on November 29, Jun, JM1JOT/K6KF #9117 visited JA3, and Jean, JL3SIK #9836 and I met him. He gave me a few copies of sample of North American newsletters. There is a really interesting article titled "ATTENTION PAPER CHASERS."

Nancy, WZ8C #379 who is an editor of the U.S. Keynote wrote:

PLEASE take a few minutes and stop and chat. I get more letters like this one. Sure, wallpaper is fun to collect, but there is more to FISTS than gathering numbers.

She had received a letter like:

Although CW has been my favorite mode for more than 50 years, I will not be renewing my FISTS membership. The majority of FISTS members I have worked seem to be primarily interested in awards-chasing, an activity which holds little interest for me.

That's why I'm interested in this article and I'm sure that the W-station thought Manabu was an award chaser. Manabu really wants to have a chat with friends.

Avoiding unfortunate story like above, I suppose you should send a message that you belong to FISTS, and not send your FISTS number at first, like "CW IS VY FUNNY SO I AM A MBR OF FISTS CW CLUB." If the other person is also a member, he would send his number and you will have a happy QSO. If he is not a member and is interested in CW, he/she might be interested in FISTS.

At Sea

John, 9V1VV #8998

Posted to BBS on: 2008/11/16(Sun)

Good Day All,

I am back at sea - the ship departed Singapore yesterday and we are en route to an oil field off the coast of East India, so I will be QRT until I get back early January. Unfortunately there is no chance to operate /MM but I will try to listen in to the 20m Sunday skeds if I get time.

All the best and have fun

73 de John

What is JCC/JCG?

Nao, JO3HPM #15008

One day, I received an email from John VK4TJ. "I am always hearing JA's chasing JCC numbers and maybe a few other kinds of prefectures (?) etc. Could you perhaps write us an explanation of what it is they are chasing?" The shortest answer is the Japanese version of DXCC.

Firstly, I have to explain the Japanese administrative districts system. Japan consists of 47 prefectures and a prefecture consists of cities, towns, and villages. Big cities often consist of Kus. Ku is a Japanese word. In addition, there are Guns. Gun is also a Japanese word. Gun is not an administrative district but a regional congregation of towns and villages. Total number of prefectures, cities, Kus, and Guns are 47, 784 (deleted 95), 186 (deleted 7), and 399 (deleted 221), respectively.

Now, what is JCC/JCG? These are awards issued by the Japan Amateur Radio League (JARL). I show the major awards below. All awards may be claimed for having contacted and received a QSL card from an amateur station located in each of the requested QTH either cities for JCC or guns for JCG.

Abbreviation	Name	Requirement
AJD	All Japan Districts	10 call areas (1 through 0) of Japan
WAJA	Worked All Japan prefectures Award	47 prefectures of Japan
JCC	Japan Century Cities	at least 100 different cities of Japan
JCG	Japan Century Guns	at least 100 different Guns of Japan
AJA	All Japan Award	1,000 different cities, Guns, and Kus using at least 2 bands and more

JARL numbered each prefecture, cities, Guns, and Kus uniquely. Applicants for a JARL award, have to prepare a QSO list sorted by these numbers. Cities and Guns numbers are often called as a JCC/JCG number.

The top of JCC ranking is JA2BL and he has 876 cities by now. The top of AJA is JH4MGU and he has 21170 points. 21170 points divided by total number of cities, Guns, and Kus including deleted ones is about 12.5 bands. That's incredible!

JCC/JCG has been very popular in Japan for a long time. JCC started in 1951 and JCG started in 1979. I can think some reasons why it's so popular. 1) Small power & antenna stations can enjoy it in the range of domestic QSO in small JA land. 2) V/UHF stations are also able to enjoy it. 3) Because there is a large number of cities and Guns, newcomer can feel fun to see rapid growth of worked JCC/JCG. 4) JCC/JCG expedition is fun. Their interest is to receive a pile-up. It's the same situation with a Dxpedition for DXCC. We can find them soon, because they often announce their QTH by JCC/JCG number, for example, CQ DE JO3HPM JCC 2730 K.

Especially, JCC/JCG chasing is popular on CW mode. In general, we Japanese are not good at speaking English. It is hard for us to enjoy chatting by using international Morse code. Most Japanese tend to prefer a short QSO that exchanges only fixed information like JCC/JCG numbers.

Is it possible to share the frequencies with JCC/JCG chasers? Yes, if you become the chaser too. According to the JARL web, a few non-JA stations seem to earn the JCC/JCG award every month. I found Jim, K7WA #13341 who got JCC-400 (non-JA No.118) and JCG-150 (non-JA No.4) in October 2008. Congratulations, Jim!

Finally, I show useful URLs.

JARL Awards Program: http://www.jarl.or.jp/English/4_Library/A-4-2_Awards/Award_Main.htm

J-Cluster: <http://qrz.jp/index-eng.html>

K3UK FISTS Sked Page As A Place of International Activities

Nao, JO3HPM #15008

K3UK FISTS Sked Page <<http://www.obriensweb.com/sked/>> was opened on June 18, 2008. Because the page was inactive, it was closed on November 23 and unfortunately changed to Phone sked page, of all things. But thanks to kind Andy, the FISTS page was reinstated and we can use it again since November 26. I wondered why FISTS member hardly used the page until now. One reason might be a lack of enough publicizing.

The other reason might be that the page was thought of as just a place for award chasers. I have no objection to an award. Having something aim produce activity. But, please wait just a minute. How is to add a new idea to the page as a place of international activity?

I prefer a chat QSO rather than any number-exchange-only QSO. The reason why I joined FISTS is to make friends around the world. I'm interested in not their membership number but themselves. I think most JA FISTS have a same thought. A FISTS QSO is more than just a QSO for me. Because I belong to FISTS proudly!

We are in the bottom of a sunspot cycle. In addition, my equipment isn't big. It is hard to find DX FISTS on bands. So I hope the page help and give us a chance to enjoy a chat with friends.

Why don't we use the K3UK FISTS Sked Page actively from now on?

Letter from Italy

Gian, I2VRF #8325

I receive regularly morsEAsia, many thanks (domo arigato)

Today are 1658 days since than I am living on my bed. No problem, I am not sad, among the bad days we all have had, I am lucky because as my muscles become weaker, my memory becomes keener. I live serene in the flat near Milano, but I have always in my heart my beloved mountains unreachable for ever. You can see me alone, with my wife and with all my family on the mountains around my native Valley. Many years ago we grew roses in the garden of our cottage up there, now it is a waste land.
(in spite I was and am a mountaineer we liked also the sea!).

FEA CW Net

Nao, JO3HPM #15008

FEA CW Net Results: No. 202 to 206

No.	Y/M/D	GMT	MHz	Controller	Participant
206-2	2008/11/30	0800-0825	18.086	JE1RZR (Manabu)	JO3HPM(Nao), JK7UST(Sugi)
206-1	2008/11/30	0000-0106	7.0267	JE7YTQ (Sugi)	JP1BJB(Aki), JE1RZR(Manabu), JO3HPM(Nao), JF3KNW(Nobu), JE1TRV(Atsu)
205-2	2008/11/23	0800-0900	14.0535	JO3HPM (Nao)	JE1RZR(Manabu), VK4TJ(John), JF3KNW(Nobu)
205-1	2008/11/22	2300-2400	7.026	JJ8KGZ (Leo)	7K1CPT/1(Yama), JO3HPM(Nao), JP1BJB(Aki)
204-2	2008/11/16	0800-0900	14.054	JO3HPM (Nao)	JK7UST(Sugi), JE1RZR(Manabu), JF3KNW(Nobu), VK4TJ(John)
204-1	2008/11/16	0000-0114	7.026	JE7YTQ (Sugi)	JE1TRV(Atsu), JE1RZR(Manabu), JF3KNW(Nobu), JP1BJB(Aki), JG0SXC(Man), JL1IRB(Hoz)
203-2	2008/11/9	0800-0915	14.054	JE1RZR (Manabu)	BD7KBH(Xie), JE1TRV(Atsu)
203-1	2008/11/9	0000-0105	7.026	JJ8KGZ (Leo)	JE1TRV(Atsu), JF3KNW(Nobu), JP1BJB(Aki), JK7UST(Sugi), JL1IRB/0(Hoz)
202-2	2008/11/2	0800-0855	14.054	JO3HPM (Nao)	9V1VV(John), JK7UST(Sugi), JE1RZR(Manabu)
202-1	2008/11/2	0000-0150	7.026	JE7YTQ (Sugi)	JE1RZR(Manabu), JO3HPM(Nao)

Manabu, JE1RZR #15020 is a new Net Controller for Part II. Manabu and Nao, JO3HPM #15008 will manage the Part II Net by turns. Part I Net will be still managed by Leo, JJ8KGZ #4843 and Sugi, JK7UST #7178 & JE7YTQ #15100. -- Editor

See You Next Month!