



Recommended calling QRGs: 7.028, 10.118/10.128/10.133, 14.058, 18.085, 21.058/21.138, 24.908, 28.058/28.158

FEA Net: 7.026 MHz 2300UTC on Saturdays, 14.054 MHz 0800UTC on Sundays

FEA Crossing: 7.025 to 7.030 MHz, from 2330UTC on Fridays

FEA-100 Award: [http://www.feacw.net/qrv/FEA-100\\_Award.htm](http://www.feacw.net/qrv/FEA-100_Award.htm)

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## NEW MEMBERS

We're very pleased to welcome our latest members: Taku, JG1UQD #20999 and Praveen, VU2PLG #21285.

### TAKU, JG1UQD, #20999

My name is JG1UQD/TAKU. Thank you for adding me to FISTS. My first license was issued in SHOWA, more than 35 years ago. But, I was not on the air for long and came back to ham radio just recently. I started CW 6 months ago, meaning I'm still a beginner. I also started to make paddles 2 month ago. hihi ^^;) I want to be better at CW. Please communication with me using CW. cu agn 73.



### MY HOMEBREW BUGS - JOHN, 9V1VV, #8998

For several years I've been using bugs all the time because I could never get the hang of paddles. I did try, and bought two very nice ones - a Begali Simplex Mono and an N3ZN Simplex. But they have been gathering dust on the shelf unused for years, so I thought it better to convert them to semi-automatic keys which would actually be used.

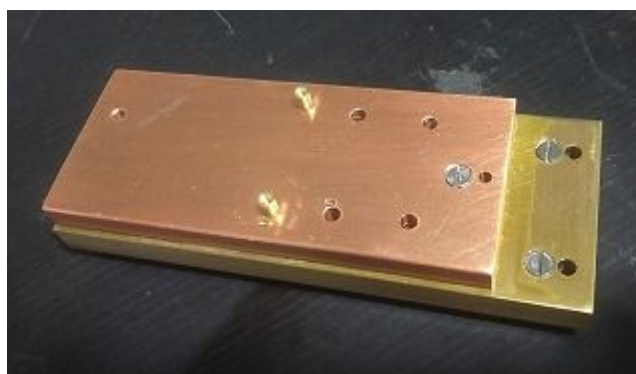
My first attempt worked out quite well, using the Begali movement as the core component. As with most paddles, they use a system of two side levers separated by a central pillar, activated by a single lever. The mechanism is arranged such that each arm can move independently of the other. All that was required to convert it to a bug is to extend the dit arm out with a length of spring steel followed by a pendulum. The original dit contact is used as the dit arm stopper, so it is necessary to arrange another sensor to generate the dits.



Opto-interrupters are used for this purpose, rather than U-shaped spring contacts. Interrupters produce no mechanical drag or inertia, and the resultant dits are clean and repeatable. These devices can be bought on the internet for a few cents. They need to be mounted on a swivel to adjust the dit shape, wide or narrow. In my case I try to adjust them for a perfect 1:1 dit-space ratio. Power 12 VDC can be taken from the rig supply. The dah lever on this bug was also extended out and another opto-interrupted was used, but this is not really necessary. The original dah contact can be re-used (see the N3ZN bug below).



A drill-press is essential for this type of work because the base needs accurate drilling. For my first bug I used an upper copper bar over a lower brass one, just pieces I had lying around. The effect is quite attractive. I simply remounted the Begali components on this new base.



To make the pendulum I soldered the spring steel onto a length of 4mm brass bar as shown, and glued the other end of the steel to the dit arm, using epoxy resin. The spring steel was cut from a feeler-gauge set. I had to experiment with various lengths and thicknesses before arriving at the right choice for correct pendulum speed. This assembly is strong enough if clamped in position for 24 hours. The aim of these bugs is not to destroy the original parts so that the paddles can easily be re-built later if required, so no drilling or cutting was done on these parts. The flag which interrupts the optic beam is a piece of tin glued onto a small collet mounted on the pendulum.



A small interface needs to be made between the interrupters and the rig. Schematics are available on the web. You can easily make one up in a few minutes from a few cheap components and fit it under the base between the support feet.

To finish off when everything is mounted and adjusted, I removed the components and polished the base using emery paper, then applied three layers of spray lacquer.

The bug is very smooth to use. Here is a You Tube demonstration: <https://youtu.be/incZhr7gGIs>

Later I made a similar key but using an N3ZN paddle, shown below. It has a better action with less mechanical play, because the workmanship of the original movement is much finer than the Begali.

You Tube : <https://youtu.be/OgvaZaKpTt8>

My thanks to Nao JO3HPM for my first QSO using the Begali-based bug key.



## HAM FAIR 2022 - AKI, JL1GEL, #15147

Ham Fair 2022 will be held August 20(Sat.) and 21(Sun), 2022 at Tokyo Big Sight.

Ham Fair Official web site: [https://www.jarl.org/English/4\\_Library/A-4-6\\_ham-fair/ham-fair%202022.htm](https://www.jarl.org/English/4_Library/A-4-6_ham-fair/ham-fair%202022.htm)

Opening Hours: Aug. 20: 10AM to 5PM, Aug. 21: 10AM to 4PM

Venue: South 3-4 Halls. The Official Tokyo Big Sight web site: <https://www.bigsight.jp/english/>

Admission (good for all 2 days): Adult: JPY 2,000, JARL Member: JPY 1,000, Ladies and youth under 21 years old: Free

Volunteers from FISTS EAST ASIA members will open a booth for exhibitions and demonstrating Morse communications. We are waiting for your visit and looking forward to meeting FISTS members from all over the world.



Ham Fair 2018

## FACT IS STRANGER THAN FICTION. - TARO, JR0QWW, #5578

Last February, snowing weekday, in daytime, I had QSO with QRP station from Chiba with CW. The operator telegraphed me this was 1st QSO with me, but I knew this was 2nd QSO by HAMLOG. We had last QSO with him on Apr 1999. So I telegraphed him the fact and he understood that.

After QSO, I checked the log, and remembered the situation of 1999. I have lived in an apartment building and I couldn't have permanent antenna on the building. When I had QSO with him, one spring Saturday evening, I set up a tinny rod antenna from window and used small QRP rig (HT-750, Tokyo-High Power). My daughter was little, and my wife was slim and lovely without irony. Then I got sentimental to remember 23 years ago.

One hour after, I received e-mail from the station, which said he talked my WIFE with TELEPHONE!! I could not understand what has happen? How did he talk with my wife by telephone? I have interviewed my wife at that night, and I have understood what was happen.

After that QSO, the operator has called on phone to my old phone number, which was listed right on old call book, which was published 25 years ago. I have not used the phone number for many years and the number was re-allocated to someone else.

When he called the phone number, he was connected to an old woman to whom my old number was allocated Surprisingly, she just received home-visiting nursing at that time. On the other hands, my wife worked as a home-visit nurse, and she had just visited the old woman's home for nursing at same time!

The old woman had talked with the operator, but as a matter of course she couldn't understand what he said. My wife listened some key word from the phone, "amateur radio", "Iguchi", "CW" etc, so my wife thought "it looks like a matter of my husband...?". Then she changed the phone and talked with the operator, and my wife had understood the operator called the phone to her husband (me!) using old phone number, and accidentally it led to the old woman who received home-visit nursing by my wife. And coincidentally, she knew her husband (me!!) had time to enjoying radio in such a weekday, daytime, while she worked so hard...(After that her words were heavy with irony). If the operator had called one hour later or early, my wife had not been at the home, and no wonder the operator couldn't talk with my wife. Then I realized that "fact is stranger than fiction".



## A CAMP AND QRP - TAK, JS1QIZ, #15150

I spent a night at a riverside campsite with my son in early June. I expected a rainy evening but had only a few drops of rain.

The radio setup was a QRP TRX with a mobile battery connected to a manual antenna tuner with a 10 m wire hooked up onto a tree branch. Five 5mL counter poises were used. The wires were less than 1mm in diameter, so the setup was very light-weighted.

My son and I brought an alcohol cooking stove for each and cooked our meals using it. It was a challenge for my son, but fortunately, he made it and had a nice dinner with rice and a steak. For me, it was not a problem.

I made a small bonfire on a dedicated stove this time and enjoyed keeping it for one hour or so.

I made QSOs of 10 or so, including the one for the FEAnet. The QRP was a compromise between the signal level and the weight, which turned out to be enjoyable enough.



## EYEBALL MEETING IN MACHIDA - MANABU, JE1RZR, #15020

Enjoyed a small meeting on 12 June for the first time in over 2 years. Atsu, JE1TRV/JS2AHG arranged a cozy space in Machida, Tokyo. Looking forward to seeing you again having BBQ in Miura next time.



L to R; Atsu JE1TRV/JS2AHG, Aki JL1GEL, Aki JJ1TTG and Manabu JE1RZR.



At an electronic parts shop.

## NO VOCABULARY, NO CONVERSATION - NORI, JR7OEF, #15022

I feel I do not have enough English knowledge. So I resumed studying English a few months ago. Almost every day, I listen to some kinds of English conversation programs in radio. But unfortunately I forget it quickly because of my advanced age. I got the idea to actually speak English at WIRES-X and bought FTM-300D soon. I want to take advantage of WIRES-X for improve my English conversation skill. I had some contact with foreign countries people for example, W, VE, LU, PY, G, OK, VK, and FR also talked to JA but little. I got WAC by WIRES-X! but not transmit radio waves. One Saturday afternoon, I wanted to check my audio. I called CQ at Japanese main room, shortly JE1RZR Manabu-san called me. What a coincidence! We were pleased to meet again. But we have never meet and do not know each other's voices. It was a fun conversation over 30 minutes. I will continue to study English. That's because it's very important to have a rich conversation. Of course, even by CW.





## MY 1ST TRANSCEIVER - ATSU, JE1TRV/JS2AHG, #7763

Memory of my 1st transceiver is a National/Panasonic CB transceiver, RJ-18 & RJ-28. When I was elementary school, I and my elder brother have played with them. Even their output power were only 100 mW and single channel, we took them everywhere. And we got excited very much when we could communicate with someone doing same thing at very far places. (Fig. 1) With those experiences I think I was fascinated by fantasy of radio communication.

About 50 years after, I still keep those transceiver. I hope they work still. (To check, many AAA batteries required).



Fig. 1. 3-Bros with CB radio (Left to right: Elder Bro, Younger Bro & Me) in 1974?



Fig. 2. Still keep my 1st TRXs



Fig. 3. RJ-18 Name plate.  
Manufactured in 1974. Power:100 mW, Freq. 27.080 MHz



Fig. 4. RJ-28 Name plate.  
Manufactured in 1973. Power:100 mW, Freq. 27.080 MHz

## MY FAVORITE RIG - SUGI, JK7UST, #7178

My favorite rig is the K2. K2 can be used in rag chews, DX, and contests. That's because the K2 is a quiet rig. The K2 has a low noise PLL, a single super, and crystal filters before and after the IF amplifier. They make the K2 a quiet rig. Unfortunately for my K2, the built-in amplifier has failed. However, I recently got an RM Italy amp. Therefore, I enjoy QRP QSO and QRO QSO with DX using K2. Wouldn't it be nice to be able to QSO with my own rig?



## FEA CW NET RESULTS: NO. 902 TO 914 - NAO, JO3HPM, #15008

No.	Date (Y/M/D)	Time (UTC)	Freq. (MHz)	Controller	Participants
914-2	2022/6/26	0800-0822	14.0545	JO3HPM	VK6RR, JL1GEL, JJ1FXF
914-1	2022/6/25	2300-0006	7.026	JA4IIJ	JK7UST, JE1RZR, JO3HPM, JS1QIZ, JL1GEL, JS2AHG, JJ1FXF
913-2	2022/6/19	0800-0818	14.054	JO3HPM	VK6RR, VK3DRQ
913-1	2022/6/18	2300-	7.026	JE7YTQ	JO3HPM, JS1QIZ/1, JL1GEL, JS2AHG, JG1BGT, JJ1FXF, JA4IIJ, JJ1TTG
912-2	2022/6/12	0800-0845	14.054	JL1GEL	JO3HPM, JJ1FXF, VK3DRQ, VK4BGR
912-1	2022/6/11	2300-0004	7.027	JS1QIZ	JO3HPM, JE1RZR, JL1GEL, JJ1FXF, JG1UQD, JR1WYW, JH2HTQ, JA4IIJ
911-2	2022/6/5	0800- 0849	14.055	JE7YTQ	JO3HPM, JJ1FXF, JL1GEL, JA4IIJ, VK4BGR
911-1	2022/6/4	2300-2351	7.025	JL3YMV	JK7UST, JJ1FXF, JS2AHG, JS1QIZ, JL1GEL, JG1UQD, JI2GZC
910-2	2022/5/29	0800-0820	14.054	JL1GEL	VK3DRQ
910-1	2022/5/28	2300-2358	7.0265	JL1GEL	JS2AHG, JJ1FXF, JA4IIJ, JS1QIZ/1, JO3HPM, JI2GZC
909-2	2022/5/22	0800-	14.054	JO3HPM	VK6RR, JE1RZR, VK4BGR
909-1	2022/5/21	2300-2336	7.005& 7.0265	JA4IIJ	JK7UST, JL1GEL, JS2AHG, JO3HPM, JJ1FXF, JE1RZR
908-2	2022/5/15	0800-0825	14.054	JE1RZR	VK6RR, JK7UST, VK3DRQ
908-1	2022/5/14	2300-2355	7.026	JS1QIZ	JK7UST, JE1RZR, JJ1FXF, JL1GEL, JA4IIJ, JS2AHG, JE0ERZ
907-2	2022/5/8	0800-0843	14.054	JE7YTQ	VK6RR, 7J1ATG/2, JJ1FXF, VK3DRQ, JS2AHG, JL1GEL
907-1	2022/5/7	2300-0004	7.026	JS1QIZ	JE1RZR, 7J1ATG, JO3HPM, JS2AHG, JJ1FXF, JA4IIJ
906-2	2022/5/1	0800-0848	14.054	JE1RZR	VK6RR, VK3DRQ, 7J1ATG/2, JS2AHG, JO3HPM, JJ1FXF, JL1GEL
906-1	2022/4/30	2300-0010	7.026	JA4IIJ	JL1GEL, JS2AHG, 7J1ATG/2, JK7UST, JE1RZR, JJ1FXF, JO3HPM
905-2	2022/4/24	0800-0837	14.048	JO3HPM	JE1RZR, 7J1ATG/2, JL1GEL, JJ1FXF, VK6RR
905-1	2022/4/23	2300-0001	7.006	JE7YTQ	JO3HPM, JS2AHG, JA4IIJ, JL1GEL, JE1RZR, JJ1FXF, JE3ECD
904-2	2022/4/17	0800-0830	14.054	JE1RZR	7J1ATG/2, JO3HPM, JJ1FXF, JL1GEL
904-1	2022/4/16	2300-2347	7.0255	JS1QIZ	JE1RZR, JO3HPM, JL1GEL, JA4IIJ, JE1TRV, JJ1FXF
903-2	2022/4/10	0800-0844	14.055	JE7YTQ	JE1RZR, JO3HPM, 7J1ATG, JJ1FXF
903-1	2022/4/9	2300-0010	7.005	JA4IIJ	JS1QIZ, JL1GEL, JS2AHG, JH4TXW/QRP, JE1RZR, JO3HPM, JJ1FXF, JE3ECD, JK7UST
902-2	2022/4/3	0800-0821	14.054	JL1GEL	VK3DRQ, JO3HPM, JJ1FXF
902-1	2022/4/2	2300-0000	7.0265	JS1QIZ	JA4IIJ, JS2AHG, JL1GEL, JE1RZR, 7J1ATG/2, JJ1FXF, JO3HPM, JK7UST

### FINALE

Recently, I read the science fiction novel “The Three-Body Problem” by Liu Cixin, which was a worldwide bestseller. The story was about an alien invasion. There was a scene in which aliens sent messages using Morse code. By sending a message in an impossible way, they were trying to show us their advantage of science and technology, and to make us despair. In the book, the URL <http://www.qsl.net/bg3tt/zl/mesdm.htm> was used by the characters to understand the Morse code. This BG3TT is real. It is unclear why the author used the above URL. According to QRZ.COM, the QTH of BG3TT is in Shanxi province, and the author is from the same place, so they may know each other. Although it didn't affect the story, it was to be regretted that the author made the mistake of converting “short short short short long” to “1” instead of “4”. There was also a scene in which high energy physics experiments could no longer reproduce results due to alien interference. It must be a nightmare! Anyway, I enjoyed the book. 73/88 and hope for world peace de Nao.