



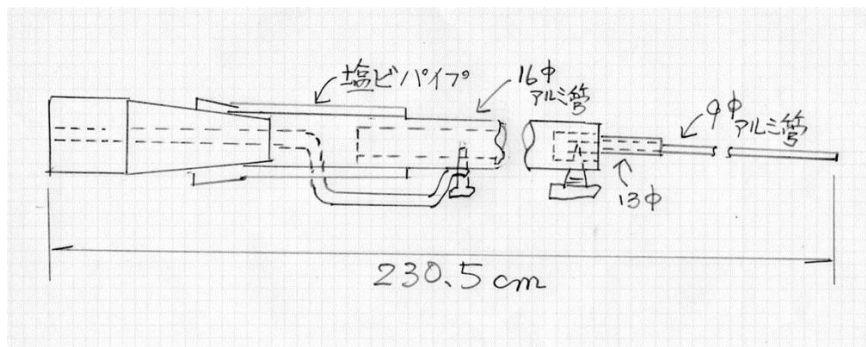
# NEWSLETTER

No. 81 Sep. 2020

## Whip Antenna for 28 MHz

#309 JA9CZJ H. Matsumori

I completed WAJA on all bands but one on 28MHz. My antenna for the 28 MHz band is poor, so, in order to complete WAJA on that band, I have to try hard with mobile operations. I built a full size antenna for mobile operations based on the thought that the longer the antenna in some extent, the better the performance. The base part, a connector from my junk box, was combined with an aluminum pipe. Its length was 2.3 meters. Because of a thick aluminum pipe, SWR was below 1.8 across the band. Only the difficulty I met was it is not easy to put it in a car because its element cannot be bent



塩ビパイプ means a plastic pipe and アルミ管 indicates aluminum pipes.

## Members

### Contribution from Jarmo

#455 OH2BN Jarmo J. Jaakola

Dear KCJ members,

First of all, I wish to thank Masa-san, JA8AJE for inviting me to write a piece shedding some light on my history in Amateur Radio. It covers a fairly long period of time since last year, in November to be exact, I celebrated the 60th anniversary

of my ham career – that is, I was first licensed as a young teenager in 1959.

Today, the OH2BN radio salon (some call it the ham shack... ;-) is located in suburban Helsinki, Finland, Europe on the outskirts of town, on a hill overlooking the city with a good shot at DX. Sitting on top of the roof of a four-storey apartment building is a magnificent antenna, a shiny ground plane (Hy-Gain 12-AVQ), the pride of this CW-only operator. The GP really is a radiator of potent RF energy. If it's not radiating anything, chances are that I am involved with musical pursuits or otherwise busy...

The name of this ancient operator is Jarmo...or, let's put it this way: to some people I am better known - for reasons that remain shrouded in the mists of history - by the English equivalent of my middle name: John.

I am retired now after a professional career of four decades at the diplomatic mission of the United Kingdom in my hometown – that is, the British Embassy in Helsinki, Finland. This means that now there is plenty of time for Amateur Radio and related on-air activities - activities such as spinning the globe and trying to figure out which part of the world the next rare IOTA island is likely to fire up from.



OH2BN in front of the British Embassy in Helsinki

Next, I am going to give you a little insight into my credo, into what I consider personally most important and valuable aspects of our hobby.

The best way to describe my approach to Amateur Radio is to talk about CW, DX and IOTA. Having worked and confirmed on CW all current DXCC entities, including North Korea and Kosovo, needed for the #1 position of having them all, the urge to nail down those rare ones obviously is second nature to me. Once that position was achieved, I decided to resign my membership in the ARRL's DXCC program since there were no longer any fresh challenges for me to pursue, and I turned my attention to the eminently attractive IOTA program of activities run and supervised by Roger Balister, G3KMA and his excellent team of professionals. With IOTA, the challenges – for me – remain daunting, with only the sky as a limit...There are some 1200 islands or groups of islands listed in the IOTA program and to date, I am credited with just 651 entities – so there's a long way to go to reach the top.



“...CW is far more than a nostalgic throwback to the early days of ham radio...” TO .....

(Txn Rob, K6RB) **OH2BN**

CFMG 2-WAY CW QSO

DAY	MONTH	YEAR	UTC	MHz	RST

A1-Op Club CWops FISTS HSC Marconista IOTA OOTC

Jarmo J. Jaakola, MBE  
 Kiillette 5-C-30  
 FI-00710 Helsinki, Finland

YAESU FTdx3000  
 SPE Expert 1K-FA  
 Hy-Gain 12-AVQ

There are also other operating awards hanging on the wall here, similarly testifying to the passion of chasing rare or not so rare ones on CW. This penchant for seeking distant stations, notably when the odds are against you and propagation is poor, could be described as a way of life, a state of mind, a desire to set targets which are both enticing and hard to achieve. A true-blue CW aficionado isn't looking for an easy way out - the tougher the challenge, the sweeter the sense of ultimate accomplishment.

My own CW DXCC chase started in earnest back in 1975, following the introduction of operating awards specifically recognizing achievement in the art of CW DX. But the roots extend even further back in time, to the late Fifties when I was first licensed and joined the SRAL, the Finnish Amateur Radio League, and even to the mid-Fifties when I was introduced into the world of shortwave radio as an active SWL.

Down in the course of years, it became quite natural to seek the on-air company of

other like-minded individuals and to join groups of fellow amateurs devoted to pounding the brass instead of grabbing the microphone. Now looking at some of the membership certificates hanging on the wall here, I am reminded of the fact that I am an ex-member of FOC, ex-member of TOPS and current member of the following clubs: Keymen's Club of Japan, CW Operators' Club, FISTS, High Speed Club, A-1 Operator Club, A1 Club, Marconista, Greek Telegraphy Club, AGCW-DL, Rag Chewers' Club, Contest Club Finland, OH DX Foundation, Straight Key Century Club, Old Timers Club and Old Old Timers Club. It think it comes as quite a natural inclination to associate yourself with fellow CW enthusiasts who share your values and beliefs – and history – in the field of Amateur Radio.

Well, what is DX? DX is closely associated with long distance, and DXers are Amateur Radio enthusiasts who use radio waves to communicate around the world, across long distances. But DX means different things to different people, depending on the frequency you're using or on the geographic location of your station. There is an element of mystery about DX because you can never be quite certain about the behavior of the ionosphere at any given time. Each band has its own specific characteristics, and the bands open and close somewhat predictably, but there can be pleasant surprises.



To a multitude of hams, DX is where it's at. In those other years, many radio aficionados - like yours truly - used to graduate from the ranks of SWLs, and the opportunity to be able to chase DX came to be one of the major attractions of Amateur Radio to them. So, what is

DX and why is it such a popular aspect of Amateur Radio?

"DX is!" sums it up for the true-blue DXer. However, for the purpose of general discussion, DX is working long distances. Long distances are really what you want them to be. If you are in Europe and new to the HF bands, you may regard contacting United States hams as DX. But if you are an experienced DXer, you

may consider working U.S. stations especially on 80 or 160 meters, rather than on one of the higher bands like 20 meters.

Making two-way contact with distant stations appeals to nearly every ham radio operator. It usually starts more or less as a matter of course. You tune up and down the band and then respond to the CQ of a station you hear loud and clear. You wonder how your signal has traveled that far. Suddenly you realize that the whole big wide world is at your fingertips. You may continue to work domestic and overseas stations, making no fuss about it and taking your DX casually when it comes along. Or, you may refine your approach, seeking out only faraway stations, particularly from countries you haven't worked before.

There is DX and there is rare DX. What is rare, anyway? Rare countries do not have active amateur populations. The countries may be quite near or very far, but activity is the determining factor, not distance. Of course, distant DX stations may be harder to put into your log, but if they are active, sooner or later the target-oriented chaser will get through. The barren lighthouse rock of Market Reef (OJ0) sitting astride the Finnish-Swedish border is easy to work from anywhere in Finland, whenever a DXpedition station shows up from there.

Apart from those exquisite skills and capabilities, a DXer in the Far North of Europe needs a lot of hardware to flex his muscle with, faced with tough competition from stations located on more southerly latitudes. You are now invited on a detailed Station Tour of the OH2BN DX Chateau. You'll be surprised...

Here's a look at the details of the OH2BN station setup...Little Pistol or Popgun stuff to challenge Big Gun DXers, you know...armed with Yaesu equipment.

HF Transceiver: Yaesu FTdx3000

Linear Amplifier: SPE Expert 1K-FA

HF Antenna: Hy-Gain AV-12AVQ Vertical

Antenna Tuner: Heathkit AS-2040

SWR/Power Meter: Diamond SX-100

Paddles: Vibrokeyer Deluxe & Bencher

Keyer: microHAM CW Keyer

Internet Access: Elisa Broadband 50M/10M by Elisa Corporation

DX Cluster: DX Summit by OH8X

PC Laptop: HP 250 G4 – Intel Core i3-5005 CPU @2.00 GHz  
Windows 10 Home

Now it's time for a brief musical interlude. As your DJ, this is BN (Blue Note...) introducing you to the world of music and DX...

Classical music...well, not really my cup of tea. But jazz, yes. Roughly at the time radio entered my life in the mid-Fifties, I got interested in the Afro-American music tradition, better known as jazz.

As a young kid, one who already sported an SWL call and was busy learning code and chasing DX on ham bands, nailing down XZ2TH with a huge BC receiver in the 1950s, it was inevitable that I should also check out what was going on elsewhere, e.g. on the broadcast bands. In so doing, bumping into the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), the Voice of America (VOA) and other major international broadcasters came as no surprise.

One of the programs that jazz devotees throughout the world learned to dig was the VOA Jazz Hour hosted by Willis Conover who, curiously enough, was little known in the United States. Willis passed away in 1996 after an outstanding career in international broadcasting.

With a guitar on my hands received as a birthday present at the tender age of ten, I was sometimes torn between that six-string instrument and the glowing dial lights of a homebrew shortwave receiver tuned in to 14 MHz CW.

Anyway, I can trace back to those early years the fascination that the jazz guitar holds for me. Jazz guitar, played by masters such as Wes Montgomery, Kenny Burrell, Jim Hall, Barney Kessel, Grant Green, Tal Farlow and others.

Thank you for reading these notes. Hope to see on the bands as propagation conditions hopefully will begin to improve slowly.

## A Memoir of My Life

#464 JF7FHY T. Chida

I met ham radio at the end of 70's when I was a student of a junior high school. The father of my class mate was a ham and I often hear his mobile operations. I was vaguely interested in ham radio, because I was an enthusiastic about

baseball in a junior high school. When I dropped in on a display by a science club at the junior high school festival in 1980 and watched the operation of a club member using TS-520, he worked many hams across Japan. It was very cool and fascinated me. In those days, I was busy on playing baseball and study for an entrance exam to a high school. After I entered a high school, I got a license in 1983 and soon started JF7FHY with TR-9000. My main activity was QSOs with local hams on 144 MHz.

I entered a university, so I moved to one area, Kantoh region. I brought IC-2N to enjoy ham but V/UHF in one area was very crowded. I lost my interest in ham radio.

After the graduation of the university, I got a job in my home town. During next 20 years, I operated only several times in a year because I have been busy by studying to get qualifications for job. Growing children has also been consuming time. It was almost the same as QRT.

2009 was the year of triggering me on ham radio. I lost my station license by accident. I have to get a new station license. I wanted to add something new. It was increasing power to 50 watts and getting an operation license of CW mode. Thus, I got third class operator license and bought a used HF rig. My activity on CW has been rising. I belonged to A1Club and KCJ and made CW friends across Japan.

In 2015, I got a second class operator license in order to QRO to 100 watts and to get new JCC/JCG on 10 and 14 MHz bands. My operation was made mostly on CW mode: QSOs on SSB were only about 100 in my 12000 QSOs.

Ham radio established a firm position on me as my lifelong hobby. This hobby is made up of you and me, so please keep friendship with me.



At the entrance of the hotel where KCJ general meeting was held in 2016. JH7FHY (left) and JI7FBM (right).

## Autobiography of JR6CSY

#468 JR6CSY T. Yamaguchi

[My first meet with ham radio]

When I was a second grade of a junior high school, my elder brother took me to a school festival of a technical high school and I watched the operations of ham radio. I thought it's cool. I entered that school next year and soon got a phone class operator license. My mother bought me a TS-520 and a GP antenna for starting JR6CSY. I enjoyed domestic contacts with 10 watts on 21 MHz.

[DX]

One month after the start of my station, I wanted to work DX. So I called a station in South Korea on 80 meters SSB and got a reply. Feeling the mystery of radio wave and the deep emotion, I worked more countries around JA.

[CW]

I got WAC by SSB but compared with the results of my friend using 10 watts and a four element Yagi, my signals seemed not to reach far DX countries. Therefore, I thought I had to operate CW mode. I got a second class operator license one year after starting JR6CSY. Then, countries I got increased in number rapidly.

[DXing again]

After QRT for several years, I moved to Fukue city (now Goto city) on Goto Islands (IOTA AS-040) on August 1986. I built a four element tri-bander, a sloper for low bands and a six element Yagi for 6 meters. It was my best days for DX hunting. Strong impression was a first ever QSO with FR (Reunion Island) on 6 meters. It was February 25 1990 and appeared as news on magazine "Mobile Ham". By the way, the island I lived in was one of IOTA islands, thus I received many SASE requesting my card. I had a local ham avid for DXing, so under his influence I got various awards issued for DX hunting. Anyway, these Goto Islands was a good place for DXing because of very low level of noise. I stayed there four years and backed to Shimabara city in

JCC-4206		NAGASAKI JAPAN				ZONE-25	
128° 50' E		32° 41' N				IOTA-AS 40	
GOTO Is.		MEMBER OF JARL				LOC.-PM42KQ	
TO RADIO		JR6CSY					
		GOTO Is.					
		CONFIRMING <input type="checkbox"/>		OUR QSO <input type="checkbox"/>		UR REPORT <input type="checkbox"/>	
		DAY	MONTH	YEAR	UTC	MHz	RST 2-WAY
RIG : IC-780, TS-930S		ANT: 5ELE. TRIBANDER, SLOPER, GP 15 mH					
RMKS: _____		IN _____ CONTEST _____					
OP : Takaharu Yamaguchi "TAKA"		PSE QSL TNX					
QTH: 607-3 Koba-cho, Fukue-city, NAGASAKI 853 JAPAN							



JR6CSY's favorite key, HK-1Z



Nagasaki prefecture. I had quitted enjoying ham radio for next ten year because my job was tough. One day I casually hear CW and found I remembered codes and wanted to do ham radio again.

[Present]

When I backed to ham radio, I was almost the same as a beginner. I began to make mobile operations by copying operations by others and got hooked. Other things I was avid have been contests, DXing and contacts with Japanese codes. My recent mobile operation was combined with contests. It means as follow; If you QRV from the prefecture where a contest was held under the sponsorship of a JARL branch there, you would be called many participants across JA and you got fun. I got into all prefectures in Kyushu Island for enjoying contests. From 2016, I chased IOTA and got more than 300. Good skill for using Japanese codes is difficult but I am enjoying it.

## Mobile Operation

#471 JI6BFF Y. Kitagawa

When I was in second grade of a high school, I started JI6BFF just with a handy talky on 144 and 430 MHz bands. In those days, I worked JF6LIU and JF6TWP on 144 MHz band with FM mode every night. After high school I entered Yamaguchi University, and got a second class operator license. So I used to participate in contests on CW mode. I graduated the university and got a job. I moved various places in Japan and got a call sign in each place. I still operate one of those call signs, JR9TKT, sometimes.



Two years later I backed home town. I used to operate CW exclusively on S&P mode in contests. My friends JF6TWP and JF6LIU strongly recommended me CW operation. Because I am living in an apartment house, I mainly make mobile operations.

Though I only used a straight key at very slow speed, I started mobile operations with CW mode. Now as results of practice with an electric keyer and a paddle, I operate with a paddle but provide a straight key for a low speed operator.



I like to read books and take pictures of landscape. So in mobile operations, I used to take pictures I liked. I want to operate digital mode, RTTY/FT8, and to go DXpedition.

IC7600 and Bencher paddle  
in my car

## Voice of Members

7M2ALZ: I was sick of telework, so I got into the lack of exercise. The propagations in May and June were good, so I got many productive results on higher frequency bands.

7M3SKC: As usable frequency range of 1.8 MHz band was extended, I constructed Goniometer you can see on you tube. My vertical antenna using this Goniometer as a loading coil became available from 1.6 to 2.0 MHz. Thus, I could be on the air on 1.9 MHz band, too. It worked very well.

My local invited me to the world of JA codes communication, so I trained and could make simple contacts with 10 day practice.

JH1NXU: Stay at home with self-restraint. Good for our hobby. We are able to enjoy our hobby but hope Covid 19 comes to an end.

JH1XUP: I often watch FT8 but it seems CW has more fun than it.

JA2OLJ: Long day-off at the end of April to the early May used to be called Golden Week but this year it got the name of Stay-home week. My six grandchildren stayed home due to closing of their school. So I was very busy because of hiking four times and swimming twice in the ocean, planting vegetables, golf and cycling. We were banned to go over prefecture boundary, so I couldn't make long distance mobile operations. I am waiting the day of the end of Covid 19.

JA2QVP: Most of my recent QSOs were made on FT8. Covid 19 forces us to stay at home, so I found many stations on the air even on weekdays. CW operation was made only for chasing mobile stations and contests.

By the way, post office is denying to handle mails to many countries, so many QSL cards to DX stations stay at my home.

JA3VOV: Wanted to get on 1.8 MHz, so built a whip antenna having a loading coil 120 turns around a plastic pipe 60 cm in diameter and a counter poise 40 meter length wire around my house. An analyzer showed it tuned at 1.6 MHz, so I decreased the coil to 100 turns. Tuning in 1.8 MHz, I applied 50 watts to it with getting SWR infinity. I checked and found three burns. I have to try again later.

JF3PGW: Usable frequency range on top band was widened. It's good news but Covid 19 is more attracting our attention.

JR3KQJ: In AA test, the eldest number was 91 and youngest 15.

JG8NKJ: All JA contest was enjoyable for me with trivial

incidents: a new station on CW mode, a new one on all time, QRP ones and a long time no see one. Every time I worked QRP stations, I thought their signals were not weak.

JA0BJ: Recently, I got a little bit difficult for walking. I joined many contests and made a several contacts. I am glad to know that JA0IOF joined KCJ. His place is about 2 km from mine, so he would give me RST 599 for my 10 watts.

JA0IOF: I am a new on top band, so have to do something about antennas. Oh, do the same on a 10 MHz antenna.

JR0ECQ: I joined 6m & down contest with a mobile whip set in my veranda. I was surprised to work stations at a distance of about 200~300 km over several mountains. The propagation on VHF seems different from that on HF and I got interested in it.

## New Members

JH4RUM Hiroyuki "RUM" Katou #624 May 12, 2020

From his start of a station, he has been enjoying CW. In order to get skill on CW, he hopes to promote friendship among KCJ members. He retired this March, so he manipulates a key every time he is in his shack.

## JP3TWZ Hiroshi "HIRO" Taniguchi #625 July 15, 2020

He got a second class license in 2016 and got a first class one 2017. He was very interested in Japanese code QSO and became an avid operator for it. He says he is still like a beginner but practicing to get skill.

## KCJA

JJ1CWR (会員) 20-5-17								
250pts(#150)								
追加申請								
Band	1.9	3.5	7	10	14	18	21	24
Pts		39	47	44	20	33	30	14
Band	28	50	144	430	1.2	SAT		<b>SUM</b>
Pts	25	2						<b>254</b>

JL1CGT (会員) 20-6-16								
100pts(#384)			150pts(#214)			200pts(#199)		
250pts(#151)			300pts(#142)			350pts(#110)		
400pts(#095)			425pts(#044)			450pts(#067)		
追加申請								
Band	1.9	3.5	7	10	14	18	21	24
Pts	11	47	47	47	46	46	47	47
Band	28	50	144	430	1.2	SAT		<b>SUM</b>
Pts	38	23	14	10		27		<b>450</b>

JROECQ (会員) 20-7-1								
250pts(#153)								
追加申請								
Band	1.9	3.5	7	10	14	18	21	24
Pts	25	43	47	23	41	19	21	13
Band	28	50	144	430	1.2	SAT		<b>SUM</b>
Pts	18							<b>250</b>

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