



THE KEY NOTE

Americas Chapter FISTS CW Club

Temp Editor K6DF - "When You've Worked a FISTS, You've Worked a Friend" - Issue #1 2018

- Americas Chapter News Update - Aug 11, 2018

Chapter President Tim O'Conner AC5SH has resigned all his FISTS CW Club duties due to his demanding regular job. We thank him for his service to FISTS over the past 19 months and wish him well in his day to day work activities. Maybe now, Tim will have the time to get on the air and enjoy more club activities.

Long time member and club Director, Joe Falcone N8TI, is now serving as president.

President's Message

I live near Detroit, Michigan, and I love to drive cars. That's why when someone told me they were inventing a car that drove where you told it to go by flipping a switch and speaking into a microphone, I said, "What's the fun in that?" Who would want to have a car that you just talked to and could not have fun driving?

Therefore, when someone tells me that they invented a way to communicate over the radio by flipping a switch and speaking into a microphone, I say, "What's the fun in that?" Who would want to have a radio that you just talked to and could not have fun operating?

A lot of people don't "get" why we love CW. They think it is old fashioned and we should use SSB or one of the computer driven digital modes. But, we know better. Just like a U.S. Marine loves his old fashioned Ka-Bar knife because without a Ka-Bar, you're not really a Marine, we love our old CW keys, and let's face it, without knowing and using CW, are you really a Ham?

The whole purpose of FISTS is to enjoy and help others enjoy the feeling of being a real Ham Radio Operator. Ham Radio, in any form, is fun, but Ham Radio, using CW, is really fun. And, that is what FISTS is all about. We are the ones that sit alone in the middle of the night our faces lit up with the soft glow of our radio dials and meters and dig out the CW signals sent from halfway across the world. We are still amazed that a few watts of a CW signal can be heard thousands of miles away by a person translating those dots and dashes into words and thoughts. We are the ones that will give up our CW keys only if they pry them from our righteous fingers. We have seen those things they call microphones and cannot imagine why someone would think that pushing a button and talking is fun.

The preservation and promotion of the use of the Morse code to communicate via radio is what FISTS is all about. Using CW is just plain fun and that is another reason why FISTS exists. It is fun to talk, via CW, to other right-minded people who love to use CW. What the FISTS club wants to do is get everyone back on the radio and having fun. So, grab your Ka-Bar, I mean Key, and get out there. Get on the FISTS frequency and call. Try to make a few contacts a week. Get into some rag chewing. Get to know your neighbor two thousand miles away. We are FISTS!

Americas Chapter President, Joe Falcone N8TI

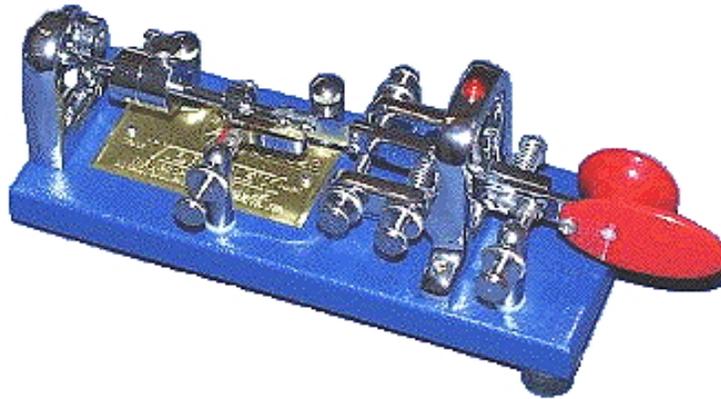
Board of Directors

Joe Falcone N8TI – President
Will Dix KF4IZE – Store Mgr. Ed Wlodarski N2ED – Activities Mgr.
Cody Codianni KC2LSD - Club Call Mgr. Henry Koenig WD8Q

Chapter Volunteers

Dale Holloway K4EQ – KeyNote Newsletter Editor
Joe Spencer KK5NA – Presentation Program Mgr.
Joe Ayala K4JGA – Social Media Mgr.
Dennis Franklin K6DF – Membership, Website, Awards

Email addresses for the directors and volunteers are available on the “Contacts” web page at the following URL address: <https://fistsna.org/contact.html>



Vibroplex Blue Racer 2000

Nancy Kott Memorial KN0WCW Operating Event!

On the last weekend of September, we will celebrate Nancy Kott's, (WZ8C - SK), long service to FISTS CW Club and the Ham Radio community. Nancy met FISTS founder George, G3ZQS (SK) in a QSO in 1988, a short time later she became the head of what is now The Americas Chapter of FISTS CW Club. From then until her passing on 2 March of 2014, she worked to promote our club and the continued use of Morse Code. Her efforts to help newcomers to CW exemplified our motto of "courtesy at all times" and "accuracy transcends speed". She will be missed by all, but not forgotten.

The 2018 event will take place from 00:01 UTC Saturday September 29 to 06:00 UTC on Monday October 1st to allow participation in USA local time from Friday evening through Sunday night.

Operation will be on all Amateur bands. Several stations will be using KN0WCW for this event and stations that work KN0WCW will receive a special QSL card designed to honor Nancy. Current club members are encouraged to sign up to operate the club call KN0WCW by contacting Cody KC2LSD for an operating time slot for the weekend. Cody can be contacted at kc2lsd@fistsna.org. KN0WCW operators who make a minimum of five contacts with the call will receive a KN0WCW operator's certificate from the Awards Manager.

Welcome - Americas Chapter - New Members

Feb 14, 2017 to Aug 10, 2018

NI4MX	18024	EDWARD	FL	AB4CT	18228	PATRICIA	TN
KD9CSV	18025	JOSEPH	IL	KH6WM	18229	WARREN	HI
N3WMC	18026	BILL	PA	KC1ENX	18230	JAMES	NH
K5KBA	18027	JAMES	OK	K2KRG	18231	STEPHEN	NY
WB0JRH	18028	TERRY	MN	KC1BJT	18232	GEORGE	CT
N7LH	18029	LLOYD	WA	KQ3K	18233	ELBERT	FL
KE6MT	18030	REX	CA	K0FG	18234	FRED	MO
NC4BT	18031	BRIAN	NC	W3GYM	18235	JAMES	FL
WA7WJR	18032	WILLIAM	WA	KG4USQ	18236	GREG	OH
K2JW	18033	GLENN	KY	N1ZTY	18237	RONALD	AZ
KC0FUE	18034	EVERT	KS	NJ3T	18238	JIM	PA
KA8ZXX	18035	BRUCE	MI	N4YCI	18239	LIN	GA
KJ4KGT	18036	THOMAS	FL	KB8PAL	18240	MARILYN	MI
KJ4KGS	18037	BEVERLY	FL	WD8ASG	18241	DAN	OH
K7QBW	18038	BOB	OR	SWL42	18242	SUSAN	KY
K6AXY	18039	PHIL	CA	W2KDK	18243	KARY	MO
W9KKQ	18040	THOMAS	IL	N4GFH	18244	GEORGE	TN
W0KFG	18041	RICHARD	MN	W8DHV	18245	DOUG	OH
AI6DS	18042	BRAD	CA	KC0UKA	18246	MIKE	MO
KE7BXZ	18043	ROBERT	ID	AA8NN	18247	DUSTIN	OH
WB4YAL	18044	JOHN	VA	N9GG	18248	BOB	DE
W1YFF	18045	RAY	CT	N4MJ	18249	GLENN	TN
N4CBS	18046	LARRY	AL	KC3CBQ	18250	JOHN	PA
AK0BC	18047	BRAD	CO	K5JFB	18251	JIM	TX
W3GWM	18048	GEORGE	PA	KA9FQG	18252	MARK	IN
K1IG	18049	GEORGE	MA	KC9PRL	18253	JENI	IN
K3YMI	18200	JIM	MD	N1MRR	18254	DAVID	IN
W4OIS	18201	TOMMY	SC	N0DQI	18255	CHRIS	OH
KF5ZIM	18202	GREGG	AR	N8DAW	18256	MIKE	OH
N8CAK	18203	DON	MI	K4DSH	18257	DANIEL	FL
W2WW	18204	AL	FL	KA9OPL	18258	JOE	IN
KG0GGY	18205	HEIDI	CA	KD4SIR	18259	SCOTT	IN
K7BTA	18206	STAN	UT	AK1Z	18260	CHRIS	OH
N5RK0	18207	KIMBALL	UT	N1DJS	18261	JEFFREY	OH
WW9S	18208	DAVID	IL	K4IGL	18262	CARLOS	FL
KD9IAC	18209	JOSHUA	IL	N7TNT	18263	LARRY	WA
AD9LZ	18210	DALE	WI	W2OZB	18264	PHILIP	TX
AB8SI	18211	DANIEL	OH	KD0ZCY	18265	CURTIS	CO
WM6W	18212	JOHN	CA	N4CQN	18266	PETE	FL
AB9NP	18213	ROBERT	IN	WA6BTK	18267	STU	CA
KC9THA	18214	TORRE	IN	KD0WGH	18268	JOHN	MN
K4VLP	18215	DARRYL	FL	KD2FSH	18269	GERALD	NJ
WM4P	18216	TIMOTHY	FL	KM4AHP	18270	MARK	SC
KG5STN	18217	DALLAS	TX	AC0UD	18271	KRIS	MN
W4NLT	18218	MICHAEL	VA	KG5TKW	18272	DONALD	TX
KV4WN	18219	EDWARD	NC	K0WRY	18273	KENT	KS
KD8QAB	18220	DAVID	MI	WB5LAI	18274	VAN	MS
K8HA	18221	MICHAEL	OH	WB1BT	18275	WILLIAM	MA
K7PB	18222	PHIL	UT	W0TG	18276	BILL	TX
KD8KOR	18223	DAVID	IN	W7RX	18277	SCOTT	OR
WB6MMQ	18224	DALE	CA	KI4FND	18278	MICHAEL	CA
W0NRK	18225	NELSON	CO	KB5RF	18279	TOM	TX
KC3RV	18226	GEORGE	PA	N8WEL	18280	TERRY	OH
KC2GVP	18227	RICHARD	FL	N7TB	18281	TERRY	OR

N5KWD	18282	DAVID	TX	KD9VN	18340	JOHN	IN
KN4VV	18283	JOHN	VA	KL4KI	18341	HANS	AK
KD5QAQ	18284	RYAN	TX	W0PHX	18342	GEORGE	MN
NA3AR	18285	ANTHONY	PA	W9BRI	18343	STEVE	IN
K5CEU	18286	TROCKY	AR	K4BBH	18344	DAVID	GA
AA2JQ	18287	HAL	NY	W8ARC	18345	ROBERT	WV
KA0ENU	18288	JOSEPH	TN	W3ENG	18346	DAVID	WV
W6ESL	18289	THOMAS	CA	KM4ZZ	18347	CHARLES	VA
K8FU	18290	FROGGY	OK	OA4DQA	18348	LEONARDO	DX
KJ7NY	18291	BOB	WA	WY7LM	18349	LORN	WY
K0HNL	18292	DAN	MA	K1MR	18350	DAVID	NH
N4BRM	18293	BRUCE	FL	WB9JTK	18351	ALAN	FL
N0SUR	18294	PATRICK	CO	VE3IIM	18352	JESSE	ON
KB3EFH	18295	JAMES	MD	W5RGM	18353	ROBERT	LA
AC7FF	18296	DAVE	AZ	WD8RYC	18354	JAMES	TN
KG5PFD	18297	JOSHUA	LA	VE3BXG	18355	MARK	ON
W7ZID	18298	TOM	ID	W6WTL	18356	JIM	CA
KG4WPD	18299	TOM	GA	KD8CBV	18357	ROBERT	MI
W8FLX	18300	RAYMOND	OH	K4SR	18358	BRANDT	FL
K4SFC	18301	RON	VA	KE8HDE	18359	DENNIS	OH
AG5FX	18302	JAMES	OK	KA1FSX	18360	KARL	PA
W0GAS	18303	GREG	CO	KC1NN	18361	RANDALL	NY
KD2LBT	18304	ALBERT	NJ	N9MUF	18362	DANIEL	IL
W6YFX	18305	RON	CA	NR3N	18363	ANGEL	VA
N1GVF	18306	MICHAEL	CO	WA9QLQ	18364	BRIAN	WI
AA1FB	18307	RICHARD	MA	KW4ZJ	18365	CHRISTOPHER	GA
NQ4D	18308	ROY	AL	K9VLX	18366	JACK	FL
N9YHF	18309	ALEX	NC	K3MRH	18367	MICHAEL	VA
NY2KC	18310	JESSE	KS	KG7WHX	18368	SCOTT	UT
KC1DNY	18311	DAVID	ME	K4ME	18369	BEN	NC
N4LKL	18312	TOM	TN	W2NTV	18370	SCOTT	NY
W9IMH	18313	Masonic ARC	IN	N3MLB	18371	CHRIS	PA
WA9VBG	18314	SAMUEL	IN	N1QX	18372	RICHARD	ME
KC9WLI	18315	BRENDA	IN	N1ARG	18373	ART	ME
KD9BBU	18316	JAMES	IN	K7GP	18374	DAVID	WA
KD9AEM	18317	IRVING	IN	K9LBC	18375	BRIAN	CA
KE5YXM	18318	MICHEAL	TX	K7CMI	18376	MARTY	MT
N4DCR	18319	BARRY	KY	KI4VGA	18377	STEPHEN	SC
WA0DOM	18320	JOHN	MO	W6QPA	18378	RAYMOND	CA
W5ZP	18321	JASON	OK	WA3MMM	18379	MICHAEL	PA
K4FAC	18322	JESSE	FL	VE6GL	18380	JIM	AL
W0ZAP	18323	RICHARD	KS	WB6SIU	18381	DANIEL	CA
AA1UE	18324	GARY	MA	KE3GK	18382	THOMAS	MD
KB9ENS	18325	TOM	CA	N3JL	18383	JOSEPH	PA
N2DAV	18326	DAVID	NC	KQ9P	18384	MICHAEL	VA
KQ4MM	18327	BRIAN	TN	K8WYY	18385	RICHARD	OH
KK7HI	18328	FRANK	OR	W4SKB	18386	STEPHEN	GA
KC5LL	18329	LAIRD	TX	KG5OWB	18387	TERRY	TX
N8PWM	18330	CRAIG	MI	N4SNI	18388	ANGEL	MD
WA9NBU	18331	BOB	CA	W5HEX	18389	TERRY	TX
KG5UAZ	18332	CHRIS	TX	N0MAP	18390	JOSEPH	IL
W5LHJ	18333	DONALD	TX	KD9JOK	18391	ALLISON	IL
N6JNL	18334	JERRY	CA	KG7WGX	18392	DEAN	WA
K4XR	18335	CRAIG	AL	AG5LS	18393	GALEN	TX
SWL12	18336	JUSTO	CA	WD0EGC	18394	ROBERT	ND
W2LMT	18337	LEE	NY	VA7IZ	18395	SHAWN	BC
N6PUC	18338	RONALD	CA	W9MCP	18396	SEAN	IN
N2FBV	18339	KENNETH	NY	W7WSL	18397	WES	WA

WN7Y	18398	RON	MT	WB7DKZ	18506	ANDREW	IL
N0CG	18399	CLYDE	CO	KJ1RE	18507	LARRY	NH
W4CGC	18450	DANA	NC	KI5II	18508	JAMES	LA
K3UIM	18451	CHARLES	PA	KI4F	18509	ROBERT	VA
KC3KJG	18452	THOMAS	MD	KK0DJ	18510	DENNIS	IA
N0GB	18453	DEREK	MO	WA9VFD	18511	KEVIN	NC
K0MBM	18454	MELANIE	MO	AB5GQ	18512	JOHN	TX
NQ1A	18455	ROBERT	MA	KC1IVW	18513	GREGORY	CT
WS6A	18456	CHARLES	KY	KC3GEM	18514	MIKE	PA
K1CTR	18457	DOUGLAS	FL	K5EOK	18515	EDMOND ARS	OK
W2BXR	18458	GENE	PA	K6SRJ	18516	SHELLI	CA
KM4QVM	18459	DAVID	GA	KC9W	18517	DANICA	WI
NG0C	18460	MICHAEL	MN	K3DWC	18518	DANA	MD
KD9SU	18461	DAVID	IL	K5PE	18519	ROGER	TX
WD5GBS	18462	THOMAS	TX	K9DCC	18520	CHARLES	IN
N4ARY	18463	AARON	GA	KI7RZB	18521	DOUG	WA
K6LPQ	18464	DON	WV	KK7VP	18522	MARK	UT
N0UK	18465	CHRISTOPHER	MN	VE1AHX	18523	BEN	NS
W0NLK	18466	PHIL	CO	SWL14	18524	TABREN	MO
AF6HC	18467	JOHN	CA	VE2KM	18525	TONY	QC
AF4OI	18468	BOB	KY	SWL15	18526	PATRICK	PA
KN4GPP	18469	JACOB	FL	N5NI	18527	FRANK	TX
KX4S	18470	QRU CLUB	WV	K5JTO	18528	CLAUDE	LA
K4TL	18471	CURTIS	FL	KC3ARN	18529	JOHN	MD
KM6MFI	18472	MARTIN	CA	W1GEE	18530	PHILIP	ME
VA6MPJ	18473	MARK	AB	N3XKB	18531	ROBERT	NM
KM6PCX	18474	MICHAEL	CA	KZ4IG	18532	KONSTANTIN	GA
K7AZT	18475	PAUL	AZ	AJ6BJ	18533	JOHN	CA
KN4GPT	18476	TOM	FL	N9VJ	18534	CHARLES	WI
AD0WE	18477	KURT	KS	W3BOZ	18535	TIMOTHY	PA
N9WJ	18478	DAN	IN	K6JNX	18536	JAMES	CA
N3HWH	18479	HARRY	PA	W5FUY	18537	DAVID	TX
WI8A	18480	ROD	MI	KN4BKR	18538	MARC	TN
K4UYQ	18481	ROBERT	GA	W9VHE	18539	SCOTT	IN
KD2KEH	18482	KEN	NY	N4IBG	18540	MICHAEL	FL
K1CDX	18483	RICHARD	MA	W4GHV	18541	AMBROSE	NC
KB0RAH	18484	RYAN	NE	W9IAN	18542	IAN	TX
K4AEN	18485	THOMAS	VA	KV5M	18543	LEE	TX
W9WN	18486	JOHN	IN	K4BKC	18544	ROBERT	TN
W3DXG	18487	MARK	WA	KD2NSP	18545	CRAIG	NY
WE0FC	18488	FOY	ND	W4ZZY	18546	JOHN	GA
K4OBL	18489	STEPHEN	FL	W1DEA	18547	HECTOR	MA
KD0TOT	18490	JUDITH	MO	KB7S	18548	ED	NM
KK6YK	18491	PATRICK	WI	WA1QDX	18549	JOHN	CT
K0EAP	18492	ERIC	MN	W5PDO	18600	Los Alamos ARC	NM
KA0DXB	18493	BARRY	KS	KC1IXM	18601	MAYNARD	ME
K2HAE	18494	CHRIS	PA	K9MB	18602	MICHAEL	IL
KI6KRO	18495	JIM	CA	KC3ANQ	18603	STEPHEN	PA
KX4RC	18496	RICKY	VA	KK6ZPL	18604	WAYNE	CA
N0SMX	18497	DENNIS	FL	KU5M	18605	JOE	OK
AB3U	18498	ANDREW	MD	KC1IVZ	18606	AL	VT
AD6DM	18499	DENNIS	CA	AD0YO	18607	JAMES	CO
WR4RW	18500	RICHARD	FL	KK6ZLY	18608	ALEX	CA
N7WJ	18501	JOSEPH	AL	KC4DEJ	18609	JONATHAN	GA
KF5KAQ	18502	JAMES	AR	VE9OCR	18610	JOSEPH	NB
K8ULT	18503	GREG	OH	KC6ZSY	18611	MANUEL	CA
N7EDK	18504	EDWARD	FL	K0JZ	18612	CLARENCE	KS
VE1KF	18505	BRENT	NS	NS3U	18613	THOMAS	PA

AE0Z	18614	HOWARD	NE	KD8LWZ	18672	BRAD	OH
K2CPU	18615	BEN	NY	SWL91	18673	MACKENZIE	OH
N4RLI	18616	RALPH	VA	K8KCH	18674	KENNETH	MI
NB3T	18617	MALCOLM	VA	W4NWL	18675	DAVID	FL
KA9QAT	18618	JOE	IL	WA6DH	18676	DAVID	WA
KI7LDI	18619	JOSEPH	OR	N4YAK	18678	GAIL	FL
K4FET	18620	RONALD	NC	W6SMF	18679	STAN	CA
KC0DE	18621	DONALD	FL	WD9IGY	18680	THOMAS	WI
KD0ZV	18622	RICH	IA	AA2YV	18681	WILLIAM	NY
K4MDF	18623	ROBERT	CA	KB0KDX	18682	GARY	FL
K2MFW	18624	MATT	NJ	NG9F	18683	DAVID	OH
N3FZ	18625	BRYAN	MD	KI5AAI	18684	JOSEPH	TX
W4KDK	18626	KENNETH	TN	KE8FHF	18685	DANIEL	OH
KG4B	18627	JAMES	FL	WD8DCS	18686	BRIAN	OH
N2EJI	18628	MICHAEL	NY	K4THL	18687	TOM	FL
K1UFO	18629	WILLIAM	NH	N3JET	18688	JEFF	MD
K5EJB	18630	ERIC	TX	W5KSU	18689	MICHAEL	OK
K8DZR	18631	JOHN	OH	VA7MN	18690	MICHAEL	BC
W5XNA	18632	THOMAS	AR	WD9GET	18691	KEITH	TX
WR2D	18633	ED	PA	NC1WX	18692	BENNETT	NC
WT5NA	18634	KONSTANTIN	TX	W9RJK	18693	RICH	IL
NC4B	18635	WAYNE	NC	AC0I	18694	PATRICK	KS
KI7JS	18636	JAY	WA	KD8CWV	18696	MATTHEW	WV
N4VEJ	18637	JEFFREY	GA	K9RL	18697	RYAN	OR
W9TPB	18638	THOMAS	TN	KM4WUU	18698	ROBERT	VA
KG7GMR	18639	BILL	OR	KA1S	18699	MAURICE	IL
VE2DEE	18640	DAVID	QB	N6MKW	18750	MICHAEL	CA
N5MAJ	18641	MICHAEL	TX	NB3W	18751	RONALD	PA
WA5ED	18642	RICHARD	TX	KC9HTC	18752	BRUCE	IN
WB3KLI	18643	OLIVER	VA	KD00JB	18753	ROBERT	MN
NS3C	18644	RICHARD	CA	W2PIX	18754	THOMAS	WA
KA5GEX	18645	TIMOTHY	LA	K4FA	18755	BOB	FL
NW6V	18646	CHRIS	OR	KC3TOM	18756	TOM	PA
W3SPC	18647	STEVEN	SC	KE0FZA	18757	ERIC	ND
K7KRY	18648	KERRY	WA	K4XRA	18758	PAUL	GA
K5FFO	18649	ALBERT	OH	KI5ANQ	18759	SCOTT	TX
KL3MM	18650	STEPHEN	AK	AA4LS	18760	CHARLES	NC
WA0H	18651	JERRY	MO	AD8BE	18761	MICHAEL	MI
N3OS	18652	GARY	FL	W1VET	18762	RONALD	FL
W8WZ	18653	CARL	NC	KD8EFM	18763	DETTLEFF	OH
K0FHG	18654	BOB	MO	KA0FDY	18764	DONALD	IA
WA8ZKB	18655	BOB	OH	KK7H	18765	MICHAEL	UT
K8VGL	18656	JERRY	IN	W0GSQ	18766	STEVEN	CO
KA8ITF	18657	NORMAN	MI	K5HMG	18767	HAYWARD	TX
W8JJ	18658	TIMOTHY	MI	KI7SDQ	18768	MIKE	WA
KB8ZOC	18659	DAVID	OH	KA2DOV	18769	RICHARD	VA
K0FD	18660	DAN	MO	KB3MBM	18770	RICHARD IAN	NJ
SWL90	18661	DONALD	WI				
AJ3DI	18662	JIM	PA				
NU0W	18663	GARY	MN				
KN4MDC	18664	SUSAN	FL				
W9XW	18665	DICK	IL				
N3OB	18666	ED	DE				
VE3QEE	18667	MARDY	ON				
AA0W	18668	RON	NE				
KD8QLS	18669	NICK	OH				
KA8OHV	18670	DAVID	IN				
KG5NUX	18671	MICHAEL	TX				



British "Bathtub" Key W.W.II

FISTS Awards

by Dennis K6DF

Congratulations to all who earned awards since mid Feb 2017. All FISTS awards are sent out free to dues paying members. The best way to track your FISTS contacts that qualify for awards is to use the free **Log Converter** program written by Graham G3ZOD. This helpful program will track your FISTS awards automatically and allows you to send your award logs to the awards manager at the click of a button! You can also use this program for general logging. **Log Converter** is available for download at:

<https://www.fistsna.org/logconverter.html>

Be sure to check the Americas Chapter web pages for up-to-date awards information at:

<https://www.fistsna.org/awards.html>

I wish everyone good DX.

73, Dennis K6DF ..._. ____ (30)

FISTS Awards Issued Feb 14, 2017 – Aug 31, 2018

Century Award

AK4NY DF2OK DL8UVG F6JOE G0WHX
G4HXY K0FD K4NE KK7H M0GSX
M0PBZ MI0WWB MW0BGL N7EDK
N8VV ON7ZH WI5H ZL3PAH

Silver Award

AK4NY F6JOE G0XCF K4NE
N5XGG N8VV OH2BN ZL3PAH

Gold Award

DL4FDM F6JOE G4LRG
G4RHR G0PNM I5EFO

Worked All States Award

N8VV AB0BM

1 Way QRP Award

G0DEB WI5H I5EFO G0WHX

Perpetual Prefix Award

G0ILN SP9NLI G3XVL
AA8TA EA6BB

Prefix 50 Award

G0ILN DL4FDM OK1KW
AA8TA EA6BB

Prefix 100 & 150 Award

DL4FDM OK1KW K5YQF
G0PNM AA8TA EA6BB

Millionaire Award

N5XGG N8VV K4NE ZL3PAH F6JOE
MW0BGL WI5H AK4NY M0GSX AE4RM
SV2BBK IZ2FME KK7H

2 Million Sticker

DL4FDM G4RHR N5XGG N8VV K4NE
ZL3PAH F6JOE G6GLP WI5H I5EFO
AA8TA AK4NY KK7H

3 Million Sticker

DL4FDM N8VV W3QT 2E0DPH F6JOE
WI5H I5EFO AK4NY DK3DUA

4 Million Sticker

G4LRG F6JOE G3XVL G4KLE
G0PNM I5EFO AK4NY

5 Million Sticker

G0ILN M5ABN F6JOE AK4NY

6 Million Sticker

KC2LSD AK4NY

7 & 8 Million Stickers

VK7CW

9 Million Sticker

G4MLW VK7CW

10 Million Sticker

G4LHI

16 & 17 Million Stickers

OK1KW

Rag Chewers' Club (RCC)

G4YVM MW0BGL

RCC 2 Meter Sticker

G3XVL

RCC 80 Meter Sticker

MW0BGL

Spectrum Award

DL4FDM OK1KW F6JOE G3XVL
OH2BN WI5H I5EFO AA8TA
DL5CL AK4NY K0FD

Spectrum 80 Meter Sticker

G0ILN G4LHI G4LRG F6JOE

Spectrum 40 Meter Sticker

VK7CW

Spectrum 30 Meter Sticker

OK1KW K5YQF

Spectrum 20 Meter Sticker

OK1KW F6JOE G0PNM AK4NY G4MLW

Spectrum 17 Meter Sticker

OK1KW

Build CW Speed

By Dirk Esterline KG8JK

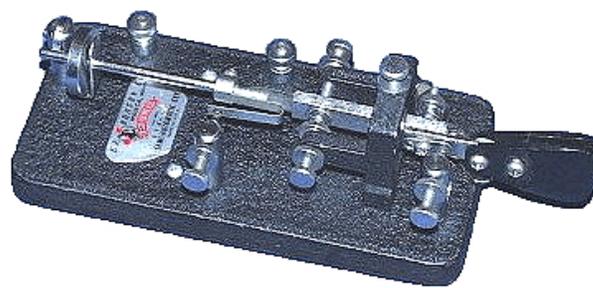
So you have finally learned the letters and numbers and have made a few CW contacts but you want to get your code speed up. Try working some DX or contest stations. I know that sounds crazy but stick with me for a minute.

You can listen to other stations, and contact them after you copy down their info. It may take several times before you have everything down. For example, you find a DX station calling CQ. So you get the first couple of letters of their call after hearing them work two or three stations. Next you get their number and after listening to a few more contacts, you finally get the suffix. So you had to listen to 10 or more contacts until you got it all but so what.

Now you know his call and you know he is going to send 599 so you are all set. Time to throw your call out there and see if you can contact them. For me, making the contact was my reward for being patient and sticking with him until I got all his info. It really helped me build up my code speed and was fun because I was actually making CW contacts.

I would do this during Field Day or QSO parties, anytime there was a station calling over and over and sending the same information each time so I could copy everything I needed before jumping in to make the contact. Since I already knew what he was going to send, the pressure was off and I could enjoy making the contact without worrying whether or not I would copy everything.

It took a lot of practice but one year I was finally able to keep up with the other CW stations on Field Day. That was one of the best feelings ever. It took a long time but I had fun because I was making contacts even though it was slow going at times. Bottom line, put in lots of practice but see if you can actually make some contacts so there is a reward there. It really kept my motivation up much better than a made up QSO that I copied from a code course. 73, KG8JK



E.F. Johnson Model 114-520

Sprint Results

FISTS Winter Slow Sprint 2017 Results

QRO Category

Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
K5YQF	Cecil	TX	8077	13	8	81	16	1296
N3KI	David	VA	17895	7	1	37	6	222
KN0WCW	Cody	NJ	10000	4	3	26	6	156
CG3FUJ	Brion	ON	14268	3	3	21	6	126
I5EFO	Emil	DX	17028	4	1	22	5	110
K2VS	Carol	NH	2081	5	0	25	4	100
K4EQ	Dale	MO	3597	4	0	20	4	80
K2HT	Dick	MO	11565	2	1	12	3	36

QRP Category

Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
KD3CA	Don	PA	16136	15	2	79	13	1027
K3JZD	Jody	PA	17513	14	4	78	13	1014

SOAPBOX . . . Call

Comments

K3JZD Not a real bad day for QRP. Would like to see more participation on 20 meters.

K5YQF Overcast and cool in central Texas; nice day for radio. Worked several FYBO ops at QRP. Best one though was CS7AF/Portugal. He was QRP/5W and a wire antenna. 73's Cecil

FISTS Winter Unlimited Sprint 2017 Results

QRO Category

Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
N2ED	Ed	NJ	2454	22	3	116	18	2088
K5YQF	Cecil	TX	8077	13	7	79	16	1264
WB0CFF	Carl	MN	3465	10	6	62	11	682
AA8TA	Joe	OH	17164	9	3	51	11	561
N3CKI	Dave	VA	17895	6	1	32	6	192
K2JF	Joe	NY	11096	4	0	20	4	80
VE3VGI	John	ON	6261	2	0	10	2	20

Club Category

Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
W4FFF	Randy	NC	9700	36	6	192	18	3456

QRP Category

Call	Name	State	FISTS #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
N1PT	Dave	NH	2560	10	12	74	15	1110

SOAPBOX . . . Call

Comments

AA8TA Was able to operate for only the last 90 minutes. Lots of QRM from RTTY Contest. 40M was slow at first, got a little more action on 20M then went back to 40M. Thanks for the contacts and hope everyone and more come back next time.

FISTS Spring Slow Sprint 2017 Results

QRO Category

Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
N2ED	Ed	NJ	2454	19	2	99	15	1485
W4LSV	Barry	TN	12668	7	1	37	7	259
VE3OAT	Martin	ON	16712	5	0	25	4	100

QRP Category

Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
K3JZD	Jody	PA	17513	6	2	34	7	238
KD3CA	Don	PA	16136	2	1	12	3	36
K4RHG	Ron	FL	16087	1	0	5	1	5

SOAPBOX . . . Call **Comments**

K3JZD My 5 watts did not stir up much dust today. Got lost in all of the state QSO party action on 20M and got absorbed in the 40M daytime conditions. **VE3OAT** My first real HF activity since 2004. Many thanks to FISTS for this opportunity and heartfelt condolences to the five FISTS members who had to read through my stiff wrist. Might have worked more stations but have a constant S5-6 QRN from solar panel installation down the road from my QTH.

FISTS Spring Unlimited Sprint 2017 Results

QRO Category

Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
N2ED	Ed	NJ	2454	20	6	112	18	2016
K5YQF	Cecil	TX	8077	17	8	101	17	1717
K5YXL	Dee	LA	9488	14	1	72	10	720
AA8TA	Joe	OH	17164	5	0	25	5	125
K4BAI	John	GA	2158	4	0	20	4	80
I5EFO	Emil	DX	17028	3	1	17	3	51
N4EEV	Mike	GA	17746	2	0	10	2	20

QRP Category

Call	Name	State	FISTS #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
KD3CA	Don	PA	16136	2	5	20	7	140
K3JZD	Jody	PA	17513	0	1	2	1	2

SOAPBOX . . . Call **Comments**

AA8TA Was able to put only 75 minutes into this event. Not many contacts to be had, not one of my best for sure. Conditions good today, noise OK on both 20m and 40m. Thanks to those that stopped by.

FISTS Summer Slow Sprint 2017 Results

QRO Category

Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
K2HT	Dick	MO	11565	3	2	19	5	95
K0LAR	Scott	MN	17808	2	0	10	2	20

SOAPBOX . . . Call **Comments**

K2HT Conditions poor, high noise, Heavy QRN.

FISTS Summer Unlimited Sprint 2017 Results

QRO Category

Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
AA8TA	Joe	OH	17164	18	4	98	13	1274
N4EEV	Mike	GA	17746	14	2	74	12	888
VE3RDE	Roger	ON	17567	11	1	57	6	342
N6IV	Mark	CA	4056	9	0	45	6	270
WI5H	Mike	TX	16705	8	2	44	3	132
K2HT	Dick	MO	11565	3	2	19	5	95

QRP Category

Call	Name	State	FISTS #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
K3JZD	Jody	PA	17513	10	1	52	9	468

SOAPBOX . . . Call **Comments**

N6IV Very rough conditions. Noise floor was sky high. Could not hear anyone on the west coast. Had fun but glad it was only 4 hours.

WI5H First Sprint where I actually sent in a log.

K3JZD Seems like a little more activity on Friday evenings. Not overlapping with the SKCC WES event is better. KX3 5W / 40m Dipole / 20m beam.

AA8TA I think I like the Friday night sprints better. Made a lot more contacts than I usually do on a Saturday afternoon. Many callers on 40M were weak; guess I was sending better than I was listening. Some action on 20M, which was nice. Thanks for the contacts. 73

FISTS Fall Slow Sprint 2017 Results

QRO Category									
Call	Name	State	Fists #	QSO's	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mul	Score
N5XGG	Joe	TX	9974	12	4	8	36	10	360
KB2PLW	Randy	FL	2348	1	1	0	5	1	5

QRP Category									
Call	Name	State	FISTS #	QSO's	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mult	Score
KD0V	Merlin	MN	12068	9	6	3	36	6	216
K3JZD	Jody	PA	17513	5	4	1	22	5	110
KD3CA	Don	PA	16136	3	2	1	12	3	36

SOAPBOX . . . Call Comments

K3JZD Hey, all you new members: Where are you at? We need some more participation in these Sprints. Come on out and have some fun. No one will bite you. Jody - K3JZD

KD0V My first FISTS event in a long time. Heard G3VBS calling, but he could not hear my QRP signal.

FISTS Fall Unlimited Sprint 2017 Results

QRO Category									
Call	Name	State	Fists #	QSO's	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mul	Score
K5YQF	Cecil	TX	8077	30	25	5	135	18	2430
KD0V	Merlin	MN	12068	9	5	4	33	7	231
K4BAI	John	GA	2158	8	8	0	40	4	160
WA9VBG	Sam	IN	18314	7	3	4	23	6	138
AA8TA	Joe	OH	17164	4	2	2	14	4	56

QRP Category									
Call	Name	State	FISTS #	QSO's	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mult	Score
K3JZD	Jody	PA	17513	236	10	13	76	16	1216
K5IX	David	TX	16879	6	6	0	30	6	180

SOAPBOX . . . Call Comments

K5IX Mrs. K5IX was out of town, so I got to play radio!

K3JZD With the PA QSO Party going on today, I had people looking for my PA County instead of my FISTS number. Once they got my FISTS exchange, then they got my PA County. Should not complain since I guess that helped both my QSO count and my SPC count on a low activity Sprint today/ Jody - K3JZD

K5YQF Kind of a slow start but finished well. Think I had more QSO's than last few sprints. Maybe activity is picking up! Thanks to all and CU in February. Cecil/8077

FISTS Winter Slow Sprint 2018 Results

QRO Category									
Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score	
N2ED	Ed	NJ	2454	32	14	188	28	5264	
KD3CA	Don	PA	16136	8	3	46	8	368	
KD0V	Merlin	MN	12068	6	1	32	6	192	
K2HT	Dick	MO	11565	4	1	22	4	88	
N0SMX	Dennis	FL	18497	2	0	10	2	20	
N5XGG	Joe	TX	9974	2	0	10	2	20	

QRP Category									
Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score	
WB1HGA	Ron	MA	10251	1	0	5	1	5	

SOAPBOX . . . Call Comments

KD0V Conditions not very good today.

N2ED Signals were strong on 40M but not many FISTS!

WB1HGA Band conditions despite reporting good was dismal at best.

N0SMX End Fed Wire @20 ft 100w. My first FISTS event. Hope to get better at CW.

N5XGG Only a few minutes to get on the radio. Did hear several Fists stations on the air, so that is good news.

FISTS Winter Unlimited Sprint 2018 Results

QRO Category

Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
N2ED	Ed	NJ	2454	28	5	150	18	2700
K5YQF	Cecil	TX	8077	19	11	117	21	2457
KD3CA	Don	PA	16136	5	3	31	6	186
N3CI	David	OK	17753	4	0	20	4	80
N0SMX	Dennis	FL	18497	1	0	5	1	5

QRP Category

Call	Name	State	FISTS #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
WI5H	Mike	TX	16705	4	0	20	4	80

SOAPBOX . . . Call Comments

N2ED Only had two hours for this Sprint. 20M was up and down, worked my first KH6 and TG stations in a Sprint. When I tried 40M in the last hour, all that I could hear was RTTY signals and really could not call CQ so this is my first Sprint with 0 contacts on 40M!

K5YQF Great time, and the RTTY didn't bother me at all! Special thanks to the newest FISTS that took part in the Sprint.

FISTS Spring Slow Sprint 2018 Results

QRO Category

Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
K6DF	Dennis	CA	3076	2	0	10	2	20

QRP Category

Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
K3JZD	Jody	PA	17513	3	6	27	7	189

SOAPBOX . . . Call Comments

K6DF Could only work the last 15 minutes of the Sprint, but enjoyed both of my QSO's with Dave and Frank. 73, Dennis K6DF

FISTS Spring Unlimited Sprint 2018 Results

QRO Category

Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
K5YQF	Cecil	TX	8077	33	9	183	25	4575
N2ED	Ed	NJ	2454	13	5	75	13	975
K6DF	Dennis	CA	3076	4	2	24	5	120
K4BAI	John	GA	2158	5	0	25	3	75
K1KU	Darrel	VT	5173	2	0	10	2	20
KB2PLW	Randy	FL	2348	1	0	5	1	5

SOAPBOX . . . Call Comments

K6DF Very noisy band conditions at my Fremont QTH. Worked a few stations, one of which was John K8DZR, a new member. It was a good Sprint and I hope to hear and work more new members in the Summer Sprint. 73, Dennis K6DF

KB2PLW 1 contact with AK4NY - could not find any other FISTS on the bands in the 1 hour I could be on the air.



The LSD Beverage Antenna

By Cody Codianni KC2LSD

Many Ham operators feel it's impossible to operate on 160 meters unless you have a lot of land, I can assure you nothing can be further from the truth. My new home sits at the side of a cul-de-sac, my front yard is large but my back yard isn't. Well thank the good Lord for the oak tree on the side of my house. My inverted "L" runs up my oak tree, about 35 feet or less. Then it spans across my front lawn to an evergreen tree. Understand, the horizontal portion of the "L" is the height of my house, say 25 feet.

At the base of my oak tree I laid out my ground radials. Since this is a winter band, and my lawn mowing season is also over, and I don't have to worry about the wires. I have about 300 feet of wire lying on my grass on the side of my house and yard. I have all this bounded to my ground rods. This set up yields very low SWR's.

If anybody knows the characteristics of 160 meters you'll know that it's a very noisy band. The big guns talk about these beverage receive antennas to help with this, I wondered could this be possible for my stamp size property? Well the answer is heck yeah! My friend Jon NJ3I helped me with the mechanical parts of my receive antenna, but where was I going to place it? I ran the wire around my property see the diagram in figure 1. My new receive antenna drops the noise sometimes down to a S-2, it's amazing what I can hear!

Well, I guess you all want to know how this system works. To quote my good friend Tony KG2GL the proof is in the log. During the ARRL 160 contest I worked 44 states and 10 DX not counting the US and Canada. I encourage everyone, like Ron KE2R did to me, to get something up on 160 meters, it's a lot of fun.

There are many commercially made receive antennas, even ones designed to be on the ground. They work, trust me. If you're willing to stay up late and get up 30 minutes earlier before work you're in for the time of your life. One last comment, I have an 811H amp that runs 500 watts and it does help. Over the past three years, the system I have listed in this article rewarded me with Worked All States 160 meters CW and DXCC 160 meters. Next year my neighbor said I can put a second beverage along his fence, I can't wait!

Give it a try you have the rest of the summer to come up with a plan. I'll see you all this season on 160!

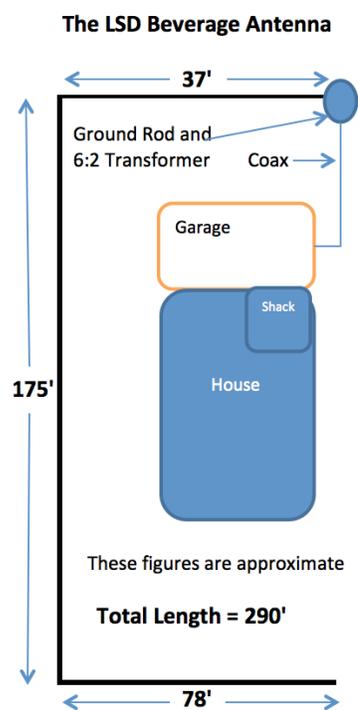


Figure 1

Dayton Hamvention 2018

Many thanks to the following volunteers for helping to make the booth a success.

Tim AC5SH - Larry KA8HFN - Henry WD8Q - Al W8FAX
Ray WB4ZDU - Susan SWL-42 - Steve N1SG

These volunteers did an excellent job signing up new members
as well as renewing many of our current members.

Thank you for your time and effort to help to run the FISTS booth at Dayton in 2018.



Dayton 2018 Booth and KN0WCW Station



Steve N1SG - Larry KA8HFN - Henry WD8Q

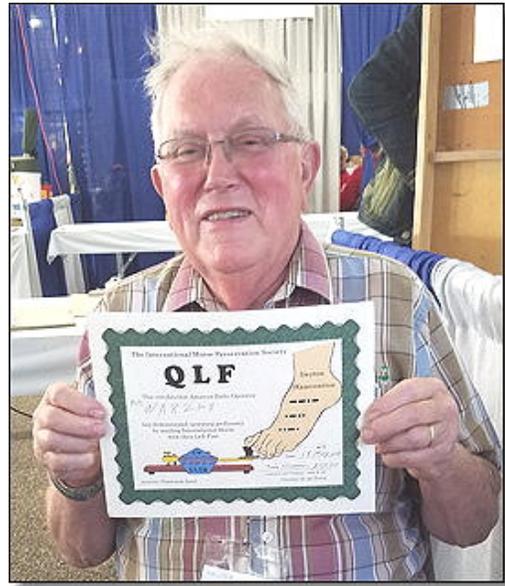


Paul WA9PWP operating KN0WCW

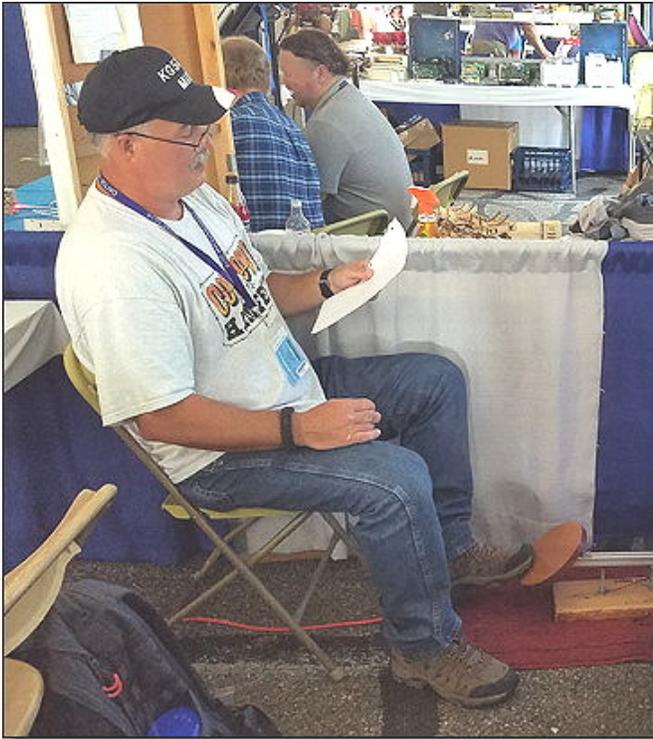
QLF Exams at Dayton 2018



HI3B with his QLF Certificate



A Happy WA8ZKB with QLF Cert



Mike KG5NUX taking a rather tough QLF exam.

Rumors indicated he was required to send the entire text of the Gettysburg Address at 20 WPM using his left foot!

HE PASSED !

Larry KA8HFN - is a tough examiner!

Dayton KN0WCW Operators List

Paul WA9PWP – Dan KC9RH – Tim W8JJ – Larry W9CC – Rich G4FAD – Bob K0FHG – Larry KA8HFN

Steve N1SG – Bob KT8DX – Jeffrey N8NOE – Gene K9UTQ – Brad KD8LWZ – Larry AH6AX – Terry N0TW

Ralph AA8P – Henry WD8Q – Tim AC5SH

*** Please Note : Changes to Americas Chapter Membership Dues**

[1] A "one time" extension of two FREE years membership has been added to all expired memberships from Jan 1, 2017 to Aug 15, 2018, due to no Keynote newsletters being produced during that time frame. This two year extension will start on Aug 15, 2018 and will take a few weeks to process.

[2] All paid memberships as of Aug 15, 2018 will receive a "one time" FREE extension of two years membership.

[3] Any previous members with lapsed dues (not included in item [1] or [2] above), that wish to renew their membership, may ask for and receive a "one time" two year FREE extension of membership, from the date of their request.

[4] If you wish to join FISTS as a "New Member", you will receive a FREE "one time" two year complementary membership.

[5] If you are 80 years old or over, you will receive a FREE "Life Time" membership.

Offers [1], [2], [3], and [4] above expire on Aug 15, 2020.

To take advantage of these offers, send e-mail with your Call, Name, Address, and Telephone Nr. to: Dennis K6DF, FISTS Membership Manager at membership@fistsna.org

DO NOT SEND ANY PAYMENTS !