

International Morse Preservation Society
FISTS
East Asia Chapter



Newsletter

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A happy new year all FISTS!

How did you spend your Christmas holidays? Devoted your time to your families? Or ? Were you active on the air during this holiday season? Hopefully that you will be more active on the bands and enjoy yourself having QSOs with the fellow FISTS so that you can boost your friendships with them.

Have you heard of the news in Japan?

News reports said that the death toll from snowstorms that have blasted northern and central Japan since early December rose to 90 on Sunday, January 15, after three people died while clearing snow. About 30 troops of Japan Ground Self Defense Force (GSDF) started removing snow with heavy machinery from the national highway in the area and the other GSDF units continued to clear snow off the roofs of houses in Nagano and Akita prefectures. We are really sorry for the people who live in those areas of heavy snowfall like this. But I think there might be some indications that the global warming and the greenhouse effect are causing some changes in the weather worldwide. For instance, my area Tokachi, Hokkaido is known for its cold weather in winter and the temperature goes down -20C from the middle of January to the second week of February but the temperature has already reached -25c in the first week of January and it's getting much colder. Besides, although we do not have so much snow here in winter, we have had remarkable snowfall in December and March these 3 years.

This issue.....

Well, in this issue, initially, JL8MIL ex K6KF/ Jun will tell you about his ham life both in Japan and the U.S. and it'll be followed by some new-year greetings of FEA members. In closing, JO3HPM/ Nao will show you some interesting statistics of FEA activities. CU on the air. 73 de **JJ8KGZ / Leo**

My Bio

By JL8MIL (ex K6KF)/ Jun, FISTS # 9117



My Shack in 1987

My ham life started when I was eleven in 1979. An English teacher at my middle school who was a ham and enjoying chatting with people on the air showed me how interesting the hobby was. I spent a couple of months to pass the exam and got a ticket with JM1JOT. I don't remember who the very first station I worked was, but I do remember that I was so nervous that my voice was shaking and couldn't speak normally. I chose 6m to start. My first radio was an RJX-610. The 6m band was pretty popular for teenage hams and it was easy to make friends with. I got on the air after school every day, so it took less than a couple of weeks before I made my first eye-ball QSO. I have met a lot of interesting hams in the first several years of my ham life and quite a few are still keeping in touch. The RJX-610 had been my main radio until it was replaced with an IC-551 in 1982.

A few years later, I noticed that some of my friend hams were trying CW. It did not look interesting to me at first, but as they encouraged me to be involved in and so I dove into that new world. Once I became a code ham and worked several stations using dots and dashes, I realized it was so fascinating and immediately got into the mode. I have hardly been active on SSB since then. After having worked hundreds of stations on CW for a couple of years, I was getting bored of making routine communication among JAs. So I was thinking of Wabun which is another morse code encoding for the Japanese language. One day, I met a YL on 6m CW. She was a very skilled CW operator. We often met on the air and I got to know that she was also good at Wabun. I asked her for my code practice in Wabun and that greatly helped me learn it. Actually, it did lead me to passing my first class license exam in 1988. So she is my first elmer for CW. Her call is JQ1MAY. I hope she is still active on the air. When I got a TS-520 for some reason (I can't recall how come I got it...), my primary band switched to 15m. I home-brewed a three element Yagi for the band. It worked so good that I enjoyed QSOs with ops all over the world every day and night. Later on, I owned a TS-820 also which I thought was the best one at that time. That was a pretty impressive time, indeed.



My ANT in 1987

My ham radio activity got to stop after I passed my first class license. Well, I ran into a new hobby, Rally or a kind of car racing. For my new hobby, I ended up selling most of my equipment except a small hand-held and a mobile radio. I won't tell you about that hobby here, but it was so exciting and worth selling the ham stuff. My blank period lasted about ten years until my wife and I moved over to the U.S. in 2000. For the first two years in the new country, I was pretty busy establishing my new life and catching up with some new responsibilities as a software engineer at my new employer. As I was getting settled in, I thought I wanted to have something fun... something fun like ham radio that I was absorbed in before.... Yes! That's it! Then I got back on the air with AE6DE (I took a vanity call K6KF later) from the SF bay area and I joined FISTS. This time my focus was definitely on CW. Constantly working some stations a week helped raise my CW speed little by little. That was so interesting. Plus I finally obtained my DXCC and WAS.

After living in California for five years, I decided to leave the U.S. permanently for a new job in Japan. The new location is Hokkaido, the north island of Japan, where I dreamed of living in before. It's been four months now since I came back to this country. Here in my new apartment, I set up a small HF station with a 3 meter rod plus an auto antenna tuner. This set seems working so better than I expected that I can work NAs and OCs occasionally even on the 40m band.



K6KF San Jose

My recent interest is how much I can improve my CW skills of having chat in English by head-copy. What is challenging the most to me is not head-copying itself but keying words in a non-native language. It is not easy to pick out an ideal and natural expression for the situation on the fly. I think this is a lot more difficult than speaking verbally. It would be a long way to master, but it's interesting to feel my skills improving little by little.

So, I operate JL8MIL in Hokkaido now. I can't say that I am an active one, but please call me when you hear my calling CQ. Tune in to 14.058. My FISTS # is 9117 and the CC # is 1608.



My shack in 2006

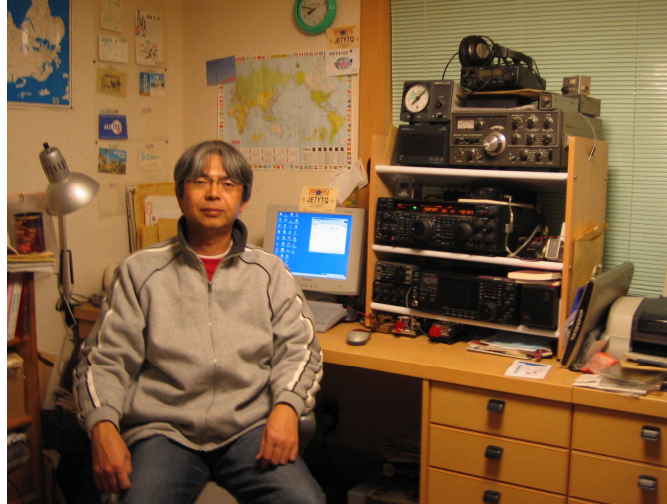


My ANT in 2006

Messages from FEA Members

A Happy New Year!

By JK7UST/ Sugi, FISTS#7178



In 2006 I wish to read the “HARRY POTTER and the Half-Blood Prince” in English. I've read the Winnie the Pooh in my school days about 20 years ago. But the HARRY POTTER is too long for me. I'm afraid that HARRY POTTER in Japanese will be issued before I finish reading HARRY POTTER in English. (Japanese HARRY POTTER is scheduled for May.) So it's easy to get the 1st license of ham radio than to read it for me. Besides, I hope I will make a QRP CW transceiver kit EQT-1 this year.

Hello Folks!

By JE3ECD / Hide, FISTS #8967

I am using YAESU FT-850 and ICOM IC-706. My keys are HIMOND MK-706 and HK-908. I am using Turbo Hamlog to manage my QSO log. My family is, a wife, a daughter and a son. They are not interested in Ham Radio at all. Hi,Hi... I live in HIGASHI OSAKA CITY, east side of OSAKA. The population is about 600 thousands. My goal for 2006 is to improve my CW skill and the ability of speaking English. And I want to have QSOs with a lot of FISTS members. I hope that the year 2006 will be a happy year for everyone. Good Luck 73!!



Summary of the FISTS East Asia CW Net in 2005

JO3HPM / Naoyasu Hosoda, FISTS#15008

First of all, I would like to thank all the participants in the FISTS East Asia CW net. I also appreciate Sugi JK7UST, Chen BX2AH, John 9V1VV, Leo JJ8KGZ, Man JG0SXC, Jun JL8MIL and Mack JE1CLH who took on the role of controller. We have been enjoying the FEA net since 2005 Jan 8; that was the first successful day. Now we hold the FEA net in two parts. Part 1 is held in the 7 MHz band on Sunday mornings. Until now, participants in Part 1 have only been JA operators. Sugi JK7UST is the main controller of this part. Part 2 is held in the 14MHz band on Sunday evenings. In this part, participants from 9V, BV, JA, UK, VK, VR2 and ZL have enjoyed the FEA net. I am the main controller of part 2.

Here are some statistics of the FEA net from 2004 Dec 20 to 2005 Dec 25.

Total number of nets	92
Total number of participants	276
Average participants per net	3.0
The day with most participants	2005 Oct 22 Part 1, 7 persons
Number of nets with no participants.	16
Number of actual participants	30
Average participations per persons (excluding controllers)	6.0 times
The persons who participated most (excluding controllers and me)	JG0SXC, 24 times (Part1+2) JG0SXC, 22 times (Part1) BX2AH, 15 times (Part2)

The following are the 30 participants list excluding controllers.

Call	Number of participants		
	Part1+Part2	Part1	Part2
JO3HPM+JJ1XET+JL3YMV	27	25	2
JG0SXC	24	22	2
JL8MIL+JM1JOT	20	12	8
JE1TRV	19	14	5
JJ8KGZ	15	15	0
BX2AH	15	0	15
JF3KNW	14	10	4
JK7UST	10	7	3
JA1NUT	10	6	4
JR0QWW	6	5	1
BX2AF	6	0	6
JE1CLH	4	1	3
VR2AJ	4	0	4
BV2WS	3	0	3
BX2AG	3	0	3
JO3FUO	3	0	3
JE3ECD	2	2	0
9V1VV	2	0	2
BU2AC	2	0	2
BX2AN	2	0	2
VK4TJ	2	0	2
7K4UBL	1	1	0
JA8UUM	1	1	0
JG0MWU	1	1	0
BW2/JA7FYF	1	0	1
BX2AC	1	0	1
JL3SIK	1	0	1
UK/JI2MED	1	0	1
ZL1KCA	1	0	1
ZL2AOH	1	0	1

Please visit http://www.feacw.net/qrv/FEA_Net_Result.html for details. I hope more participants will join the FEA net in 2006. We always welcome you, even if you are not an FEA member. See you at the FEA net!

FISTS EA Activities

Suggested Calling Frequencies

You can find FISTS members on/near following recommended calling frequencies.
QSO's should be QSY'd another frequency.

FISTS	160m	80m	40m	30m	20m	17m	15m	12m	10m	6m	2m
<u>East Asia</u>	-	-	-	10.118 10.138 (*1)	14.058	18.085	21.058	24.918	28.058 28.158 (*2)	-	-
HQ/Europe	-	3.558	7.028	-	14.058	-	21.058	-	28.058	-	-
North America	1.808	3.558 3.708	7.028 7.058 7.118	10.118	14.058	18.085	21.058 21.158	24.918	28.058 28.158	50.058	144.058
Down Under	1.808	3.528	7.028	10.118	14.058	18.085	21.058 21.158	24.918	28.058 28.158	-	-
QRP calling freqs (*3)	-	-	-	10.106 10.116	14.060	18.086 18.096	21.060 21.110	24.906 24.910	28.060 28.110	-	-

(*1) BV [Taiwan] stations are allowed to use 10.130 to 10.150.

(*2) BV [Taiwan] stations are allowed to use above 28.100.

(*3) International QRP calling frequencies are neighborhood.

FISTS East Asia CW Net

We have informal CW sessions for ANYONE who wants to practice English QSO.

When	on Sundays @ East Asia
Part I	between 7.025MHz and 7.030MHz, sometimes between 18.080MHz and 18.085MHz starting 2300UTC on Saturdays (0700 Taiwan/Singapore Time, 0800 JST on Sundays)
Part II	between 14.050MHz and 14.055MHz starting 0800UTC on Sundays (1600 Taiwan/Singapore Time, 1700 JST on Sundays)
Speed	12WPM to 15WPM
Controlled by	Nao, JO3HPM, Sugi, JK7UST/JE7YTQ, and Chen, BX2AH
Managed by	Nao, JO3HPM
Any other announcements	might be posted to the English BBS.*

* <http://www.feacw.net/en/bbs/light.cgi>

FISTS EA NET Result

No.	Date (Y/M/D)	Time (UTC)	Freq. (MHz)	Controller	Participant
55-2	2006/1/8	0800-0900	14.053	JO3HPM(Nao)	BX2AH(Chen), VR2AJ(Mak)
55-1	2006/1/7	2300-2400	7.023	JE7YTQ(Sugi)	JO3HPM(Nao)
54-2	2006/1/1	none	none	none	none
54-1	2005/12/31	2300-	7.026	JJ8KGZ(Leo)	JE1TRV(Atsu), JG0SXC(Man), JK7UST/2(Sugi)
2006					
53-2	2005/12/25	0800-0840	14.050	JO3HPM(Nao)	BX2AH(Chen)
53-1	2005/12/24	2300-2420	7.0255	JE7YTQ(Sugi)	JL8MIL(Jun), JE1TRV(Atsu), JF3KNW(Nobu), JA8UUM(Masa), JO3HPM(Nao)
52-2	2005/12/18	0800-0820	14.051	JO3HPM(Nao)	none
52-1	2005/12/17	2300-2350	7.027	JE7YTQ(Sugi)	JJ8KGZ(Leo), JO3HPM(Nao), JL8MIL(Jun), JF3KNW(Nobu)
51-2	2005/12/11	0800-0900	14.054	JO3HPM(Nao)	JG0SXC(Man), BX2AH(Chen), VR2AJ(Mak)
51-1	2005/12/10	2300-2330	7.0295	JE7YTQ(Sugi)	JG0SXC(Man), JO3HPM(Nao)
50-2	2005/12/4	0800-0820	14.0525	JO3HPM(Nao)	none