International Morse Preservation Society and FISTS CW CLUB - East Asia Chapter



October 2015 Issue #65

Recommended calling QRGs: 7.028, 10.118/10.138, 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

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Other members of administration: Sugi JK7UST & Manabu JE1RZR

http://www.feacw.net/ or http://www.feacw.net/ or http://www.fists-ea.org/ (Secondary)

NEW MEMBERS

Taka, JP3CGJ #15157, Nami, JM1ATF #15160, Akio, JH1MHM #15158, Hiro, JK1WDF #15161, Yas, JH1KMC #15159, Mic, JI1XJB #15162

SELF INTRODUCTION, AKIO, JH1MHM, #15158

Hello! Ladies and Gents!

I'm Akio. I'm in my 50s. I live in Tokyo metropolitan, near Haneda airport. Although I can hear air traffic control very clearly, I'm not really interested in it because it is in English.

When I was a child, I read a book in which a boy in a deserted island asked for help to a ship passing nearby using Morse code emitted from his flashlight. Although I do not remember the title of the book, I was excited to know that the Morse code can be used for saving life. So I tried to learn Morse code for all the alphabetical characters.

At that time I was a young boy and the money I can spend was limited. Therefore, I could not build an antenna.

In my junior and senior high school days, I was a member of an amateur radio club and was listening HF bands and VHF bands at my home using a radio. Although I was studying for an amateur radio license, I soon changed my direction to be involved in BBS communications on the land line using a PC and a modem. Indeed, I was chatting over the land line every day.

I took a course of electrical engineering in my collage days. After getting a job, I have designed some electrical facilities, and some network systems. Now, I am a network administrator of some servers and some network systems.



Since November 2012, I have been on the air, first as an amateur 4th class operator, and then, since January 2013, as an amateur 3rd class operator. Using nearly all of my free time, I am trying to have QSOs with CW mode. Let's have a fun together with CW. I hope to see you on the Air.

Best Regards! 73 & 88 TNX de JH1MHM op: Akio Kosuge.

HIRO, JK1WDF, #15161

Hi I'm Hiro. I have been a ham since 27 years ago. Though I was hooked on a Japanese Morse code before, I'm interested in an international Morse code now. I'm not good with English. But I would like to make a lot of friends through this club.



INTRODUCTION OF "MIZUHO", ATSU, JE1TRV, #7763

A1 CLUB got started distribution of their original bug key kit named みずほ (Mizuho) at the Tokyo Ham Fair held in August, 2015. Major feature of this bug key is as follows;

- Small base size 10(H)x75(W)x125(L) [mm] and light weight 1020g
- Can be assembled for both for right-hander and for left-hander
- Very quiet to operate, wide range of speed (approx. 14-25 wpm)
- Provided as a kind of assembly kit. All parts are made of brass and they are machined and drilled precisely in advance, so that no special tool is required by the builder.
- On the other hand, all the parts are neither polished nor painted, so that the builder has to polish and/or paint the parts before assembling them up.

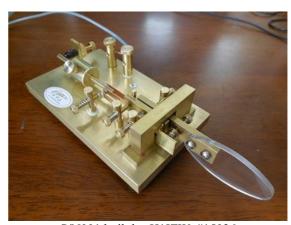


Logo of Mizuho. The swinging golden brass pendulum reminds you of a heavily grown ear of rice which is swaying by wind. Mizuho means fresh and young ear of rice plant. Japan was called "a country of Mizuho".

Thanks to those ideas, the builders can enjoy polishing, painting and assembling their own bug key with quite reasonable low cost. In order to revive the Japan-made bug key which had been discontinued since 2014, A1 CLUB has studied on this project since January, 2015. with cooperation of GHD. Many features are comes from A1 CLUB's original idea and realized by the Japan's top Key manufacturer GHD Key. A1 CLUB has started to take orders from June, 2015 and got more than 100 back orders from members before August, 2015. Our web page for this project is http://www.alclub.net/clubkey/2015/



Parts before assembly



S/N001 built by JJ1IZW, #15026

HAM FAIR TOKYO, SUGI, JK7UST, #7178

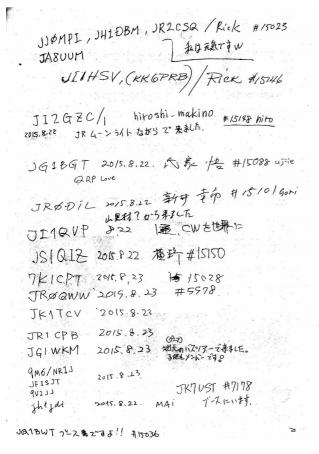
Ham Fair Tokyo was held on the 22nd to 23rd of August,2015 at Tokyo Big Site. FEA had a booth and introduced Mores communication to the attendees. The booth was also a place where CW lovers met each other. We enjoyed eye-ball QSO. Let's go and talk with us next year.



JA8UUM



JH1JDI, JK7UST, JQ1BWT



Signatures who visited FEA booth.



7K1CPT, JK7UST



JR0QWW, JQ1BWT

MY MOVING SHACK "SHINKAN-SEN", TARO, JROQWW, #5578

Recently, I often QRV at Shinkan-sen, which is famous rapid train all over the world. The maximum speed of Shinkan-sen is about 230 km/hr. So, of course I can't set up any type HF antenna at Shinkan-sen in service, but I can QRV in Shinkan-sen with remote shack!

I often use Shinkan-sen, for my business trip between Tokyo and Niigata, or commuter trip between my home and Niigata. During my tiny trip, using my Macbook and Wi-Fi rooter, I can QRV at any band between 40mb to 6mb, and any mode. Especially, between Niigata and Nagaoka station, there are no high mountain, nor hills and tunnel, so Wi-Fi line quality is quite fine, so I can do remote control my shack stable.

Few days ago, I tried to QRV on 15mb with CW mode, and have wonderful QSO with 9M2 station. Using CW mode, I have no necessary to shout for microphone in Shinkan-sen, and quietly make brass pounding with my fists, although I pound PC keyboard, instead of the key, hi. But it was fun to have QSO in a moving Shinkan-sen!





FURTHERING THE USE OF CW DOWN UNDER, LOU, VK5EEE, #1124

Dear FISTS, I'm Lou, now VK5EEE Down Under. I'm missing South East Asia very much. My family and the good food and life. But thanks to CW I'm surviving this strange land for me even though I grew up here, everything changed so much, there seems to be no freedom to move in this wide open space. Our antenna height restrictions are just 10m. Our CW power limit is 120W. But thanks to CW and the daily use of it, I am surviving well:-)

It is only 3 months since I got my license on June 1, 2015, and got on air since June 3. Since that same day, the TV has not been switched on even once for a second and has been unplugged ever since. I don't even know where the remote is. I've got all I need with HF radio. Thanks to the kindness of locals I had at first an FT-757 on loan and now my own FT-900, given to me in appreciation for all I've managed to do in this short time to truly shake up the CW scene in VK.

First, having re-found my love of CW I was immediately struck by the lack of CW activity in this part of the world. Listen to Twente University online SDR receiver in Holland with your web browser, a simple web search will find it. Europe is full of CW on the bands. Here, was usually deadly quiet. So I immediately determined to do something about it. I thought up various activities and found kindred spirits among the few other active CW operators who wanted to see a CW revival. And so VKCW.net was born, a network of CW operators based around activities.

Our first success was the establishment of a CW Calling Frequency. This was something I learned that FISTS founder Geo, G3ZQS had advocated for. I found like minds among former maritime radio ship and coastal station radio officers, because we used to all love 500kHz which was awash with a cacophony of CW especially at night in Europe. You can listen to a recording at www.vkcw.net/7050 linked from that page, that will give you an idea of what we had in mind. And so, 7050 was born at the end of July. It is now being used by some 40 CW ops and growing.

There are 3 simple rules on 7050: keep calls short, no more than 3 per 5 minute period, and QSY after establishing contact. It has worked very well. It is even used to announce space weather reports, QST broadcasts and SOTA activations as well as call specific stations or general CQ. It is a frequency many of us leave our rigs on when we're otherwise engaged in home brewing, Emailing or other chores. It has resulted in much increased activity and many more QSO where before one could call CQ for hours weekdays on some random frequency, without answer.

Our next big success has been the establishment of a CW broadcast QST bulletin every Sunday morning. As of now, this has been expanded to 3 days, and each time 3 frequencies, usually from FISTS member Peter VK4QC who puts out a good signal. Saturdays afternoon at 0400UTC on 7022.5, 14022.5, 21022.5. Sunday mornings at 2200UTC on 7022.5, 14022.5, 21022.5. Monday evenings at 1000UTC on 3522.5, 7022.5, 14022.5kHz. This should cover all VK, Pacific, SE and E Asia.

A third success in the making is "CW Bash". Here we all gather at 0600UTC (8pm Eastern Australian time) for about an hour each evening, and call CQ in rotation, say hi to old friends, and make new ones, with more and more CW operators either coming back after having concluded CW was dead in VK, or newcomers who are now more encouraged to bridge the gap between simple SOTA and contest style exchanges and the difficult rag-chew QSOs, via familiar stress-free "Rubber Stamp" QSOs, something very much missing these days, though still common in Europe.

I've also managed to convince the national society WIA monthly magazine /Amateur Radio /to allow me to edit a monthly column called "CW Today". Not even the ARRL publication QST, nor the RSGB publication RadCom, both of which have much larger pools of contributors, have a regular CW column. Already with the September issue having published the results of the CW Survey I conducted among 100 active CW operators in VK, this October issue launched the first edition of /CW Today. /Already it has had a further impact, and all are talking about the CW revival.

This is a story of how one man's enthusiasm and energy met at the right time with the hopes and aspirations of all lovers of CW and was met with much encouragement and support and participation so that several balls have started rolling and are gathering pace and space: even our 40m allocation in VK has now been extended with exclusive CW band now being 7000-7040 instead of 7030, and shared with narrow-band data now being 7040-7060, with SSB now above 7060 where previously it was 7050. This came as a result of IARU recommendations.

Now we'd like to reclaim our CW section of the 40m band in particular which has been invaded by high powered Indonesian stations, operating without licenses and making it difficult for CW contacts to enjoy the band in the evening, night and early morning even on the other side of Australia. We're pushing delegates at the IARU Region 3 Conference in Bali, Indonesia, to protest this state of affairs, since they have oddly decided to hold the summit in the country which is by far worst violator of Amateur Radio bands in the world.

I'm hoping to build bridges of friendship with our CW operators in YB-land who are equally frustrated at this situation and we're pooling ideas on how to activate 40m CW in the region. I look forward to sharing more news and updates, ideas and activities with you in future editions of morsEAsia and look forward to making many new friends. In these 3 months since I've been on air Down Under I've made many truly great friends and hope that one day they too will visit us at home in Asia. May we all meet up soon and in good times, I wish all fellow FISTS all the very best.

73 and 77 - Long Live CW! Lou/VK5EEE FIST#1124

MY SIMPLEX AUTO BUG KEY, LOU, VK5EEE, #1124

"Thanks to Drew VK3XU I finally have a bug key, something I've wanted since I was a young lad. This is a Simplex Auto, made in Australia by Leo Cohen."



SPECIAL TOPIC: SECOND HOBBY

TENNIS IS MY SECOND HOBBY, AKI, JL1GEL, #15147

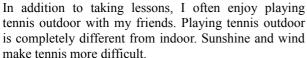
Last year at US Open Tennis, a Japanese tennis player Kei Nishikori reached the final. He became the first Japanese tennis player to reach the Grand Slam final. By such circumstances, I can feel that tennis is getting more popularities than before.

My second hobby is tennis. I started taking tennis lessons in mid 30s, so I have been taking lessons for 15 or 16 years. I am taking lessons at the indoor tennis club near my home and regular lesson is on Sundays. Yes, in addition to FISTS CW Net, I have another pleasure on Sundays.











Sometimes I take on trips to suburban areas with my friends to enjoy tennis. Another pleasure when taking on tennis trips is delicious foods. Grilled Ayu is a popular food in mountainside in Japan, and it's my favorite.

It would be a good idea to bring my radio and antenna in addition to tennis racket and balls for tennis trip, wouldn't it?

MY ANOTHER HOBBY, TARO, JR0QWW, #5578

Of course although I love "HAM RADIO", but another hobby is "climbing mountain". In my younger age, I joined to club of hiking mountain in our university (picture 1), and I often QRVed on 144MHz or 433MHz at the top of the mountain instead of cell phone. Because there was no cell phone in my younger ages, radio is attractive tool for every mountaineer. My friend who belonged to our club obtained a radio license for their security. When I have been to the peaks of the IIDE located in northern part of JAPAN, I have made an impressive QSO with my friend, who is 50km in distance from my place. In an old lodge, when partner and I wrapped ourselves and drunk whiskey in a small light, I have talked to distant friend in a radio. Outside a tent, heavy wind had blown with huge sounds, the small radio had been an only way to communicate with other person. The good old memories...

Recently my children don't want to play with me, because of their age. So sometimes I can go to climbing mountain in weekend (Picture 2). Although cell phone is useful, but radio is still attractive tool for me, and making QSO have a lot of fun! In last ham fair in Tokyo, I found the booth of SOTA, summit on the air, which is famous ham program for mountaineer. And I will try to join the program, and will make portable activities. Oh, dear, finally I return to ham radio! Though I try to write another hobby!





MANABU, UK/JE1RZR, #15020

To sing - a lot of fun in both ways!

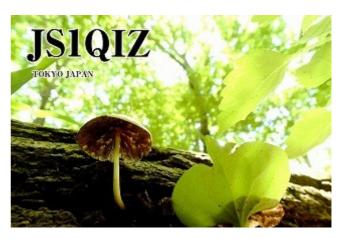




I LOVE RAIN, TAK, JS1QIZ, #15150

Although I love to chat using Morse code, I cannot say I spend 100% of my spare time for it. Mushrooms - especially, taking photographs of wild mushrooms sometimes becomes my 1st priority in my spare time. I have a favorite forest where I spend several hours a year. The forest nurtures many kinds of small mushrooms including Auricularia species which is an edible one.

The best time for photographing mushroom is the day after rainfall, or even in the rain. Mushrooms just looks (and they are) very lively and strong. There also are tiny ones (2-3mm) which you can only see in or just after the rain. After a few days, they are completely dried up or digested by internal enzymes.



Taking pictures at ground level in or after the rain may not sound pleasant job to do. However, thanks to the advanced rainwear and even more advanced DSLR, this becomes extremely easy compared to a few decades ago when I started to deal with mushrooms. Now, you can have rain-proof DSLR, and comfortable rainwear. The DSLR can even be controlled by smart-phone which releases you from crawling on the wet ground.

Here is my photo from last mushroom season. I put it on my QSL. If you look closely, you may find a small spider enjoying the humid atmosphere greeting you.

FEA CW NET RESULTS: NO. 550 TO 562, NAO, JO3HPM, #15008

No.	Date (Y/M/D)	Time (UTC)	Freq. (MHz)	Controller	Participants
562-2	2015/9/27	0800-0850	14.053	JO3HPM	JK7UST, JL1GEL, VK5EEE
562-1	2015/9/26	2300-0005	7.026	JS1QIZ	JO3HPM, 7J1ATG/2, JI2GZC, JL1GEL, JR0QWW, JE1TRV, JH1KMC, JA4MRL, JG1BGT
561-2	2015/9/20	0802-0805	14.054	JE7YTQ	JL1GEL
561-1	2015/9/19	2300-0045	7.026	JL1GEL	JE1TRV, JA4IIJ, JO3HPM, JG1BGT/7
560-2	2015/9/13	0800-0815	14.053	JO3HPM	JL1GEL
560-1	2015/9/12	2300-0007	7.026	JL1GEL	JA9MAT, JS1QIZ, JA4IIJ, JE1TRV, JF3KNW, JO3HPM, JG1BGT
559-2	2015/9/6	0800-0820	14.054	JE7YTQ	JL1GEL
559-1	2015/9/5	2300-0004	7.026	JS1QIZ	JF3KNW, JI1XJB/6
558-2	2015/8/30	0800-0855	14.054	JO3HPM	JR0QWW, JK7UST, BW/G4TDS, JF3KNW, JL1GEL
558-1	2015/8/29	2300-0002	7.0265	JS1QIZ	JF3KNW, JO3HPM, JR0QWW, JA4IIJ, JH1KMC, 7J1ATG/1, JL1IRB, JL1GEL, JK7UST
557-2	2015/8/23	0800-0825	14.054	JO3HPM	BX8AAD
557-1	2015/8/22	2300-0000	7.026	JO3HPM	JL1GEL, JG2OXJ, JI2GZC, JI1XJB/6, 7J1ATG/1
556-2	2015/8/16	0800-0815	14.054	JE7YTQ	JF3KNW
556-1	2015/8/15	2300-2354	7.0267	JS1QIZ& JO3HPM	JL1GEL, JE1TRV, JG1BGT/1
555-2	2015/8/9	0800-0843	14.054	JE7YTQ	JO3HPM, VK2BTJ, VK7AD, JL1GEL
555-1	2015/8/8	2300-2359	7.0265	JL1GEL	JO3HPM, JA4IIJ, JE1TRV, JK7UST, JI2GZC, JG1BGT, JA1NUT
554-2	2015/8/2	0800-0857	14.054	JO3HPM	JL1GEL, 7J1ATG/1, JF3KNW
554-1	2015/8/1	2300-0000	7.004	JS1QIZ	JK7UST, JO3HPM, JL1GEL, JE1TRV
553-2	2015/7/26	0800-?	14.054	JE7YTQ	JO3HPM, JL1GEL, JF3KNW, JA4MRL
553-1	2015/7/25	2300-0012	7.0265	JL1GEL	JK7UST, JA4IIJ, JE1TRV, 7J1ATG/1, JI3NOF/QRP, JS1QIZ, JO3HPM
552-2	2015/7/19	0800-0842	14.054	JO3HPM	JK7UST, VK4PN
552-1	2015/7/18	2300-2350	7.026	JS1QIZ	JK7UST, JR0QWW, JL1GEL, JO3HPM, JI2GZC
551-2	2015/7/12	0800-0835	14.054	JE7YTQ	JO3HPM, JL1GEL, JL3AMK, JF3KNW
551-1	2015/7/11	2300-2353	7.0265	JL1GEL	JO3HPM, JE1TRV, JA4IIJ, JS1QIZ, JG1BGT
550-2	2015/7/5	0800-0842	14.054	JO3HPM	JF3KNW, JL1GEL
550-1	2015/7/4	2300-0000	7.026	JS1QIZ	JE1TRV, JR0QWW, JL1GEL, JI2GZC, JA4IIJ, JO3HPM, JI3NOF/QRP

FINALE

As Andrew VK1DA wrote in September 2015 FISTS DOWN UNDER, SOTA (Summits On The Air) contact is spreading in the world. I also find an introduction of SOTA in October 2015 CQ Ham Radio magazine in Japan. I think there is a lot of ham who also like mountain climbing like Taro and I.

If you are using mountaineering boots having a polyurethane midsole, don't forget to check it before climbing. You should remember the average lifetime of it is only 5 years! The picture shows my 10-year-old mountaineering boot which the polyurethane midsole broke this summer. The accident happened when I climbed a 3000-meter-altitude mountain and reached only 15-minutes-walk point to a camp site. I repaired my boot using an athletic tape and walked remaining distance carefully. I had to cancel next day's climbing.



I will visit Melbourne this month and look forward to meeting VK members. 73/88 and stay sober de Nao.