



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: Ama, JN6PPD #15190, Hiro, JH4EYD #15191, Smiff, JE3AEB #15192, Suresh, VU2EOJ #15193, Jimmy, BU2DB #15194, Sam, BX3AA #15195.

AMA, JN6PPD #15190

Hello FISTS members, I am Ama (FISTS# 15190), JN6PPD, Fukuzaki Hideo. I live in Tokunoshima Island, an island in the south of Kagoshima Prefecture. I got a HAM license in 1992 and had been enjoying only VHF and Packet communication. Just like many HAM at that time, I "escaped" from HAM and immersed into mobile phone communication and Internet. However, for the successive 25 years, I kept dreaming of having Morse communication. In 2016, I finally decided to make a necessary challenge to realize my dream of Morse communications. I first restored my call sign, JN6PPD, and I got a qualification for the Morse communication. In the following year, I got an HF rig and an antenna: a 7 MHz Zeppelin type antenna. At this moment, I suddenly realized I did not have any key for sending the Morse code. Without a hesitation, I bought a mini straight key all made of brass, made in China, on the net. The key was good enough for sending the code. In 2017, I got a "radio station license" in which "A1A (CW)" is stated proudly in addition to 3VA, 3HD, 3HA, 3MA (SSB, FM, Digital and others), with the power indication of 10 W. The public web page for my license, run by the Ministry of General Affairs and Communication, was also renewed to have CW mode ready.



I already started practicing Morse code listening before my new license was delivered. Unfortunately, while I was converting the Morse code sound coming into my ear, first, dot and dash, then alphabetical characters, the most of the following codes are running from my left ear directly to my right ear, like Shinkansen, leaving no meaningful message in my brain. This made me change my strategy. I decided to try to "feel" the Morse code as "sound mass" or "musical rhythm" without thinking about it. However, this also does not leave meaningful enough message to my brain.

Anyway, I decided to be on the air. One day, I was able to copy the call sign of CQ station from Miyazaki prefecture in his 2nd repeat. I became excited and replied quickly without any preparation for the following communication. To my surprise, I heard he was sending my call sign followed by his, meaning he was responding to me. His transmission also contained some other message to me, but I could not copy them. I just returned "TNX UR RST 5 NN 599 K". He replied, but I could not copy at all. Then, I just noticed he was sending two successive "dot", meaning the farewell message. I replied with the two dots, and my first CW QSO was completed. I was not sure if this could be called a proper CW two-way communication. To me, it was just like one-way rather than the two-way. At that time, BK meant

nothing to me, and BT signal just sounds like the name of delicious food, Hi.

I have been dreaming of starting my HF communication with Morse code rather than voice. So, despite it was a “dot dot” conversation, I just felt I was in the paradise. Well, to be honest, I am not sure if the station called me took this as an effective QSO. (I did.)

After this memorable first “QSO”, I have been trying to find CQ calling stations. However, although I found some CQ stations, I could not copy their call signs completely. I was disappointed and decided to call CQ myself. This time, a station called me back with very weak signals. To my regret, I could not copy his call-sign.

I think I put more effort in Morse listening practice, of course with the practice of understating its contents.

Well, Morse communication is fun. Someday, I hope that I can manipulate the Morse code like the music produces by a Maestro of Pianists.

Thank you for reading this “first day in Morse” story written by me, a beginner of Morse code communication. 73



SMIFF, JE3AEB #15192

Hello all. I came back to an amateur radio on October after 40 years' absence. When I got the license during the high school days, I hardly operated CW. But this time, I'm practicing CW more seriously. I wanted to operate both English and Japanese Morse in future. I look forward to meeting you on the air soon.



RICE COOKING GUIDE FOR OUTDOOR QRV, TAK, JS1QIZ, #15150

Have you ever wished having “just cooked and served” rice in the field from where you QRV? I have. After testing some freeze-dry rice, I just found that the setup of the attached photo gives me delicious rice for lunch or dinner in outdoor without adding much weight to my backpack. A “Mestin” cook pot and an “Esbit pocket stove” and an alcohol based solid fuel (the one used for serving warm food on your restaurant table) give me “ready to serve” rice in about 30 minutes wherever I am.

First, raw rice should be immersed in the water at least 30 minutes. If you have one day trip, this can be done at your home, and you can bring the pre-absorbed raw rice in a plastic bag. Otherwise, you can do it in the field while you setup your antenna or tent. This is the most crucial part of the cooking.

Then, after draining the water used for immersing the rice (you can also use this for the following step), add an equal amount of water to the rice (pre-wet rice: water = 1:1 (V/V)).

Setup pocket stove and put the fuel on it. Put the pot with rice and water on it. Light the fuel and wait about 20 minutes. First, the rice is boiled with the water, and fire goes dim. Then, the remaining water in the pot is gradually dried. One piece of the fuel is enough for cooking 180 ml (Volume) of dry rice.

Of course, the fire should be shielded from the outdoor wind by using some material, such as an aluminum windshield or something like that. Otherwise, the cooking fails.

After the fuel was completely consumed and fire is automatically put off, take the pot out of the stove and put it upside-down for 10 min. Then, open the lid. The hot rice is ready to eat. Enjoy it with some seasoning on it, or with any side dishes you bring with.

After having the warm and delicious rice, CW should sound much nicer to your ears. By the way, if you arrives the spot in the afternoon and spend the night there, I recommend you to setup the antenna before start cooking. This is for you to enjoy excellent coffee time after the meal with your paddle and earphone connected to your TX.

Enjoy Outdoor QRV. 73. Tak



SPECIAL TOPIC: WEATHER

WEATHER IN SPRING, AKI, JL1GEL, #15147

There are various kinds of cherry blossoms in Japan. The most popular one is “Somei-Yoshino”, which is the symbol flower of Tokyo. The timing and duration of cherry blossoms' blooming are influenced by the weather in spring. In this year, the weather in Tokyo was relatively warm in March, and the Japan Meteorology Agency officially announced that Somei-Yoshino has started blooming in Tokyo on 21 March this year. This seems to be relatively earlier than usual. In fact, the timing of blooming is getting earlier year by year due to global warming, they say.

The duration of cherry blossoms tends to be longer if the weather gets cold after blooming. The blossoms will be in full bloom in one week or two after start blooming, and we can enjoy them many places in Tokyo. I am looking forward to walking out with my camera and taking photos of beautiful blossoms. (Photo: Taken at the Moat of the Imperial Palace)



ATSU, JE1TRV, #7763

I look forward to hearing news of mimosa flower from Atsu at the FEA net every early spring. His mimosa also blossomed this year again. The yellow of the flower is the symbol to start spring. Compared to urban area, the mountain area is still cold. The another picture is the remote camera of Atus's second home in Hakone. In spite of April started, the garden is still covered with snow. (Editor)



TARO, JR0QWW, #5578

Taro often reports about snow at the FEA net in winter. He sent me the pictures the other day. His QTH is Tokamachi city, Niigata prefecture, where is known as one of the most heavy snowfall area in Japan. In the pictures, his mother and father were in their garden surrounded by over 2 meters snow. The heavy snow lower the effective height of Taro's tower. (Editor)



FEA CW NET RESULTS: NO. 628 TO 640, NAO, JO3HPM, #15008

No.	Date (Y/M/D)	Time (UTC)	Freq. (MHz)	Controllor	Participants
640-2	2017/3/26	0800-0830	14.054	JE7YTQ	VK7AD, JL1GEL
640-1	2017/3/25	2300-0005	7.026	JS1QIZ	JA4IIJ, JL1GEL, JO3HPM, 7J1ATG/2
639-2	2017/3/19	0800-0817	14.0555	JO3HPM	JK7UST
639-1	2017/3/18	2300-0013	7.0263	JL1GEL	JS1QIZ, 7J1ATG/2, JA4IIJ, JK7UST, JE1TRV, JG1BGT, JO3HPM, JL1IRB
638-2	2017/3/12	0800-0821	14.054	JE7YTQ	9V1VV, JO3HPM
638-1	2017/3/11	2300-0010	7.026	JS1QIZ	JA4IIJ, JO3HPM, JL1GEL, JI1XJB/6, JH2HTQ/QRPP, JJ1TTG/6, 7J1ATG/2, JK7UST, JI3NOF
637-2	2017/3/5	0800-0816	14.054	JO3HPM	UK/JE1RZR
637-1	2017/3/4	2300-0000	7.026	JL1GEL	JS1QIZ, JA4IIJ, JE1TRV, JG1BGT, JO3HPM
636-2	2017/2/26	0800-0815	14.054	JE7YTQ	none
636-1	2017/2/25	2300-0005	7.026	JS1QIZ	JK7UST, JL1GEL, JR0QWW, JE1TRV, JA4IIJ, JR7OEF, JO3HPM, JI3NOF
635-2	2017/2/19	0800-0822	14.054	JL3YMV	VK4BGR, JL1GEL
635-1	2017/2/18	2300-0005	7.0275	JL1GEL	JO3HPM, JE1TRV, JK7UST, JA4IIJ, JI3NOF, JA4MRL, JS1QIZ
634-2	2017/2/12	0800-0820	14.054	JL3YMV	none
634-1	2017/2/11	2300-2348	7.0265	JL1GEL	JK7UST, JO3HPM, JA4IIJ
633-2	2017/2/5	0800-0818	14.054	JE7YTQ	UK/JE1RZR
633-1	2017/2/4	2300-2352	7.026	JS1QIZ	JA4IIJ, JK7UST, JL1GEL, JA4MRL
632-2	2017/1/29	0800-0815	14.054	JE7YTQ	none
632-1	2017/1/28	2300-2335	7.026	JS1QIZ	JL1GEL, JO3HPM, JA4IIJ, JK7UST
631-2	2017/1/22	0800-0819	14.054	JO3HPM	UK/JE1RZR
631-1	2017/1/21	2300-0002	7.0265	JL1GEL	JS1QIZ, JA4IIJ, JO3HPM, JJ1TTG/6
630-2	2017/1/15	0800-0812	14.054	JE7YTQ	VK5EEE
630-1	2017/1/14	2300-2356	7.026	JS1QIZ	JA4IIJ, JL1GEL
629-2	2017/1/8	0800-0830	14.054	JO3HPM	BX8AAD
629-1	2017/1/7	2300-0003	7.026	JL1GEL	JS1QIZ, JA4IIJ, JK7UST, JF3KNW, JO3HPM
628-2	2017/1/1	none	none	none	none
628-1	2016/12/31	none	none	none	none

FINALE

I like to hear weather or season report in the QSO. When I hear a big difference between my weather and the others one, I feel the world is big and wide. For example, one day I reported it was rainy season in Japan and much rain, whereas the other USA station said it was a very dry. I said I want to gave him rain cloud covering my sky. Then he said blow the cloud hard and I welcomed all your rain. Do you have any memorial QSO about weather? 73/88 and stay sober de Nao.