



Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

February 2018

February 6, 2018

Static & Sparks

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

February Program

Thursday, February 12 7:00 PM

Orv, W6BI will present an update on how the buildout of the digital mesh network is proceeding in our area, both accomplishments in 2017, and planned improvements for 2018. The mesh network will become increasingly valuable as time progresses and he'll show why.

Also, check out the Tour of the Mellow Lane Repeater Site in this edition of the Short Circuit.

March Program: Mike WA6FXT will give a talk about the Flex 6700 system.



April Program: Bill Woods - AB6BW - will talk about working FM Repeater Satellites with a portable system.

Mike Hasenfratz - WA6FXT

Field Day 2018 is coming sooner than you think. The disaster, Field Day is suppose to represent, gives us a chance to verify that our preparations are in order.

Ventura County Amateur Radio Society (VCARS) has been given permission, 18th time, to hold FD2018 at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library. VCARS has asked me to remind the SSARC membership that "Band Captains", operators, setup / tear-down help, are needed. If any members would like to take on the tasks for addition "Bands", let Vern Potter (W6NCT) at VCARS know. SSARC members usually run the The 20m CW, 40m Voice and CW; however, Band Captains, operators for other bands / modes are welcome.

I hope to see you at Field Day 2018.

73's de Mike WA6FXT

Dinner with the Speaker

Where? TGIFriday's
When? 5:30 pm
Join your club board members and Orv Beach for dinner before the club meeting.

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) Frazier Mountain 224.720-1.6 MHz PL156.7	LSB Net 8pm 3.908 MHz 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	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 7.240 (+ or - QRM/N) 40 meter CW-QRP 9am 7.032 MHz Quad Squad net 1PM on 21.365 MHz's

Additional information on local nets can be found on the CVARC web site at: <http://www.cvarc.org>

ACS/ARES Corner

We are always looking for 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

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.

NOTE: Please be advised that we hold the Tue. countywide net at 19:30 (7:30PM) on the Sulphur Mountain WD6EBY repeater 145.200, minus 600 KHz offset, CTCSS of 127.3. Until further notice, this will be our standard frequency for countywide communications.

- Steve King KE6WEZ (ke6wez@gmail.com)



Upcoming ACS/ARES Events:

1. Tuesday - 6 February 2018 - ORT. If you can help man up the Simi Hospital, Simi PD or a remote site, let me know.
2. Sunday - 4 Mar. 2018 Corp Walk in Area 2. Contact Zak n6pk@arrl.net for assignments
3. Monday - 5 Mar. 2018 District Meeting at East Valley Sheriff Station. Meeting time is 19:30 hours.
4. 27 May 2018 Mountain to the Beach Marathon.

Events

Thursday, February 1, 2018, 6:00pm SSARC Pizza Night

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

Thursday, February 8, 2018, 7:00pm SSARC General Meeting

Simi Valley Senior Center, 3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley, CA 93063

Thursday, February 22, 2018, 7:00pm SSARC Board Meeting

Simi Valley Senior Center, 3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley, CA 93063



March 8 through March 11, the Pasadena Convention Center will be “Radio-active”

The Southern California Linux Expo 16x (SCaLE 16x) will include, in addition to the N6S Special Event station, an Amateur Radio ‘Track’ to support the interest shown in Ham Radio during last year's event. If any of you are into Linux, this would be “Linux Nirvana”. de Mike WA6FXT

Channel Islands 10-10 Chapter

Hello All,

We are trying to resurrect the Channel Islands 10-10 Chapter. If anyone has an interest in managing, running, coordinating, being a net control, or? please let me know.

Also, if anyone has any recent history (there have been 2 iterations of the Channel Islands Chapter), also let me know. I am looking for certificates, database, or any other information.

72/73

John Kitchens WA6UVA

Raffle Prize!

The grand prize for the raffle will be : MPD Digital RG58-PL259-PL-259-male-35FT UHF PL-259 male Connectors on RG58 Coaxial Cable Jumper with MILSPEC MIL-C-17 RF Coaxial Cable (35 FT)

Congratulations to visitor Dan Saltzman - WA6MVP
- for winning the LED Utility Lanterns last month.



Sunday Night Net Control Operators

Thanks to our fine Net Control Operators: Steve, KE6WEZ;
Rick, W6DQE; Ray, KI6LKD; Jay, AG6JF and Dante, W6JCQ.

**Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club
General Membership Meeting, January 11, 2018**

- Call to Order:** President, Mike Hasenfratz, WA6FXT, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Mike welcomed everyone to the meeting, held at the Simi Valley Senior Center. There was a recitation of The Pledge of Allegiance. 10 Officers and Board Members/Advisors were present. The total attendance was 31, with 5 visitors. Our guests were: Scott Howell, WB6QFR, Dan Moore, W6DPM, Dan Saltzman, WB6MVP, Garret Miller, KM6OIN, and Marty Woll, N6VI.
- Introductions:** There was a round of introductions for members and guests.
- Treasurer:** Treasurer Glenn Daly, WA6GNB, reported that the Club's treasury balance is \$1,075.75.
- Secretary:** President Mike said the minutes of the November General meeting were published in the December newsletter. He also reported that the Board of Directors has been reviewing and updating the Club Bylaws. The Board will also go through the Club's Constitution. The plan is to get these documents updated and presented to the membership.
- Program:** President Mike introduced our speaker for tonight, Marty Woll, N6VI, who is Vice-Director for the ARRL Southwestern Division. The title of Marty's program was "Troubleshooting for the Non-Techie Amateur". Troubleshooting is an important area of knowledge for hams. Marty presented examples of the basic principles of the troubleshooting process to apply when technical problems are encountered with radios and operating. He described the logical and systematic process of elimination to use when radios don't work or there are problems with transmitting or receiving. He also mentioned interference problems and gave suggestions for solving them. Marty spoke about the basic tools and test equipment that are useful for troubleshooting. He reviewed the systematic processes and suggested first checking the power supply when trouble occurs. He added the value of getting to know your equipment, and what is normal operation, and suggested labeling cables and equipment connections. Marty said it is a good idea to make diagrams of how the items of station equipment are hooked up. In closing, Marty answered questions, and some members told about troubleshooting situations they have had. At the end of program, Mike thanked Marty for his program and presented him with a certificate of appreciation from the SSARC.
- Break:** At 8:20pm, a 20-minute break was taken with refreshments provided by Bill Everett, KI6KSV.
- Member Drawing:** The winning name in the progressive Membership drawing was Deanna Smitha, W6DWS, who was not present to win the \$40 prize. The prize amount will therefore increase to \$50 for our next meeting on Thursday, February 8, 2018. Members must be present to win, and the prize grows by \$10 each month it is unclaimed.
- Prize Raffle:** After the prize raffle drawing, the Grand Prize winner of a pair of LED utility lanterns was visitor Dan Saltzman, WB6MVP.
- Future Meetings:** Our upcoming guest speakers are Orv Beach, W6BI, in February, to give an update on Mesh Networking, and in March, Mike Hasenfratz, WA6FXT, will talk about his home station and the Flex SDR radio.
- Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:51pm.

Submitted by: Secretary, John Percival, WI6O

Letter From The Editor

Please submit articles, pictures, etc. on things of interest to our SSARC community for publication to me at ab6bw1@gmail.com. Such items may discuss your recent antenna project, shack modifications, new operating modes, anecdotes from portable field operations, and so forth. A picture with a caption works. A few sentences strung together works. A few paragraphs, a few pages with detailed illustrations.... It's all good. I look forward (with a wee bit of trepidation) to your submissions. **Submission Deadline is Sunday night before 1st Thursday!**

73, Bill (AB6BW)

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

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

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

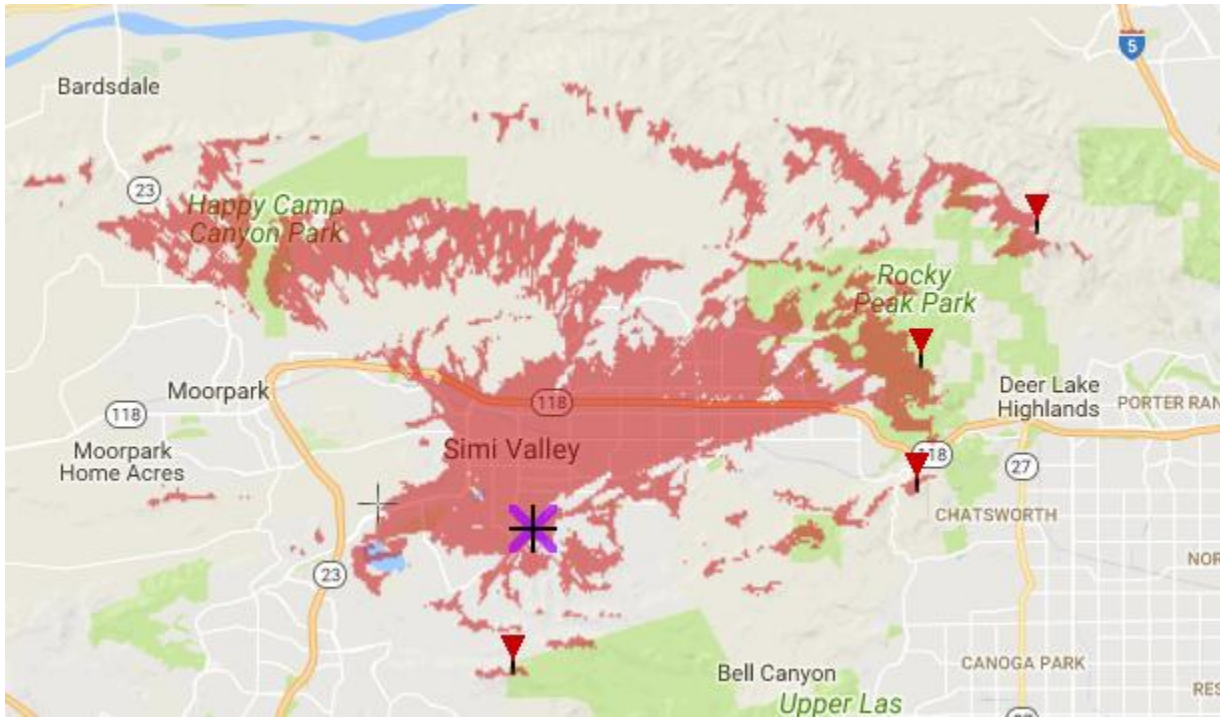
Simi Settlers' Leadership				
President	Mike Hasenfratz	WA6FXT	(805) 405-8696	mikeh@tothe.net
Vice President	Jim Veronica	WA6NXX	(818) 389-3453	fun4all8@earthlink.net
Secretary	John Percival	WI6O		percivaljohns@cs.com
Treasurer	Glenn Daly	WA6GNB		gmb.2112@yahoo.com
Committee Chairpersons				
Webmaster	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
Newsletter	Bill Woods	AB6BW	(818) 694-9019 cell	ab6bw1@gmail.com
Membership	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
PIO	Linda Parker		(805) 558-1731 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
Raffle Prizes	Rick Galbraith	W6DQE	(805) 433-4513 cell	rick@keymaterial.com
Youth Coordinator	Dante Smith	W6JQC		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		(805) 558-1731 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
Elmers and Members at Large				
Past-President	Frank Valdez	KI6OQ	(805) 404-0394	frankki6oq@gmail.com
Past-Treasurer	Norbert Rehaut	W9YPM(SK)		
Elmer	VACANT			
Advisor	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		wildpoky45@earthlink.net
Advisor	Jim Hutchinson	KI6MZ		jhutch17@adelphia.net
Advisor	Brad Rife	KI6KSY		speedy@earthlink.net

Touring Local Radio Sites

Orv Beach - W6BI

Many hams never get to visit a radio site. I'll be publishing articles on local sites so you have a better feel for what you're using when you're talking on your favorite repeater (or digital mesh node!)

This article is about the Mellow Lane site. Mellow Lane is in the southwestern quadrant of Simi Valley and has a good "radio view" of most of our valley. As such it's an excellent local radio site.



Mellow Lane Radio Coverage (approximate)



**View looking NW from Mellow Lane - 12/9/2017.
The Thomas fire is visible**

The antennas.

The telephone pole is no longer used. It was replaced with the tower when SMRA occupied the site. Annoyed Red Tail hawk lives at the site. :-)

On the top is the omni antenna for the SVPD's DSW (Disaster Services Worker) repeater, W6GRG on 146.94 MHz

The array on the top left is the antenna for the K6ERN VHF repeater on 146.805 MHz. The stacked array on the right is for the K6ERN UHF repeater on 445.580 MHz.

On the left below the VHF antenna are the digital mesh network radios:

- Ubiquiti 2 GHz Airgrid pointing at South Mountain (not in service)
- Ubiquiti 5 GHz Nanostation M5 pointed due west
- Ubiquiti 2 GHz Rocket with omni dual-polarization gain antenna
- Not shown: Ubiquiti 3 GHz Rocket radio with 120 degree sector antenna (mounted on wall on east side of water tower, looking at both Chatsworth Peak and SimiNorth (Sycamore))

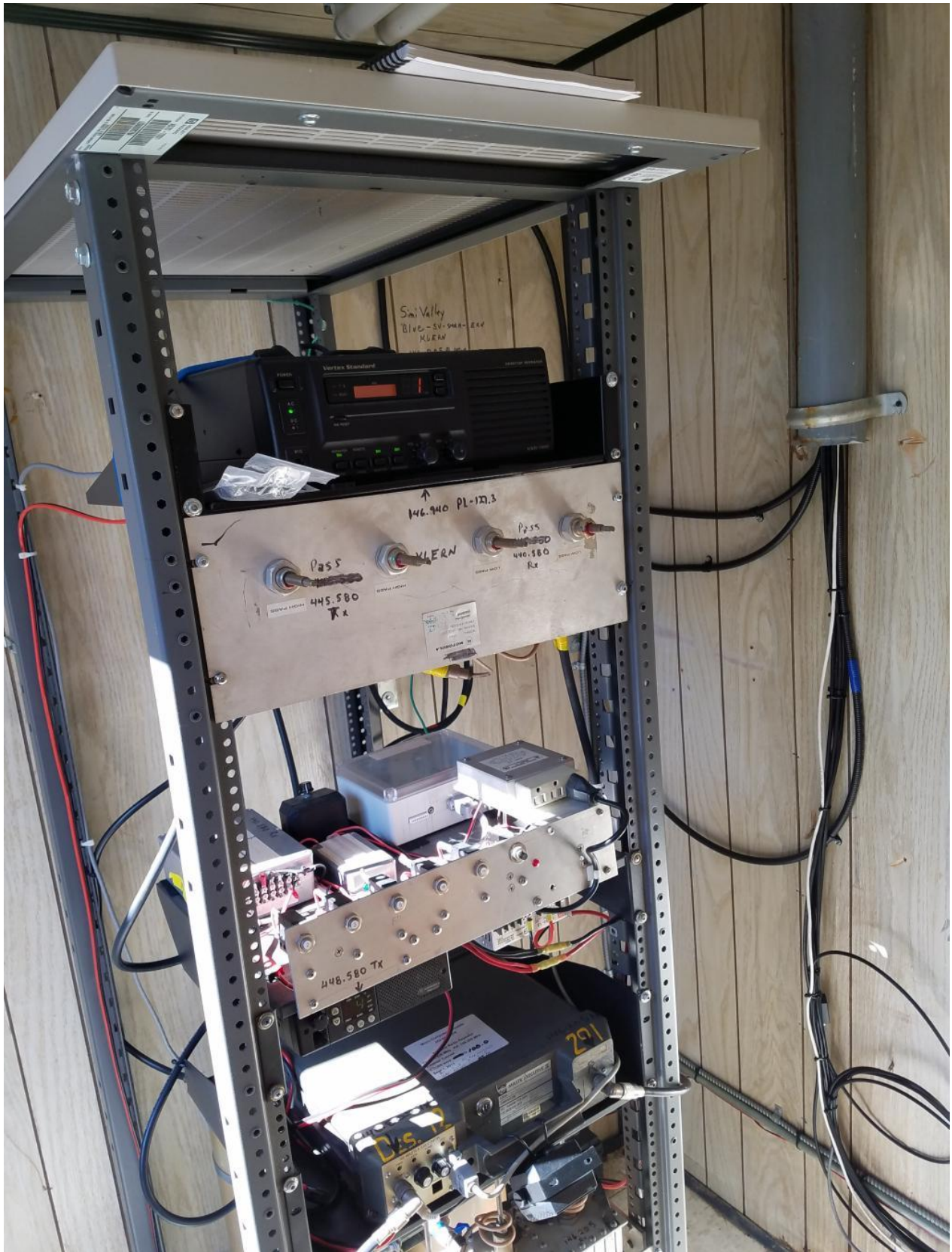


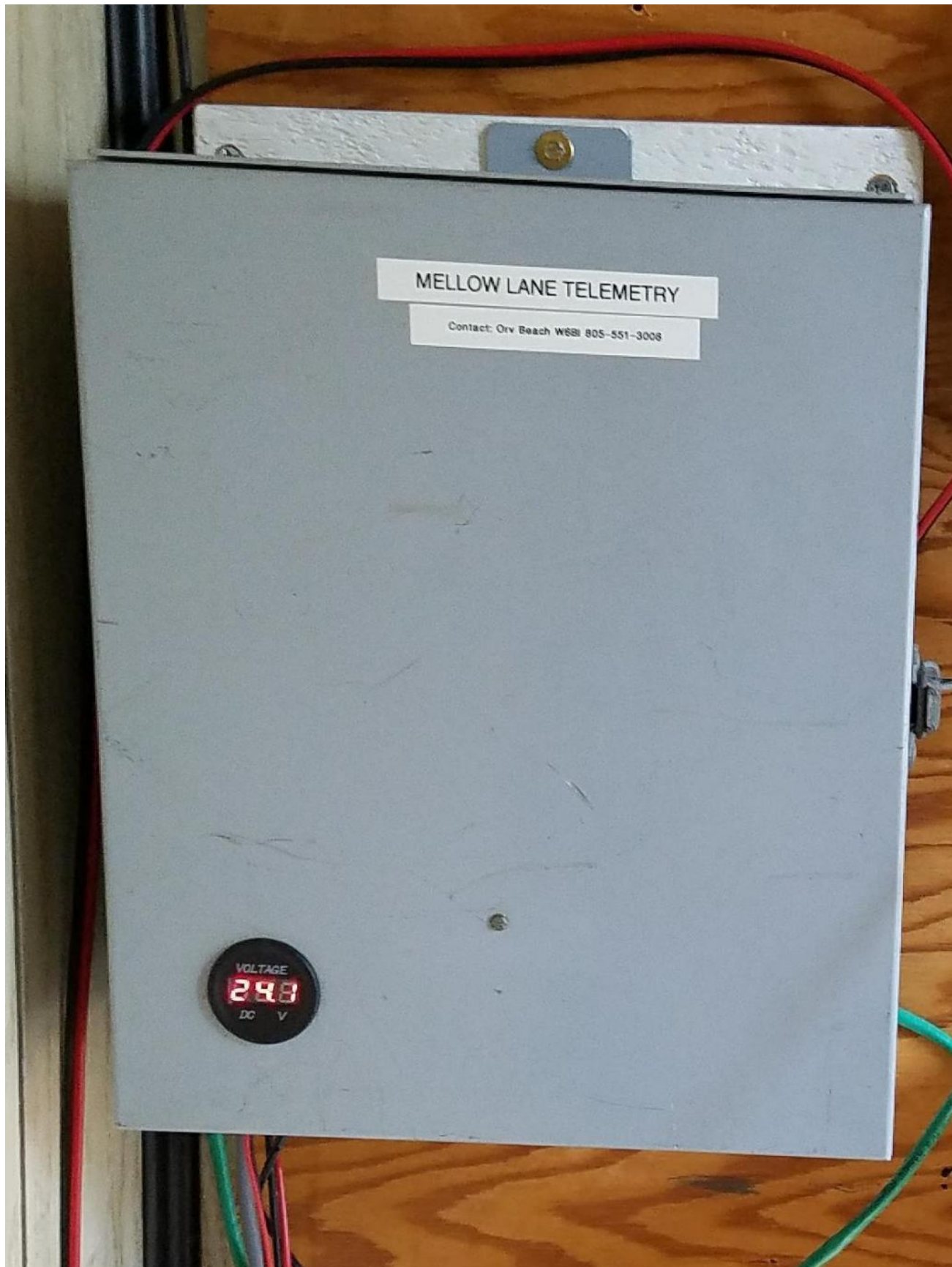


A view of the building, tower, antennas and water tank. The building is only used for ham radio now. On top of the building is the cableway.

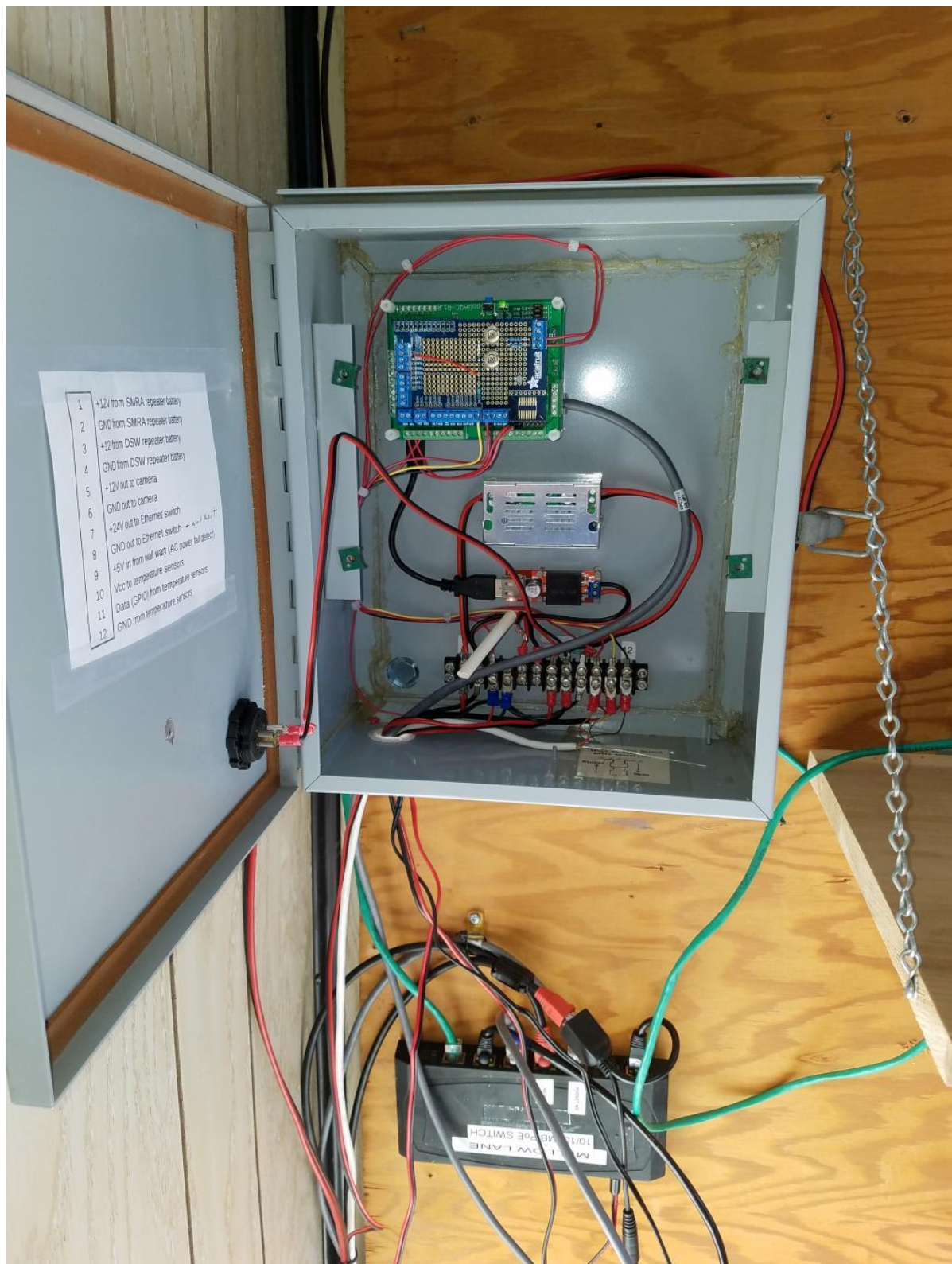


Looking in the door. DSW backup battery on the left; SMRA backup battery in far corner (not shown)





Above, in box: Raspberry Pi for web site with site information and telemetry; 12VDC-5VDC converter to power Raspberry Pi; 12VDC to 24VDC inverter to power POE switch & mesh nodes.
Below: POE (Power Over Ethernet) network switch for mesh gear



SSARC Membership

Abarta	Steve	K6TLM
Anderson	Gerry	W6GWA
Beach	Orv	W6BI
Benson	Lee "Chuck"	WA6FGK
Benson	Maureen	KD6YYT
Branam	Bob	
Campbell	Ray	KI6LKD
Carmi	Avi	K6AVI
Carstensen	Dave	KM6FQ
Costello	Bill	AG6XK
Crabtree	Jerry	W6OVH
Daly	Glenn	WA6GNB
De Gregorio	Angela	N6XCV
De Gregorio	Anthony	W6NWY
De Gregorio	David	WA6UZS
Dubrall	Douglas	WA6RJN
Eloranta	Jussi	AA6KJ
Engman	Charles	WB6MIO
Everett	Bill	KI6KSV
Galbraith	Rick	W6DQE
Galbraith	Kim	W6KJG
Galbraith	Derek	W6DJG
Galbraith	Connor	W6CSG
Hall	Buzz	KJ6SPN
Harland	Jay	AG6JF
Hasenfratz	Michael	WA6FXT
Heinonen	Tuija	KJ6WMR
Hernandez	Brian	KM6MIN
Hutchinson	Jim	KI6MZ
Johnson	Richard	N6HJD
Johnson	Charlot	
King	Stephen A	KE6WEZ
Kitchens	John	NS6X

Lowther	D. Keith	KJ6RUA
Nelson	Ronald	K6RIN
Noll	Steve	WA6EJO
Oberg	Eric	KE6MLF
Parker	Jim	KJ6LXJ
Parker	Linda	
Partlow	Joe	W6JWP
Paull	Gilbert	KK6YBX
Percival	John	WI6O
Pettebone	Allen	KA6WGO
Ree	Donald	N6DSR
Riegert	Gregory	W6GRG
Riegert	Adone	
Rehaut	Diane	
Rife	Brad	KI6KSY
Sandberg	Ken	KS3I
Segedie	Kenneth	W6K LX
Sheldon	Stuart	AG6AG
Slater	Rick	AG6AY
Smitha	Cathy	KA6TJJ
Smitha	Deanna	W6DWS
Travis	Tom	AA6XT
Trent	Lisa	KK6AKR
Tweedy	Mike	KV6I
Valdez	Frank F.	KI6OQ
Veronica	James A	WA6NXK
Watts	Mike	KJ6HDD
Woods	Bill	AB6BW
Woolever	Donald R.	N6XEK
Yonce	Bobbie	N6FFU

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 \$18.00 = \$ _____

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: _____