



Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

January 2016

January 14, 2016

Static & Sparks

By President Frank Valdez KI6OQ

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January Program

Porter Ranch Gas Leak

See the president's column for details.

R.I.P.

We lost another member of the Settler's family last year. Ruben Aguiar, an avid shortwave listener, regularly attended our monthly meetings passed away last September.

His wife, Belinda, wanted the club to know his Memorial Service will be held Saturday, January 16th at Simi Hills Church, 4307 Walnut Ave., Simi Valley 93063, at 1:30pm.

- Joe

As 2015 came to a close, I want to thank the SSARC and Board members and general membership for a successful year. I also want to thank Jim & Lea Veronica for hosting an excellent venue for the SSARC Christmas Party. In looking forward to 2016, I encourage the membership to voice their opinions or ideas to the leadership.

In the upcoming year, club dues will increase to new members as well renewals. Voting for approval will take place in our January meeting.

In our January meeting, I will be the guest speaker speaking on the gas company Porter Ranch gas well leak. This is for your information only knowing the location after 10 years working at the facility.

On the ARRL news, the FCC fined a Florida ham Thomas J. Warren K3TW a judgment fine of \$3500 for failure to ID during a QSO. Also the FCC fined a California ham William F Crowell W6WBJ OF \$25,000 for transmitting music, indecent language, interrupting others in a QSO, and operating with an expired license since 2008. For more details look ARRL website at arrl.org.

73, Frank Valdez KI6OQ

General Meeting
Time: 7:00pm
Location: Simi Valley
Senior Center
3900 Avenida Simi
Simi Valley, CA 93063

Nets of Interest

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
LSB Net 8pm 3.908 MHz SSARC 2 Meter Net* 8:30 pm SMRA-ERN Repeater 146.805 - 0.6MHz PL100.0 or 445.580 - 5.0MHz PL100.0	Condor Connection 7pm (Plays Newsline) Thousand Oaks 223.940-1.6 MHz PL156.7 Frazier Mountain 224.720-1.6 MHz PL156.7	ACS Area 1 Simi Valley SMRA-ERN 7:05pm Repeater 146.805 -0.6MHz PL100.0 or 445.580 -5.0MHz PL100.0 ATN-CA Net 7:30pm http://atn-tv.org/netnight.htm LSB Net 8pm 3.908 MHz	Channel Islands chapter 10-10 International 28.34 MHz at 10AM and 6PM	LSB Net 8pm 3.908 MHz		SSARC SSB HF Net 8:30am 7.262 (+ or - QRM/N) 40 meter CW-QRP 9am 7.032 MHz Quad Squad net 1PM on 21.365 MHz.

Additional information on local nets can be found on the CVARC web site at:
http://www.cvarc.org/new-wp/?page_id=470

***Thanks to our fine Net Control Operators: Steve, KE6WEZ; Rick, W6DQE; Ray, KI6LKD; Jay, AG6JF and Dante, KK6JCQ.**

ACS Corner

1. We are looking for one or two ACS members that would like to become Net Controllers. You will receive hands on training at the Simi Valley PD (where we normally conduct the Weekly Net). It is both fun and at times challenging. You will gain valuable experience in running a controlled Net as well as becoming more than just familiar with the equipment in the Radio Room at the PD. If you would like to volunteer for this, let me know - ke6wez@gmail.com
2. If anyone is interested in how to setup your own packet station, RMS Winlink station, or a Mesh Node, let me know and we can get you started in the proper direction. ke6wez@gmail.com
3. Monday 4 January 2016 - District Meeting. Camarillo PD at 1930.
4. Saturday 30 January 2016 - Bandit Ultra Trail Run, Volunteers needed, especially those with Packet capability. Contact Steve.
5. Sunday February 14 - LA Marathon. All welcome to participate.
6. Later in 2016 -- Ojai-Ventura Mountains to the beach marathon - more details to come.



- Steve King KE6WEZ (ke6wez@gmail.com)

January VHF Contest

The first ARRL VHF contest of the new year, the January VHF Contest, will be held January 30 to February 1.

The contest begins 1900 UTC Saturday, ends 0359 UTC Monday. All authorized frequencies above 50 MHz (6 Meters) can be used, and this marks the first contest where 146.52 MHz FM simplex will be allowed!

The 2M 'National Simplex Frequency' has been off-limits in the past but will be allowed from now on for all ARRL 6M and above contests. Info at <http://www.arrl.org/january-vhf>

73,
 Steve J. Noll, WA6EJO

Events

Thursday, January 7, 2014, 6:00pm SSARC Pizza Night

Round Table Pizza, 2345 Erringer Road, Ste. 100, Simi Valley

Saturday, January 30, 2016, 7:00am W6TRW Swap meet

(7am) and Exam Session (10am) Redondo Beach, CA

<http://w6trw.com/swapmeet/swapmeet.htm>

Sunday, February 8, 2016, 8:30am Ham Radio License Exam Session

Ventura County Sheriff's E County Station

2101 E Olsen Rd (Between 23 Hwy & Reagan Library);

Community Room, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360 Walk-ins-Allowed.

Contact: Jeffrey M Reinhardt (818) 706-3853

See: <http://www.cvarc.org/> for more information

The VC Mesh Year In Review / What's next?

Here's a quick review of what we've accomplished on our mesh network in Ventura County in 2015 and where we might go in 2016

Starting the year we had a mix of Linksys and Ubiquiti equipment running a version B.01xxx or similar code. With this code we were all on channel 1, a Part 15 channel. We had to deal with every other Part 15 device within hearing distance of our nodes (sometimes that was a LOT of devices).

Starting in late May, a few of us started testing the AREDN mesh beta which was available for Ubiquiti and TP-Link equipment (new) and now available on 4 bands (900 MHz, 2.4 GHz, 5.8 GHz and 3 GHz a Part-97 only band).

The beta code allowed the Ubiquiti equipment to move into the Part 97 part of their respective bands. We found that performance of the links was far better on those channels due to being able to leave the Part 15 users behind. Marginal links became rock-solid; nodes were hearing distant nodes they'd never heard before. In spite of the flaky initial beta code, 2.4 GHz users stampeded over to the quiet of channel -2.

By moving all the mountain access nodes to channel -2 we've allowed mesh users who couldn't participate previously to be able to join the net, and have increased our visible node count by about 25% (a guess). (Most of which mountain top nodes are connected together by Paul (WD6EBY's 5 GHz backbone which is a major contributor to county connectivity).

Since May we've gone through beta version 01 through 04 and finally to a production release in late December. With a stable version on hand, for 2016 we should focus on:

- Deploying nodes to critical sites (hospitals, EOCs, etc).
- Testing and adding services - text (IRC & mail forwarding); voice (Voice chat & VOIP) and video (webcams).
- Continue testing ad hoc mobile services at parades and the like, so we can understand where we can provide mobile coverage and where we're lacking)
- Increasing our user population so we can get to a critical mass.
- Possibly user training classes - content, timing and location TBD.

Happy New Mesh-year!

73 - Orv - W6BI

Simi Settlers' Leadership

President	Frank Valdez	KI6OQ	(805) 404-0394	ffvaldez@dslextreme.com
Vice President	VACANT			
Secretary	John Percival	WI6O		percivaljohns@cs.com
Treasurer	Glenn Daly	WA6GNB		gw.daly@yahoo.com
Committee Chairpersons				
Webmaster	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
Newsletter	Joe Partlow	W6JWP	(805) 428-7907 cell	joe.w6jwp@gmail.com
Membership	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745 cell	KJ6LXJ@gmail.com
PIO	VACANT			
Field Day	<i>What will <u>you</u> do?</i>			
Youth Coordinator	Dante Smith	KK6JCQ		danterusso1999@gmail.com
Historian	Mike Tweedy	KV6I		mtweedy@roadrunner.com
Net Coordinator	Ray Campbell	KI6LKD	(805) 404-3246	ki6lkd@yahoo.com
Net Coordinator	Steve King	KE6WEZ		ke6wez@gmail.com
Food Services	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		ki6ksv@gmail.com
Room Coordinator	Linda Parker			kj6lxj@gmail.com
Elmers and Members at Large				
Past-President	Rick Galbraith	W6DQE	(805) 433-4513 cell	Rick@keymaterial.com
Past-Treasurer	Norbert Rehaut	W9YPM(SK)		
Elmer	Deanna Smitha	W6DWS		W6DWS@arrl.net
Advisor	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		wildpoky45@earthlink.net
Advisor	Jim Hutchinson	KI6MZ		jhutch17@adelphia.net
Advisor	Brad Rife	KI6KSY		speedy@earthlink.net
Advisor	Spencer Smith	N6IWY	(805) 583-1127	n6iwy@sbcglobal.net

Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club Web Page: <http://www.simissettlers.org/index.htm>

Simi Settlers' ARC Yahoo Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SimiSettlersARC>

Mail: P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, CA 93062-2125

Letter From The Editor

Ok, I'm all revved up for the new year. I got a shack and workshop to get pimped out, projects to work on, contests to participate in and personal goals to achieve. Now all I have to do is find the time to do it all and still complete a few of the things on the Honey Dew list.

I'm looking forward to seeing what the rest of the membership is up to in the new year. I've heard rumors that Jim is working on a 2.5GHz antenna for the Mesh project made out of tin foil and bailing wire!

Happy New Year and 73 to all,

- Joe W6JWP

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, Ca 93062-2125 --- (www.simissettlers.org)

Membership Application



Type of Application:

New Member
Renewal

Type of Membership:

Individual (\$18/yr)
Family (\$20/yr)

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes No

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Alt. Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Additional Family Members:

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes No

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes No

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes No

Badges requested: Yes No How many? _____ X \$16.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s): _____

Shirts requested: Yes No How many? _____ X \$35.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s) Size(s) (Sm, Med, L, XL, etc): _____

Jackets Requested: Yes No How many? _____ X \$88.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s) Size(s) (Sm, Med, L, XL, etc): _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Application type: New Renewal Membership type: Individual Family

Date Received: _____ Amount Received: _____ Database completed: _____

Badges and Shirts ordered: _____