

**The Communicator**  
For January 2004

**SUPERSTITION**  
Amateur Radio Club, Inc

PO Box 1551

Apache Junction, Arizona 85217

Editors:

Rodney Bevill, K7RLB

Larry Kuck, WB7CRK

**WB7TJD Repeaters**

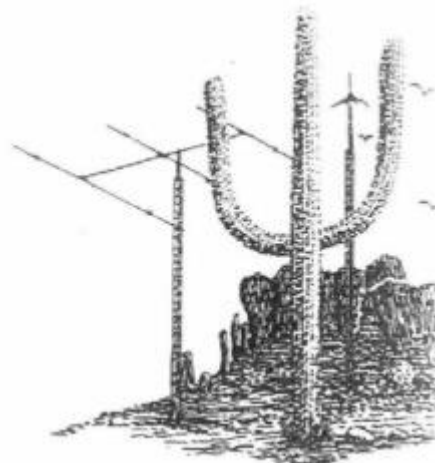
**147.12 MHz (+) 162.2**

**449.60 MHz (-) 100.0**

**Mesa, Arizona**

**On the Internet:**

**<http://WB7TJD.org>**



## President's Column

Happy New Year To All

It's time to look forward to the New Year and to remember all we have to be thankful for from the last year. For myself 2004 will have to be pretty good to match how good it was in 2003.

The club still has one more event for January, The Lost Dutchman Marathon on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Last year's Marathon was a success and with everyone's help this year's will be a success again. A big Thanks to Jim Pierce and all he does for public service and the Ham Radio community.

The club is also going to order jackets and shirts again this month so get you're orders in. You can e-mail me ([kd7fgy@aol.com](mailto:kd7fgy@aol.com)) or come to the January meeting to place you're orders. I need to know if you want a jacket or shirt, what size and you're name and call sign to be put on the front and the club logo on the back. If everything goes well they should be back by the February meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the upcoming meetings and making 2004 an other good year for the club. Also remember to check out our web site at [WB7TJD.ORG](http://WB7TJD.ORG) done by Larry WB7CRK for all the club info you'll need to know.

See you at the meeting

Ron KD7FGY

## [PVRC] Plasma TVs make big interference

While BPL interference at HF may be looming, another souce of hashy noise from the broadcast band up through at least 14 MHz is already here! It's those new "plasma", flat screened TVs. I took a small, pocket sized portable radio with ear plug into Costco this past weekend and was mortified to hear what I did when I was anywhere close to one of these "new, advanced" TV sets.

Now read the comments of others, posted on a broadcast engineer's reflector:

TWO COMMENTS ON PLASMA TV MONITOR RFI (CGC #607,8)

I have run into plasma TV monitor RFI a couple of times. I do two-way radio and RFI investigations for a large electric utility and have found these monitor emissions not only in the AM broadcast band, but all the way up to around 15 MHz, at distances of up to nearly 500 feet from the house.

On one occasion, while tracking a problem for a ham with RFI and while traveling down a short side street, my Sprague interference receiver and the truck's AM radio started making harsh raspy video type buzzes while listening at 530 kHz. I looked into a house at the end of the street and saw a large rectangular HDTV hanging on the wall. Due to the brightness of the display, I figured it had to be plasma. I noted that the buzz characteristics changed as the scene changed. Since it was quite a distance from the complaining

## 2004 Officers

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## Committees

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Editor: Rod Bevill, K7RLB . 480-839-0057 .rodbevill@earthlink.net

### Net Control Station

Wednesdays: KG7FA, John ..... 147.12 MHz Repeater at 8:00 PM

Thursdays: WB7CRK, Larry ..... 147.12 and 28.47 MHz at 7:30 PM

Amateur Radio Newline both nights: Provided by the net host

**COMMUNICATOR** is the official publication of the Superstition Amateur Radio Club, Inc., and is published monthly.

Beginning with the February 1998 issue, this publication is also being made available via Email for use by the blind.

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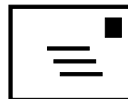
### Submitting articles, classified ads

Please submit articles and Classified Ads by the 25th of the month for inclusion in the next month's issue.

Please submit via Email to:  
rodbevill@earthlink.net

Or typewritten copy preferred, by U.S. Mail to:

Editor  
1358 W. Los Lagos Vista  
Mesa, AZ 85202



## Meeting House

*The Club Meets at the Mesa Community College, at Southern and Dobson in Mesa.*

*Our meeting room is in the basement of the Clock Tower, center of Campus.*

*Our General Meeting is on the Third Tuesday of the month at 7 PM, January 20, 2004.*

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*The Board meets at Peter Piper Pizza, Gilbert and Main, Mesa, NW corner, at 6:30 PM on the second Tuesday, January 13.*

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*VE Testing is held at 6 PM on the third Monday at Mesa Utilities Office, 640 North Mesa Dr. January 19*

ham, I moved on and continued tracking his original problem.

Bill Smith, <mailto:WILLIAM.SMITH@us.ngrid.com>

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My in-laws purchased a plasma monitor. I like to listen to radio at night when I go to bed, at a location that is 47 feet from the display. On both a Sony ICF-2010 and GE SuperRadio III, that TV takes out many stations that I previously could hear. Even 0.5 to 1 mv/m signals had traces of noise under them. Weaker stations at less than 0.1 mv/m that were previously audible, became completely inaudible.

Fred Vobbe, WLIO radio

## **AUSTRIAN AUTHORITIES PULL PLUG ON BPL PILOT PROJECT**

(excerpt from "The ARRL Letter, Vol 23, No 02")

The Austrian Amateur Transmitter Federation (ÖVSV--Österreichischer Versuchssenderverband) <<http://www.oevsv.at/index.shtml>> reports that a Broadband over Power Line (BPL) field test in the city of Linz has been cut short as a result of excessive radio interference. ÖVSV, Austria's International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) <<http://www.iaru.org>> member-society, said in December that the Government Ministry for Commerce, Innovation and Technology closed down Linz Power Company's BPL pilot project because it was generating interference on the HF bands. Shortwave broadcaster Radio Austria's futureZone service <<http://futurezone.orf.at>> says the case that brought the issue to a head was a Red Cross report that emergency services radio traffic during a disaster response drill last May was the victim of massive BPL interference.

## **Other ARRL News**

("ARRL Southwestern Division e-Communicator" of 30 December 2003 excerpt)

COTTONWOOD, AZ... HEADS UP! - The FCC has granted Special Temporary Authorization (STA) to Electric Broadband to operate a BPL system occupying the frequency range 2 to 38 MHz. (FCC file #0506-EX-ST-2003 FX) The STA grant states, "Licensee should be aware that other stations may be licensed on these frequencies and if any interference occurs, the licensee of this authorization will be subject to immediate shut down." The point of contact at ARRL is Ed Hare, W1RFI [w1rfi@arrl.org](mailto:w1rfi@arrl.org)

## **HAM RADIO TRIVIA**

Philo T Farnsworth had a hand in developing this everyday object:

- A Stereo FM Radios
- B Television
- C Car Radio
- D The HT

What does "VOX" stand for

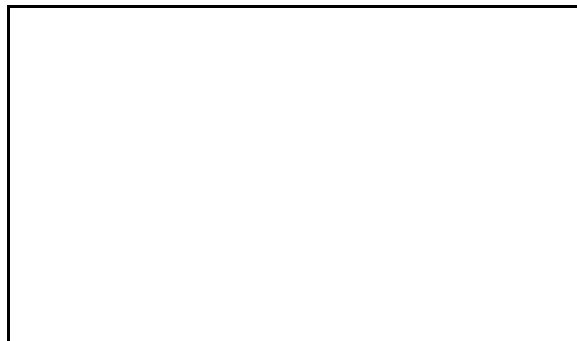
- A Very Old Xmitter.
- B Voltage Ohm X-ray.
- C Voltage operated Xmitter.
- D Voice Operated Xmitter.

Which layer of the ionosphere absorbs the low frequency radio signals in the daytime?

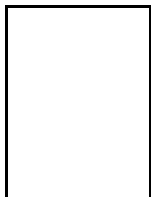
- A D
- B E
- C F
- D G

Which of the following did Edwin Armstrong invent

- A SSB
- B FM
- C MCW
- D Digital Signal Processing.



First Class Mail  
(Air Mail / Par Avion)  
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**January 2004**  
PO Box 1551  
Apache Junction, AZ 85217-1551



### ***HAMFest***

**March 13:**

Scottsdale Community College.

**May 1:**

Cochise Amateur radio association in Sierra Vista.

**June 5-6:**

Kachina ARC in Show Low.

**July 2-4:**

Arizona State Hamfest, at the Williams, Arizona Rodeo Grounds

There is talks of trying to plan a new Hamfest for Yuma.

### ***Newsline Scripts found on WB7TJD.org***

Check there if you miss a week's report or need a Web address.

### ***HAM RADIO TRIVIA ANSWERS***

Philo T Farnsworth had a hand in developing this everyday object:

Philo T Farnsworth fought to be recognized as the father of American television systems. He had a patent fight with RCA over it.

What does "VOX" stand for  
Voice Operated Xmitter

Which layer of the ionosphere absorbs the low frequency radio signals in the daytime?

D Layer

Which of the following did Edwin Armstrong invent

Edwin Armstrong is well known for many radio advances, but FM is the correct answer here.