

The Keynote

Newsletter of FISTS CW Club

The active chapter of the International Morse Preservation Society

“Accuracy Transcends Speed”



Our Goals:

Further the use of Morse code

Engender friendships among members

Encourage newcomers to use Morse code

“When You’ve Worked A FISTS, You’ve Worked A Friend”

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - PLEASE READ

HOW DO I JOIN? Membership is open to all people interested in Morse code, irrespective of their speed and ability. An application form is not necessary to join, but it gives us a more complete picture of our membership. You can download a North American membership application on the FISTS web page: <http://www.fists.org>. An application can be mailed to you. Send a message Jim Ranieri, AA9LS, aa9ls@turbotoads.com and he will email it to you, or mail an SASE to him at 33778 Rebecca Rd, Kingston IL 60145 and Jim will send you an application via return postal mail. To join without an application, send your name, call, and mailing address with your membership fee to Nancy WZ8C, PO Box 47, Hadley, MI 48440 (checks payable to FISTS). To join using Paypal (www.paypal.com), send the funds to fists@tir.com. In the comments box, type NEW MEMBERSHIP, your callsign, name and mailing address if different from your Paypal address.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST? Subscriptions are \$15.00/year; Under 17= FREE; College students = \$10. Family members may join FISTS at no extra charge-only one newsletter is mailed per household. Please make checks payable to FISTS CW Club and send to FISTS, P O Box 47, Hadley, MI 48440. *Do not send FISTS correspondence to Nancy WZ8C's callbook address.* Checks can take 6-8 weeks to clear from the day received. Nancy processes them, then takes them to the bookkeeper. The bookkeeper enters them into the "official books", then takes them to the bank. Depending on schedules that month, it can take 6-8 weeks. *It doesn't take 8 weeks to get your number, it just may take that long for your check to clear.*

HOW DO I JOIN USING MY PAYPAL ACCOUNT? North American FISTS accepts PAYPAL (<http://www.paypal.com>). Address your PAYPAL payment to FISTS@TIR.COM To join via Paypal, type "New Membership" in the Paypal Comments Box, your name (if different from the name on your Paypal account), callsign, and mailing address.

HOW DO I KNOW WHEN TO RENEW? A FISTS volunteer sends out renewal postcards, but if you renew prior to your renewal month it will save postage and printing costs as well as volunteer time. Your renewal date is on your Keynote mailing label in the form of year, month, date. For example 2005/4/4 would be a renewal date April 2005. The date of the month is meaningless, but the computer program requires a date, so generally the date of the month is the same as the month. 2005/12/12; 2006/5/5 etc,

HOW DO I RENEW? To renew, send \$15 to Nancy WZ8C (checks payable to FISTS) at FISTS, PO Box 47 Hadley MI 48440.

HOW DO I RENEW WITH PAYPAL? If you have a Paypal account, send the funds to fists@tir.com; put "RENEWAL" in the Comment Box, along with your callsign.

MAY I RENEW FOR MORE THAN ONE YEAR AT A TIME? Yes! You may renew for as many years at a time as you like, but there is not a 'quantity' discount.

MY MEMBERSHIP LAPSED, CAN I GET MY OLD NUMBER BACK? Yes. Numbers are not reassigned. If you have had a number in the past, let Nancy know at the time of your renewal. so she can 'reactivate' it

WHERE DO I MAIL A DX APPLICATION OR RENEWAL? ZL,VK applications are go to Ralph Sutton, ZL2AOH at 12C Herbert Gardens, 186 The Terrace, Wellington 6001, New Zealand. East Asia inquiries to Jean at join@fists-ea.org All other applications are to be mailed to Geo Longden, G3ZQS at 119 Cemetery Rd, Darwen Lancs, BB3 2LZ.

HOW DO I GET A NUMBER FOR MY LOCAL CLUB? Clubs with FCC call signs 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. To defray cost, please enclose \$1 if the club wants a membership certificate and \$3 for award certificates.

HOW DO I UPDATE MY ADDRESS or CALL SIGN ON THE FISTS DATABASE? Send corrections or changes to Nancy Kott, WZ8C, at FISTS, P. O. Box 47, Hadley, MI 48440 or email to nancy@tir.com. 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.

HOW DO I GET AN UP-TO-DATE MEMBER LIST? Send a SASE with \$2.00 (US) to Ed N7CFA 2628 Lilac Street, Longview, WA 98632. Lists are available on the FISTS Web page. The search engine feature on the web page is updated more frequently than the text list on the web page.

HOW DO I GET ON THE FISTS EMAIL LIST? To receive periodic official Email updates, send your Email address, call sign and FISTS number to Kathi Hilton. fistelist@comcast.net. If you put your email address on your application, it is automatically added to the list. 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 e-mail address, we recommend you include it in your listing on QRZ.com or Buckmaster lookup service.

HOW DO I ORDER CLUB SUPPLIES? Irene W08E, irenenken@cs.com- 44609 N. Bunker Hill Dr., Clinton Twp, MI 48038 is our Supply Manager. Our supplies are sold as close to cost as possible We offer: Metallic Gold logo stickers, 200 for \$3.50 I "red heart graphic" CW Stickers, 3/4" round stickers, \$3.50 for 200. Blue enamel cloisonne/gold metal "FISTS

FISTS CW CLUB

THE INTERNATIONAL MORSE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

NORTH AMERICAN MEMO

EDITOR:

NANCY KOTT WZ8C PO Box 47 HADLEY MI 48440

NANCY @TIR.COM PHONE: (810) 797-2033 FAX (810) 797-5808

Chuck Adams, K7QO, 's code course is a rousing success! Thousands of CDs distributed through FISTS as well as downloaded from his web page. Chuck has started a Book of the Month program - entire novels on CD (in mp3 format) in Morse code. I've been listening to the first book, and trust me, it's excellent code practice as well as being fun! It is a real workout for your brain, I can feel those neurons firing away as I listen. It is guaranteed to break you of the "writing everything down" habit and it perfect for practicing head copying. Here are the basics: The first book is "Dorothy and the Wizard in Oz" by L. Frank Baum. Each book is \$5 (MO) and you must include only a mailing label. Chuck furnishes the mailer, postage, disc, and a label on the disc. He has eliminated the : ; ' " - and — and ! from the text, so it will be an easy "read". These instructions are subject to change as this project evolves, books generally start at 20WPM, but for extra cost, lower speeds may be available. Chuck's address is Chuck Adams, PO Box 11840, PRESCOTT, AZ 86304-1840. Contact Chuck with questions; NOT ME!

Many new hams are intrigued with the code after passing their 5WPM. But, like we all were (or are!) they are intimidated and nervous about getting on the air. They've had bad experiences on Field Day or other contests and QSO's where people won't QRS (slow down), and they are frustrated. We don't want that to happen! We want to encourage and nurture these new CW ops. Novice RoundUp used to be a good forum for this, but the Novice concept is obsolete. Therefore, "Get Your Feet Wet Weekend" will start 0000Z Sept 16 and run through 0000Z Sept 18. (This coincides with FISTS Anniversary) It is a whole weekend, so DX and everyone will have plenty of time to participate for at least a few hours. The focus is on sending slowly and clearly and sending the exchange in order.

The rules: Operate under one of two categories for the entire event, Newcomer or Experienced. You can be licensed a long time but still be a Newcomer to CW or contesting. You're on the honor system: Choose whichever describes your ability. Call CQ FC. The Exchange: Callsign/N (newcomer) or Callsign/E (experienced), RST, Name, QTH, FISTS number or power, last two digits of the year licensed. Example: WZ8C/E, 599, Nancy, MI, 0379, 88. Count 2 points for working someone out of your category, 1 point for working someone in your category. Multipliers are number of stations worked that were licensed 2000-2005. Stations may be worked once per band for points, but their multiplier only counts once. No WARC bands. Contacts must be 2-way human-keyed CW (Iambics are fine - just no computerized or memory keyers). Send logs and score summary to Lee N7NU, at hallinl@lanecc.edu in ADIF format and "fists" in the subject line, or paper logs to Lee Hallin, 3413 Walton Lane, Eugene OR 97408.

Please spread the word about this contest - it will be a lot of fun, and give the new/slower hams a chance to get their feet wet in contesting. Now, on with your Keynote! 73 88 33 Nancy Kott WZ8C

Welcome to the New FISTS

FISTS # Callsign Name QTH Sponsor

11412 N8MFN RICK OH N8TW
 11413 W0CDN CHRIS CO
 11414 WA3GRQ WALTPA
 11415 KC8YZB PAUL MI
 11416 K7CIE MIKE OR W6DDB
 11417 K6TTE DALE CA
 11418 N2FWB JOHN NY
 11419 AA4JV JOE IA
 11420 K1EAR JOHN NH
 11421 WA7HDI JOE AZ
 11422 KA9INV SAL IL
 11423 WB0DMC ROBERT MN WB2FXK
 11424 KC9DSW MARK WI
 11425 K4QWF Oscar Russ Chambers Me-
 morial Amateur Radio Club FL WB4MED
 11426 W4QDX REX KY
 11427 AD5RI JIM TX
 11428 K4UPV BOB VA
 11429 K9PMN PETE WI
 11430 N7GTW VERN WA
 11431 K7ATU HOWIE OR KJ5CU
 11432 K6YYJ HUGH CA
 11433 KB3JVC DIANE PA
 11434 W1PDI TOM OH
 11435 K1SN JIM VA
 11436 KB2COP JOHN NY
 11437 KC9FAV BRIAN IL
 11438 KA0ADF RAYMOND IA WB2FXK
 11439 W3JCT JOHN MD
 11440 VE3TEU NIELS ON
 11441 NC8B PETE MI
 11442 KB9X STEVE MN
 11443 N2CHI DAVID NY
 11444 W0ICT South Heartland Amateur
 Radio Club KS Sponsor: N3PXF
 11445 KG6YSX Orange CA KF6PVY
 11446 NR9F AL IN KN0WCW
 11447 KB9ORH KERRY IN
 11448 W6RKD HECTOR CA
 11449 K4GDC WALT NC
 11450 W1RRC WEST RIVER VT
 sponsors: K1KU/KD6MPY

FISTS # Callsign Name QTH Sponsor
 11451 KD6DOX ART CA
 11452 KE4AFB JIM LA
 11453 N2BAL JIM NY
 11454 W3CRR CRAIG MD
 11455 W7INO TIM ID
 11456 W5JCS JIM OK
 11457 WA4AML AL FL
 11458 W9NN BETTY WI
 11459 K6MBY BOB WA
 11460 W8DC Grand Rapids Amateur
 Radio Club MI Sponsor: AB8ND
 11461 W8LRD HOWARD MI
 11462 KE4CPC JASON FL
 sponsors: NB7Z/K1RMF
 11463 KG6RVF MICHAEL CA
 11464 N9PUZ TIM IL
 11465 KP4CW EFRAIN FL
 11466 NS6Y ALEX CA
 11467 KU6A CRIS CA KS6Z
 11468 KH0RF Bill WA
 11469 N2QZ NICK NY
 11470 KD7WLR LARRY WA
 11471 KD5DRY WARREN OK
 11472 W6VFA WEB CA
 11473 N7KMF KELLY WA
 11474 VE4ACJ VAL SK
 11475 W0SCI Science Center Radio Club
 IA Sponsor: KQ0I
 11476 KD7T FRED WA
 11477 AH6B DOUG WA
 11478 KC9FJU SHARON IL
 11479 W3RFQ KEN MD
 11480 K0DHQ HANK MO
 11481 KG4IUQ MARK SC
 11482 AB7CF ROB WA N9BOR
 11483 KI4FZY JAMES VA KB4DJN
 11484 KA5NNG MIKE AR WZ8C
 11485 VE5ZW DALE BC
 11486 N4GX ED FL
 11487 KB1JHF JOHN NH
 11488 WB8MKV DOUG MI
 11489 KI4IJW STEVE SC
 11490 KH6IS Iolani School Radio Club HI
 sponsor: KH6BZF

FISTS #	Callsign	Name	QTH	Sponsor	FISTS #	Callsign	Name	QTH	Sponsor
11491	KH6JHM	PAC R.A.T.S. Radio Club			11533	KB7N	MARK	WA	AC2K
		HI		Sponsor:KH6BZF	11534	W1CTT	STEVE	ME	
11492	KC9HLK	Jens	IL	WA9AQN	11535	K3WD	BILL	MD	
11493	KB3GUN	BILL	PA	AA9LS	11536	K0GM	CHRIS	GA	
11494	W8JLT	JOHN	MI		11537	N4XRP	DON	KY	K4UK
11495	W9AZ	Kankakee Area Radio Club			11538	N4SNB	ALFRED	TN	
		IL		Sponsor: KC9FAV	11539	AB5DK	TOM	LA	
11496	KE5CQJ	KEVIN	TX		11540	N3CJM	ROBIN	ME	W1KMG
11497	KI4BXU	ERIK	VA		11541	SWL	Billy	ME	W1KMG
11498	WA4KDO	ALAN	KY	K8LEN	11542	SWL	JAMES	ME	W1KMG
11499	KC9KMA	JOAN	IL	KC9GBX	11543	K6BWZ	BILL	CA	
11500	WA4VVA	Floyd H Martin, Jr Club			11544	K7MRK	MICHELLE	WA	N7AV
		FL		Sponsor: WB4MED	11545	N1ZS	DAVE	CT	
11501	KA4VAF	DAVE	VA		11546	N9EZ	JACK	MI	
11502	WA4BXW	FRED	AL		11547	KV7X	TERRY	UT	
11503	N0VR	ROGER	CO		11548	NW3P	ALFRED	DE	
11504	W6DKO	DON	CA		11549	KD7TKI	DAVE	WA	
11505	N6PIY	PAULA	CA	KD6LM	11550	W7VMI	Vashon-Maury Island Club		
11506	N6PFF	LARRY	CA	KD6LM			WA		Sponsor: AH6B
11507	KE5AQD	ROGER	TX		11551	AG4FK	GEORGE	TN	
11508	KS4RT	BARRY	TN		11552	KG4HVQ	DAVID	AL	
11509	VE4DET	RICHARD	MB		11553	W0RSD	NORMAN	KS	
11510	K7TRT	JOHN	TX		11554	W2DJH	STANLEY	NY	WZ8C
11511	W0PQ	DAVE	NE	WB2FXK	11555	K6BA	Gopher Canyon Club	CA	
11512	N0QX	MARTIN	TX						Sponsor: KS6Z
11513	KB3HOB	CHARLIE	PA		11556	K3MRG	TOM	PA	
11514	W9ZXT	NICK	IL		11557	KT4TZ	ED	FL	
11515	K5WZF	JOHN	TX		11558	WA2TFA	LLOYD	NY	WZ8C
11516	WA2MUX	JIM	NY		11559	W3EEK	CARL	PA	
11517	K8BTD	GIL	OH		11560	K4CHT	JOHN	TN	AA9LS
11518	WO1P	JIM	CT		11561	KJ1D	DON	NH	
11519	KC8ZGW	CHRIS	OH		11562	KG4TUM	JIM	GA	
11520	AB2SV	DICK	NJ		11563	WA6AYJ	BOB	CA	
11521	KB7PEF	STEVE	OR	K7FFF	11564	K8DSL	JOHN	MI	
11522	K5RJB	DALTON	TX	KG4NNN	11565	K2HT	DICK	MO	
11523	SWL	ANTHONY	FL		11566	K4SPC	St Petersburg College Club		
11524	W4DUK	DAVE	VA				FL		Sponsor: W4IO
11525	W3PGA	AERO	MD	K3ROJ	11567	N3ESQ	DEL	MD	
11526	K5BZH	JIM	TX		11568	KC3QU	HANK	AL	
11527	KC2DQV	ROBERT	NY	WB2FXK	11569	KF6IAS	GORDON	OR	
11528	WF6B	DON	UT		11570	AE7AA	HAL	NV	
11529	KC8VSB	JOE	MI		11571	KA6CPM	NICHOLAS	CA	WB2FXK
11530	N2EO	RICH	NY	K2YEW	11572	W6VFO	BOB	CA	
11531	AB7AZ	PAT	AZ		11573	WD6BNT	IVAN	CA	
11532	KC2JKU	TERRY	NY	WA2HNA	11574	KC8YIR	MITCHEL	MI	

FISTS #	Callsign	Name	QTH	Sponsor	FISTS #	Callsign	Name	QTH	Sponsor
11575	W5PAA	Aeronautical Center	OK		11620	W8VFM	NED	MI	
				Sponsor: KE5CXX	11621	W6CL	CAROL	OK	
11576	N2DAY	RAY	NY		11622	N2COP	BILL	NC	
11577	KG2QT	TOM	NY	WZ8C	11623	WF4W	TAD	GA	
11578	KD6KUV	JOE	CA	KF6PVY	11624	W6FVI	BRIAN	CA	
11579	N9TM	TOM	IL		11625	K3MJW	SKYVIEW	PA	
11580	NH7PE	IRENE	HI		11626	K2IWQ	CHARLES	NY	
11581	K1EXI	DANA	ME	WB2FXK	11627	K8AQM	TED	MI	
11582	W6TRI	FRED	CA		11628	N00J	RYAN	CO	
11583	AA4ZJ	RAYMOND	FL	WB2FXK	11629	W9RGB	VICTOR	IN	
11584	N0CQV	LOGAN	CO	Dayton	11630	N2AWE	DAVID	IA	
11585	KI4IDK	RICH	NC		11631	KA8HFN	LARRY	OH	
11586	WB2S	ELIOT	MN		11632	WB9ZGW	BILL	IN	ZL1SWR
11587	KC2MJE	DOUG	NY		11633	KB9RXE	NEAL	IN	
11588	KG4HOQ	DIANE	TN	KS4RT	11634	VE3GPM	PAUL	ON	
11589	KA1RFD	RODNEY	ME		11635	WB8ZEX	ROGER	OH	
11590	W3DBY	MAX	MI		11636	KB9ZRX	John	IN	
11591	KG4WQO	DON	GA		11637	W8DHG	DUANE	OH	
11592	WB6OJB	ARNOLD	CA	WZ8C	11638	KC9GTP	BRENDA	IN	
11593	N2SK	BILL	NJ		11639	KG4SME	BUD	OH	
11594	NE5E	DAVE	TX		11640	W1HEO	DEE	OH	WZ8C
11595	KI4JZR	BILL	VA		11641	W2MLS	MIKE	NJ	
11596	N5ZMO	RICHARD	TX	N5DUQ	11642	KF4JG	GRIF	VA	
11597	KC0STQ	TOM	MO	AB0SX	11643	K2ONP	GEORGE	NY	
11598	KD6JII	CHUCK	MT		11644	N8NRT	BILL	OH	
11599	K1SJ	SIDNEY	CA		11645	N9WNN	STEVEN	IN	
11601	KF4IZS	JOHN	KY		11646	WJ2V	PRESTON	NY	
11602	WA9ZPL	STUART	IL	VE3AXD	11647	KE4APC	JEFF	VA	
11603	KB8TXZ	JIM	MI	KB8VMZ	11648	PY2EMC	ERIC	FL	
11604	KP4ED	LUIS	PR		11649	W2NI	JOHN	NY	
11605	N2KXS	JUDY	NY		11650	KI4FUS	CURTIS	AL	
11606	KA8DZU	TIM	OH		11651	N8MRB	JEFF	OH	
11607	AA6E	MARTIN	CT		11652	KC0HJA	Dave	MN	
11608	WB9GQB	TOM	IN		11653	KA9ZRU	STEPHEN	IL	
11609	W4TL	TERRY	GA		11654	AB9FA	JAY	WI	
11610	W4RLG	ROGER	GA		11655	W5NUT	GIL	OK	K5DLE
11611	W4BLB	BOB	GA		11656	KD1HN	BILL	MA	
11612	KB9ZQV	DUANE	IL		11657	WA6LDI	PHIL	CA	
11613	KT4VP	ALFRED	GA		11658	N9YB	MIKE	IN	
11614	K4AUR	MIKE	VA		11659	W2ITD	JAY	NY	WB2FXK
11615	NJ3C	ISAAC	NJ		11660	K5AVJ	LYNN	TX	
11616	AD8Z	MICHAEL	OH		11661	K9JM	JAMES	CA	
11617	KE0FT	JOHN	IA		11662	W4BNO	ROBERT	VA	
11618	KG4ABA	LYNN	KY		11663	KG2ED	RICHARD	NY	
11619	W5JH	JERRY	AZ		11664	K0WA	LEE	KS	

FISTS #	Callsign	Name	QTH	Sponsor
11665	NA4D	LLOYD	KY	KG4CNZ
11666	WA6ARA	MICHAEL	CA	WB2FXK
11667	W8EH	ERNEST	OH	
11668	NZ0R	CRAIG	IA	
11669	W8JUZ	Laura	MI	
11670	W4WLT	LARRY	GA	
11671	VQ9LA	LARRY	AP	
11672	N9DD	TOM	IN	WB9DLC
11673	N5DO	DAVE	TX	
11674	N3EQ	ROB	OH	
11675	KB3KYN	ALAN	OH	
11676	N3IKO	George	PA	
11677	N8LRF	RAY	MI	
11678	WB5EGI	BRAD	GA	
11679	KC4DUT	Silas	IN	K4TXJ
11680	KI0DN	JIM	MN	
11681	K8LJU	FRED	MI	
11682	W7DGP	LARRY	WA	
11683	KF6CWU	GILBERT	CA	
11684	K9NYO	ROB	IL	
11685	KC2LIX	WILLIAM	NY	
11686	K8QLW	Kent	SC	
11687	K3HPS	JOHN	PA	
11688	KD8AZQ	ROB	OH	
11689	KC0RRS	BRUCE	KS	
11690	K7CWH	CHARLIE	WY	
11691	NJ6Y	LINSLEY	WA	
11692	N5TQO	DAVID	NM	WZ8C
11693	W7DGW	JIM	AZ	
11694	N6SUZ	TIM	CA	
11695	K2UFO	ROBERT	NC	
11696	W1LYQ	C.J.	CT	
11697	KC2HLC	JOE	NY	N3KY
11698	NU3H	DON	VA	
11699	KI4JQP	MEL	TN	AA9LS
11701	K1THP	DAVE	CT	W0MPR
11702	K5HY	JIM	AR	N4LMI
11703	K5CQB	JIM	TX	
11704	K3NGN	DAVE	PA	
11705	WA4DAX	TOM	SC	
11706	KC2OBS	JANE	NJ	WB2EZG
11707	KB1NO	JOHN	MA	
11708	WA6UIJ	MIKE	CA	
11709	K1TC	TOM	FL	
11710	W5DAG	DENNIS	TX	

FISTS #	Callsign	Name	QTH	Sponsor
11711	KI4EBD	BILL	FL	
11712	KJ4QF	KEVIN	VA	
11713	N1ZF	PAUL	CT	
11714	G7TMG/W7	Sholto	ID	
11715	KL7FH	FRANK	AK	
11716	WY3D	FRANK	NJ	
11717	W7HNC	JOE	NM	
11718	K4VWR	MIKE	SC	
11718	K4VWR	MIKE	SC	
11719	KF4SFW	EDWARD	AL	
11720	WF2J	JOSEPH	NJ	
11721	NO6X	KEN	CA	WB2FXK
11722	KB0LLO	ERIC	IA	WB0T
11723	K3CBE	JOHN	PA	
11724	N3CJM	ROBIN	PA	
11725	AE3J	BILL	PA	
11726	AE4RL	LEE	NC	
11727	W1SSR	BUD	MA	

Missing: Stan, K4UK, is compiling archives of all assigned FISTS numbers and their associated callsigns. These are the ones we can't find. If you know who has one of these numbers, please let Stan know k4uk@rev.net.

157, 188, 206, 392, 394, 396, 397,
400, 401, 447, 450, 451, 452, 453,
454, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462,
468, 469, 470, 473, 474, 475, 476,
479, 481, 482, 490, 494, 573, 574,
580, 582, 585, 589, 590, 592, 594,
596, 790, 928, 1081, 1082, 1083,
1084, 1085, 1086, 1087, 1088, 1089,
1090, 1093, 1094, 1095, 1607 1049,
1200

A SUPER QSO

Having been in amateur radio only 5 years, I still find every QSO to be FB. But recently I had one, which was absolutely super. Not one of the rare DX ones, or for that matter even DX. In fact, it was only 166 crow fly miles between stations.

Karl, N2KZ, and I had worked four years ago before either of us had become FISTS members. At that time, Karl was KC2FPM. On the 23rd of March, we made contact and everything was just superb. The band gods shined on us, the QRM and QRN was nonexistent, no QSB, those "DIT'S" and "DAH'S" just flowed from our keys and my brain and fingers really worked well together. We exchanged FISTS numbers and then caught up on things. We chatted on and on. Back and forth, back and forth. Only when I finally was running out of steam to pound more brass did I realize that we had crewed that rag to absolute shreds. Our QSO had lasted 89 ½ minutes. Now that was one super QSO.

Am sure it had nothing to do with the fact that we share the same first name and spell it the same. And even less that we share the same last initial. TNX Karl, N2KZ, it was one Super QSO.73 de Karl, KB1DSB FISTS# 6938

Who are We, Really?

by Rick WB0NQM #10510

"Who are we, really" are we a group of ham operators who are hanging on to a mode of operation which technology has decided has out lived its usefulness, and because we had to learn code and we resist change; we try to keep it alive. Maybe it is because we are using the code as an avenue to collect awards, so we can keep up with other modes that offer similar awards there by keeping the mode active.

I have been a ham for 40+ years and most of my operating has been using the CW mode of operation. In recent years I have found a central theme that has appeared in the operation of CW, which I feel, will not help promote this mode of operation, but will help in its demise.

If we are going to keep CW alive, then we must adopt a different frame of reference than we have at present. We must begin to use the code as a second language, not as just a means to gain points and awards. I am not attacking those hams that are only interested in contesting or in acquiring points for awards, but CW can be so much more. I think we need to adopt the "rag chewing" idea that our SSB's have used for years. When I got started in this hobby back in the 1950's I could tune across the band and hear conversations about how to make a special pie, build a telescope, planting a garden, working on old cars, and everything else that you could think of. The end result was a closer bond between each other and some common interest that could be referred to in later contacts. In addition the code speed increases along with the level of understanding what was sent. Not to mention the sending ability would also improve.

Now this brings me to another issue that has been adopted in recent years that have also caused problems with new hams who want to learn and use CW. That is the use of abbreviations, our club mission statement is "accuracy transcends speed" and I think this is a very good description of what we are trying to do. Well let's take it one more step; lets reduce the number of abbreviations we use. This will give the new ham a chance to become part of the group and will help in the enjoyment of the hobby. As are mission statement says we don't need all those abbreviations in order to communicate. If you make a mistake in spelling a word, I would rather hear a series of "dits" indicating a mistake and the word spelled right than part of a word sent and that causes the other ham to try to second guess what was sent. The end result is no one understands anything and the contact becomes useless.

In summary, maybe fewer abbreviations and lets talk together, I think we will learn more about each other and have fun in the process. Then we have accomplished what we all want and that is to preserve Morse Code.

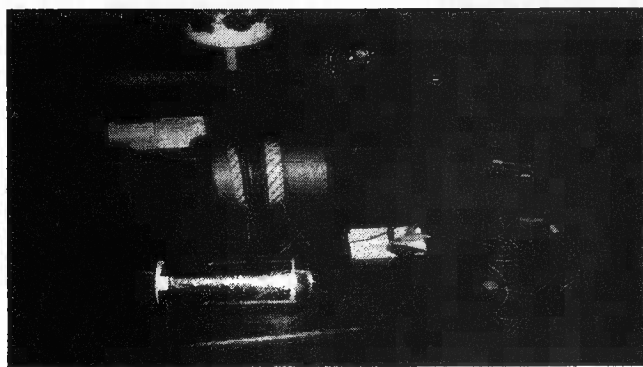
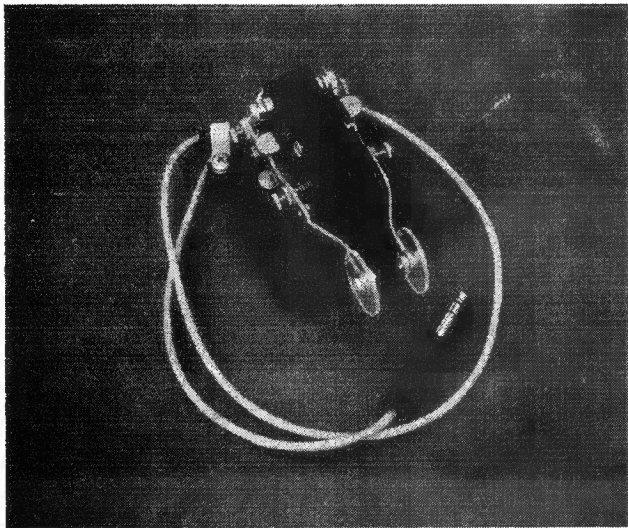
WG1L's Simple Paddles

A friend of mine was talking one day about making a set of paddles by machining etc. (lots of work) I told him that I had an idea for a simple set by just taking 2 straight keys and mounting them on a metal base with a metal vertical and placing them bottom to bottom. I removed the large knobs and in place of them I used 2 flat round plastic disks.

Here is a photo of my finished project. If you want more photos, I can take the unit apart easily and show a break down of the entire set.

This project is cheap and easy and works great!!

Jim WG1L



WB0NQM #10510, built this homemade receiver in about an hour

Another Low Visual Antenna Suggestion

A low visual impact, efficient antenna is not necessarily an oxymoron. I have had excellent success using magnet wire and fishing line. Although this wire will kink easily, it is extremely strong and practically invisible.

For my first antenna I secured 1200 feet of #24 magnet wire from a motor rewinding shop at a cost of \$20. I rummaged some empty spools from the trash and went to the harbor. I found a secondhand marine shop that had tons of interesting things, electronic and nautical. Another \$20 got me two strong ten-foot trolling rods and a spool of 60 lb test line.

That same day I found some eight-foot grey PVC pipes at a construction site. They were thick walled and fairly rigid; I asked permission and happily took them home.

I was living in a top/third floor unit and had access to the flat roof. The building was square at 120 feet a side. I had decided on a three-wire "micro-rhombic" with 68 feet per side. The PVC pipe was installed at the planned feed point and terminus corners by clamping to vent outlets and guyed in three directions with nylon line.

Some adjustable TV standoff insulators held the guys and a small stainless steel pulley. The old fishing rods took up position in the other corners with three paper clips attached to the eyelets three feet apart. All the measuring and grunt work took six hours.

A local Ham shop provided a package of three and a half inch stiff nylon spacers with little notches cut in each end. The wire was pushed into a pair of these spacers and held fast. My feed line was a snap. I had used a half inch wooden dowel through the spool of magnet wire and set it in an open cardboard box with a notch cut in each side.

I very carefully grasped the wire end and slowly made my way along two sides. After securing the

MAILBAG

end, I returned halfway to the fishing pole and raised the wire to the top eyelet. This process was repeated five more times, with the side wires separated nicely. The last run on each side was 10 feet longer.

I sandpapered off the enamel coating and mechanically secured and then soldered three wires together. I had decided not to terminate the antenna, so the "far end" was open a few inches, I used four inch square clear 1/4 inch nylon stock with three holes. At the feed point mast, the extra wire made up my feed line, which I cut to a foot above the roof where I connected the center conductor of some waterproof coax and cut away the outside braid.

All connections were sprayed with varnish and I also wrapped denso tape around the coax, at the antenna I grounded the outer braids.

The next week I passed my theory with 76% and 12 WPM lets me work all QRG's. I loaded up the old rig I was lent and tuned on 14.040. Answering a CW, I had my first QSO with a station in California. I was sweating so hard my finger kept sliding off the key!

I called up my Elmer, Jack, VE7DBK, and then he told me I was QRP - "The rig only puts out 4 watts". Needless to say the antenna worked great, and I would ragchew into ZL around midnight local. The antenna worked well in all directions.

My last temporary "hidden antenna" hardly got out at all in comparison. It was a pair of 66 ft and 34 ft wires "up" in a hedge with a balun to waterproof coax.

Fellow FISTS member, Mike AH7R at the University of Hawaii did the math for me and advised that with 100 watts in, I was getting 18 out on 80 meters. He reassured me, however, that was still enough power, and I was able to get into Alaska on 40 and 80, as well as keep my TCC sked on 20. At the present QTH, I'm using the WorldRadio telescoping masts - I painted them grey. 73 - Dave VE7DWG

Hello Nancy, WZ8C,

I knew I recognized your name in the byline of the article, "Go with the flow." I thought it was a great article!

A little over a year has gone by since I passed Element 1. I continue to work on my copy speed, currently at 17 wpm, with occasional successes. My sending is slower with many errors. I've got a Code Buddy through FISTS, David, N4IN, in Louisville, KY. Recent propagation conditions are making things a little rough, however. And finally, I was recently "net control" for my club's on-air CW Tutor Project. I wouldn't say I'm "passionate" about CW, but I am having tremendous fun!

73, de Tom, AB9IN

Dear Nancy,

I am happy to send in my annual dues for FISTS, check enclose. Now, here is a story and a question for you:

I just married KG4AYU, Jewel Scherr (FISTS # 6197), who is now Jewel Tompkins. We were practicing code together many years ago, when one thing led to another...and after a bit of QSB, the rag chewing on the air gave way to an eye-ball QSO. Seven years later, we were married on July 9, 2005. What a wonderful outcome for two radio amateurs! CW is truly a great language for romance! Has this happened to other FISTS members?

73

Dan AE4AI, #2444

Hmmmmmmmm...I know we have at least three other FISTS marriages, where the partners were single when they joined FISTS and later got married - Rod W9BRD and Betty VE3ZBB, Maggie WP2T and Greg NP2GQ and (maybe?) David WAKL and Cheryl KB0RQN. Maybe we should start a "singles" net??? - WZ8C

FISTS AWARDS

By Dennis K6DF

The Awards are starting to pick up a little more, especially the Century Certificate. That is still the all time favorite award among the membership.

The bands have been up and down over the past few months, but the FISTS members just keep banging the brass and making contacts. It was encouraging to hear so many FISTS working the last Sprint. Seems that several members picked up the last few numbers to complete their Century Certificate as many CC numbers were issued the week after the Sprint.

Remember to use the awards e-mail address, (Fistsawards@comcast.net) to send in your award logs.

Please send in complete logs for awards. That means all of the following information; Call, Date of QSO, Band, FISTS Nr., Point/s claimed for each QSO. Incomplete logs delay getting your award.

The FISTS number for KN0WCW can only be counted ONCE!

Please check the FISTS Web Page for additional information regarding current FISTS awards and how to apply for them:

<http://www.fists.org/awards.html>

If you have any questions about the awards that are not answered on the FISTS awards web page, feel free to e-mail me with your questions.

Keep banging the brass . . . C U on the bands . . .
73, Dennis K6DF

Awards Issued - Apr 18, 2005 to June 12, 2005

Basic Century (CC)

G3TXK	KD6SX	KK5PJ	W1UVJ
JJ1XET	KD7JG	KZ2G	W2PL
K1IK	KE7XU	N2ADP	W6RO
K7NM	KG4YLZ	N2AUR	WA4VVA
K8FP	KI4CBN	N4GX	WA5PSA
			WA6PX

Silver Century

K3DEN
K4OSO
K4WFM
K5POA
KA4JQZ
KB1LBP
KE5CXX
KG7A

Gold Century

K0TC
K3DEN
K4WFM
KB3HBD

Diamond Century

VA3UU

Platinum Award

K4OSO
K4WFM
KA4JQZ
KA8JRV
KC2GLL
N5IXA
W7JI

Platinum 250 Award

AK7O
K4WFM
VA3UU
WB8TXG

Platinum 500 Award

WB5KHC

Worked All States (FISTS)

K4WFM
KD5JWC
N4GE

1 X QRP

N2AUR

NANFA

W7PFZ

Club Call Achievement

K8QY

You just gotta try QRP!

And when you do, build a Wilderness NC40A

If you've ever thought about QRP, but decided against it because the radios seemed like toys, you are not alone. I never could understand what could be so interesting about under powered poor performing QRP radios. In a weak moment, and after reading an article in the December 2000 issue of QST I finally decided to find out. About a week after I sent a check to Wilderness Radio a little tiny box arrived in my mail. Inside was a detailed manual, a top-rate custom enclosure, and a couple of baggies of loose parts. It didn't look like much, and certainly no where near enough parts to make a decent radio.

I was wrong in a big way!

I hadn't put anything in the way of electronics together for a long time, so I took it slow. In about 45 minutes, I had all the parts inventoried and arranged on a couple of sheets of notebook paper. I scotch-taped each part to the paper so I wouldn't lose too many pieces.

The single circuit board was very well made, and the plated-through holes were smaller than I expected. The next thing I did was run down to Radio Shack and buy a 15 watt pencil soldering iron with a fine tip. Believe me, you better do this, the parts are small and very compactly arranged on the board. The instructions recommend using 2% silver solder - do this also. This solder is a joy to use, flows very well and leaves barely any residue at all.

Aside from the solder, nothing else is needed to build and operate this radio (a magnifying glass would have been nice for my feeble eyesight). For the next two evenings I was squinting at resistor color codes, and minuscule printing on teensy little caps. There are some toroids to wind, but don't let that scare you. I'd never done it before either. I did make one mistake, I tried winding one toroid

with the wrong size wire. Don't do this! Luckily, I noticed it in time and re-wound the darned thing with no problems. The instructions in the step-by-step manual are exactly correct.

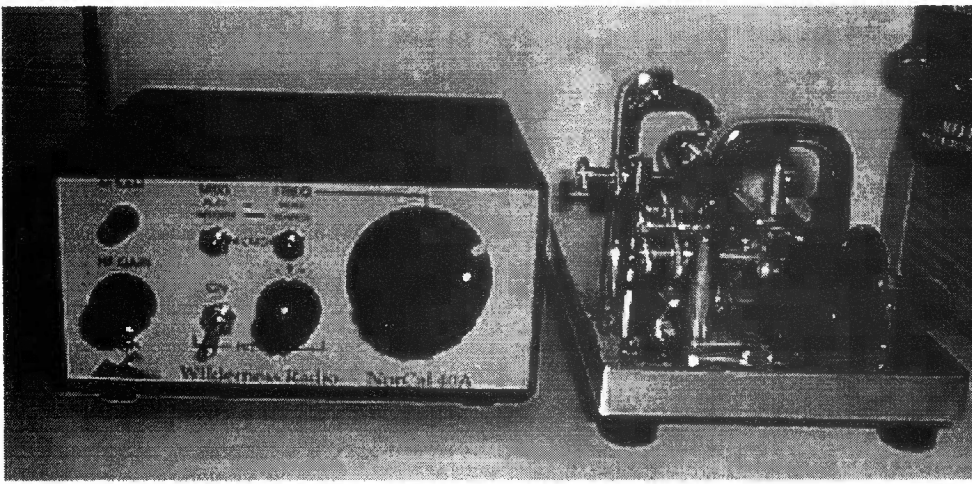
Look at the pictures, and follow the the instructions. Your radio will work. I know this is true, because mine did.

When I said mine worked, did I mention that it worked instantly the first time I applied power? Well, to my genuine amazement, it did! Alignment is a snap, and no special tools or instruments are needed.

The best part is how well, the receiver works. I swear, the receiver in this QRP Transceiver is just as capable of pulling weak signals out of the muck as is my regular rig. I've got an Elecraft K2, which is a good radio even by today's standards. The Wilderness Radio NorCal 40A is a REAL rig, not a gimmick or a toy. I was on the air before the last solder joint had cooled and made several contacts thousands of miles away using my barely marginal vertical all-band antenna.

Nowadays, the only thing I use the SB-1000 amp for is as a perch for Conan my jumbo sized cat. He hasn't been in the shack much lately. I guess its the searing heat put out by the amp that he really likes. I thought he was copying code all this time.

I've been operating QRP on 40 meters lately, and believe me, with QRP the thrill is back! Every time someone answers my CQ I'm shocked that my measly 2-watt signal can be heard. But they really do hear me, and I can hear them too. I usually use my K2 and tuner to get the antenna matched to around 7.025 before I switch the coax to the NorCal 40A. The neat thing about this is that I can flip the coax switch and get the K2 listening through the same antenna as the QRP rig. Usually there isn't any detectable loss of signal from one to the other. I know, I know you don't believe it. Well, I didn't believe it either when I read a similar claim in a Ham magazine. That's why I had to try it myself.



This is a
really big
radio in a
little box.

(Nocal 40)

The coolest feature of this hot little radio is the built-in memory keyer. What's so cool about a memory keyer these days? This keyer will tell you what the operating frequency is at any point in the band, and will also tell you when a desired frequency has been reached! Aside from that, the keyer allows setting of QSK, Iambic mode, key-down function, and a bunch of other stuff. Neat-O to say the least. The KC-1 memory keyer is optional, but I strongly suggest you buy it right away. It comes with a front panel drilled and labeled for a really professional look. I highly recommend this QRP kit. Get in touch with my friend QRP Bob at Wilderness Radio NorCal 40A and have him kit one up for you!

Oh, and by the way . . . I don't work for Wilderness radio, they didn't pay me to say this, and I didn't even get a free radio. I did talk to QRP Bob on the telephone when I was putting the kit together. I was a little worried about one of the steps. He listened to me, assured me that everything was going to be OK, and to just do exactly what it says. "Yes", he said, "the instructions are correct and the radio will work".

73, Carl WA7CS

Signor Marconi's Magic Box

by Paul WA9PWP FISTS 2153

If you are interested in early "wireless" pioneers, you need to read "Signor Marconi's Magic Box" by Gavin Weightman, 2003, DaCapo Press.

Apparently the book has been "remaindered" as it can be bought for less than \$3 on Amazon.com. This hardcover book of almost 300 pages, with 16 pages of historical photos and reproductions of documents (the first radiogram?) has an amazing amount of historical information on not only Guglielmo Marconi but also is a "who's who" of seemingly all of the early radio experimenters and inventors.

The author has researched this subject well. It is almost as if he had been following Marconi around and taking notes, as Marconi progressed from simple spark transmission and receiving on his family's estate at Pontecchio, Italy to spanning the Atlantic from Poldhu, England to Signal Hill, Newfoundland, and beyond. Yes, Signor Marconi was Italian, but why did he spend most of his time experimenting in England? You will have to read the book to find out!

I could go on and on, there are so many interesting facts and people in the book. How about Marconi's glass eye? Benito Mussolini? Marconi was so honored in his time and afterward because he was very devoted to concrete research and proven results, unlike other early radio pioneers who promised much and delivered little.

FISTS Winter Sprint, 2005 Results

Hello fellow FISTS!
 I see many new FISTS numbers are joining us in
 the Sprints, welcome and thanks for joining us!
 Hope to see you all in the Sprint Sprint! 73
 Dan, N8IE FISTS #4985-Sprint Manager

QRO Category

Call	Name	FISTS#	State	Score
N2ED	Ed	2454	NJ	47135
K4BAI	John	2158	GA	25194
WB0B	Larry	2916	IA	19446
K8CI	Richard	5270	OH	16200
W3BBO	Bob	6281	PA	14944
N5DY	Jack	11105	OK	14868
VE2AWR	Serge	10370	QC	14229
KN9X	Dan	8671	IL	13615
K7ZYV	Carl	3426	MS	13392
WB0PYF	Raymond	7986	MO	12736
KB6NU	Dan	9342	MI	11820
WB2WGX	Richard	6853	NY	11764
W6RK	Risto	10908	CA	10472
K7LFY	Bob	7866	WA	10220
N3PXF	Tom	9282	KS	8792
K8MW	Richard	9183	MI	8762
KE9GM	Gregory	6920	IN	7670
W4MY	Marty	10945	NC	7625
W7DPW	David	10410	WA	7336
AA0YY	Mark	2948	MO	6425
W7GB	Don	2108	WA	6396
W8UI	David	10112	WV	6183
K4ORD	Riley	4272	VA	5050
W9LHG	John	9565	MN	4991
KT2E	Mike	5086	TN	4945
WA6PX	James	8802	OR	4761
K8FLY	William	3032	MI	4675
AE2L	Joshua	1912	NC	4550
KH6HHS	Talley	9579	VA	4416
VA3EWP	Vincent	8070	ON	3956
K9XL	Raymond	8469	IL	3454
NG6X	David	719	Ca	3440
KG6TWU	Ron	10990	CA	3300
KU8T	Thomas	10163	IN	3150
W5TA	Dick	7889	TX	2945

Call	Name	FISTS#	State	Score
K0LWV	Larry	2589	MO	2698
NU7T	Steve	4676	NV	2584
KB3HBD	Sandy	11140	MD	2420
KS0M	Dick	3067	MO	2400
VA2SVP	Guy	7048	QC	2394
KD5JOM	Robert	7459	MS	2210
W4DON	Donald	3936	NC	2100
K8VFR	Rosemarie	5602	MI	2080
VE3VMP	Mike	10335	ON	2023
AI4JW	Jason	10948	VA	1905
VE1CB	Rene	11269	NB	1680
K9UQN	Don	4718	IL	1425
W9SJW	John	10004	IL	1400
AB0XE	Steve	8641	MN	1330
W8GAC	John	4043	OH	1260
N3XL	Bill	9921	MD	1125
K3GBB	George	10448	MD	1080
K6RCZ	Randall	9599	CA	1066
WB2LOS	Michael	6178	NY	1001
KA3AKC	Lew	7235	MO	975
KG6YAE	Dick	11313	CA	960
K4MHM	Murray	715	NC	715
KE4S	Dave	9731	VA	540
WA2JCP	Martin	10177	PA	480
KK5XX	Frank	9497	TX	180
N5XGG	Joe	9974	TX	100
N2GT	Sterling	9960	NJ	20

Club Category

Call	Club	FISTS #	ST	Score
W8EOC	Medina 2 Meter Group			
	10250	OH	39934	
W4FFF	FISTS Club Of North Carolina			
	9700	NC	17723	
N4SDM	Sam Davis Memorial CW Club			
	10600	TN	14118	
KC7EQW	Coronado ARC			
	8675	CA	13563	
WB0RMK	SMARTS			
	3465	MN	11811	
K9WM	Green River Valley ARS			
	11275	IL	5925	

Call	Name	FISTS#	State	Score
N5FFF	Redstick FISTS Club			9250
LA	3040			
W2ZJ	ARS Of The Southern Tier, Inc.			11000
NY	2322			
KG2GI	Nutley Amateur Radio Society			8175
NJ	1185			

QRP Category

Call	Name	FISTS#	State	Score
N5TW	Tom	4422	TX	19832
NO8C	Michael	9356	OH	12172
W5KDJ	Wayne	10060	TX	10410
K7TQ	Randy	3251	ID	8350
VA3AVP	David	9913	ON	6992
W5TVW	Sandy	5144	LA	6496
WB1HGA	Ron	10251	MA	5516
W9DQ	Philip	10359	TX	2080
KD5MJJ	Hawk	8180	TX	1680
K1DGH	Edward	3490	MA	1080
KE6US	Eric	11352	CA	715
W0OOW	Steve	7808	NE	270
K4KO	Greg	10584	TN	175

Winter Sprint Soapbox

Jason Wright, AI4JW, VA FISTS# 10948 This is the first real effort I've put into the FISTS Sprint since joining, and I had a blast! Looking very much forward to the Spring Sprint.

Richard Dunnihoo, K8CI, CT FISTS# 5270 Great conditions.....enjoyed this one.

Green River Valley ARS, K9WM, IL FISTS# 11275 The Green River Valley ARS, is a new Fists club with about 20 members, five of which are Fists. Today's Sprint fell on a Volunteer Examiner day, so only one operator was available to work the contest. We will try to do better next time! Many thanks to everybody who we worked!

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, MI FISTS# 9342 Another fun Sprint!

Coronado ARC, KC7EQW, CAFISTS# 8675 Everyone please quit sending their CC number during the Sprints!!!

Dan Ausili, KN9X, IL FISTS# 8671 Another fun event!

Dick White, KS0M, MO FISTS# 3067 Using my radio club radio to warm it up for Field Day. Also, used only my ground mounted vertical. I only put in two hours of the four. As always, it was a lot of fun.

Michael Copas, NO8C, OH FISTS# 9356 Had a great time. Thanks to everyone in the contest.

David Pemberton, VA3AVP, ON FISTS# 9913 I did not think the bands seemed that great for the Sprint. I also had a fan burnout in my FT-840 well in full break In, had to finish sprint on my back up FT-857. I hope to better next year 73 es GB all who worked me.

Rene Poitras, VE1CB, NB FISTS# 11269 This is my first Sprint. Enjoyed it very much.

Steve Sims, W0OOW, NE FISTS# 7808 Gotta fix that antenna when the weather warms up!

Wayne Rogers, W5KDJ, TX FISTS# 10060 Nice contest this time. Lot of new calls and more folks in the contest. Props even ok on 7mc.

Dick Foster, W5TA, TX FISTS# 7889 Only able to get on for one hour. Conditions were good, and lots of activity. Keep up the good work guys. See y'all next time.

Sandy Blaize, W5TVW, LA FISTS # 5144 Was sort of a slow sprint this time. Conditions didn't seem really that good or possibly participation was skimpy. Looking forward to the next one.

David Drew, W7DPW, WA FISTS #10410 Great contest, good band conditions. Nice weather to be indoors.

Ray Myers, WB0PYF, MO FISTS # 7986 Had lots of fun meeting old friends & many new fist members.

Lew Norwood, KA3AKC, MD FISTS # 7235 My first SPRINT and only had a hour or so but had a great time. I hope to spend more time in the spring. Tnx Dan.

Larry J. Newby, WB0B, IA FISTS # 2916 The wife was away shopping and I had the huse to myself. I had unplugged the phones, pulled the blinds and locked the doors. At last conditions were fair, signals good and I could pass the time contacting my FISTS friends far and wide. Thank you all for the good time and hope to hear you on soon for a nice chat.

Mark Choate, AA044, MO FISTS # 2948 Lots of fun, didn't hear Nancy though.

Richard Jurkowski, WB2WGX, NY FISTS# 6853 I operated 100 watts with a inverted Vee antenna at 30 feet. The band conditions were very good and I had a lot of fun during the Sprint. Rich Jurkowski

Amateur Radio Association of the Souther Tier Inc., WB2FXK, NY W2ZJ is located at Harris Hill, the Soaring Capital of America. Along side the runway. Not many taking off and landing this time of year. In good weather, they have two tow planes going constantly. During meets and special events, have a lot of tow planes come in and help out. Very nice Museum that seems to be busy all year round. Have license plates from all over world, in our parking lot. HI Sorry was trapped on 15 and 20 this time, will do btr next time. OP WB2FXK Jack

John Underwood, W8GAC, OH FISTS# 4043 Lots of activity on 40 mtrs.

Carl Muddlekauff, K72YV, MS FISTS# 3426 Dan - Thanks for waht you do. Had great fun in sprint, more FISTS on than I have heard in a long time.

Phillip T. Crawford, W9DQ, TX FISTS# 10359 Lots of Fun. Lots of FISTS#. My first but not my last.

Bob Forgey, K7LFY, WA FISTS# 7866 I worked 40, 20, and 15 meters. I had weak signals on 20 early so went to 40 and 15 and did better. 15 seemed best until late int he spring here - 20:30Z or so. Lots of new faces since I have been traveling a lot and it has been a while since I could get on. Heard many of the regulars but no EU this sprint. Did work New Zealand, HI and AK though which is always fun. 15 was quite open and I would work HI then VT then AK etc. Had trouble with KS on 20 and couldn't make a QSO. Missed KS and some other close states on 40. 40 was very good coast to coast from OK. I could work CA then NC etc. I worked more slowly this sprint to encourage new hams and slower QSOs. I only made 74 QSOs - maybe a low. I worked 28 multipliers and probably could have done much better there if I had done some S & P on 15 especially instead of waiting and calling. But I had fun and only had to dig out 2 or 3 weak signals. Nearly all signals were very good here in OK.

Nutley Amateur Radio Society, KG2GL, NJ FISTS# 5947 Operated by Marc NU2J and Tony KG2GL. NU2J new FISTS member, Did we win? We came in late from an antenna party and only operated for about 1 1/2-2 hours. We need to lengthen the spring to 8 hours "Hi". Lots of fun short on time! 73

Hank Lesesne, KD5MJJ, TX FISTS# 8180 My first sprint as a QRP entry. Thank you to all those operators who made the effort to complete a successful exchange. TenTec Argonaut V at 5 watts and dipoles. Nice to hear 15 meters open.

Riley Dudley, K4ORD, VA FISTS# 4272 Conditions good on 40 & 20 m, fair on 15m, even got 1 CA on 10m, lots of activity.

+++++

FISTS Spring Sprint, 2005 Results

Hello fellow FISTS!

It was nice to get a chance to work a few of you in this Sprint, thanks for the Q and for joining in on the fun. The turn out for FISTS Clubs was great, thank you all for putting your club on the air.

I also see a lot of my fellow QRP'ers submitted logs, 72 gang!

Happy Birthday to Roger, K1TG who celebrated his 65th during the Sprint.

Hope to work YOU in the Summer Sprint!

73 Dan, N8IE FISTS #4985

Club Category

<i>Call</i>	<i>Club</i>	<i>FISTS #</i>	<i>ST</i>	<i>Score</i>
W8EOC	Medina 2 Meter Group	10250	OH	23458
W4FFF	FISTS Cluf Of North Carolina	9700	NC	18603
W5KL	QCWA Chapter #202	6780	VA	18270
W0ICT	S.H.A.R.K.S.	11444	KS	16160
K9WM	Green River Valley ARS	11275	IL	14176
WA7YYY	Cowlitz FISTS ARC	1900	WA	7436
W2ZJ	A.R.S. of the Southern Tier, Inc.	11000	NY	6425
KG4VLC	FISTS CW Club Of The Carolinas	9450	SC	4761
VA3BRC	Brockville Radio Club	10100	ON	4416
N2MO	Ocean Monmouth ARC	11400	NJ	2142

QRO Category

<i>Call</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>FISTS#</i>	<i>St</i>	<i>Score</i>
K7NM	Lee	8233	UT	28640
K8IJ	Charlie	8096	KY	18315
WB0PYF	Ray	7986	MO	15480
K7CS	Don	9164	VA	14926
WB0B	Larry	2916	IA	14912
W4MY	Marty	10945	NC	14124
WB4MED	John	10516	FL	12736
N5DY	John	11105	OK	11098
KF3DC	Ken	6521	MD	8046
K4IA	Craig	6702	VA	7448
VE2AWR	Serge	10370	QC	7308
K7ZYV	Carl	3426	MS	7072
K6DF	Dennis	3076	CA	6552
KS0M	Dick	3067	MO	6552
K5IZO	John	10309	TX	6480
W4DON	Donald	3936	NC	5600
K4OSO	Milton	11383	VA	5562
KE9GM	Gregory	6920	IN	5400
K1TG	Roger	10462	CT	4950
N3RSD	Frank	2411	DE	4800
NN9X	Peter	2047	IL	4725
W7DPW	David	10410	WA	4092
K5YQF	Cecil	8077	TX	4002
WB9DLC	Michael	11145	IN	3850
KB3HBD	Sandy	11140	MD	3724
W4KPG	Eric	10774	FL	3297
VA2SVP	Guy	7048	QC	2983
AI4JW	Jason	10948	VA	2968
KG2LO	Roland	2980	NJ	2944
W3NGO	Richard	4016	PA	2793
K4WFM	Frank	10245	FL	2790
K8EIG	Robert	5868	OH	2660
NO6X	Ken	N/A	CA	2641
K5POA	Jimmy	7062	TX	2641
WA6PX	James	8802	OR	2584
KK5PJ	Dick	7650	TX	2414
K0LWV	Larry	2589	MO	2380
K8VFR	Rosemarie	5602	MI	2226
K0TC	Ron	10722	MN	2010
N3XL	Bill	9921	MD	1904
N4GX	Edward	11486	FL	1904
K9UQN	Don	4718	IL	1734
WDQK	Richard	3380	MN	1632

<i>Call</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>FISTS#</i>	<i>St</i>	<i>Score</i>
KM4FO	Dwight	3316	KY	1632
KO4OL	Glenn	6583	KY	1610
KR4M	Duren	8553	SC	1552
KA8MPT	John	9552	OH	1498
WA5TCZ	Darron	9441	LA	1470
WA8BIJ	Vincent	905	MI	1365
N8UW	Chuck	9348	OH	1330
AE8M	John	7580	OH	1040
WA2EQF	Scott	11337	NJ	850
W8GAC	John	4043	OH	780
NG6X	David	719	CA	708
W4OXX	Charles	6283	KY	700
K8JD	John	3853	MI	660
VE7NS	Ron	9151	BC	540
N6NAX	Donald	8884	AZ	416
KI4GUP	Barry	11374	NC	385
W0QQS	Bruce	10690	MN	378
N7EIE	Leroy	9926	WA	125
KU8T	Tom	10163	IN	45
K4UK	Stan	2934	VA	40

QRP Category

<i>Call</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>FISTS#</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Score</i>
KG5U	Dale	5880	TX	15572
K7TQ	Randy	3251	ID	9744
W0PQ	David	11511	NE	2926
K6ENT	Kent	7885	CA	2380
NT4XT	Darin	9764	GA	2074
K9XL	Ray	8469	IL	2040
KB3AAG	Frank	10915	PA	1936
WA2BQI	Bud	2009	NY	1104
K8JV	Jim	2372	MI	957
N5KIP	Dick	8653	LA	936
W5TVW	Sandy	5144	LA	923
KE0A	Rod	4969	ND	850
K4YKI	Norm	2166	KY	800
K2EKM	Bill	10138	VA	682
WA7HDI	Joe	11421	AZ	650
K0MAX	Max	9134	MN	570
W9UQB	Mike	3687	AZ	400
KM4BR	Ron	1593	KY	350
K9EW Ed		11126	IL	245
KC8YFG	Bruce	10521	MI	125

Spring Sprint Soapbox

AI4JW, Jason, VA FISTS# 10948 Great sprint! Spent most of my time on 40m, and closed the station at the end of the contest... just as the lightening started to roll in!

K2EKM, Bill, VA FISTS# 10138 Setup: Ten-Tec Argonaut V @ 5w to an 88ft doublet up 20 feet. Couldn't spend much time in the Sprint, but enjoyed the time spent.

K4UK, Stan, VA FISTS# 2934 Ran mobile in the Mid-Atlantic QSO Party, so only made a few contact in the FISTS Sprint. QSL Bureau Club call during this Sprint. Had at least one contact on each of the five bands. Couldn't raise anybody on 10 Meters. Did work KC7EQW on 10, but no other stations heard. It was good to see the activity by the newer members. Hope they realized that their contact with W4FCR was good for 3 points. - Hi ! I did pick up 17 new ones for the Club NANFA grid.

K4WFM, Frank, FL FISTS# 10245 I had a lot of fun for my first contest.

K5YQF, Cecil, TX FISTS# 8077 Enjoyable. Nearly half my contacts were Fists #'s over 10,000. Great to see new members in the contests. Somewhat challenging for me as I was trying to learn how to use my logging program for rig control during the contest. Next time I'll label the functions keys!

K6DF, Dennis, CA FISTS# 3076 Another fun Sprint, really had a nice time and re-met some old friends during the Sprint.

K7NM, Lee, UT FISTS# 8233 Wow! Great fun! Will have to try the Summer Sprint, too.

K8IJ, Charlie, KY FISTS# 8096 Bands weren't great, but I had a blast. Many thanks to all.

K9Ew, Ed, IL FISTS# 11126 I always enjoy the FISTS Sprints. Very courteous operators in keeping with the FISTS tradition. Not many contacts due to other projects, but still had a good time.

K9WM, Tom, IL FISTS# 11275 The Green River Valley Amateur Radio Society had two operators for the Spring Sprint. We need more space on 20m for spreading out, as it was difficult to find a place to CQ on 20M. We also had contention from the Mid Atlantic QSO Party that was using 50KHZ up from the band edge for their event too.

KB3HBD, Sandy, MD FISTS# 11140 My second Sprint, had lots of fun, wish there was a Sprint every month!!!

KI4GUP, Barry, NC FISTS# 11374 This was my first CW contest and the first contest for which I submitted a log. My goal was to complete 10 QSOs. I know my "solid copy" code speed is only about 8-10 WPM but I was still surprised during the beginning of the contest when I was only able to copy a few of the stations that were "running." Nevertheless, I managed to learn how the exchange was completed in a contest environment and work a few of the relatively slow stations. Since there weren't many of these on 40m, I decided to try my luck at running. I figured that there must be other slow FISTS out there (or at least some ops who needed NC for a multiplier!). I was definitely nervous but managed to work 8 stations during the last hour and ten minutes (excluding two broken QSOs). Everyone who responded to my CQs came back to me with a speed I could copy and patiently provided any requested repeats...thanks

guys. Although my score won't win any prizes, I was pleased with my performance and really enjoyed the experience. I'm already looking forward to my next Sprint in the summer or fall...if I can replicate my last hour performance during all four hours of the next sprint, maybe my score will break 1000!

KR4M, Duren, SC FISTS# 8553 Got more than a hour late start but had a really good time!!

KS0M, Dick, MO FISTS# 3067 I had a lot of fun and looking forward to the next one. The bands were poor with lots of QSB and repeats. Calling CQ worked a lot better than search and pounce. The only DX I worked was 8R1J and he was not in the contest. I did work 22 first time calls, 43%.

N2MO, Denis, NJ FISTS# 10441 First entry as a club. 3 ops. Had a lot of fun.

N3RSD, Frank, DE FISTS# 2411 With new logging program, best fun yet!

N7EIE, Leroy, WA FISTS# 9926 Only able to operate the last hour, and the bands were VERY weak.

N8UW, Chuck, OH FISTS# 9348 TS570 100W -> G5RV @ 25', 6BTV 15 GND RADIALS

NO6X, Ken, CA FISTS# N/A RIG: YAESU MARK V PWR: 200 W ANT: Dipole

NT4XT, Darin, GA Pegasus, 4 to 5 watts out to a G5RV suspended over roof. Managed to find an hour and a half available for this very fun event. Kent TP-1 and rig's internal keyer.

W5TVW, Sandy, LA FISTS# 5144 Not much of a score this time! I had to attend a wake and burial of a dear friend! Managed to operate an hour on the end of sprint.

W7DPW, David, WA FISTS# 10410 GREAT CONTEST Once again. Not too many stations heard, but worked those that I could hear. Looking forward to the next contest.

W8EOC, Ed, OH FISTS# 10250 Club station, W8EOC, multi-operator. K8FH 40 meters & K8NVR 80, 20, 15, & 10 meters.

WA2EQF, Scott, NJ FISTS# 11337 Very good, had a great time.

WA6PX, James, OR FISTS# 8802 Two club stations were worked. Only 20M was open & it wasn't real great.

WB0PYF, Ray, MO FISTS# 7986 Sprint was alot of fun. Bands were tough but met many old friends and worked several new fist club members.

WB9DLC, Michael, IN FISTS# 11145 This was a fun contest. The bands were weak with lots of QRN here on 40 meters. 20 was pretty good and 80 was useless. Did find a little activity on 15, too.

K0TC, Ron, MN FISTS# 10722 The entire Sprint only seemed to last about an hour. I guess time really does fly when you're having fun!

K8EIG, Robert, OH FISTS #5868 Great to hear lots of new members plus all the OT's.

K5IZO, John, TX FISTS #10309 I thought the bands were dead while waiting for 1700 ut. I'm glad I participated. Keep up the good work!

K5POA, Jimmy, TX FISTS #7062 Another great FISTS Sprint! Lots of fun.

W4DON, Donald, NC FISTS #3936 40M was good. 20M was very disappointing. Worked 24 new FISTS members.

K8VFR, Rosemarie, MI FISTS #5602 Such fun. FISTS members are just like a Big happy family!

W2ZJ, Amateur Radio Association of the Souther Tier, Inc. FISTS #11,000 Had a good time getting lil old for 4hr shift alone, HI. Ran Club call W2ZJ so no body stop me to chat. Don't think ever saw so many OT and brand new FISTS IN Sprint before. Bet some of the OT haven't been on lately, so nice to get them on. KeyNote came today too. Dayton next week, so hope I will have had a eye ball there. 73 Jack WB2FXK

K7CS, Don, VA FISTS #9164 Bad thunderstorm last half hour. Had to shut down 20 min before end.

WA8BIJ, Vincent, MI FISTS #0905 My first sprint since member for 14 yrs I think it's about time!!!! "Honey-Do's took most of my time away from spring. "Next Year"

KB3AAG, Frank, PA FISTS #10915 Operated an INARX - 4.5 watts. 80m loop at 25 feet. Had a ball.

W4OXX, Charles, KY FISTS #6283 Sorry I didn't have more time to take part in the contest. Perhaps I will in the fall. Band condx not too good. It would be nice if you would put a SPRINT Log Form in the bulletin or online. I used the one shown online but it is not exactly in the format of the contest.

WA7HDI, Joe, AZ FISTS #11,421 Lost of fun QRP is like hunting Bear with a fly swatter.

W0PQ, David, NE FISTS #11,511 Lots of Fun! Elecraft K1, G5RV dipole up 40 feet, 5 watts.

K0MAX, Max, MN FISTS #9134 There is a good reason why you shouldn't enter a CW Sprint while trying to use a complicated brand-new memory keyer. If you count every mistake, there must be dozens and dozens of reasons why it shouldn't be done. If you multiply every mistake by the number of dits iun the CW errors sign, there could be a thousand reasons not to do it. Or to say it differently, There are a lot of good reasons why a person might enter a CW Sprint and use an old, familiar straight key. And espeically if you have little time or several thumbs...

WA2BQI, Bud, NY FISTS #2009 Very nice contest! Very poor band conditions! Enjoyed working what I could with QRP 5 WTS/dipole! CU next Sprint.

KM4BR, Ron, KY FISTS #1593 Lots of band noise. Had to QRT twice because of thunderstorm. But had fun anyway.

K4IA, Craig, VA FISTS #6702 Could only operate A little less than half the Sprint. Too bad I was off to a good start! Thanks to all and I QSL 100% via the FISTS buro all cards received.

WA7YYY, Cowlitz FISTS ARC, WA FISTS #1900 AI, WA7UQE and I operated using the club call WA7YYY from two locations. We switched back and forth about each hour from 15 to 20 meters. Whoever was on 15 meters had PLENTY of coffee time! We only had 3 total contacts on 15! Our club marks it's 10th anniversary as a FISTS club in October, the oldest club in FISTS except for the UK HQ club. Hope the bands are a little better for the Fall Sprint. Ed N7CFA

K4YKI, Norm, KY FISTS # 2166 Long live CW.

WA5TCZ, Darron, LA FISTS #9441 I answered KG4YLZ Jim in VA and he told me he was working the FISTS Spring sprint, I had totally forgot about the sprint. So started working calls 2hrs. late. I had a ball. I got surprised when 9A2HF Franc from Croatia came bach to me. He was my first ever DX contact. I only worked 2 hours of the sprint but as always talked to old friends and had a great time.

K1TG, Roger, CT FISTS #10,462 Had a good time and it was my 65th birthday to boot! Roger-K1TG

N5DY, Jack, OK FISTS #11,105 Not even one QSO on 21 MHZ! (I had more than 30 Q's on 21 MHZ for the winter sprint.)

WB0B, Larry, IA FISTS #2916 Bad band conditions...no problem with fellow FISTS operators. We still had fun!

KK5PJ, Dick, TX FISTS #765020 meters in resonable shape a relaxing, courteous contest where people actually say "good afternoon", "TNX", etc. I used a straight key for the afternoon. Great fun & thanks to those who participated.

W5KL, QCWA Chapter #202, VA FISTS #6780 Glad to hear the activity! Some newcomers also! How about some evening hours? 73 Buddy, W4YE

CW CLUB" octagon logo pin, with tie-tack type pin back \$1.50. White enamel cloisonne pin "I (red heart graphic) CW" "FISTS CW CLUB" along edge. 3/4" diameter circle tie-tack type pin on back \$1.50 Embroidered cloth patch of our rectangle key logo, \$1.00. The patches can be ironed on or sewn. Travel mugs with "I (heart) CW on BOTH sides - \$5. You may use Paypal to order supplies. Send the total amount to fists@tir.com and put the items you would like in the comments box. Be sure your name & address are included. ALL PRICES INCLUDE POSTAGE. DO NOT ADD POSTAGE TO YOUR TOTAL

HOW DO I GET FISTS SHIRTS? Show the world that you are proud to be a FISTS member. We have t-shirts, sweatshirts, and polo shirts. The front of the t-shirts and sweatshirts are printed in silver: I'm PROUD to be a KNOW CODE Ham and the backs of the shirts are printed in light blue with the FISTS key logo graphic and Join the Code Crusade <http://www.fists.org> The T-shirts are available in two solid colors: black or royal blue (a medium blue, not navy) Sweatshirts are gray with royal blue printing on the front and back. The polo/golf shirts are sky blue with the FISTS key tastefully EMBROIDERED on the top left side. They are short sleeved and have a knit collar and a couple buttons at the neck. Sizes are small, medium, large, XL, 2XL, and 3XL. All shirts are 50/50 blend. The T's are "Best" Fruit of the Loom. Sweats are 5.8 oz Jerzee and Polos are Fruit of the Loom. Price are: **T-shirts = \$5.00 PLUS POSTAGE** **Sweats = \$10.00 PLUS POSTAGE** **Polos = \$14.00 PLUS POSTAGE** For each shirt ordered, enclose \$1 for postage. NOTE: Contact Nancy WZ8C (nancy@tir.com) for non-USA postage. **You may order using Paypal.** The email address to use for Paypal is fists@tir.com. Do NOT use nancy@tir.com. In the "comments" box of the Paypal form, please be specific about what you are ordering, since this info will be used to fill your order. To order by mail, send your order (don't forget to include what color tshirt you want, and the size!) to Nancy Kott WZ8C, PO Box 47, Hadley MI 48440 . Checks payable to FISTS, Paypal to fists@tir.com.

HOW DO I GET/SEND FISTS QSL CARDS Via BURO? Keep SASEs in stock with the FISTS QSL Bureau. Stan Reas K4UK runs the Bureau. Send envelopes to 1020 Long Island Drive Moneta, Va 24121

HOW DO I SEND APPLICATION OR SAMPLE NEWSLETTER TO A FRIEND? For a brochure, email Jim AA9LS at aa9ls@turbotoads.com with their name, call sign, and postal address. SASEs are appreciated. Joe's postal address is 33778 Rebecca Rd, Kingston IL 60145 An application is available for downloading on our web page <http://www.fists.org>.

PAY FOR THE SUBSCRIPTION OF A DX FISTS MEMBER? Subs for European FISTS, paid from the USA, are \$10/
APPLY FOR AN OPERATING AWARD? Dennis Franklin K6DF is the Awards Manager. We have many different operating awards. Details are on our web page or in the Keynotes. Dennis's contact information is fistsawards@comcast.net or 4658 Capitan Drive Fremont, CA 94536-5448

WHAT IS KN0WCW AND HOW DO I OPERATE KN0WCW? KN0WCW is the USA FISTS Callsign. Members in good standing (meaning, paid up dues) can operate KN0WCW from their home station after getting PERMISSION. To get permission, contact Karl Zuege, KB1DSB (kb1dsb@sover.net). A schedule of operators can be found on the FISTS Web page. Remember, when you're using KN0WCW, you're flying the flag for FISTS, so please operate responsibly.

HOW DO I VOLUNTEER FOR or GET A CODE BUDDY?

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@arri.net. We need ELMERS and Buddies, please volunteer to be a Code Buddy!! You don't have to be a speed demon to be a Code Buddy, lots of people just want someone to practice with, just like YOU! Code Buddy applications are available on line or from W3GR.

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

HOW DO I 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. Email: irenenken@cs.com

HOW DO I GET A COPY OF FISTS PRESENTATION to give at my 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.

HOW DO I SUGGEST IDEAS FOR THE WEB PAGE? Contact Bill KK4KF at kk4kf@cox.net

HOW DO I ORDER FISTS CLUB QSL CARDS? You may use the FISTS logos and get cards from any printer you wish. Cheapqsls.com has made a special FISTS card with special pricing for FISTS members. For ordering information and to see the cards visit <http://www.cheapqsls.com/fists.htm>

HOW DO I 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 and send it to Nancy WZ8C PO Box 47, Hadley MI or nancy@tir.com Get published Be famous!

WHAT IS A CC NUMBER? CC stands for Century Certificate. It is the number on your Century Award Certificate. It is exchanged to earn different types of awards. There is NOT a separate "Century Club"

Coming Events:

“GET YOUR FEET WET” WEEKEND

Announcing a new operating event created with
new-to-CW-contesting operators in mind!

Please help spread the word about this
event through your club newsletters and
web pages.

Everyone is welcome: Elmers and Old Timers, get on the air, too!
It won't be as much fun without YOU.

0000Z September 16 - 0000Z September 18

Details on page 3 of this Keynote and on www.fists.org