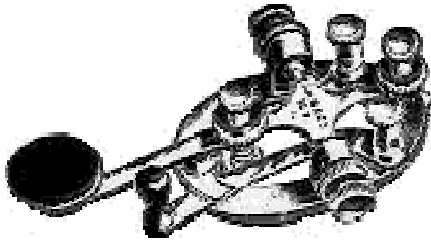




## Morse Code on the Internet



### ❖A New Way to do Morse Code

EchoLink is an interesting new mode for amateur radio voice communication, but what if your main interest is CW? Check out CW Communicator by MRX Software.

CW Communicator is a computer program that runs on Windows and connects with a server which puts you in touch with other people who also running CW Communicator. Then, using the down arrow key, or a mouse button, or an external key or paddle hooked up to a comm port, you tap out Morse code to make contacts with other CW Communicator users.

*Continued on Page 4*

## Important Amateur Radio issues being discussed at meetings in Geneva

During September, two important amateur radio questions are under discussion by the ITU in Geneva.

The first is an IARU proposal for a new amateur band from 135.7-137.8 kHz. This proposal, is moving forward well, and it appears that there will be support for a new world wide allocation at the next World Radio Conference in 2007.

The second is a proposal from the short wave broadcasting community for up to 850 KHz more spectrum between 4 and 10 MHz. If approved, the spectrum would have to be given up by other users, namely the fixed service, the mobile service, the amateur radio service and the radio navigation service. None of these are interested in giving up spectrum. The discussions are well along, but there is no solution in sight.

For both of the above items, amateurs from Canada, the USA, the UK, and Japan are actively participating. Amateurs from many other countries are also present but active in other areas.

**(RAC News Service)**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Morse Code on the Internet
- 1 Important Amateur Radio issues being discussed at meetings in Geneva
- 2 W7ASC ADAW Column
- 3 Club details
- 5 Ham Trivia

## W7ASC ADAW Column

FAQs at the W7ASC Ham Shack

This is just a sample of some of the questions we get at W7ASC:

“I thought Amateur Radio was dead!”

Nope! It’s alive and, well.... The number of Amateur Radio operators is just under 700,000 in the US and growing although slowly. We DO need to work to increase the ranks of Amateur Radio with license classes, publicity, etc.

“Didn’t the Internet make this obsolete?”

Heck no! The Internet has undoubtedly enhanced our lifestyle, and enhanced the Amateur hobby (QRZ data base, IRLP, ECHO-Link, etc.). The infrastructure required getting the Internet to work still leaves a lot to be desired in the realm of durability. A car battery, wire and any radio is far more dependable. It’s my infrastructure, not somebody else’s. Fire, flood, earthquake, in an emergency you hear from the Amateur Radio Operator.

“Don’t you need a license?”

Yes, you do. Parents always push their offspring forward (Stevie! You go do this!) I ask the young one:

“How old do you have to be to use this radio to talk to people all over the world?”

Answers range (do I look 64?) but the questions continue:

“Do you pass tests in school?”

A rhetorical question, but it leads to “...Then you’re old enough to be an Amateur Radio Operator!” A small discussion explains the 35-question test, and the conversation is always loud enough for the parents looking on, but then: “... if you pass the test, they’ll have to ask your permission to use the radio!” ...Coolsville!

“My (Granddad, Uncle, Dad) used to do this when I was a kid...”

Best statement yet, the “Did you know....” discussion has motivated more than a few guests of the Science Center to make Amateur Radio a personal goal. I am personally aware of several calls back on the air, the operators reliving a bit of their family heritage, and reactivating Grand-Dads old call.

And the number ONE question: “...REALLY???”

Making wireless phone calls without a monthly bill (Really?)

Having the opportunities to contact astronauts on the fly (Really?)

Calling up scientists doing in person research in Antarctica (Really?)

Handhelds that communicate across the city, state and world (Really?)

Morse Code is no longer a requirement (Really?).

Helping out in critical emergency communications (All the hurricanes in Florida, the AZ fires, etc.) (Really?)

The diversity of Amateur Radio is easy to get used to, for those of us that have been licensed a while (Can you name ALL of the digital and analogue modes used in Amateur Radio?). Some of the modes we use become transparent (when was the last time you made an autopatch?). We REALLY need to stop taking this for granted and explain it to just a few folks that express a genuine interest in what we do, and stand for. Take an opportunity and join us once in a while at the W7ASC downtown exhibit. You will not be sorry.

Thanks to Rick, KA0KZB!

We need new volunteers at W7ASC. Call Bob at 480-961-1109 and volunteer now! A Volunteer sign-up page is available at [www.w7asc.org](http://www.w7asc.org)

-73 de KG7QJ Bob B.

[kg7qj@cox.net](mailto:kg7qj@cox.net)

480-961-1109

## MEETING HOUSE

The Superstition Amateur Radio 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.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### BOARD MEETING

PLACE: PETER PIPER PIZZA, AT THE CORNER OF  
GILBERT AND MAIN STREETS IN MESA  
TIME: 6:30 PM, SECOND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH  
DATE: 12 OCTOBER 2004

### GENERAL MEETING

PLACE: MESA COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT SOUTHERN AND  
DOBSON STREETS  
ROOM: KIVA – BASEMENT AT CLOCK TOWER  
TIME: 7 PM, THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH  
DATE: 19 OCTOBER 2004

### VE TESTING

PLACE: MESA UTILITIES OFFICE, 640 NORTH MESA DR.  
TIME: 6:00 PM, THIRD MONDAY OF THE MONTH  
DATE: 18 OCTOBER 2004

## FUTURE MEETING LOCATIONS

NOVEMBER: KIVA ROOM  
DECEMBER: LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED FOR  
CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

## 2004 OFFICERS

President: Ron McKee, KD7FGY  
Cell: 480-510-3025  
Email: kd7fgy@aol.com  
Vice Pres.: Bob Burleson, KG7QJ  
Secretary: Rodney Bevill, K7RLB  
Treasurer: Ron Hedtke, AC7MN  
Directors: Bob Burleson, KG7QJ  
Terry Cross, NK7T  
Jim Hoggard, K7MY  
Jonathan Simmonds, KD7VCF  
Cynthia Thompson, W8SPU

## 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

### Communicator

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

Learning morse code? Just want to practice CW without firing up the rig? Get a friend or two to load CW Communicator and see how much fun this new form of CW communication can be. Or explore other ways you can use CW over the internet. No license required.

### **WHO USES MORSE CODE ON THE INTERNET?**

- Radio Amateurs when antenna or ham gear is down
- Ex Commercial or Military radio operators
- Ex land line operators
- Those seeking Morse Code practice

### **WHAT EQUIPMENT IS REQUIRED?**

- Three systems are available for free. A voice program designed to provide voice contacts on the internet can be used for Morse Contacts.
- A Code Program called, **MorseMail**.
- A Code Program called, **CW Communicator**.

Voice Programs do not always provide perfect code. Sometimes they chop or miss characters the same as with voice, but at other times do OK. Similar to ham radio, sometimes conditions are perfect, but at other times one has to give up on a specific contact and try again another day.

The two code programs designed specifically for Morse Code always provide perfect Morse, but require a Windows computer. Windows 95, or later plus sound card and speaker are required. Keying for both of these can be either straight key or paddles, which are connected to mouse. Keying for CW Communicator can also be done through computer serial port.

Voice programs are numerous. Two free ones are MSN Messenger, which works with both Windows and Mac computers, and Pal Talk, which requires Windows. For both of these, a sound card, speaker, microphone, code practice tone oscillator and key are required.

Land Line Operators are able to use a telegraph

sounder by adding a simple home made relay to run sounder from tone signals.

### **CW Communicator**

CW Communicator is a Morse code chat program for Windows and NT operating systems. You can use CW Communicator to transmit and receive Morse code and text messages over a LAN or across the internet! CW Communicator can translate Morse code to text and text to Morse code or flashing light, so you don't have to know Morse code to use it. The program has a configurable Morse library - you can define your own Morse characters and the text associated with it. Up to 128 characters can be displayed for a single Morse code symbol! CW Communicator can be configured to receive input from a Morse key, using the joystick port, serial port or keyboard.

### **MorseMail**

This program provides perfect Morse, something not always possible with voice type programs. It uses a different system from that of voice programs. It changes dots and dashes into numbers representing milliseconds of sound. These numbers are transmitted like text to a web site where they are stored. In receive mode, the message is retrieved and reassembled back into Morse sounds with no chopping or missing characters.

The system acts like a bulletin board where you leave messages for certain stations, as well as pick up yours. You are able to contact others without staying on the Internet waiting for another station to check in. The program working page allows you to see the list of recent messages at all times while on the internet. It does not use your browser.

**NOTE: If there is interest in this topic, additional information and schematics will be provided.**

## Classifieds

Alinco 2 meter DJ195, H.T., battery operated, FM Transceiver, 1.5 yr. Old, hardly used. Al KD7TOM 602-291-8500 (\$85.00)

This space available for advertising items for sell or items wanted to purchase. Also advertise your expertise or the need for help in solving problems. This is limited to Amateur Radio needs.

## NEEDED!

We need your article for the Newsletter. Write us about your most embarrassing situation relating to Ham Radio. Send photos as well.

## LINKS

[ARRL Southwestern Division](#)

[ARRL Arizona Section](#)

[Arizona Repeater Owners Frequency Coordination Committee](#)

[Tucson Amateur Packet Radio](#)

## HAM TRIVIA

What prefix is assigned to a US Ham requesting a reciprocal callsign in Japan

- A JA
- B 7A
- C 7J
- D JH

What type of power was used to supply filament voltage in the early battery operated household radios of the twenties and thirties:

- A Step-down transformers:
- B Wind powered generators:
- C Wet cell storage batteries:
- D Solar cells:

What were the call letters of the 500,000 watt standard AM radio

station in Cincinnati, Ohio that caused residential light bulbs in the vicinity of the antenna to glow while the wall switch was in the OFF position

- A KDKA
- B KMOX
- C WLW
- D WKRP

What are the call letters of the 'mile-high' U. S. radio station

- A KDKA
- B WCBS
- C WHO
- D KOA

What was the King of Jordan's callsign?

- A W1AW
- B JY1
- C JY2A
- D JA7OG

## Who We Are

The Communicator is published monthly by the Superstition Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (SARC), and is e-mailed to all club members.

Please notify the editor if you do not receive your newsletter, have a change of address, or have found an error. Please direct all submissions to the editor.

The SARC generally permits reuse of any article in the Communicator as long as the newsletter and the article's author are credited. However, some articles may be copyrighted by the author. Please contact the editor.

**Club Repeater:** WB7TJD/R  
147.120 MHz(+), 162.2 Hz PL  
449.60 MHz(-), 100.0 PL  
**Club Web Site:** [www.wb7tjd.org](http://www.wb7tjd.org)

## TRIVIA ANSWERS

The prefix assigned to a US Ham requesting a reciprocal callsign in Japan is 7J.

Six volt car batteries were utilized because of their adequate current drain:

This famous radio station was one of the few which had this very high wattage, and was later reduced by FCC decree.

Broadcast radio station KOA in Denver, Colorado prides itself on it's location at 5,280 feet elevation.

The King of Jordan's callsign was JY1