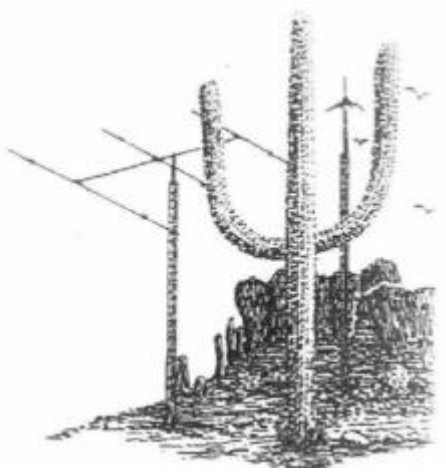
The Cωmmμnicator
For March 2004

**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**



## THE CONDOR FLIES TO PHOENIX

That isn't a title for a grade B movie, but it is great news for amateur radio in the Valley of the Sun. The Condor Connection recently established a repeater on White Tanks Mountain in the west valley.

The Condor Connection is a system of linked open repeaters which cover California from south of the Mexican border to far northern areas of the state. The system also reaches southern Nevada, parts of southern Utah, western Arizona, and now, right into our own back yard.

Condor was originally designed in the late 1970's, and began operation in the early 1980's as a means of providing emergency communications throughout most of California. It has proved invaluable in natural disasters such as earthquakes, wildfires, landslides, and the like, which frequently occur in the state. As with most linked systems, there is a real fun side to it also. One can access the entire Condor Connection through any one of its many mountaintop repeaters, and easily talk to ham friends over a very wide area. The system is up and running 24/7 thanks to a dedicated organization of repeater owners, maintenance teams, and control operators.

The Condor Connection can be accessed in the Valley through its White Tanks repeater KD7TKT on 224.60 mHz, (-1.6), PL 156.7; the Control Operator is John Braden K7LKL. There is a users' net each Monday evening at 2000 hrs MST, and usually four to six, or more, stations from the Valley check in. For more information, check out the Condor Connection website at http://condor-connection.org

Bob Keiser N7VAM

## "No-Code" Amateur Radio License Classes

## Spring 2004

Starting Saturday, March 6th, 10:00AM to 1:00PM at Mesa Community College (Southern & Dobson in Mesa)

Instructors: Bob Burleson, KG7QJ, Rick Checketts, KA0KZB, and Robert L. Strauss, W7JTR, Amateur Radio licensees and operators.

Saturdays March 6th—May 8th 10:00 AM - 1:00PM. Nine 3-hour sessions Tuition $23.

To register call MCC Community Education at 480-461-7493. Required text "Now You're Talking", 5th edition, available at first class for approximately $16.

## ***IMPORTANT***

### SARC Newsletter Notice

The club newsletter will be sent through the US Postal Mail system for March. Starting in April the newsletter will be made available to everyone through email. To receive the newsletter provide your email address to the editor at rodbevill@earthlink.net prior to the end of March. If access to email or the internet is not available the newsletter can be sent through the US Postal system, please notify the editor prior to the end of March for this option.

**W B 7 T J D / R**
147.12 MHz (+) PL 162.2
449.60 MHz (-) PL 100.0
Serving the East Valley

2

**The CΩmmμnicator**
**For March 2004**

# 2004 Officers

President . Ron McKee, KD7FGY ..... Cell: 480-510-3025 kd7fgy@aol.com
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Treasurer.. Ron Hedtke, AC7MN
Directors .. Bob Burleson, KG7QJ
Terry Cross, NK7T
Jim Hoggard, K7MY
Cynthia Thompson, KD7QZO
Gene Wilson, WA8TSG

# Committees

**Amateur Radio Council of Arizona**
Delegate:
Alternate: Myrna Cross, KN7M

**Membership Committee**
Chmn: Ron Hedtke, AC7MN

**Web Site Management**
Chmn: Larry Kuck, WB7CRK ... 480-986-2298 . wb7crk@juno.com

**Technical Committee**
Chmn: Neil Leverance, K9ZSR. 480-981-8883 . k9zsr@arrl.net

**CΩmmμnicator**
Editor: Larry Kuck, WB7CRK.. 480-986-2298 . wb7crk@juno.com
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 Newsline both nights: Provided by the net host

CΩMMμNICATOR 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.



## *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, March 16, 2004.*

—- - - —

*The Board meets at Peter Piper Pizza, Gilbert and Main, Mesa, NW corner, at 6:30 PM on the second Tuesday, March 9.*

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*VE Testing is held at 6 PM on the third Monday at Mesa Utilities Office, 640 North Mesa Dr. March 15*

## SARC Meeting Room Changes

The meeting room for the Superstitution Amateur Radio Club will be different each month for the next four (4) months. The rooms will be as listed below the given dates.

| | |
|---|---|
| March 16 | Classroom SC17N |
| April 20 | Kiva Room |
| May 18 | Staff Lounge |

Staff Lounge located in Clock Tower building on first floor directly across from information desk.

## HTs and Batteries

How long does your radio run? To estimate operation time use the following calculation:

Operating time = Battery capacity/current draw

Typical capacities for various battery types:

Numbers represent milli-Ampere Hours.

| Li Ion | NiCad | NiMH | RAC |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2400 | 600 | 1200 | 1800 |
| ↓ | 800 | 1800 | |
| | | 2400 | |

Usage varies with the mode of the usage.

To extend operating time: have more battery

| Battery saver | Traffic | Speaker | Usage (milliamps) |
|---|---|---|---|
| off | no | | 15 |
| on | no | | 120 |
| Don't care | constant | internal | 180 |

capacity (NOT higher voltage), less current drain, spare batteries.

Test your radio and battery setup using the following procedure:

Turn it on, open the squelch, adjust for comfortable listening level, and let it run until it dies.

## *HAM RADIO TRIVIA*

In what year, was the first 'callbook' published

A 1908
B 1910
C 1912
D 1914

In what year, was the first amateur radio club formed

A 1909
B 1910
C 1912
D 1913

What year was SOS adopted as a distress signal ?

A 1906
B 1908
C 1912
D 1914

The amateur callsign RAEM was awarded to the famous Russian amateur radio operator, Ernst Krenkel. Before he earned RAEM, it belonged to

A A Zeppelin.
B An Airplane.
C A Ship.
D An Arctic station

What are the three main parts of a typical triode electron tube?

A Filament, Sink, and Anode
B Grid, Plate, and Filament
C Screen Grid, RF Choke, and Plate
D Plate, Screen, and Cathode

What is the proper function of an antenna tuner?

A To multiply signals by a factor of 10
B To add and subtract the output of a transmitter
C To tune a rig and amplifier to match the impedance of an antenna
D To give an SWR reading of an antenna's output

A Technician Plus licensee may not participate in the MARS (Military Affiliate Radio System) program.

A TRUE
B FALSE

First Class Mail
(Air Mail / Par Avion)
Printed Matter

March 2004

PO Box 1551
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Superstition
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

## *HAMFest*

**March 13:**
aka SpringFest—Sponsored by the Scottsdale ARC
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*

The first callbook "The Wireless Blue Book" was published in the United States, in 1910.

The first amateur radio club; "The Junior Wireless Club, Limited, of New York City", was formed on January 2, 1909.

SOS was adopted at the Berlin Radiotelegraphic Conference of 1906 and ratified in 1908.

RAEM was the callsign of the ship "Cheliskin".

Some tubes may have indirectly heated cathodes, but most triodes have the above described parts.

Capacitive and inductance tuning makes a random antenna or a specific cut antenna work on different bands.

Any FCC licensed Radio Amateur may participate in any of the MARS programs, Army, Navy-Marine Corps or Air Force.