



Recommended calling QRGs: 7.028, 10.118/10.128/10.138, 14.058, 18.085, 21.058/21.138, 24.908, 28.058/28.158

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NEW MEMBERS

We're very pleased to welcome our latest members:

Steve, JS6TMW #15178, Peter, VR2VPH #15179, Shun, JJ1DJX #15180, Yo, HS6ZBQ #15181,
Hal, JE1REU #15182, Ken, JH0ILL #15183, Yado, JP6TDI #15184, Kaz, JN3IWE #15185.

PETER E. HALLIDAY (夏禮德), VR2VPH #15179

Greetings, fellow FISTS'ers!

Firstly, let me tell you a little about my background. I served in the Hong Kong Police Force from 1967 to 2003 and rose to the rank of senior assistant commissioner. A majority of my service was in criminal investigation and intelligence, but I also served in territorial command, human resources, training, staff work and planning. I changed gear in 1996 when I was posted to the Information Systems Department as the Chief Information Officer. Between 1997 and 2003, when I retired, I developed and directed the implementation of the force's first and second information systems strategic plans, and a number of ICT projects.

After retirement from the police, I started my sole proprietorship, Elite IT Services Limited (<http://www.eliteitservices.com>). Between 2010 and 2012, I was the Business Development Director, Public Safety & Security, Intergraph Asia-Pacific. During that period I designed two game-changers for Intergraph's solutions stable; an automated safety and security system for use at the Yangtze River Basin dams and reservoirs, and an integrated command and control centre.

My academic qualifications and awards include a D.B.A. and Ph.D., and the Hong Kong Bronze Bauhinia Star and Queen's Police Medal for Distinguished Service. I was honoured with the University of Newcastle (Aust.) Award for National Leadership in 2012. Between August 2012 and June 2013, I was contracted to develop the third ICT systems strategy for the Hong Kong Police Force.

Turning to our mutual hobby, amateur radio, I suppose I



Satellite Image of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region



Image on My QSL Card: Moonlight over Hong Kong

can be described as a ‘born-again’ ham operator. I became an amateur in the 1960s, almost exclusively on HF. The exception to this was my (very proud) association with early Earth-Moon-Earth communications, or moon bounce. Using the Marconi antenna farm at Chelmsford, Essex, United Kingdom, some very successful DX contacts were achieved on 144 MHz, notably with hams in South America.

I left the hobby in the 1970s due to competing commitments. I requalified as a ham in early 2015 and am now back on the air with a small station at Sha Tin, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. My transceiver is an FT 991 and my antennas are a simple HF inverted V fan dipole and a VHF/UHF array. I am currently active on the 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 metre bands. My station is very much a work-in-progress. I operate almost exclusively on CW although my receiving speed is still slow after all the years away from the hobby.



My Current Antenna: Inverted V Fan Dipole
Tuning 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 metres



My Little Shack

One of the wonderful aspects of the hobby of amateur radio is the helpfulness of the community. I am particularly indebted to Charles, VR2XJN; Louis, VK5EEE; and Henry, VR2ZGR, who have all selflessly helped me to get back on the air.

Two of my personal credos are:

1. Treat others as you would wish to be treated (the Golden Rule of Reciprocity), and
2. It's not enough that we do our best; sometimes we have to do what's required (Winston Churchill)

SHUN, JJ1DJX #15180

Hello FISTS EA members. I am Shunsuke “Shun” Shibuya and joined FISTS on April 2016. I live in Inashiki-gun, Ibaraki, Japan. I am using YAESU FT-857 transceiver and ATAS 120A antenna. I wish to be more active and want to meet many friends who love CW. Will you call me when you hear my call sign? Best 73/88.

My QSL Card Boston Terrier “Aoi”& “Sora” (My beloved pet)



RESUMED THE AMATEUR RADIO! - KEN, JH0ILL #15183

I have been QRT for almost 20 years and resumed the amateur radio activities after hearing about ham radio from my friend. During 20 years, the world of ham seems to gain big changes. I wondered why the 2 meter band has been an empty when looking for other stations, so it seems to break my bought second-hand rig. I was glad I decided to buy HF transceiver for having no difficulty in QSO.

For reference, my surprises shown as follows:

- permitted to have higher power, a limit power up to 50 watts for class 3,
- 40 meter band was expanded,
- All of licenses became no-code,
- Digitalized machines to use the DSP technology and the network technology,
- Decreasing and aging population

Although all of licenses became no-code, I can easily look for other in CW mode. Some features for CW mode look at recent HF rigs. As far as I know they take a challenge to do QRV in CW mode after getting license. I also do QRV almost in CW mode and enjoy using in Morse code.

Probably my signal is so weak, I would appreciate if you could call me for picking up my signal.



my simple antenna for 17 meter band



my rig and paddle

RIZAL, 9M2RDX #15127 SILENT KEY – NAO, JO3HPM #15008

According to Piju, 9M2PJU #15128, Rizal passed away on 12 June. He was known as one of active Malaysian cw operator and only 41 years old. R.I.P. Rizal. (The picture is from QRZ.COM.)



JARL HAM FAIR 2016 – NAO, JO3HPM #15008

The JARL Ham Fair 2016 will be held at Tokyo Big Sight, Tokyo on 20 (Saturday) and 21 (Sunday) August. FISTS EA Japanese members will set up a booth. All peoples who are interested in Morse communication will be warmly welcomed.

There will be many other CW/Morse related booths, for example, A1 Club (<http://jo1zzz.blogspot.jp/>), CWops (<http://www.cwops.org/>), The Keymen's Club of Japan (http://www.kcj-cw.com/e_index.htm), CW no sato (A1 grand prix), SCALG (Six-meter CW Active Local Group), etc. You can buy a GHD telegraph key at their booth.

http://www.jarl.org/English/4_Library/A-4-6_ham-fair/ham-fair.htm



FISTS QSO FROM GERMANY - TAK, JS1QIZ #15150

In this April, I had a chance to QRV from Germany in which I made a QSO with a FISTS member, G3XVL.

My visit to Germany was primarily on business, but the travel included one weekend which could be spent for ham radio activity. Therefore, I decided to apply for a temporary license in Germany. About one week before I left Japan, I received the temporary license for A class amateur radio which allowed me to operate in Germany as “DL/JS1QIZ”.

On Sunday, April 13, 2016, I setup a 10m long wire and five counterpoises at a small open space near my hotel in Cologne. A small antenna tuner and a small antenna analyzer allowed me to connect the long wire to my small MFJ Cub, a 40m 2W CW transceiver.

Surprisingly, many signals could be heard. Most of them are from other countries than Germany and among them, a station was calling CQ FISTS.

I called the station, G3XVL and eventually could have a short QSO with Chris, from Ipswich, UK. Indeed, it was my first QSO with an overseas FISTS member. The reports exchanged were 599/319, which proved Chris was a skilled operator.



It was a day of football match between Cologne FC and a team from Spain which was held at a stadium just in a walking distance from the place I spread the antenna. Many people were celebrating a “pre-match” festivity at a pub just across the road in front of me, but nobody cared about the strange person with a headset and a couple of wires connected to a small black box. It seemed that they just thought I was a police official who was investigating the possible criminal communication or any signals from possible explosives, HI.

I enjoyed the 30min QRV under the pleasant sunshine and packed up the wires and transceiver to join my business friends for dinner, which was also a fun.

LONG-AWAITED EYEBALL QSO - AKI, JL1GEL #15147

I had chance to take a business trip to Hakodate-city in Hokkaido last month(May 2016). I took this opportunity to arrange an eyeball QSO with JL8KUS/TUBO, one of my friend stations. According to my logbook, we have had many QSO's over 100 times since the first contact in Nov. 2012, but we had not met face-to-face yet. He took me to a local hamburger restaurant which is popular among people living in Hakodate. We had a very good time with topics from Ham radio to Ham radio(Hi).



On the next day after finishing my task, I visited the Seikan-renrakusen memorial museum, where a retired ferry boat is used as a memorial hall. Seikan-renrakusen was a train-loadable ferry boat once used to link between Aomori, northern part of Honshu Island, and Hokkaido Island.

Radio room of the ferry is conserved as it was operated at the time. You can even play with the telegraph keys.

I believe this is a must place for Ham radio enthusiasts to visit. If you ever came to Japan and had chance to visit Hakodate, you definitely had better visit this museum.



YAESU FT-991 - HIRO, JI2GZC #15148

Hello everybody, this is JI2GZC /hiro. Recently, I bought a FT-991, a new rig from YAESU. Although I am a fan of ICOM rigs, this FT-991 just grabbed my heart and jumped in ICOM families on my desk. I have not accustomed to the new features of this YAESU, but I will learn. HF operation with this rig is not difficult because it is not different from the other rigs. The digital setting for VHF and UHF on this machine is not seems to be possible for me. Let's meet on the air.



YASU, JH2HTQ #15166

I got a DDS-VFO unit from KIDA DENSHI (Kida Engineering Manufacture) in May. Because need to change from XTAL to VFO. And could stepped up nicely. These Rig is RX-TX-10W PWR AMP LINE. It's all Garage Radio KIT. RX is 7MHz CW/SSB/AM that is KIDA DENSHI RX-7-DX. This RX-KIT need Pre-AMP and AF-DSP unit. TX is MIZUHO QP-7 (set to 500mW) plus DDS-VFO unit. PWR AMP is KIDA DENSHI KEM-LINEAR-HF. This KIT have a resettable fuse (2.5A). So, PWR is 10W (MAX). As a bonus. that have a small cooling fan, but is not need. HI HI. DDS-VFO is also KIDA DENSHI. It's so nice. None QRH. YouTube of below is movie for RX listening quality level. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bYHDSUbnVu4> I can do QSO for local (All area in Japan). I am received report that is RST 559-599 on daytime. RX-TX separate system have oldest operation feelings. Plus, New technology design and correct digital taste. Exactly, I think that's new operating style for cheap digital HAM life.



DDS-VFO: KEM-DDS-VFO-MC50 (for TX), RX: KEM-RX7-DX, TX: MIZUHO QP-7



DSP: KEM-AF-DSP, 10W PWR AMP: KEM-LINEAR-HF



For 10W Linear unit, Is this small cooling fan need? HI HI

SPECIAL TOPIC: MY FAVOURITE BAND

AN OLD MAN'S FAVORITE BAND - TAKESHI, JA4IJJ #15084

Dear members: In response to the announcement from JO3HPM (Nao-san), I am going to write my favorite band firstly, then my hobby activities on making amplifiers.

I believe you enjoy recent early-summer days with variable condx for HF QSO. Sometimes sigs are very loud but sometimes very weak. As we know very well, it's of course due to the sun activity that affects formation of ionosphere. We are now approaching to the end of the cycle 24, as in Fig. 1, which means maximum usable frequency (MUF) is not very high.

I have started my ham radio career in the midst of the cycle 20, 1968. I was most active for several years in the cycle 21. At that exciting time, my favorite and active band was 15 m (21 MHz), because MUF was almost always high enough to enable enjoying DX QSO by using a homebrew monoband GP and later a horizontal monopole ant for the 21 MHz band. The former was set on the roof of a stand-alone house and the latter one was at the veranda of the third floor of an apartment house. I loved the latter one because of easy adjustment. Anyway they worked very well while the sun was very active.

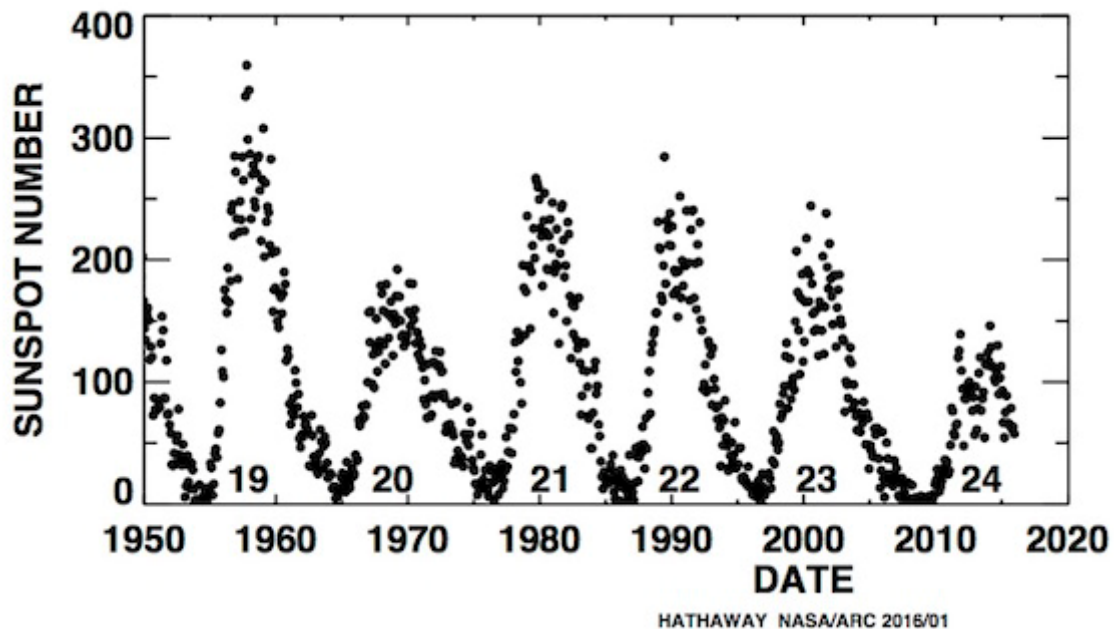


Fig.1 Change of monthly averaged sunspot number (data from NASA, modified)

Now we are almost in the end of the cycle 24, the 21 MHz band is not very vibrant as it was. After coming back from long sleep in June 2006, I found that the sunspot number was as small as in these days. After checking all the HF bands, I found the 21MHz band was no more busy like in the cycle 20 and 21. So my unavoidable choice was to shift my main band down to 7/3.5 MHz. Once upon a time, these bands were full of beats due to many AM stations. SSB stations were rare. But after 40 years, I found significant change in the following two points: First was that most of ham radio stations used SSB modes, CW activity was low, and RTTY mode was available by using a PC. Second point was that the bands were rather quiet. Of course, the condx of the bands varied day by day and hour to hour, but I was no more patient to really watch the band. Maybe you thought that it was quite natural nowadays, but in the best season of the cycle 20 and 21, almost every day the 21 MHz band was much busier than 7MHz at present. Now, information from Clusters is very much helpful to know the condx of all bands and they will be more important in the end of cycle 24 and the beginning of the next cycle.

I am already retired from my regular job two years ago in the end of March 2014: Although I have still a part time job a few days in a month, I have enough spare time to enjoy my second life on my hobbies. Among the hobbies ham radio communication is still attractive to feel the sun activity in these days and to contact with friends. However, frankly to say, its weight is decreasing. The main reason is the present unfavorable condx and the space problem for a good ant to cope with the condx. I cannot build a large Yagi for 7 MHz even if it is electronically shortened. So I have reached to a vertical ant, R9 from Cushcraft, to cover 3.5-28 MHz (please check my article in Issue #57 October 2013). It works

very well but 200 W to R9 is not strong enough to cope with the present condx. In QSO, I am helped by the stations with big ants. Of course, when the condx is good, no problems at all.

Contrary to my on-air activity, my activity on making vacuum tube amps is increasing. The amps are for ham radio (linear amps) and for audio. My XYL believes that I am a kind of mania of instruments using vacuum tubes. Not only so, but I am also a measurement mania. I have several testers including a spectrum analyzer to measure 3rd order intermodulation distortion (IMD3). Making HF amps is still interesting for me, although the present law is not builder-friendly to really use them. Now I am planning to make a linear amp with NFB to reduce IMD3, since the IMD3 of a simple amp cannot be lower than 30 – 35 db. I must say IMD3 of commercial rigs is sometimes worse in full power operation.

Making amplifiers for audio frequency is also my favorite. Obviously good sound makes us comfortable. Now distortion measurement is quite easy on a PC by using free softwares like WaveGene and WaveSpectra by Mr. efu (<http://efu.jp.net/>). Making amps with 0.1% distortion or less is not very difficult task by selecting optimum operation condition. But music lovers of my age cannot distinguish 0.1% and 1% distortion and usually cannot listen to frequency over ca. 10 kHz. Anyway an amp with few watts coupled with average speakers is enough to enjoy music at home. In that sense, I am not an audiophile but a music lover. NO MUSIC, NO LIFE. Of course, “NO TUBES, NO LIFE” and “NO HAM, NO LIFE!”. Thank you for reading! Wish you all good health and nice ham life, 73/88!

KUNI, JI3NOF #15125

I like 40 m. Since I started to be on the air in 1980, I have been fascinated by 40 m band. The band allows me to have domestic and DX contacts throughout the year. I enjoyed to be on the band using Nagara TA22jr (a yagi for 7 MHz and 21 MHz) before I QRTed in late 1990. I gave the yagi to my friend.

I resumed being on the air in 2011 using a half lambda dipole. Since then, I have been happy to be on the air using this antenna and have made many domestic and DX contacts in CW mode. With this antenna, I have made contacts with stations in all the continents except Africa. I mainly use an IC-703 and an old FT-101ZSD. Recently I also got a TS-820 and just have registered it. After 30 years of absence on the band, now I enjoy taste and atmosphere of this vacuum tube-driven RIG, again.



Old hams say that HF operation starts and finishes with 40m band. Now, I think I really come close to the age finishes my operation with the 40 m HI. I look forward to seeing you on the band. 73.

MY FAVORITE BAND - MANABU, JE1RZR #15020

14 MHz. Good for both DX and domestic QSO. Has a kind of status allowed QRV for upper class licensed ham only. Someday I'd like to build mono-band yagi with more than 6 elements for this band to catch a weak signal from DX.

Sugi, JK7UST #7178

My favorite band is 40 m band.

I set up a new amateur radio station in 1977. New solar cycle began in 1977. Therefore, HF high bands were good condition.

I enjoyed 10 m band. 40 m band was narrow and had a lot of QRM. I thought 40m band was not good for DX.

However, I became to love the 40m band.

Why? 40 m band was spread. So QRM has been reduced. And, I have build a HB9CV to the height of 20 m. It works very well. Therefore, 40 m band became a DX band for me.

I hope to see you on 40 m band.Thank you.



FEA CW NET RESULTS: NO. 589 TO 601 - NAO, JO3HPM #15008

No.	Date (Y/M/D)	Time (UTC)	Freq. (MHz)	Controller	Participants
601-2	2016/6/26	0800-0812	14.054	JE7YTQ	none
601-1	2016/6/25	2300-2357	7.026	JL1GEL	JS1QIZ, JO3HPM, JA4IJJ, 7J1ATG/1, JJ1TTG/6
600-2	2016/6/19	0800-0815	14.054	JO3HPM	none
600-1	2016/6/18	2300-0002	7.026	JS1QIZ	JO3HPM, JE1TRV, JH2HTQ, JL1GEL, JG1BGT, JI2GZC
599-2	2016/6/12	0800-0839	14.054	JE7YTQ	JO3HPM, JL3AMK
599-1	2016/6/11	2300-2355	7.0275	JL1GEL	JO3HPM, JA4IJJ, JH2HTQ, JG1BGT
598-2	2016/6/5	0800-0833	14.054	JO3HPM	JK7UST, VK5EEE
598-1	2016/6/4	2300-2345	7.065	JS1QIZ	JL1GEL, JA4IJJ, JK7UST, JH2HTQ, JO3HPM, JI2GZC
597-2	2016/5/29	0800-08	14.054	JE7YTQ	JO3HPM, JL1GEL, JL3YMV
597-1	2016/5/28	2300-0003	7.0265	JL1GEL	JS1QIZ/1, JI3NOF/QR, JH2HTQ, JA4IJJ, JL3YMV, JG1BGT
596-2	2016/5/22	0800-0830	14.054	JO3HPM	JL1GEL, VK5EEE
596-1	2016/5/21	2300-2359	7.026	JL1GEL	JS1QIZ, JA4IJJ, JK7UST, JI3UVB, JH2HTQ, JE1TRV, JG1BGT, JO3HPM, JI2GZC
595-2	2016/5/15	0800-0902	14.054	JE7YTQ	JO3HPM, JL1GEL, VK5EEE
595-1	2016/5/14	2300-2343	7.026	JS1QIZ	JO3HPM, JI2GZC, JH1HTQ, JK7UST, JE1TRV, JG1BGT
594-2	2016/5/8	0800-0830	14.053	JO3HPM	VK5EEE, VK4BGR
594-1	2016/5/7	2300-2350	7.027	JS1QIZ	JK7UST, JE1TRV, JH2HTQ, 7J1ATG/1, JL1GEL, JA4IJJ, JG1BGT, JO3HPM
593-2	2016/5/1	0800-0836	14.054	JE7YTQ	VK5EEE, JL1GEL
593-1	2016/4/30	2300-0003	7.026	JL1GEL	JS1QIZ, JA4IJJ, JE1TRV, JK7UST, JA4MRL, JG1BGT, JH2HTQ
592-2	2016/4/24	0800-0816	14.049	JO3HPM	none
592-1	2016/4/23	2300-0015	7.0085	JS1QIZ	JO3HPM, JA4IJJ, JL1GEL, JH2HTQ
591-2	2016/4/17	0800-0841	14.054	JE7YTQ	VK5EEE, JI2GZC, JL1GEL, VK4BGR
591-1	2016/4/16	2300-2359	7.026	JL1GEL	JO3HPM, JA4IJJ, JG1BGT, JH2HTQ, JI3NOF, 7J1ATG/2
590-2	2016/4/10	0800-0837	14.054	JO3HPM	VK5EEE, JI2GZC, JK7UST, JR0QWW
590-1	2016/4/9	2300-0010	7.026	JL1GEL	JO3HPM, JH2HTQ, JR0QWW, JA4IJJ, 7J1ATG/1, JI2GZC, JK7UST, JG1BGT
589-2	2016/4/3	0800-0858	14.054	JE7YTQ	JO3HPM, VK5EEE, ZL1ARW
589-1	2016/4/2	2300-2355	7.027	JS1QIZ	JH2HTQ, JO3HPM, 7J1ATG/2, JL1GEL, JK7UST, JA4IJJ, JI3NOF

FINALE

Do you like to see a periodic table of the elements? Japanese scientists at RIKEN named the atomic element 113 "nihonium" and gave the atomic symbol "Nh" in June. (http://www.riken.jp/en/pr/topics/2016/20160608_1/) The name comes from "Nihon" meaning Japan in Japanese. I used to use 599 as my magic number. The license plate number of my car is 599. But from now on, I will change my magic number to 113. Because my initials are N.H.! 73/88 and stay sober de Nh.