



NEWSLETTER

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Ham Festival in Kagawa Prefecture

JA5CUX A. Ogose

We, KCJ members in 3, 4 and 5 areas, participated in “Ham Festival in Kagawa” (5 area) held on Mar. 18, 2012 as did last year. The Festival was crowded with about 100 participants. Our booth displayed a KCJ flag, the list of those who got KCJA and winners of KCJ contests, the statistics about contest software used in KCJ topband contest 2012, photos of members’ cars, etc. In addition, we handed out “The Key” issued in March 2012 and let participants know good points of CW. We had 35 visitors including Mr. Inage, the new president of JARL, and those who came from 3 and 4 areas. I don’t know if our activities in this Festival make KCJ members increase or not, but we have to do anything we can do to increase the activities of our club.



Meeting of JARL Saitama branch

JA1PHE N. Ohya

The meeting of JARL Saitama branch (1 area) was held on March 25, 2012 at Flesa Yoshimi in Yoshimi town, Saitama prefecture. Participants of KCJ were 7K1DPE, JA1TCF, JK1EBA, JM1HUX and JA1PHE. JA1TCF was busy as a executive and JK1EBA also was busy on his own display. All of us wore caps with KCJ logos.

We displayed the list of KCJ members, KCJA ranking list and distributed “The Key” published in March this year. Many visitors said it had been hard to learn codes and even those who had third class licenses (CW license) said it had been tough to make actual QSO. Other comments or questions were; what was the difference between A1 club and KCJ;



what was an advantage of being a member of KCJ; what kind of people KCJ consisted of; discussion on the increasing of articles related to CW in recent Japanese CQ magazine. Many licensees seemed to be interested in CW but there seemed to exist barriers against conducting actual CW QSO and we need to help them in getting over it.

Four and five area KCJ meeting

JH4PCD B. Hamaoka

KCJ members in 4 and 5 areas held the meeting on March 18, 2012 at Ilex in Marugame city, Kagawa prefecture. Participants were JA5CUX, JA5OSA, JH3HGI and JH4PCD. Lunch was noodles at a so popular noodle diner that people made lines in front of it.

(Photo: left to right: JH3HGI JA5CUX
JA5OSA JH4PCD)



Observation of the Last QSO of WACA

JA9CZJ Y. Matsumori

I got a e-mail from a USA ham in the end of February, 2012 asking to operate from a few cities/guns in Ishikawa prefecture. I immediately replied "Yes". We arranged that when he heard of signals of my portable operation, he was to e-mail me. In an operation from Housu gun, I got the e-mail from him in ten minutes after my operation started and he replied to my QRZ USA? I clearly had his call sign, K2IXQ. Next QSO from Nanao city was easy but from Hakui city I was not able to work him. Maybe he didn't catch my English or he was too excited to miss my message indicating I would go to Hakui city.

Next day I worked him from Hakui city in spite of the heavy QRM by domestic stations. Last one for the completion of his WACA was Nonoichi city. I got an idea that I let my wife work him in order to avoid disorder by JA stations because no one knew my wife fired up from Nonoichi city. However she was not used to run CW operation, so I planned that she would work him using a memory keyer which memorized all messages needed. She called CQ USA and managed to work him. So I can say I was a witness of his completion of WACA. K2IXQ chased WACA for a long time, so his last transmission seemed to show his excitement. Congratulations!!

Introduction of KCJ members

JA8OHG

Kun Yoshikawa

I was born in 1932 at Kamifurano town, Hokkaido. In my college days, I often went to Akihabara for my hobby, not ham radio but listening to classical music. I studied exam questions for ham but did not take an exam.

Now in my eighties, I suffered from glaucoma, so I went out not so many and am enjoying CW at home. Although my eyesight fails,



I can key CW. CW is good for preventing from disability due to senility. In addition, I used to feel that the tone of CW is comfortable for me like classical musics are.

I started ham radio on Aug. 22, 1972 at Kitahiroshima town (now Kitahiroshima city), Hokkaido. As you know Japanese hams have to renewal station licenses every five years. I got 9th license the other day this year. Time flies. At first I run FM, SSB, and CW modes, but for last 30 years I run only CW mode. If someone ask me to work on another mode, my

answer has been that “Sri no microphone”. Anyway in my beginner years, I provided several texts for QSO and sent it, sweating nervously. Now, I feel CW like music. At one time I was avid for award hunting. I got Yomiuri Ten thousand Award, WACA (7MHz CW), WAGA (CW), AJA. Now I am striving to work all cities, guns, towns and villages in Japan under my own rules.

When you hear someone, you will check if you worked him/her or not. In old days, this checking was very difficult because we make dupe sheets with papers. When I heard about the computer, I thought it was appropriate for dupe check. However, I was not able to find it among ham shops in Sapporo. I sought and found a shop (not ham radio shop) and ordered one. Owner of the shop said I was a first person who bought it as a personal aim. I bought



PC9801 Mark II. It had 8 bit CPU and a BASIC software was installed. I wrote program and saved it on a tape. This system often failed. Then I bought 8 inch floppy disc system. This one worked well and I was happy. However, these gadgets were very expensive.

In addition to listening classical music and ham radio, my other hobbies are to take pictures and to climb mountains. I went various mountains including Everest and the Andes. I took many pictures and amused myself to arrange albums.

Unfortunately I quitted to drive due to fail of eyesight. Now I am at the passenger seat and am scared of driving by my wife.

JR2GCS

Kuni Matsusita

I started JR2GCS in Jan. 1974 with a professional phone only license. In this year I got a CW license and next year got a second class operator license. Five years later I got a first class operator license. I have continued ham radio for 39 years, a half of my life.

First time antenna building:

At first using a FT-101BS and a vertical antenna for four bands, I was a SSBer working local hams and was not interested in DX. In second year I set up a home-brewed HB9CV antenna for 21 MHz. It seemed to work well, so I called CQ to work domestic stations as usual. But this time I got ZS2RD who responded to my first CQ. He was my first Africa. I fairly jumped for joy. After my QSO, he was piled up by JAs. Being encouraged by this, I often called CQ and got many DXs such as VK, LU, and DL and completed WAC in the short term. Ten years later, this antenna was replaced by TA33jr.

First mobile operation:
The list of rare JCC/JCG was released on "the Key", the bulletin of KCJ for Japanese members, in 1978. It indicated that Kaizu gun, Gifu prefecture, was rare one. Operating from there seemed fun for me. I jammed instruments in my car and went to Kaizu gun. I stayed a fire station house there and set up my shack,



stretching 7MHz invert L antenna from top of a fire bell tower, set the FT-101BS in the car, supplying power from car batteries. It's so rare that I run for five hours, managing to work 120 stations.

Operation on 1.9MHz band in Field day contest:

I participated in Field day contest in 1979. When I decided to join it, I thought I would be on the band I had not been able to QRV from home. Thus, I provided wire for a full size antenna for 1.9 MHz. At the operating site, I stretched 80 meter length wire with bamboo poles I got there. A part of wire touched branches near trees but it worked well. Top band was crowded. Finding non-used frequency, I called CQ. My signals seemed good at the other end for ten watts and, as a result, I got the first place in Tokai district.

Operation from JA8, Hokkaido:

In 2003 JA8 contest was held under the special rule. It sounded fun, so I made up my mind to go to Hokkaido. I arrived at Muroran city by a ferry boat and in the first day, operated at the shore of Lake Tohya. Moved to Furubira and participated in JA8 contest in the second day. In third day, I was on the air from Shakotan peninsula and Suttu seashore. I operated on various bands and experienced pile-ups by domestic stations. When I reached Matsumae town in fourth day, I wanted to stay at a hotel because I had camped for three days. I asked KCJ members of JA8 and Miss Ohta JE8RKV recommended hotel Yokohama. I stoked up sea urchin and slept in a bed. It was time to feel home sick. On the way to Hakodate city, I met Miss Ohta to say "thank you". I got to a Aomori by a JR ferry boat

Climbing:

After second time retirement, I began mountain climbing. At each climbing I took a FT-817 and batteries. I climbed Bishamonndake which was located on the boundary of Gifu and Fukui prefectures. Information board at the starting site of climbing road indicated it took 200 minutes till its top. I got started climbing with a rucksack on my back and a pole for antenna in hand. The way was gentle but long. After two hours walk, the rucksack bit into my shoulder and it was hard to hold the pole. At last I reached the top and dried my wet

shirts. The top was wide enough to set an antenna. I enjoyed for one hour, working 30 stations on 10 MHz.

Now I am 80 years old. Striving to keep strength is my important job. I will not quit ham radio because it is good for preventing from becoming senility. I recently got a lot for ham radio in Gero city, Gifu prefecture. Its altitude is 500 meters and its surroundings are open. I built a invert V antenna for 3.5 and 7 MHz bands. I ran this station sometimes. Please work me when you hear me.

JA1DD

Yas Taneda

I was born on Mar. 5, 1933 so am 79 years old. I am a native of Yokohama but now live in Chiba prefecture. I got interested in radio during World War II in order to listen to the warning of air attacks by Americans. I made a crystal radio and one using miniature vacuum tubes. When I was in a junior high school, World War II ended. Although the listening of short wave broadcasts was permitted, I was watching medium wave broadcasts



with a home brewed five tube super heterodyne receiver which was better on sensitivity and selectivity than four tube straight radio popular in those days.

After brewing several radios for medium wave, I built ones for short wave to catch signals of Voice of America from Manila Philippine, west coast of USA and Australia. In order to catch weaker signals from Europe and Africa, buying parts and stuff for radio at Akihabara, I made a double super heterodyne receiver with a RF amplifier. I became an avid BCL.

When the ban of amateur radio was removed in Japan, I was a university student. My major was the chemical engineering, which was, of course, not related to radio but I had several friends whom I became acquaintance through ham radio and practiced Morse codes with them. First exam for amateur radio license was held in 1952 and I took its for first class operator but failed. Second exam was held next year and I passed it and got a second class license. I remember that I wrote application form by myself, filled it and brought them to the communication agency directly.

I got a station license on Mar. 31, 1953. We were allowed on the air at only three frequencies on CW mode and two on AM mode. If several stations were on the air, heavy QRM or beats were produced. Even in this situation we worked each other. Because I got first class license next year, I applied the change of frequencies and output power. Whenever I applied something, government sent officers to check out if my application was legal or not. The communication agency consumed manpower for our hobby. It made me uncomfortable.

In 1955, I had to QRT because my parent was concerned that I would neglect the study in graduated course because I had indulged myself in ham radio and asked my professor to advice me to quit ham radio. In 1960, I had finished my graduated course, so I again opened my station in Yokohama city. The activity there did not last long because I had to transfer to Yamaguchi prefecture by the order of my company. I wanted to have station there but after sending an application to the communication agency, officers who were to check out my instruments didn't come and after one year, I again had to transfer to Hino city, Tokyo. I didn't run station in Yamaguchi,

I settled at Hino where surroundings were so open that I could see Mt. Fuji in the west. My HF signals propagated all over the world very well and I enjoyed very much. On VHF bands, I directed my antenna to Mt. Fuji, then reflected wave propagated all over the Kanto district. Therefore, I became a key station for a round QSO by CW mode on 2 meter band. Sometimes I could work Osaka (about 500 km apart) on 2 m CW mode.

Now I have a license of 500 W station and 50W one for portable operation. I will not renewal 500 W station but still keep a portable one and enjoy ham radio. .

JA1IE

Moh Kurita

I was born in 1935 at Johto ward of Osaka city. I was in Numazu city of Shizuoka prefecture during the World War II for evacuation and after World War II, moved to Tokyo due to the transfer of my father. In



JA1IE's shack

those days, I already was interested in radio. I read the article in Japanese CQ magazine that described a person who had been released from American army and started ham radio. This inspired me to look for signals of ham radio on HF with a straight short wave receiver. In 1953 I passed a exam for a second class operator license (no code class in those days) and started JA1IE in May of this year. When I came to know ham radio, I prepossessed that communications In ham radio were conducted with Morse codes. Therefore, I strived to remember Morse codes on the way to and from a school. Because I could not practice for actual transmission, I did this at JA1BFQ's place every night after I entered a college. The practice of receiving was done by listening communications between police offices around 4 MHz. At last I could pass a code exam for a first class operator. From 1955 to 2002, I was very busy due to my job and didn't have time even though I had the will to be a ham.

After my retirement at 2002, I have lived in the lap of ham radio. I have enjoyed packet mode on V/UHF bands. I also was interested in PSK31 and RTTY and have been enjoying domestic or overseas contacts. Even though I am interested in digital modes, my main activity is on CW mode. Recently many hams run very short QSO such as 599 BK. For myself, I hesitate to make this type of QSO, but it presumably contributes to activate amateur radio because chasing awards is one of activities of our hobby. I often met those hams who said they were not good at CW mode though they had CW mode licenses. It maybe is the tendency of nowadays but it's equivalent to neglect their good ability. It is "Mottainai", if you will.

VOICE OF MEMBERS

(from The Key Apr. 2012)

JA1COP: I was not able to make portable operation due to hay fever.

JA2MYA: No change in my score of various awards because on Feb. QSL cards were not forwarded to members of JARL in 2 area.

JH3HGI: I was active in Feb. on various things. I participated in KCJ meeting of 3 area. On the way to and from there, I made portable operation from Kusatsu city, Siga prefecture and Miki city, Hyogo prefecture. In addition, I was able to be on air at three other cities on other day. In these ways, I aim to get "out door" award.

JA5NSR: No change in my AJA and KCJA scores. I applied WPX-CW 755. I am tallying my IOTA score.

JA8AJE: In portable operation, more skilled operators are getting bigger pile ups. It, however, calm down soon because of their good operation and I can work them easily. I hope the number of skilled operators increases so that I, exclusively S&P operator, can get a high QSO rates.

(from The Key May. 2012)

JA2MYA: DXing on high frequency bands is getting better, isn't it? I managed to work

five new born wards in Kumamoto city, Kumamoto prefecture.

JA2OLJ: New KU, ward, has not been born for a long time. However, we had new KUs in Kumamoto city last April. Sometimes I worked them with QRO, 5 watts. High frequency bands were not good for contacts. By the way, the direction of my antennas at home was shifted from that of its indicator by the spring blast. It's my new chore to fix it.

JH3HGI: April was productive for me. I attended the meeting of JARL Kagawa branch and the 4 and 5 areas KCJ meeting. I operated mobile several times, in addition. My score of KCJA increased one point. This was a QSO with JA5CUX on 1.2 GHz in this meeting.

JA5NSR: I applied and got awards ADXA, JCC 800 and WACA in a hurry before JARL raised award fees.

JA8AJE: SSN is staying around several decades, isn't it? I will not be able to make good DX hunting if SSN is below 100. Many wires acting as radials are in my veranda and I wanted to clear these up. I used the iron frame work as a ground but extra noise showed up. So I put everything back. There still exist messing in my veranda.

JA8PON: I retired and returned to Sapporo. I had to transfer many times in 34 year working. I now don't need to get up by a midnight call. It's fine to spend in a holiday atmosphere.

KCJA

SP1KRF: KCJA 100 #340 Mar. 10, 2012

JA1COP: KCJA550 #016 Mar. 24, 2012

JE4QGF: KCJA575 #007 Apr. 15, 2012

JN7MLJ: KCJA150 #174, KCJA200 #166,
KCJA250 #120 Apr. 15, 2012

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