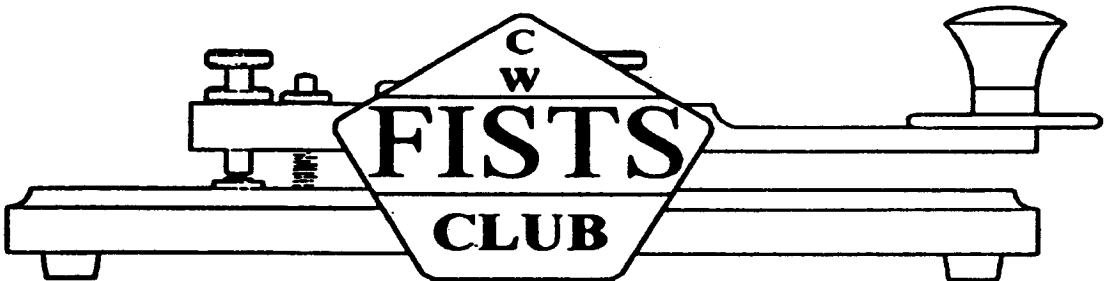


The Keynote

Newsletter of FISTS CW Club, the active chapter of the
International Morse Preservation Society

"Accuracy Transcends Speed"



- Further the use of CW
- Encourage newcomers to use CW
- Engender friendships among members

"When You've Worked A FISTS, You've Worked A Friend"

Do you have a question? Look here first!

HOW DO I...?

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***RENEW?** Send **\$15/year** or \$10/year for college students (under 17 and family members are free) to **FISTS, PO Box 47, Hadley MI 48440-0047**. Your renewal date is on your mailing label — please look at it!! We send out ONE renewal postcard when your renewal time is near. If you've sent in your renewal but get a reminder postcard within a few weeks, please don't be concerned, the card probably crossed with your renewal.

*** GET A NUMBER FOR MY LOCAL CLUB?** Clubs with FCC callsigns may be assigned a FISTS number at no charge providing there is at least one FISTS member in good standing in the local club. These clubs are not legally affiliated with FISTS, nor does FISTS have anything to do with how the club is run, etc. It just means the club has a FISTS number and is worth three points toward awards. If the club wants a newsletter, there is a \$15 a year charge.

***PAY FOR THE SUBSCRIPTION OF A DX FISTS MEMBER?** Subs for European FISTS, paid from the USA, is \$10/year American cash. Non-European (Africa, Japan, etc.) FISTS are \$15/year in US CASH. No International Money Orders, postal money orders or personal checks, cash only. Send it to Geo Longden, 119 Cemetery Rd, Darwin Lancs BB3 2LZ U.K. Don't forget to include the name and address of the DX ham you want to sponsor. They will receive the DX version of the Keynote, which is written and mailed by Geo.

***SEND FISTS INFO TO A DX FISTS?** DX FISTS have a separate block of numbers; their Keynote is mailed from the UK. Send their info to Geo Longden, G3ZQS, at 119 Cemetery Rd, Darwin Lancs, BB3 2LZ England, he will get in touch with them and send them a DX application.

***SEND APPLICATION OR SAMPLE NEWSLETTER TO A North American FRIEND?** For a brochure, email Joe Pardue, w5os@arrl.net with their name, call sign, and postal address. For a sample Keynote, please send \$1 to defray postage. SASEs are appreciated. Joe's postal address is Joe Pardue, 29 Melrose Dr., Marrero LA 70072-5055. Applications are available for downloading on our FISTS webpage <http://www.fists.org>.

***UPDATE MY ADDRESS or CALLSIGN ON THE FISTS DATABASE?** Send corrections or changes to NancyKott WZ8C at FISTS, PO Box 47, Hadley MI 48440-0047. Please send labels with your corrections to the FISTS QSL Bureau so the bureau workers don't have to change all your SASEs by hand.

***GET AN UP-TO-DATE MEMBERLIST?** Send a SASE with \$2.00 to Ed Hayes, N7CFA 2628 Lilac Street, Longview WA 98632. Lists are available on the FISTS Web page, <http://www.fists.org>

***Get on the FISTS Email List?** For periodic Email updates send your Email address, callsign and FISTS number to Kathi Hilton at FISTS-Elist@attbi.com. Due to potential spam problems, the list is not given out to the membership and is not published on the web page. It is ONLY used to notify you of FISTS items of interest. If you want people to know your email address, we recommend you include it in your listing on QRZ.com or Buckmaster lookup service.

*** ORDER SUPPLIES? NEW PRICING STARTING FEBRUARY 2003:** Irene Kott, WO8E is our Supply Manager. Her address is 44609 N.Bunker Hill Dr, Clinton Twp, MI 48038. email: ikott@compuserve.com
Art & Skill of Telegraphy book, 4th Edition \$11.50, postpaid.

Metallic gold logo stickers 200 for \$3.50 postpaid;

NEW"I (heart) CW" 3/4 inch round stickers 200 for \$3.50 postpaid.

"I Support KNOW Code" buttons for 50 cents postpaid

Blue enamel cloisonne /gold metal "FISTS CW CLUB" logo pin with tie-tack type pin-back 1" x 1 1/8" octagon \$1.50

NEW White enamel cloisonne pin " I (red heart graphic) CW", "FISTS CW Club" along edge; 3/4" diameter circle \$1.50 postpaid

Rubber stamp of FISTS logo to use with an ink pad (not included) \$5.00 postpaid;

Embroidered patch with key logo \$1 postpaid;

ALL PRICES INCLUDE POSTAGE PLEASE DO NOT ADD POSTAGE TO YOUR TOTAL

Issue 4, 2003

NORTH AMERICAN MEMO

Nancy Kott WZ8C Editor
PO Box 47, Hadley MI 4840

Hi FISTS! I just about have things squared away from the Dayton Hamvention, paperwork-wise. I don't have the final numbers yet, but we had over 200 FISTS members sign in at the FISTS booth. A big "Thank You" to the Dayton Hamvention Powers-That-Be who allowed us to have a courtesy booth inside the arena. It worked out very well again this year, and was the place to be to meet other FISTS members.

The get-together on Friday night was very nice as well, although not as well attended as I would have liked to see. We setup a corner at the QRP Vendors night at the Ramada Inn. After this year's experience, we have more of the bugs worked out and we will have it there next year, as well. Tom Dooley of the QRP Club was a big help in allowing us to share the space. Next year will be better because we will KNOW where we're going to be and that will allow us to get the word out to the FISTS in a more timely matter. This year, I had a hard time getting it finalized. The get-together details were available at the booth, but that didn't do much good for those who couldn't get to the booth.

Hamvention this year, it was very hectic - whoever says 'CW is dead' didn't stop and look at the FISTS booth! We were buzzing all weekend. I spent a couple hours at the Worldradio booth - between Worldradio and FISTS, I wasn't able to even get to walk around the arena, let alone go to the flea market. But, that's OK! It was wonderful to see everyone. It's funny how I feel like we're old friends, even though we only see each other once a year.

Many of the 'regulars' weren't there this year - health problems and family obligations got in
Issue 3 2003 FISTS CW Club

the way for quite a few FISTS. I hope next year is better for all, and the regulars (too many to list here) are able to come back and share in the fun. We missed you! Some sent friends to the booth, with messages, to let us know you wouldn't be there - that was MUCH appreciated! Thank you for being so thoughtful - I tend to worry, not unlike a mother hen, hihi. There were many people who helped with the booth, but I'd like to say a Special Thanks to Irene, WO8E; Jack WB2FXK, Charlie NU3N, and Patti, AF9H.

I'm still reeling from the backlash of the Issue 2 fiasco. You wouldn't believe what a mess it made when the printer used the mailing list from Issue 2, 2001 (or 2002, I haven't figured out which) instead of the one I sent along with the newsletter. I'm going thru the subscription list and crediting the renewal date, by a month, for everyone whom I suspect didn't get the issue. I am about 1/2 way through, so if your label doesn't reflect the credit, it should next time. If you've requested a replacement issue, it will get to you soon, as supply holds out.

I'm keeping the text of this issue short so I can get it to the printer in time to get it in the mail before the Summer Sprint. Propagation is horrible, but please give the Sprint a try. It is a lot of fun, and it is just FOUR hours long.

The Pierpont Book, The Art & Skill of Telegraphy is now available in print. In the back of this issue is an information sheet telling you how to order. If you run in to Mike N9BOR on the air, please tell him how much you appreciate the hard work and time he put into getting this monumental text into its final form. Thanks, Mike! You did a terrific job. 73 88 33 Nancy WZ8C

Welcome to the New FISTS

Number	Call	Name	QTH	Sponsor	Number	Call	Name	QTH	Sponsor
9950	VE6SSC	Edmonton	AB	VE6ANA	9995	WB6UDO	JOE	CA	W08E
		Odyssium			9996	AE7RW	RICH	WA	K7ZPE
9951	K2UFC	BILL	NC		9997	W4DZR	BOB	FL	
9952	KC9ALE	DON	IN	W4MJT	9998	KB3IYM	CRAIG	PA	
9953	WN3DUG	CARL	PA	KB8KIK	9999	KG4KTB	PERRY	GA	
9954	KB1HSA	AL	MA		10000	KN0WCW	FISTS USA	MI	WZ8C
9955	W8RYB	BOB	WV		10001	KG4HGP	Thomas	FL	KU4BT
9956	WB2SUN	PETE	FL		10002	K8ZCT	BILL	OH	
9957	AB0TO	DAVID	MO		10003	KC8GEN	RAY	OH	WB8NMK
9958	AF9W	BOB	WA	WB2FXK	10004	W9SJW	JOHN	IL	WB2FXK
9959	K9PET	MARC	WA		10005	N8FN	DON	OR	
9960	N2GT	STERLING	NJ		10006	WO1W	GENE	RI	KB3HAX
9961	KG6MXO	JOHN	CA		10007	N9ZNC	GENE	IL	WZ8C
9962	KI5GG	JIM	TN		10008	KC8TGS	BEN	WV	KC8TGU
9963	KB1HDW	DAVE	CT		10009	W2DSX	JIM	NY	
9964	KB1HDX	NOAH	CT		10010	WD8Q	HENRY	OH	
9965	W4OKU	JON	MI	N7MRI	10011	WA7KFC	JOHN	AZ	
9966	KD5BFT	R.V.	TX	WB2FXK	10012	KF9X	MICHAEL	WI	
9967	KB4BWM	KENNETH	VA	WB2FXK	10013	NO9T	JIM	IL	W9TNN
9968	KD2EH	DAVE	NY		10014	K0WAM	WIL	MO	
9969	K5AIC	HERB	MS	W0FF	10015	W1GHH	DAN	ME	WZ8C
9970	K0FM	FRANK	MO		10016	KC9AFA	NEIL	WI	WZ8C
9971	W1RRP	DICK	MA		10017	NU6T	RICHARD	CA	W71B
9972	KF4YP	VERG	KY		10018	KC8TQP	JOHN	MI	W9AAW
9973	KF4IBU	MARK	FL		10019	W9GX	GREGORIO	FL	WZ8C
9974	N5XGG	JOE	TX		10020	KG6PDR	ERIC	CA	WB6GGO
9975	K7VF	JEFF	CA	W7BMI	10021	AA5XE	DALE	TX	ZL2BCQ
9976	N7MOH	HERB	MT		10022	WA4BAM	JOHN	FL	
9977	KD7TBD	BRETT	WA	WB2FXK	10023	K8BHG	LEE	WV	WZ8C
9978	K4AVQ	ALAN	MN	P43JB/N7SR	10024	WA1PIO	BOB	MA	W1AAE
9979	VA3UT	CHRIS	ON		10025	VE3SCA	Algoma Senors	ONT	VE3CJE
9980	W3JGG	JUSTIN	FL				Elec.Comm.		
9981	WA5SME	DON	OK	W5EIU	10026	KG6PHD	PETE	CA	
9982	AC7RB	MARK	WA		10027	W7SPI	TOM	OR	WZ8C
9983	N5NUM	DAVE	TN		10028	W6JHQ	TOM	CA	WZ8C
9984	KA1BCR	NORM	NH		10029	K6AK	JIM	CA	
9985	KC2JAJ	JOHN	NY		10030	K5PED	PAUL	TX	
9986	N5JO	MIKE	TX	KS4NE	10031	KA9GSU	GENE	IN	WB2FXK
9987	N5GZI	MIKE	TX		10032	KD5VIR	FLOREN	NM	KG6JSI
9988	WQ0B	JOE	TX	NQ6C	10033	WA4EEZ	LESLIE	FL	KU4BT
9989	K6VWE	STANFORD	MI	WZ8C	10034	WA0TNM	JIM	SD	WZ8C
9990	K9LB	JIM	SC	N4VBV	10035	KG4UPO	WILEY	VA	KA9DVX
9991	W8OZA	RUSS	OH	K6DF	10036	W2QUV	HOWARD	NY	WZ8C
9992	K4BXN	CRIT	NC		10037	W7JQY	JACK	CA	WZ8C
9993	W6STN	GARY	CA		10038	K2HMN	ALFRED	NJ	WZ8C
9994	N0MNO	DAVID	MN		10039	W7IBC	ALBERT	WA	WZ8C

Number	Call	Name	QTH	Sponsor	Number	Call	Name	QTH	Sponsor
10040	WA3YLQ	JIM	PA	N3IW	10085	WB8AJR	BILL	OH	
10041	KH6ANA	ANACLETO	HI	WZ8C	10086	N6NKO	RICHARD	WI	
10042	W8VIF	BOB	FL	WZ8C	10087	AB8QP	JODY	OH	
10043	W3ZLC	RONALD	PA		10088	W2MW	KURT	NJ	
10044	AA7VW	VERN	OR		10089	W9QM	ROY	MI	
10045	KA5QMA	Milos	TX	N5JO	10090	KC8UUE	SLY	MI	
10046	W1BLT	WILLIAM	ME	WZ8C	10091	KB8BO	JOE	MI	
10047	K7LAZ	HARRY	WA	K4IA	10092	N8DOE	HANK	FL	
10048	N4BCB	BRUCE	AL	K4BAI	10093	KA4GFY	RICH	VA	
10049	WA0HQQ	AL	GA		10094	KC8UDX	TOM	OH	
10050	AC9BP	IN Brass Pounders	IN	KA9F	10095	N7YB	DUTCH	OR	
10051	W8KXO	EMIL	MI	WZ8C	10096	KE8MX	PHIL	MI	
10052	N7FLR	ROBERT	NV		10097	K4ZIW	BILL	FL	
10053	KA3IHE	ROD	MD		10098	AF2D	TOM	VA	
10054	VE6TK	GORDON	AL	WB2FXK	10099	KZ9V	CHUCK	WI	
10055	W9KV	JIM	CO		10100				
10056	AD8W	CHUCK	FL	K8LJG	10101	AC5AL	ANDY	TX	
10057	AG5AT	AUGUST	LA		10102	NI0C	CHUCK	MO	N9WAT
10058	WD5DWC	JOSEPH	LA	WB2FXK	10103	KB8GUN	RAY	OH	
10059	K4DGW	DAVE	VA	K4UK	10104	K9UTQ	GENE	WI	
10060	W5KDJ	WAYNE	TX		10105	KF4ML	RICHARD	FL	
10061	K2OKA	FRANK	NJ		10106	KJ4GL	FREDDY	KY	
10062	NC7M	MARC	OR		10107	KA8IMZ	MICHAEL	MI	
10063	WD0EWT	JOHN	MN		10108	KB0VVT	REBECCA	MO	
10064	WO7T	MARK	AZ		10109	KI8JG	HERMAN	MI	
10065	N4DMI	WALT	FL	W7PFZ	10110	KA6AKH	DONALD	VA	
10066	W8BRF	BRETE	LA	WB2FXK	10111	W9PJ	PAUL	IL	WO8E
10067	N9HZ	BRENT	IN		10112	W8UI	DAVID	WV	W8PBO
10068	KB3CVS	TOM	MD		10113	N8MK	MIKE	MI	
10069	KB3IHC	T.J.	MD		10114	WD8LQH	TERRI	OH	
10070	K9CS	CARL	IL		10115	K0LW	LEE	MO	
10071	WI0T	ROD	MO		10116	WB8FAI	CHARLES	OH	
10072	N5NW	MARTY	OH		10117	K0IOA	RON	CA	
10073	W0ZSW	HandiHam system of MN	MN	K2SB	10118	K3ESP	TOM	DE	
10074	KK3F	PAT	MD		10119	KC2JDU	JEFF	NY	KA4KTI
10075	W0EQO	C o u r a g e HandiHams	MN	K2SB	10120	WS4P	AL	SC	
10076	K8KE	MIKE	OH		10121	W8KYD	RON	OH	WZ8C
10077	WA8REI	KENNETH	MI	N5YFC/N5FFF	10122	K4HKK	JAMES	MD	WZ8C
10078	W5FZ	DAVE	TX		10123	K3ROO	GEORGE	VA	
10079	KS8Z	BOB	OH		10124	K9AWT	DAVID	IN	WB2FXK
10080	KG4LDD	STEVE	TN		10125	KB3GHC	TOM	MD	K3NY
10081	WB8WEV	JERRY	OH		10126	WB6JSN	STANLEY	CA	
10082	WY8C	REUBEN	OH		10127	WA0VKC	SCOTT	SD	WB2FXK
10083	KC8HPO	VERN	OH		10128	KA2ZEP	THOMAS	NJ	WB2FXK
10084	KB5TBB	CLAYTON	MA		10129	W2OSB	ED	NJ	N1WC
					10130	N5IVZ	FRED	TX	
					10131	K6IAB	LOU	CA	
					10132	KC7AFE	Gene	WA	

Call Changes and Corrections

3694 Scott - was AA1TF - is now W1XER
8630, Ralph W8PVK changed back to his original callsign of WA8PVK

9128, Mike, was KE7MH, is now W7CO

9776, Steve, KQ6VH, is now NA6G

9337, Jim, KF4VOP, is now NE4TT

2154, KE4USV is now K4LAW and he would like his name changed from "Seth" to "Biff"

9175, Art, AB8LP, is now N8PI

7302, Dieter, WB3JWU, is now K3DK

9925, Dick WA8NTA is now W0NTA

2380, Jay KE4LJS is now AG4AA

3311, Mike KC8GBM is now KI8IK

2103, David KE4FPS is now N4IN

5095, Bob is AB8MA, not AA8MA

The first name of W5SFL, 9414, should be spelled Gonzalo.

9128, Mike, was KE7MH - is now W7CO

Silent Keys

Bobby Wentz AE4ZQ, # 5842 became a Silent Key 7/29/2003

Lee Apple W3EE, #5438, became a Silent Key 1/13/2003

Waldo Longwell WA2EMJ is a Silent Key

Paul Davis, AC7QG, became a silent key Sunday, June 8th, when his light plane crashed just north northeast of Sandpoint. His passenger was taken to Bonner General Hospital. Paul was a member of Bonner Co. Amateur Radio Club, ARES, Bonner Co. Sheriff Search & Rescue, and Idaho State Search & Rescue. He was a volunteer fireman with Northside Fire Dept. and a Marine Corps vet. He will be sorely missed. Prayers and condolences go out to his wife, family and many friends.-Bonner Co. ARC

The Summer SPRINT will run from 1700 UTC to 2100 UTC on the Second Saturday in July.

Coast 2 Coast Event - 2003

From Paul NG7Z::

Greetings to all Fists members and Clubs, **Announcing the 3rd Annual Fists Coast to Coast contest.** This year it will run 24 hours due to an overwhelming response from last year's contestants. The date and time for this year's event is on Sept 13/14 starting at 5 pm PDT on Saturday and ending at 5pm PDT on Sunday. That would be 0000Z-2400Z September 14.

This year the rules are easier to understand and there is the potential for bigger scores due to the use of multipliers. For those of you who are not regular testers, the concept is quite simple. See below for examples. Remember, this is not necessarily a "599 TU" bang and go type of contest. The idea is to get on the air and make as many contacts as you want. Stop and rag chew for a bit. Say hi to your regular sked partners. Slow down for the QRS ops and speed up for the hard-core testers. This is a contest for everyone. Clubs can schedule their members for on periods to spread the load out. It is not necessary to keep the club callsign on for the entire period. If there are willing ops to man the brass, it means more opportunities for the membership to get those 3 pointers.

I want to especially welcome DX clubs to participate this year. It's a real plus to get those DX clubs into the logs of the deserving. The success of the C2C is solely dependent on the willingness of club participation. It's a great opportunity to get the new ops into the FISTS culture.

QRP With John Shannon, K3WWP

I promised that this issue of my column would be devoted to answering your questions. I still do have several left over from the time I asked for your questions at the end of last year, so here goes.

Bob, KX0T writes in with two questions: Can a QRP transceiver kit be made without the use or technicalities of test equipment and alignment procedures? (This has always been my downfall when a kit reaches completion)

I have never built a QRP transceiver from a kit and can't answer that question directly. I can speculate though. I would guess that to have optimum performance from a QRP transceiver kit, there will always be some tuning necessary since it is virtually impossible to produce exactly identical components and thus the tuning will vary from rig to rig. This is especially true of a kit since everyone who builds it will use slightly different techniques. One person will use a little more solder than another. Someone will bend the leads of a component a little differently, and so on.

All of these minor little things will add up to slightly different amounts of capacitance, resistance, and inductance, which will affect the tuning. Having said that, I'll now say that more and more as fewer and fewer discrete parts are used in kits, we probably will reach the stage (if we haven't done so already) where all critical tuning components will be on one IC. That could possibly mean a kit could operate with no tweaking necessary.

Bob also asks: Are there quality companies out there that can sell a ready built kit for a little more money so that the amateur can choose to build or not to build, but enjoy the quality kits that are available?

Simple answer - yes. More detailed answer - check the QRP rigs page on my web site that has links to virtually all of the QRP rig manufacturers. There you'll find all you wanted to

know about the various rigs that are used today for QRP.

Finally Bob says: Possibly a list in Key Note of reputable kit companies that sell QRP rigs that can help amateur builders that find themselves in trouble would be useful.

Well, the above-mentioned page on my web site would certainly take care of that, but not everyone has Internet access. Tell you what. If I get enough folks (say around 10 or more) who say they would like me to devote a column to just a list of QRP rig manufacturers, I'll do it. It's in your hands. Contact me via one of the means mentioned at the end of the column.

Everett, N8YJB writes: Please give me more details on "a hunk of wire-in your attic" you described on page 6 of the FISTS Issue 9, 2002 and how I might improve my activity on 20 meters.

Well, my hunk of wire is about 110 feet long. It starts in my second floor shack and is coupled to my TS-570D through a homebrew antenna tuner. Then it runs out a shack window up the wall and in through a window to the attic. There is then a straight run of about 50 feet or so. After that it goes out the back window of the attic and down at an angle to a 6-7 foot pole in my back yard. It's made of stranded wire - I believe part is around #18 and the rest is #14 if memory serves.

I don't use that on 20M though. The random wire is only for 160, 80, 40, and 30 meters although it will work on 20 through 10 as well. However I have dipoles for those bands. My 20M dipole is up in the attic with my random wire. It's fed with 72-75 ohm coax.

The built in tuner in the TS-570D gives me an SWR of 1:1 on 20M. It's gotten me 153 countries on 20M so far. Try a dipole, Everett. I think you'll find that will improve your 20M activity. Just get it up as high as possible and as straight as possible in your particular situation there.

As with the QRP rigs, there is more info about my antennas and tuner on my web site.

The final question this month doesn't specifically deal with QRP, but it did come from Paul, AC7QG who gave me Idaho on 80M towards my QRP 80M WAS so I will answer it. And a QRP operator should always be trying to improve his CW skills, so I guess it is appropriate here anyway.

Paul asks: Could you tell me how you "trained yourself to copy 55-60 WPM"

I find the best way to improve one's copying speed is to search out some CW that is about 5 or so WPM faster than you can copy solidly. This can be on the air, tapes, computer practice programs, whatever. Then listen to and copy (on paper or in your head) until you can copy that speed solidly. Now go up another 5 WPM, and keep repeating the above steps until you reach the speed you are shooting for. There's no magic formula. It's just a matter of practice, practice, practice.

I'm out of space and maybe out of questions for now. Should I find any more, I'll cover them in a future column. I certainly appreciate questions from you since you come up with some excellent column topics for me.

My web site URL has changed slightly - it's now <http://home.alltel.net/johnshan> That's 'home' instead of 'www' and no tilde (~) before 'johnshan'. However the old address will continue to work as well, according to Alltel. My email address is johnshan@alltel.net or regular old-fashioned mail to John H. Shannon, 478 E. High St., Kittanning, PA 16201-1304 will work just as well. Till next month, 73. -30-

**SUMMER SPRINT:
2ND SATURDAY IN
JULY**

From WZ8C's Mailbox:

Stan, K4UK, I had an interesting QSO the other day on the way back from the golf course. He says, "I called CQ on the FISTS calling frequency - 7.058 MHz with no answers. Then I heard a voice calling K4UK. I had the filter set at 500 Hz, so I opened it up to 2500 Hz and found VE3FCV calling me. He said he couldn't find any of his "chaps" on their gathering frequency of 7.055 MHz and seeing that I wasn't getting any answers to my CQ thought he'd tell me I was getting out OK. We chatted for about 15 minute - cross mode. First time I've had a SSB answer to a CQ on CW!"

Hi Nancy,

Just a brief note to say how much I appreciate the work that you and the other FISTS volunteers do on our behalf. I have just received The Keynote reference issue No1 and what a pearly!!!! Tnx es 73/88
Turner "Geordie" Fielding ZL1CDX
ROTORUA NEW ZEALAND

Dear Nancy !

I have been reading with interest the letter about the 73 year old OM; thinking that he is not wanted in FISTS, for many reasons. *73 years old is not an age to become a quitter.* I was his age when I earned my ticket, I did not give up after failing three times. When I had my ticket I went straight into SSB and never used CW after.

Now 14 years later at the age of 87, I am back in CW and love every minute of it, I am blessed with a very good code buddy who is Paul AC7QG Fists # 8697, an OM that has shown great understanding and I would like to thank him here in KEYNOTES openly for his great help and friendship. I am of German background, learned like everything else the hard way, and "English" is one item, work mates and working in Boy Scouts as a leader were some of my teachers in those early days. To learn Basic Electronics with the help of German-English a dictionary was of course the only way for me to obtain what I have now; the "Advanced Canadian License".

I too have a bit of arthritis in my fingers, but pounding a key helps to keep my fingers flexible. Now I am trying to get better, 5 wpm and a bit more at time and spelling each letter out of my head while I am sending is a great thing to exercise my brains. Yes I do make mistakes often but I will not give up.

So dear OM out there, keep trying, by the way I am training myself using an iambic key with my left hand, yet I am a right hander, just in case I might need it. One never knows, to all others I would like to say I am sorry I gave up CW 14 years ago. This is VE3 IKS which stands for "VE3 I Keep Sending" 88 es 73 Paul from Longlac ON, Canada." Some 60 miles" north of Lake Superior.

PS: VA2FMG Fabien from Quebec has been very instrumental to get me going, his guidance was superb to say the least, then followed AC7QG Paul with whom I have a daily QSO, he really makes me work, I needed that poke in the ribs. But, I am still far from being fair, so I keep pounding away and it makes me happy because I found true friendship. I will try to make more contacts and hope to make more friends. Nancy you deserve many 88s, because your enthusiasm is somehow contagious. Also to K7LFY Bob, to N1PVP Marino, to K9JXW James. You all have been an inspiration. A big thank you to you all for help understanding and guidance. Nancy again many thanks and 88s. De VE3IKS # 3334 Paul in Longlac 10 miles north of Superior 73.

I'm sorry to write that Paul, AC7QG, is a Silent Key (see the SK listing in this issue). Paul's patience and dedication to the Code Buddy program will be sorely missed - Nancy

Dear Nancy, I worked KN0WCW on 5/28/03 0205 UTC. Jim was the OP. Can you explain what FISTS USA is? I debated sending this note but I'm a little "lost" and will just swallow hard and ask for any info you might have. I was a bit confused when Jim sent FISTS USA and REALLY confused when he said FISTS # 10,000. Should have said something during the QSO but didn't want to appear "lost". hi hi /Anonmous

This letter lets me give a plug to KN0WCW! That is the callsign for FISTS USA, and is assigned FISTS number 10,000. The callsign is being activated by FISTS members across the country, coordinated by Awards Manager, Dennis K6DF.

There is an award for working KN0WCW, as well as a certificate available for operating it. It is also worth FIVE points toward your Century award.. Details are available in Issue 1, on the web page, or from Dennis K6DF. To view the operating calendar, follow the link on the FISTS Web page <http://www.fists.org>. If you can't view the web page, contact Dennis directly. There are still a few unassigned days left, so if you would like to operate using KN0WCW, let Dennis know and he'll fix you up.

KN0WCW is QSLing 100%, via the FISTS Bureau, so if you would like a QSL card to commemorate your contact, be sure you have Self-Addressed-Stamped-Envelopes at the Bureau.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Stan K4UK and his Bureau Crew for all the extra work KN0WCW has generated. And Thank You to the operators who have done such a terrific job activating the callsign and filling out/sending the QSL cards - and, of course, to the QSL Manager of KN0WCW, Karl. KB1DSB for all his work in managing the cards, filling/sending cards and keeping track of the contacts. This has been a real team effort and by all signs seems to be a worthwhile one. - Nancy

The Sparks Telegraph Key Review generated an e-mail with a great idea. I wonder if FISTS might want to run with it. One of the oldtimers asked me where he could get a calendar with pictures of keys and sounders and the history of them. I don't think I've ever seen that before, isn't it a wonderful idea? Russ WA5Y

That sounds like an interesting idea, Russ. Is there enough interest among the membership in a FISTS calendar? Drop me a note if you'd be interested in buying one - if there's enough interest we can try a limited edition one for 2004.

FISTS AWARDS By Dennis K6DF

Have the bands been terrible lately or what? Hope everyone had a good time with the Sprint. Not a lot of awards to report on during this last month or so, . . . I guess everyone had cabin fever from the bad winter and is out having fun in the sunshine and good weather.

No one has claimed the first Nightmare Alpha-Numeric FISTS Award as of this date. That's going to be a tough one to get. A few members have told me on the air that they are getting very close. One fellow says he only has five (5) more to get and he will be sending in for his NANFA certificate! I still have over 100 to get!

Well, like I said, not much to report this time, so keep banging the brass and send those logs in for your awards. C U on the bands 73,
Dennis K6DF

IMPORTANT!

One thing you should remember when sending in for FISTS awards. DO NOT send in your original log. Please send a copy of your log or if you do wish to send in your original, please make a copy for yourself.

Award Log Requirements

For logs sent via e-mail: Please DO NOT send any scanned images (jpgs) of your log sheets to me via e-mail. The attached files are too large and Dupe checking them is very difficult.

The only files I will accept via e-mail are;
Text, ASCII, Excel and Microsoft Word files.

When you send your log in as a Word or Excel file, DO NOT paste into the Word or Excel document any scanned images of your log sheets. Word or Excel files that contain scanned images of your log will be rejected.

Please DO NOT send any formatted files. By

this I mean, do not highlight text or use color text, borders, tables, etc.

The Awards e-mail Address is:

FISTSAWARDS@attbi.com

Feel free to send questions about awards to this address as well.

Any log files sent via e-mail must contain editable text.

All handwritten "Paper" logs of over 100 contacts being submitted for awards will need to have a "Dupe" sheet attached with the log. A simple "Dupe" sheet is explained in the next section below. It is very easy to construct and will allow you to make sure your award log has been properly checked for "Duplicate" FISTS numbers or CC numbers before it is submitted. Paper logs received without a Dupe check sheet will be returned to the sender unprocessed.

If you are printing your award log from a computer, Please:

Sort your log by FISTS number for Century awards.

Sort your log by CC number for Platinum awards.

Above all, check your award log for duplicate numbers and if found DELETE them BEFORE you send in your log.

As many of your already know, I try to maintain a fast turn around for awards. This means that your award will be mailed to you within a day or two of my receipt of your log . . . provided that your log contains all the required data and does not have too many dupes.

When applying for the "Century" awards, (Basic Century, Silver, Gold and Diamond) please include a point column in your log as these awards run on a point system. 1 point for contacts in your own country, 2 points for DX contact, and 3 points for working a FISTS affiliated club station. There are three Club Stations that are worth 5 points each, and they are: GXØPIX, KNØWCW, and ZL6FF.

READ THIS

I have been getting a record number of SPAM e-mails to the fistsawards e-mail address, and I mean A LOT of SPAM mail, 60 to 70 a day! Because this is a growing problem, I had to set up a SPAM mail filter for that e-mail address. In order for me to receive your award e-mail logs and questions, please do the following,:

**ALWAYS include
the following in the
subject line of your
e-mails to
fistsawards@attbi.com:
CWCLUB**

**All of the following sample subject lines will
get to Awards Manager Dennis K6DF:**

Silver Award CWCLUB
W1GUE Award cwclub questions
Hi Dennis cwclub
My award question CwClub

**As you can see, as long as the word
“cwclub” or “CWCLUB” is included in
the subject line of your e-mail, I will
receive it. Please do not leave the subject
line blank. If CWCLUB is not in subject
line of your e-mail it will be considered
SPAM mail and will automatically be
deleted. I am sorry I have to do this, but
this is the only way to combat this prob-
lem. Thanks for your understanding and
cooperation.**

Basic Century (CC)

AA2WN
AD6XI
G3JFS
G4PRL
JA1CPZ
K7YM
M0CUT
W0MPR
W1DBD
W4NBS
W5ASW
W8DIT
WA1FJT
WD4IEK

Silver Century

AL1F
JA1CPZ
K0KGY
K3XI
K9UQN
N9TA
NQ6C
RX3AP

Gold Century

JA1CPZ
WP4IZQ
RX3AP

Diamond Century

JA1CPZ
VA3EWP

1 X QRP Award

W0MPR

Platinum Award

K3XI
K8TEZ
K9UQN
KM5WN
N7APP
N9TA
RX3AP
VE1ALZ
WA4CIT

Platinum 250 Award

K8NVR

Platinum 500 Award

W9YQ

WAS Award

K8NVR
NQ6C
VA3EWP
W3JGS

RCC Award

K0CPX

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KK6AW
WA9PWP

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KEY NOTE



Sec: E. (Geo) Longden, G3ZQS. 119 Cemetery Rd., DARWEN, BB3 2LZ, England. 01254-703948

<http://www.asel.demon.co.uk/fists-hq/> <http://www.zl6qh.com>
E-Mail HQ: fist1@btinternet.com webmaster: webmaster@asel.demon.co.uk

OFFICES

QSL Manager: M0AVW

32 Woodford Walk, Harewood Park, TS17 0LT

PRO: G4YLB. J.A. Welsh

3 Minster Cresc, DARWEN, BB3 3PY

CONTEST MANAGER: M5AGL

15a Buckden Rd., BRAMPTON, PE18 4PR

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Chairman

Vice Chairman

P.R.O.

Secretary

G4XHZ

G4YLB

G4YLB

G3ZQS

Pse keep watch on all Novice allocations

Recommended calling QRGs:

3.558, 7028, 14.058, 21.058, 28.058

AWARDS

e-mail apps/logs to Dennis, K6DF:

<fistsawards@attbi.com>

written logs to HQ.

GREETINGS

Is it the season? I know that spring is responsible for some pretty strange behaviour among humans as well as the rest of the natural world but it certainly screwed up the bands in a right royal fashion. 40m went long skip from early May and it seems to have continued June also. During the day, there were sigs varying between S5 and S9 from most of Europe whilst any UK stations not exactly living in the same street were down to S3 at best to just plain nil. We will live through it I have no doubt but like others, I will be happy to have my daylight 40m natters restored to normal.

I was surprised to receive a number of emails and snail mail letters commenting upon the A3 version of Keynote. All of them were enthusiastic whilst most urged me to clear out my cellar space and take things easy. Many thanks for your kind thoughts and as soon as we can get the brute to run properly, I shall be seeking a buyer. At the present moment, it is controlled by no less than three relays; one of which is dedicated to guard switches so that if a guard is opened during a run the machine will stop. All very fine but now it either runs or it doesn't depending upon whether the guard relay has been latched. In the latter condition, I am faced with the ludicrous situation where the machine will run but cannot be stopped. Grrrrrrr!

NEW NUMBERS

Those of you receiving Keynote via snail mail will note that you have all been issued with new numbers. Worry not. Just another of Geo's speciality acts.

Since the US broke the 4-figure mold, it was necessary to add an extra char space to the dBase field dedicated to FISTS Number (char since no math need be performed). This was done to most of the data files but as usual, the gremlins spotted an opening and leaped in. The programme which lays out mailing labels for printing also had a field for NUMBER but alas I failed to spot that it was not quite accepting an additional leading zero so the last part was truncated.

This has been fixed but a 'gottaway' from the new 5-figure allocation was the awards list. Had the devils own game getting this one right until I realised that a

glitch had caused one of the fields to be designated 'numeric' instead of 'char'.

All these things I am told, are sent to try us and add a little variety into our lives. Frankly, I could do without it thankyou.

CHECK THE SETUP

It is so easy to do and it happens far too often. You find an apparently silent spot on the band and QRL? If you have done it properly, you will have the RX on a fairly wide bandwidth setting and will spend a few seconds listening. Silence so - QRL? again. Still not response. You send a general call. No reply but a reasonably strong signal says 'sri om, QRM from XXXX calling CQ - and it is your call he is referring to. Well, you must be thinking as we all do that if the guy hasn't got enough oil in his can to say something (a simple YES TNKS would suffice) he doesn't have much cause for complaint.

There is another scenario which should be given some thought and this happens to all of us at some time or other. Your RIT is offset from the last session after chasing a drifter and you have forgotten to centre it again or, as with many of us these days, you are running separate VFOs and you have forgotten to press the magic button A=B. Please double check before you start because offset RITs or displaced VFOs are the cause of most frustration borne gripes that fall through my letter box. Have I ever been guilty of this? You bet I have because it so so easy to do and then I am breaking my neck to apologise to whoever had his QSO screwed up.

It is great to have nice sharp filters and everyone should have them but they are as useful as a clockwork orange when you are searching for a clear spot. If your QRL? is answered it could well be just outside your 250Hz bandpass and with most modern rigs, you can effectively have a bandpass of less than 100Hz. It would be great to have a rig with a magic 'reset' button which synchronises the VFOs, returns your RIT to zero, cancels all your selectivity options and then, when you know you are not causing unintended QRM, the same button would restore your original selectivity only. Well, I can dream can't I?

GOT THE BIRD?

Hi George

Ref your article on the OOJAH bird; is this bird the same one as the OOLAH bird or are they a different species? It seems that we haven't heard much of these two lately despite the encouraging whistles that seem to be appearing instead. I'm sure that I recognise the tune but just can't place my finger on it! But I would like to thank all the send slower but only once brigade, for their patience with me. I have been only using Morse code for about ten years now so I am a relative newcomer to the high-speed stuff. I can hear it but I cant tell a nag from a name! And neither can all the other radio hams that I am trying to encourage to take and pass the current Morse test. Keep up the good work and do you have anything for our local newsletter? All the best Jim GOONS

Different species mate. The Oojah rarely sings as it has its crop full of amps and volts. The Oolah (or more correctly the Whoolah) is highly vocal and its voice is pitched so high that is frequently detected at radio wavelengths. Sadly, it appears to be a threatened species since it is heard but rarely in recent years.

VIRUS WARNING

The many members using computers these days should take heed of a warning which came via G3ZPF:

Windows users everywhere are urged to update their anti-virus definitions following the discovery of a new worm, which poses as one of a series of odd messages from Microsoft.

Palyh (AKA Mankx), got a strong start of the weekend and is spreading rapidly, at least if our own in-boxes are anything to go by.

The pest is an email and network attack worm that includes a downloaded Trojan horse component, according to a preliminary analysis of the virus by security outfit iDefense. After a computer is infected with the worm it attempts to create copies of itself in remotely shared startup locations on a network.

The virus also attempts to update itself by linking to a Web site. Hopefully this avenue of mischief will soon be closed.

The virus normally arrives via email with one of the following subject names: Re: My application, Re: Movie, Cool screensaver, Screensavers, Re: My details, Your password, Re: Approved (Ref. 3394-65467), Approved (Ref. 38446-263), Your details.

Within this emails is an infectious attachment of filetype .pif, .pi or .vue. Again selection of these filetypes is random. Double click of the attachment and you get infected, natch. Palyh scans files (with .dbx, .eml, .htm, .html, .txt, and .wab) for fresh prospects for infection. This behaviour means the virus is likely to be prolific. As usual Mac and Linux users are immune from infection. The virus always appears to come from support@microsoft.com. This email address is, of course, spoofed (a common enough trick among VXers).

Standard precautions apply to defending against the bug: update AV signature files and (if you're an admin) consider introducing controls to block executables at the gateway.

What a wicked world we live in these days. Such practices can be regarded as the work of hackers doing it just for fun but if you think about it, it is just another tentacle of global terrorism. You have been attacked because you are vulnerable!

EUCW SK DAY 2003

This Year's mid-summer's day EUCW SKD, arranged by the Scandinavian CW Activity Group (SCAG), is on Saturday 21st June, from 0800 to 2200 UTC. It is not a contest but an opportunity to bring out your old manual straight keys and make a few contacts. As in all EUCW events, FISTS members are particularly encouraged to participate.

Frequencies: 3540-3580, 7020-7040, and 10105-10125 MHz.

Mode: CW, straight key only

As a function of the number of QSOs, participants are invited to vote for stations with a particularly good "fist", as follows: 1-2 QSOs, no votes; 3-5 QSOs, 1 vote; 6-8 QSOs, 2 votes; 9-11 QSOs, 3 votes; 12 QSOs or more, 4 votes.

Do not issue more than one vote per station.

A diploma, Straight Key Award, or sticker will be awarded to stations receiving at least 3 votes. Send logs not later than 1st of July 2003 to:

SM0OY Lars Nordgren, 19 Lindv, S-19270, Sollentuna, Sweden.

Logs can also be sent via e-mail, as a text-file, to: sm0oy@svessa.se

F5NQL

As usual, Maurice keeps us abreast of unusual happenings.

To commemorate the 59th anniversary of the landing in Normandy on June 6th 1944, several ham activities are planned as follow :

First) :

From his home in the Sainte Mère Eglise area, Michel, F6IPS will use the special callsign : TM6SME, on all HF bands using either CW or SSB.

The special callsign TM6SME traffic period is planned from June 6th to 20th.

Michel will begin each traffic session on 40 CW and he will QSY (bands and/or mode) according to propagation conditions and requests.

Using the same modes, Michel will monitor also the 6 and 2 meters bands.

Michel's e-mail address for skeds at : f6ips@wanadoo.fr QSL via Michel, F6IPS either direct CBA (SASE + postage) or via the French REF Bureau.

F6IPS' website at : <http://perso.wanadoo.fr/michel.f6ips> Second):

As every year the departement de la Manche REF Hams will use from June 1st to 9th 2003, the callsign TM6JUN.

Several stations will be active from Utah Beach, .
CW traffic is planned as follow :
3526, 7026, 14026, 18070, 21026, 24900 and 28026

Also from the ARRL via Maurice:
The next few months, until WRC-03 ends on July 4,
promise to be very interesting indeed.
there are about ten weeks remaining before the delegates
to the World Radiocom-munication Conference, WRC-
03, begin to assemble in Geneva.

There is encouraging news. Thanks to the efforts of International

Amateur Radio Union volunteers and other supporters
of Amateur Radio there are now more than 30 countries
that have gone on record as supporting one of two
favorable formulas for realignment. We need more and
should be able to get more, but this is a good start.

All this concerns our access to 7.1-7.2 Mhz on a secondary
basis and although no movement is anticipated before
2005, Broadcasting stations in Regions 1 and 3 would be
allowed to continue using this part of the band until
April 1, 2007; on that date they would shift into the band
7350-7450 kHz and 7100-7200 kHz would be allocated
to the amateur, fixed, and certain mobile services on a
primary basis. The final stage would occur on October
25, 2009, when broadcasting stations would shift out of
7200-7300 kHz and into 7450-7550 kHz, amateurs would
gain exclusive use of 7100-7200 kHz, and the band 7200-
7300 kHz would be allocated on a primary basis to the
the amateur service. Thus, when the dust settles, amateurs
would have access to 7000-7300 kHz worldwide, albeit
with 100 kHz shared with fixed and mobile stations in
Regions 1 and 3, and broadcasters would have access to
7300-7550 kHz worldwide.

Here in the Americas IARU Region 2 has been hard at
work along similar lines. A notable breakthrough was
achieved at a CITEL meeting in Orlando in early
February, when 12 countries agreed to support an Inter-
American Proposal (IAP) that is virtually the same as
CPM Method D. The proposal calls for a three-stage
process leading to 7000-7300 kHz being exclusively
amateur, worldwide, with broadcasting in Regions 1 and
3 at 7300-7550 kHz and broadcasting in Region 2 at
7300-7350 kHz. Canada, the original sponsor, was joined
by Argentina, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala,
Mexico, Paraguay, the Dominican Republic, Venezuela,
Colombia, Honduras, and Peru. IARU Region 2 is now
working to expand the list of Region 2 countries
supporting the IAP.

Also from Maurice:
Three Texans and one Canadian will comprise the
operators of a major week-long DXpedition to Lesotho
(7P8) July 18-25, under the aegis of the Texas DX Society
and the Lone Star DX Association.

The operation will be an all mode, all band operation.
"We hope to have at least one station on the air 24 hours
a day," said Charles Frost, K5LBU, of Missouri City TX,
vice-president of the Texas DX Society. "Two of our
operators are excellent SSB operators and the other two

are specialists in CW and the digital modes," he added.
Team members will be at the Hotel Mount Maluti (<http://www.seelesotho.com/mountmaluti.htm>) near Mohale's
Hoek (30.16 S and 27.48 E). Equipment includes
Tribanders for .10-15-20, a 2 element WARC Band
antenna, a Tennydyne T-6 LPG, and Alpha Delta 40/80/
160 dipoles. Kenwood TS850S, ICOM 706MKIIG, plus
600 and 1 KW amps. The equipment is already in country.
QSLs will be handled by each operator separately via
their home calls as each will have their own 7P8 call.

ACCENTED CHARS

M0ECS is wondering if I got his message right when I
asked how to represent accented chars. Should it be an
umlaut or whatever and to be honest, I am still not clear.
He points out that it is common practice to add an 'e'
following an 'o' (which I placed into dispute) but that
'schoenen' (and it is sent exactly like that) as one example,
is written 'shonen' with an umlaut on the 'o'. Now I am
still in doubt. It is too many years ago since my last SBX
for me to remember correctly but an accented 'O' (OE
barred) gave us cause to slap a bar over the 'O'.
Interestingly enough, I cannot ever recall accented chars
being used in anger as it were. Hi. The response to this
question was very significant both as snail and electronic
mail. What difference it makes since little is actually
written down, I'm still unsure but it does niggle!

Steve - You are correct, Germans usually add an "e" to
indicate an umlaut. I don't know any other country that
uses this convention. I have found that Danish, Finnish,
Norwegian, Russian and Swedish amateurs all use the
correct barred letters but French, Italian, Polish,
Portugese, Spanish and Welsh usually ignore all accents.
73 Charles GW3SB

Hi, Sweden calling here. We have a fair share of umlauts
in our
alphabet, namely å, ä, and ö. Whether they print ok on
your side I dont know so, they are, in order, an a with a
ring above it - pronounced like "aw" -, an a with two dots
above it - pronounced like "ai" in "hair" - and finally an
o with two dots - pronounced like "ur" in burn.
When mailing from abroad we have two ways of dealing
with the lack of umlauts: The "original" way is to write
"aw" like "aa", "ai" as "ae" and "ur" like "oe". However
the text is also legible if you strip the umlauts altogether,
simply leaving the characters "a", "a" (again) or "o". I
find it immensely easier just to omit the umlauts altogether.
It makes typing easier and faster. This is the way I do in
morse too.

As I live close to the town Linköping I can write it both
Linköping or Linkoepping. A benefit of the former is that
anyone with a map can look it up, since maps normally
just ignore umlauts.

My distinct feeling is that also german umlauts can be
omitted much the same way. What I am not certain of is
how they deal with the "ß" (a double-s that looks like a

greek beta), but I think they simply write two s:es in morse even though that is something my language teacher would find abhorrent:)

The germans also have a morse code for "ch" (da-da-da-dah) and I dont know if they write it like two characters or if they have a special prosign for it?

French morse code includes di-di-da-di-di which stands for an e with either accent. Have never heard that one on air though, not even when two F-stations chit-chat.

Just my 2 öre... Cheers, /Micke (SM5JAB, FISTS #8379)

The above are just two of the many email flying around on the subject. Steve.... you have opened a can of worms mate. Hi.

UFT OFFICERS

The French National CW Society, The Union Française des Telegraphistes (UFT) has elected her Officers for 2003/2004.

President : Raymond TALAZAC, F6BQV
Vice President : Norbert LAURENT, F6AXX
Treasurer : Pierre GALLO, F6FXS
Secretary : Jean Pierre AUXENTIDES, F5TFP.

The Board include also the following assistant members :

Ghislain, F6CEL
Alain, F6ENO,
Alain, F6EQV,
Gerard, F6ICG,
Andre, F5AKL
Bernard, F5HEW
Vincent, F5MJV
Maurice, F5NQL,
Martial, F5SIE.

The President has appointed, Jean Claude PERROTEY, F9IQ, Honorary Past President, to be the UFT's CW consultant for the IARU French Society, RESEAU des EMETTEURS FRANCAIS (REF), whose UFT is associated.

FIVE POINTER FROM DOWN UNDER

A reminder from Ralph (ZL2AOK) that the ZL FISTS (national) club station is active as **ZL6FF**. They are also trying to get the VK gang to push for a national club call but it seems the authorities there are not too accommodating. He also comments on the visit by G3KMG when Nigel (ZL2TX) played host prior to Davids visit to the Waikanae museum and a gathering at Quartz Hill. Good time had by all!

Still with the upside down folks:

Greetings, back in March you published my request for assistance with the cladestine Transciever. I am pleased to report that progress is slow but good. I have the panel work completed and preparing to wire. Received a card from VE3EIM in Canada fists 5373 who is fowarding

some further data for which I am grateful. Looking foward to getting the set operating and on air. One will think back of the war time days and its place in history in the protection of the homeland. Thanks for the help much appreciated Regards Des O'Brien ZL2OB fists 9092

EYESIGHT OR STICKY FINGERS?

Apologies for an error in last month's listing of new members. M3RDV RICKY 09814 should be **M3RDY**. The "V" is so far removed for the "Y" on the keyboard that sticky fingers would appear to be out of the question whereas a recent visit to the optician set me back £130 and aside from close reading offers little improvement. The way things are going I will end up wearing bottle ends and carrying a magnifying glass. Hi.

NEW MEMBERS

09823	M5ENM	Rog	09824	G4LEG	Peter
09825	G4EVI	John	09826	F6HSH	Rene
09827	G4ZUL	Steve.	09828	OZ9V	Poul
09829	M5REG	Reg			

In addition to these, Nancy sent me another list of around 30 US members from her recent trip to Visalia.

KKI AND THE OCTAGON LOOP

About the Magnetic loop antenna, I have completed the 80/40mtr loop and it is working fantastic ! It is 6' 6" in diameter (well it is an octagon) made from 22mm copper tube and situated in the loft along with my 3' magloop for the hf bands.

The 80/40mtr one is jut great, I recntly used it irt the RSARS RTTY net on a Monday evening and running 50 watts I was copied by all stations in the net from the south coast up to Aberdeen. Some of the stations using g5rv's were having problems with each other but i copied all stations 100%, most at 599+.

On CW I have had 599+ reports from all over G,GM,GW,GI and some EU's running 50 watts with my TS530S. I did a write up on it and it was published in Mercury the Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society news mag. If anyone wants details i could let them have a scanned copy of that.

73 for now. Bill G4KKI FISTS 7709.

Glad that loop is working out well for you Bill.

TM5SC

Heard the above call on 30m but did not respond to it (gave up chasing rare calls yonks ago) but it turned out to be F5ASC and the call marks the last Air France supersonic flight by Concorde scheduled at the end of May. He will remain active with this call until 8 June. Info courtesy of Maurice, F5NQL.

NADARS BOOT SALE

I have been asked to publish details of the 17th such occasion at Acland Hall, Cold Ash, Newbury on 15 June, 0900-1500. Sounds like a good day out for those in and around Berks with Morse test assessments available together with 2m DF hunt.

GOODIES FOR SALE

TenTec Omni V (562) Transceiver 160m to 10m and WARC bands, £250.00 includes TT 220 2.4kcs 8 pole filter, TT Hand Microphone (No scratches on Front Panel or Case) Original Manual and Box. .

Ten Tec Paragon (585) Transceiver 160m to 10m and WARC bands, £250.00 includes TT Hand Microphone. (receiver section covers 30 kc/s to 30 mc/s) (No scratches on Front Panel or Case) Original Manual.

I have the following Ten Tec optional accessories, which will only be available if not sold with transceivers. (9mhz 1st i.f.)

TT 219 CW 6 pole crystal filter 250c/s £35.00

TT 221 CW 6 pole crystal filter 250c/s (C/F500) £40.00

TT 217 CW 8 pole crystal filter 500c/s £35.00

TT 218 SSB 8 pole crystal filter 1.8kcs £35.00 (6.3mhz 2nd i.f.)

TT 282 CW 6 pole crystal Filter 250c/s £35.00

TT 285 CW 6 pole crystal Filter 500c/s £35.00

TT 288 SSB 8 pole crystal Filter 1.8kcs £35.00

Ten Tec 962 Matching Speaker & Power Supply Unit £75.00

Ten Tec 960 Matching Speaker & Power Supply Unit £65.00

Ten Tec Electronic Keyer and Paddle £15.00

Ten Tec 705 Electret Desk Top Microphone £40.00

N4PY V.9 upgrade chip and instructions for Omni V £30.00

Gieh!, upgrade chip and instructions for Paragon 585 £25.00

Ten Tec 258 RS232 Board (Not used bought at Dayton 3 years ago) £25.00

Ten Tec 257 Voice Board (Not used bought at Dayton 3 years ago) £25.00

The above prices are only a guide, if interested in any of the above please email me off list with offers, all equipment in good condx, can send specification and .jpg,s of above equipment if required.

73 de Richard.

Email: g3xvf@btinternet.com

AX25: G3XVF @ GB7LDI.#35.GBR.EU DXC:

G3XVF @ GB7DXC

C2C CONTEST

Paul (NG7Z) gives us lots of notice of the Coast-to-Coast in

September. This will be the 3rd such event and they are particularly keen to see FISTS associated club stations taking part.

It is a 24 hour event startng at 0001z from Saturday 13th Sept and terminating at 2359z on Sunday 14th the idea being to work as many club stations as possible.

As is usual with such FISTS events, the contest element is pushed into second place, 599 QRZ? is discouraged. It is hoped that the advance notice will give the club stations out there time to get something organised.

VISITOR

I plan to be in Richmond Surrey the whole of August this year and would like to know if there is an amateur (Fists or not) close in the Richmond area with whom I could contact and possibly use his station to make a couple of CW contacts with my amateur friends back in New York. If there is I would appreciate his call sign and his email address. Thank you. KA2HDO

SILENT KEY

Belated advice from his widow that Eric, G3FVC passed away Dec/02. No further details.

ODDS 'N ENDS

The Lupik Radio Club emailed to say thanks for the Award #9821 and seemingly still steaming on.

In 1932, the first police cars fitted with radios (a mere 21x22x19 ins) were in Nottingham which took up the entire passenger seat. The driver was required to pass a 12 wpm test since all communications were via CW and at 30mph this couldn't have been easy. Would you believe that the antenna was a wooden frame on the roof with multiple turns of wire. This from G3JPZ.

G3KEG. Cliff (after an absence of over 35 years) is finding the return harder going than when he first got his ticket. No doubt he will get up to speed again.

G4BZP. Son (G0CLP) has been clattering away since he was 9 years old and is comfy with 30wpm+ . Laurie however says at 70yrs, he never became fluent.

From G0GFG.. GB2NAM for a museum weekend 14-15 June and also GB0RAF (2nd Juy) with GB2RL for the lighthouses gang. Mark is a busy lad!

G4KPN. Bruce is spreading himself about a bit with membership of SPCWC, AGCW, SV-CW-C, Croatian Telegraphy club plus Megs and Marconi club.

G0FVS. Bro borrowed book Stardus Falling by J. Rayner. Stardust departed Buenos Aires for Santiago. Last message was a cryptic "STENDEC" repeated several times. Would appreciate if anyone who knows could provide the meaning?

G0UHM. Recovering from recent Stroke. Quite reasonable handwriting Les so trust it didn't hit you too hard.

G3LPS. Eric was chasing C93FF on 18MHz but unsure if OK However, he definitely got him on 30m later. If there's no answer then go round the back?

FINALE

Boy... I am getting more and more squeezed for space these days. I do hope the band conditions improve and maybe it will also stop raining. Hi. Here on the civilized side of the penings, it seems to have been raining constantly for the whole of the month. This must be the wettest May on record surely. Still we have what little remains of the summer to come so keep your fingers crossed. 73/88 people. Have fun and stay sober. Geo

July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 NU7T	2 NU7T	3 NU7T	4 NU7T	5 NU7T
6 NU7T	7 NU7T	8	9	10	11	12 KG9LZ
13	14	15	16 WSAJX	17	18 WBOPYF	19 WBOPYF
20 WBOPYF	21 <i>your call</i>	22 <i>could be here!</i>	23 <i>could be here!</i>	24 <i>could be here!</i>	25 <i>could be here!</i>	26 <i>could be here!</i>
27 <i>Dennis KG9DF</i>	28	29 KG9DF	30 <i>open</i>	31 <i>open</i>		

OPERATING TIMES ARE UTC, NOT CLOCK TIME
 KNØWCW OPERATION SCHEDULE - SUBJECT TO CHANGE
August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 WD8OCV	4 WD8OCV	5 WD8OCV	6 WD8OCV	7 WD8OCV	8 WD8OCV	9 WD8OCV
10 <i>Open - Contact Dennis to operate here</i>	11	12	13 WSAJX	14 <i>open</i>	15 <i>open</i>	16 WBOPYF
17 WBOPYF	18 KD5MDO	19 KD5MDO	20 KD5MDO	21 KD5MDO	22 KD5MDO	23 KD5MDO
24 WSØL	25 WSØL	26 WSØL	27 WSØL	28 WSØL	29 WSØL	30 WSØL
31 N9BOR	QSL VIA FISTS BUREAU					

FISTS SPRINT

The following are the Official Rules for the FISTS SPRINT.

OBJECTIVE:

To exchange specified information with as many FISTS members as possible using Morse Code only, and within the time frame stipulated.

PARTICIPANTS:

Any properly licensed amateur radio operator, FISTS member or non-member is invited to take part in the contest. At least one of the two stations in each QSO must be a FISTS member.

DATE AND TIME:

The Winter SPRINT will run from 1700 UTC to 2100 UTC on Second Saturday in February.

The Spring SPRINT will run from 1700 UTC to 2100 UTC on Second Saturday in May.
The Summer SPRINT will run from 1700 UTC to 2100 UTC on Second Saturday in July.
The Fall SPRINT will run from 1700 UTC to 2100 UTC on Second Saturday in October.
Please note times are in UTC, daylight savings time is NOT a factor.

BANDS:

Operation is limited to the following amateur bands: 3.5, 7, 14, 21, and 28 MHz amateur bands.

Work stations only once per band.

ENTRY CLASSES:

There are three entry classes:

QRO: Over 5 watts output power.

QRP: 5 watts output power or less.

Club: (regardless of power).

Entry class MUST be shown on logs to be considered for entry in a particular class, or will be assumed QRO.

An entry must be ONE class only, no combination of classes is allowed.

EXCHANGE:

The following information must be exchanged by both stations to count as a valid contest QSO:

For FISTS members:

RST, U.S. state/Canadian province/DXCC country, first name, FISTS number.

For non-FISTS members:

RST, U.S. state/Canadian province/DXCC country, first name, Power output.

DX COUNTRY STATUS:

U.S. states and Canadian provinces are those states and provinces that are contiguous and found within the North American continent. DX are those entities listed in the current ARRL DXCC publication, other than the above.

MULTIPLIERS:

Each U.S. State and Canadian province counts as 1 multiplier. Count each only once, no

matter how many times worked.

Each DXCC entity counts as 1 multiplier. Count each only once, no matter how many times worked.

SCORING:

Each QSO with a FISTS member: 5 points.

Each QSO with a non-FISTS member: 2 points.

Final score is total QSO points times multipliers.

CERTIFICATES:

U.S./VE:

Certificates will be awarded to the first, second, and third place finishers in each Entry Class.

LOG SUBMISSIONS:

Sending the logs is what counts, and they will be spot checked for accuracy and correct scoring procedures. All log entries must be received 30 days after the Sprint to be considered valid. Logs not sent to the proper address will not be considered for entry.

All logs MUST contain the following information to be considered for entry;;

Your name and call sign. Club name if entry is for a club. Your FISTS number if a member.

Entry class. Your claimed score. List of claimed multipliers.

The entry form is the best way to record this information.

The entry form may be downloaded from the FISTS Web page <http://www.fists.org>

ELECTRONIC LOGS:

We will accept E-logs in standard Cabrillo format, or ascii text files. If your not sure about your format, please contact Dan Shephard at W8PIG@yahoo.com before the contest entry deadline.

E-logs are sent to W8PIG@yahoo.com ONLY.

PAPER LOGS:

Send log and forms to:

Dan Shepherd, N8IE

1900 Pittsfield St.

Kettering, Oh 45420

SUMMER SPRINT ENTRY FORM

Please check the box that reflects your entry class
 Club QRO(above 5 watts) QRP(5watts or less)

SCORING: _____ QSO points X _____ multipliers = _____ claimed score

Soapbox comments: _____

Please enclose paper logs ONLY, photos, comments, ideas, etc., with your entry and mail within 30 days to:

Dan Shepherd, N8IE
 1900 Pittsfield St.
 Kettering, Oh 45420

EMAIL LOGS TO W8PIG@yahoo.com

Statement: "I have observed all FISTS Sprint competition rules as well as all regulations for Amateur Radio in my country. My report is correct and true to the best of my knowledge. I agree to be bound by the decisions of the FISTS Awards Committee."

Date _____ Signature _____ Call _____

MULTIPLIER CHECK-OFF LIST

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	VE	DX
CT	NY	DE	AL	AR	CA	AZ	MI	IL	CO	NB	NF/LB
MA	NJ	MD	FL	LA		ID	OH	IN	IA	NS	NT
ME		PA	GA	MS		MT	WV	WI	KS	PE	YK
NH			KY	NM		NV			MN	QC	BC
RI			NC	OK		OR			MO	ON	
VT			SC	TX		UT			NE	MB	
			TN			WA			ND	SK	
			VA			WY			SD	AB	

If club, club name _____ Call/Number _____

Your Name _____ Your call _____ FISTS # _____

ADDRESS _____

Email Address: _____

FISTS CW CLUB APPLICATION

PO Box 47, Hadley MI 48440-0047

If this is a renewal, or you have

had a FISTS number please check here

Callsign _____

Name on the Air _____

Last Name _____

Mailing Address:

Phone _____ unlisted? yes

no

Email address: _____

How did you hear about FISTS? _____

Interests:

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Contesting <input type="checkbox"/> | QRP <input type="checkbox"/> | Homebrewing <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Antenna experimenting <input type="checkbox"/> | Traffic Nets <input type="checkbox"/> | QRQ <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Wallpaper Chasing <input type="checkbox"/> | Classic Rigs <input type="checkbox"/> | Nets <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Code Buddies <input type="checkbox"/> | Rag Chewing <input type="checkbox"/> | DXing <input type="checkbox"/> |

Please mail application, along with \$15 yearly dues (*except for family members and under 17 = free/ college students \$10*) to Nancy Kott WZ8C, PO Box 47, Hadley MI 48440-0047

Checks payable to FISTS please

***APPLY FOR AN OPERATING AWARD?** For ALL awards, send the name of the award, a log of the required info and dupe sheet (check the individual award requirements) and your mailing info to Dennis Franklin, K6DF, 4658 Capitan Dr, Fremont, CA 94536-5448. *Do not submit QSLs.* There is no charge to FISTS members in good standing, but stamps are appreciated. Due to spam-All Email to Dennis must have 'cwclub' in its title or it may not be read by him.

***VOLUNTEER FOR or GET A CODEBUDDY? W3GR,** The Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club members are the volunteers handling the Code Buddy program. Contact them at Box 746 MS 4015, Baltimore, MD 21203 or email w3gr@arrl.net <w3gr@arrl.net> We need ELMERS, please volunteer to be a Code Buddy!! Code Buddy applications are available on line from a link on our web page <http://www.fists.org>

***GET/SEND FISTS QSL CARDS Via BUREAU?** Send Self-Addressed-Stamped -Envelopes and FISTS member cards, for both DX and USA FISTS members, to Stan Reas, K4UK, at 1020 Long Island Dr, Moneta VA, 24121. On your SASE's put your callsign in big letters in the top left corner. Detailed info on how to use the Bureau and a list of FISTS who do not want to receive cards via the Bureau are on the FISTS web page or available from Stan by email (k4uk@rev.net) or postal mail upon request. KNOWCW QSL CARDS ARE BEING SENT VIA BURO,SO PSE HAVE SASEs ON FILE

***SEND FISTS INFO TO A DX FISTS?** DX FISTS have a separate block of numbers; their Keynote is mailed from the UK. Send their info to Geo Longden, G3ZQS, at 119 Cemetery Rd, Darwin Lancs, BB3 2LZ England, he will get in touch with them and send them a DX application.

***PAY FOR THE SUBSCRIPTION OF A DX FISTS MEMBER?** Subs for European FISTS, paid from the USA, is \$10/year American cash. Non-European (Africa, Japan, etc.) FISTS are \$15/year in US CASH. No International Money Orders, postal money orders or personal checks, cash only. Send it to Geo Longden, 119 Cemetery Rd, Darwin Lancs BB3 2LZ U.K. Don't forget to include the name and address of the DX ham you want to sponsor. They will receive the DX version of the Keynote, which is written and mailed by Geo.

***GET MY PHOTO ON THE PHOTOPAGES?** Send a snapshot of yourself, with your face about the size of a quarter, to Ken Kott, W8ROG, 44609 N. Bunker Hill Dr., Clinton Twp, MI 48038.

***RECEIVE THE KEYNOTE ON TAPE?** The Keynote is available on tape, free, to legally blind members. Contact Ken Kott, W8ROG, 44609 N Bunker Hill Dr. Clinton Twp MI 48038 or at ikott@compuserve.com. The tapes is read by Roger Cameron, N8KV and copied and distributed by Ken W8ROG.

***GET A COPY OF FISTS PRESENTATION** to give at a local club meeting? It's easy and fun! We send you everything you need for a snazzy 15-20 minute presentation. Contact Joe Spencer, KK5NA, 3618 Montridge Ct, Arlington TX 76016. email: kk5na@quadj.com

***FIND THE WEB PAGE?** <http://www.FISTS.org> **Web page suggestions?** Contact Bill at KK4KF@LizardCop.com

***ORDER FISTS CLUB QSL CARDS?** For pricing info send SASE to WX9X at 1608 E. Lincolnway, Suite H - Valparaiso, IN. A scan of the club card is on our web page <http://www.fist.org>

***ORDER A FISTS CLUB ID BADGE?** Our club badge is blue, with FISTS logo in gold and your name, FISTS number, callsign, and Int'l Morse Preservation Society in white. \$8.20 postpaid from The Signman of Baton Rouge, 879 Castle Kirk Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808.

***IMPROVE MY CODE SPEED and MEET LOTS OF NEW FRIENDS?** Join FISTS! Get involved in the nets and activities! Volunteer to be a Code Buddy! Write an article for the Keynote about your interests!

The Keynote, official publication of FISTS CW Club, is published approximately 10 times a year by Nancy Kott WZ8C, PO Box 47 Hadley MI 48440. WZ8C reserves the right to edit submissions for clarity, suitability and space limitations. Comments not attributed to another are written by WZ8C.

Articles from the Keynote may be reprinted if credit is given to the original author.

FISTS CW CLUB, PO Box 47, Hadley MI 48440-0047
email: nancy@tir.com web page: <http://www.fists.org>

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

If your address changes, please let us know; undelivered and re-sent newsletters are very costly.

Coming up:

Summer SPRINT : 2nd Saturday in July

Your renewal date as of May 2003 is on your label.

