

The International Morse Preservation Society



**THE FISTS EAST ASIA NEWSLETTER**

**Volume 1 Number 1**

**The First Edition**

**July-August 2004**

**Celebrating the birth of our  
EAST ASIA Chapter**

# East Asia news

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## We have founded a new chapter – East Asia in April 2004

Jun, K6KF/JM1JOT and a few members made great efforts to establish new EA Chapter. We really appreciate their efforts.

### "Dawn of a new CW era" by Jun, K6KF/JM1JOT

When the first time I contacted Geo for his notion of a new Fists chapter in East Asia, I wouldn't expect Fists East Asia to be formed this quickly. I was simply thinking that there should be one for prospective Fists members in East Asia, especially in JA. Geo G3ZQS, Nancy WZ8C and Ralph ZL2AOH gave me a lot of suggestions and clues how we could run an autonomous chapter.

However, it seemed to me at first that most of the JA Fists members were less attracted to having one for ourselves. Well, no wonder that's what they would be. Most of them are in their thirties or forties, busy at work and need to spend their time for family, etc.. After having tried to encourage them to be involved, I almost decided to give up and thought it would never happen...So I was really happy that Naka JM6FMW and Yoshi JA2DNA offered to be volunteers for the Fists East Asia team. Chung BV2WS joined the team after a while. Once the tiny core was formed, it started growing little by little. Even though Fists East Asia is still small, it has its own QSL bureau, a nice web site in three different languages and finally the first issue of our newsletter!

I would like to thank all of the people who have supported us in various areas. Now we are getting into our next mission. That is to evangelize CW and try to turn more hams to be know-code operators, as part of Fists East Asia.

### FOUNDATION OF THE EAST ASIA CHAPTER by Geo, G3ZQS

The main reason for instituting a separate Chapter within FISTS is primarily for localising of administration and reducing the burden on HQ. It also reduces the cost to members within that Chapter in addition to providing scope for Awards and other

activities peculiar to their own region.

It will also make it possible for each Chapter to circulate their own news letter in addition to Keynote.

In the case of the East Asia Chapter, I also envisaged the translation of Keynote into the languages of the region though, as it turned out, this was not as simple as it first appeared and the organising officers have opted instead to circulate Keynote in its original format.

I am grateful to Jean - JL3SIK – together with a group of enthusiastic friends for their work in this venture.

73 de Geo (G3ZQS)

### **Ralph, ZL2AOH sent some words for us**

Dear members of FISTS East Asia,

It is with great pleasure that FISTS Down Under (FDU) members in New Zealand and Australia welcome the formation of FISTS East Asia (FEA) and the issue of its first newsletter.

Going from our own experience in FDU since our foundation in 1998, the issue of a newsletter will help develop interest in FEA for members and help persuade others to join our world-wide organization.

We look forward to working FEA members and developing new on-air friendships.

Vy 73 de Ralph Sutton ZL2AOH/7J5AAN

### **About EA chapter**

#### **<1> All EA members (July 1, 2004)**

FISTS Nr.	Callsign	Handle	FISTS Nr.	Callsign	Handle
5545	JM6FMW	Naka	8977	BV2WS	Chung
5578	JR0QWW	Taro	8978	BX2AG	Yang
5585	JP6GQN	Kun	8979	BX2AF	Liou
6038	JA2DNA	Yoshi	8980	BV2WV	Wu
6096	JA1CPZ	Hiro	8981	BV2WR	Lee
6468	JM1TUK	Kei	8982	BV2WH	Jason
7178	JK7UST	Sugi	8983	BV2WT	Xu
7181	HL5AP	Cho	8998	9V1VV	John
7752	JH1GKW	Koh	9836	JL3SIK	Jean

7763	JE1TRV	Atsu	15001	JF3KNW	Nobu
8321	JI2NNJ	Nao	15002	JL3AMK	Harry
8322	JA8AJE	Masa	15003	BV1EI	Rabbit
8934	JG0SXC	Man	15004	BX1AA	Lin
8954	JR0ECQ	Tomo	15005	BV1EG	Lin
8959	JA2BCQ	Kaz	15006	BU2AA	Zhi
8962	JJ1BDX	Kenji	15007	BX2AI	Su
8967	JE3ECD	Hide	15008	JJ1XET	Nao
			15009	JR2PMQ	Nobi

## <2> FROM QSL Bureau

From our QSL bureau

### **QSLs FROM UK, USA, DOWN UNDER**

Incoming QSLs for the EA members are received by our QSL manager listed below. We recommend you to visit the status page on the web <http://www.fists-ea.org/> at times to keep yourself updated.

We sort the cards and put them into Self Addressed Stamped Envelopes (SASEs) which the members have sent to us. For example, if you have sent us a SASE with 30g (US\$1.5) postage, we mail them to you as soon as we get 10 cards for you. You may pay by IRCs or green stamps as the postage.

Mailing address of the EA QSL bureau is:

FISTS EAST ASIA QSL Bureau

Kosuke Nakamura - JM6FMW

1-2-12 Kitahama BEPPU

874-0920 JAPAN

Postage to the countries in ASIA

10	QSLs	Weight 30g	USD1.5
20	QSLs	60g	USD3
50	QSLs	150g	USD5
100	QSLs	300g	USD7

### **QSLs to UK, USA, DOWN UNDER or others**

Please send all cards to the FISTS EA QSL bureau or you may send to bureaus in

UK, USA, Down Under directly. Only BV members must send to BV2WS, James.

Addresses as follows:

EAST ASIA QSL Bureau

Kosuke Nakamura - JM6FMW

1-2-12 Kitahama BEPPU

874-0920 JAPAN

NEW ZEALAND QSL MANAGER

Nigel Hardy (ZL2TX)

20 Greenwood Blvd

R.D.1

OTAKI 5560

NEW ZEALAND

AUSTRALIAN QSL MANAGER

Chris Thompson (VK2CTN)

350A Old Windsor Road

Old Toongabbie

NEW SOUTH WALES 2146

AUSTRALIA

UK QSL MANAGER

CHUCK SPENCE (M0AVW)

32 WOODFORD WALK

THORNABY

UK

USA QSL MANAGER

c/o Stan Reas - K4UK

1020 Long Island Drive

Moneta, VA 24121

**<3> FISTS EA calling frequencies**

FISTS EA calling frequencies are proposed as follows. They are almost same as other chapters'.

30m: 10.118/10.138 (\*1)

20m: 14.058

17m: 18.085

15m: 21.058

12m: 24.918

10m: 28.058/28.158 (\*2)

(\*1) 10.118MHz is sometimes used by fixed or DXpedition stations, and is out of Taiwanese frequency allocation. BVs are allowed to use 10.130 to 10.150.

(\*2) BVs are allowed to use above 28.100.

160m, 80m, and 40m are narrow and crowded in Japan, so the calling frequencies for these bands are not proposed for now.

References:

BV frequencies and power

<http://www.ctarl.org.tw/bv5ya/freqpowr.htm> (Chinese; Big5)

JA Band Plans

[http://www.jarl.or.jp/English/6\\_Band\\_Plan/japanese%20bandplan.pdf](http://www.jarl.or.jp/English/6_Band_Plan/japanese%20bandplan.pdf) (PDF)

## Essays

### Speak up and ask questions on the air by Kenji Rikitake, JJ1BDX(/3)

Many years ago, I think in 1976, I read a complaint from an OT who claimed that there were too many "rubber-stamped" QSOs, which meant very few improvised sentences on the air and that the sentences seemed to be a set of stamped letters. 28 years have passed and I think things are getting worse, unfortunately.

On May 2004 issue of the Keynote, Geo, G3ZQS were puzzled by my comments on why JAs who can send their names and QTHs do not prefer to chat in English. The answer: many of them try very very hard to memorize what they send. HI. I respect those who try to precompile what they want to send. But I will respect them more if they could try to improvise.

I observe, in the year 2004, most if not all of the QSOs on the air on the HF bands are just another contest exchanges or something similar to "5NNBK". I feel nothing against contests, in fact I like them very much. Trying to always complete a QSO with a mere exchange of the 5NNBKs, however, is not a nice habit to

practice.

Fortunately I had a happy experience. A few days ago, a JA operator asked me said regarding the /3 indicator of mine: "R U BUSINESS TRIP? WHERE HOME QTH?" I sent back: "HVE BEEN LIVING IN OSAKA FOR 12 YRS BUT I LIKE MY OLD CALLSIGN SO I QRV WIZ /3". The operator on the other end seemed to understand. A simple but a real communication occurred. And I was happy.

I should say that for many Japanese, asking or being asked a question is often an intimidating experience itself due to a failure of the crippled compulsory national education system. The JA operator I talked was brave enough to take a chance and I respect him to have done so. Exchange of a real idea \*is\* something which I want to experience on a QSO - 5NNBK is not enough.

So if you are on the air, try to speak up something other than a 5NNBK and ask questions. I always welcome them - and many other ops will do.

73 de Kenji JJ1BDX(/3)

### **Challenge the Art of CW communications by Atsu, JE1TRV**

First of all, congratulations for the birth of FISTS East Asia chapter. For us, amateurs in Japan and may be for many amateurs in Asian countries as well, English language is the big handicap for chatting with each other. Because our mother languages are completely different from English language. For instance, when sending and receiving the international Morse Code, I'm usually doing following conversion in my brain;

SEND: (1) Think in Japanese (2) Construct English words and sentences (3) Convert them to Morse Code (4) Send them through Paddle or Key

RECEIVE: (1) Hear Code (2) Convert them to English words and sentences (3) Think their meaning in Japanese

In case when I do chat by WABUN\* Morse Code with Japanese, the process is simpler as follows;

SEND: (1) Think in Japanese (2) Convert them to Morse Code (3) Send them through Paddle or Key

RECEIVE: (1) Hear Code (2) Convert them to Japanese syllabus (\* WABUN Morse Code represents 48 Japanese phonetical "KANA" characters.)

Therefore, for non-native English speaker, not only Code skill but also English skill is important element for CW chatting. Especially in Japan, once they satisfied with

WABUN chatting, many of them stop to try English chatting by the International Morse Code. I think this is the major reason why the number of FISTS members is so small in Japan. In my case, although I've been fascinated with the CW since the age of Junior High school (abt 30 yrs ago hi), I'm still far from enjoying CW chatting in English. So my dream is to become like Shin-san, JA1NUT one day. It may be just a dream but anyway I'm going to challenge myself. CW, It's cool and It's challengeable. Thank you for reading my childish English text.

See you soon on the air.

de JE1TRV, Atsu (FISTS#7763)

## Faqs

If you have any questions about FISTS or FISTS-EA, please do not hesitate to contact us. E-mail: [question@fists-ea.org](mailto:question@fists-ea.org)

### **Q1. What is FISTS?**

The FISTS Club (International Morse Preservation Society) was founded in 1987 by Geo Longden, G3ZQS of Darwen, Lancs England, after recognising a need for a club in which veteran operators would help newcomers and less-experienced operators learn and improve CW proficiency.

During the first year, membership reached 300, most of whom were in Great Britain and Europe. World wide, FISTS members now number over 5000 members, growing by up to 100 each month.

### **Q2. What is FISTS-EA?**

The East Asia Chapter was formed in 2004 by a few BVs and JAs to provide East Asian members with various services in their native languages.

### **Q3. How to join FISTS-EA?**

If you want to join us, please email to following address with your:

- Callsign or SWL number (required, if you're a radio amateur or a SWL)
- On air name (required)
- Full name (required)
- Mailing Address (required)
- E-Mail Address (required, if you have)
- Phone Number (optional)
- Year of Birth (optional)

join@fists-ea.org

#### **Q4. How much is the subscription? How can I pay?**

FISTS is not tied to any commercial interests and has no paid employees. BV and JA members subscribe to the UK produced newsletter Keynote and a local supplement FISTS East Asia. All our activities are funded entirely from modest annual fees of 5 USD (Credit Card only, using [PayPal](#)) or 500 JPY (Bank only). If you have any inquiries about payment, please contact ja2dna@fists-ea.org.

## From the editor

### **Waiting for your contribution! I need your help!**

Today I completed editing of the first EA newsletter. I must apologize for delay. I accepted the appointment of editor of the newsletter last May, but it was difficult because I had no experience in editing. I will continue making an effort to send fine newsletters for all EA members. Anyway your assistance is necessary to make up our newsletters. I am always waiting for your contribution. Any kinds of manuscript are acceptable. For example, essays, introducing yourselves, shacks, rigs, keys, etc.. If you write, please send it to jl3sik@fists-ea.org as plain text or MS WORD format. Thank you for your attention.

### **New name of the EA newsletter is collected:**

Now this newsletter is issued under the name of "FISTS EA newsletter". We would like to collect a new unique name of this newsletter like "the Keynote". Please participate this competition for the name of our new newsletter! Please send to jl3sik@fists-ea.org. The deadline will be September 30, 2004. We will present a commemorative to the winner.

## Contact Information

<http://www.fists-ea.org/>

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