



Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

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Happy New Year!

2022! Can you believe it?

I'm looking forward to another great year for the Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club as well as for all of you.

What a great time to be an Amateur Radio Operator! With all the advancements in technology and all the cool and exciting ways to use radio communications, there really is no way to be a Ham and say you're bored. With something like the mesh net that even I am interested in, the possibilities are endless. I just hope you are all having as much fun as I am.

I'm hoping to see you guys and gals at pizza night and our regular club meet which will resume this month, either in person or by zoom.

As always, if you've done something cool and interesting and want to share it, write about it and send it to our great newsletter editor Eric ke6mlf.

From my family to yours, have a happy new Year!

Brian Hernandez KM6MIN

January 2022

The next Simi Settlers club meeting is

Thursday January 13 at 7:00 PM

Simi Senior Center

(Enter by the Southwest door)

3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley.

The next Simi Settlers Pizza Night is

Toppers Pizza, 2408 Erringer Rd, Simi Valley

Thursday January 6 at 6:00 PM

Note: The Senior Center has new rules. Please read and follow them. This is a one time requirement.

All people entering the center **MUST** be registered with the center.

This is to be done by filling out the form available at the center. You will be given a small token to use when entering the center.

The wearing of masks is unknown at this time. Bring one just in case it is required.

Refreshments will be limited to personal water brought by individuals.

This is being done to ensure knowledge of everyone entering to enable tracking info in case of someone has the virus. Also this will provide an accurate headcount for the center.

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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 The Newbie net 7 pm, Bozo Repeater 147.885 (– 127.3)	Condor Connection 7pm (Plays Newslane) 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/net/night.htm ACS Area 1 Simplex net, 6:45 PM on 145.510MHz	Channel Islands chapter 10-10 International 28.34 MHz at 10AM and 6PM Mesh VOIP Net* 8pm 2.4/5.8 GHz Mesh	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>

* For more information, see <http://www.pvarc.club/mesh/mesh-applications/>

Sunday Night Net Control Operators

Thanks to our fine Net Control Operators: Steve, KE6WEZ; Rick, W6DQE; Ray, KI6LKD; Jay, AG6JF, Brian KM6MIN and Dante, KK6JCQ.

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 - AB6BW1@gmail.com

If anyone is interested in how to set up your own packet station, RMS Winlink station, or a Mesh Node, let me know and we can get you started in the proper direction.

Barry K6ZA wants to remind everybody that they have options to check in with something other than a 2 meter handheld. The **80 meter net is Tuesday nights at 18:30 (6:30 PM) on 3.987 MHz.**

NOTE: Please be advised that we hold the Tue. countywide net at 19:30 (7:30PM) on the Sulphur Mountain WD6BY repeater 145.200, minus 600 KHz offset, CTCSS of 127.3. Until further notice, this will be our standard frequency for countywide communications.



Bill Woods AB6BW AB6BW1@gmail.com

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Updates From Our Members:

Pacifico Mountain SOTA Activation By Ron Nelson K6RIN

On December 3rd, I set out on another “Summits on the Air” (SOTA) adventure to operate my radio equipment from the top of Pacifico Mountain in the Angeles National Forest. This time, I brought along a small laptop computer to operate portable FT8, which I’ve never done before.

FT8 is a digital mode of communication. The setup entails a computer running special software known as WSJT-X, which is offered as a free download, connected to a radio. The computer’s clock has to be perfectly sync’d with the rest of the computers that are communicating together or the system will not work. Microsoft Windows provides a simple process to sync the date and time. Each operator transmits for 15 seconds, following by receiving for 15 seconds. The program is set up with standard QSO messages, so there’s not much freeform in the QSO. However, it can be modified slightly to match a special event. FT8 allows great DX with weak propagation characteristics. As an example, I recently had a FT8 QSO from my home QTH with BD4STG in China, on 20-meters with 50 watts of power.

One other interesting web-based program to use in conjunction with WSJT-X (if you have Internet access) is pskreporter.info. The program allows you to see where your signals are being heard. One very interesting aspect is seeing on a map how your signals follow the gray-line.

Ok, back to our story... The road leading up to Pacifico Mountain is located off the Angeles Forest Highway about 10 miles from Highway 14 near Pearblossom Highway. There is a dirt (and rock) Forest Service Road 3N17 that leads to the mountain. A high clearance vehicle is not required, but does make the trip easier. I was glad that I took my high clearance van on this road. After about five miles, I parked in a large clearing and then set out on foot. After 1/4 mile along the same road, there was a steep single-track trail for about 3/4 mile that led to the summit. Once at the summit, I discovered a small campground with about 5 sites, picnic tables, and a primitive bathroom. I also discovered that I could have driven all the way up.

I set up my station on a picnic table, which felt like luxury compared with my normal mountain top operating M.O. The station consisted of the Icom IC-705 (10-watts), a resonant linked dipole for 20 and 40 meters, a Windows Surface Pro tablet computer, and my Yaesu FT3DR for 2-meter simplex. I started on 2-meters and was able to quickly make 11 contacts on 146.58 MHz. I then switched to 20-meter SSB and captured five more contacts, including one with F4WBN in France, followed by 13 contacts on 40-meters SSB. Now for the new mode, I set up my system to run 10-watts on 20-meters using FT8. Over the course of 40 minutes, I was able to complete nine FT8 QSO’s, with the furthest one being KF9D near Chicago. I’d say that was a fun and successful operation.

I definitely plan to take my computer along again on future SOTA adventures.

Here are a few photos:

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Has anybody noticed that Ron is quite radioactive? **Yea Ron!**

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More microphone cables - Eric / ke6mlf

Another coily microphone cable fell apart. 20 years and the coating disintegrated. Humph.



I had previously used some yellow Cat 5 network cable. Seems now a few years later, the jacket of the cable has gotten quite stiff. During the original rework, I was also not too happy with the flexibility of the individual stranded conductors and insulation.

Off to Amazon, where America Shops! I searched on “ultra flexible network cable” and got lots of hits, but these two stood out:

Cable Matters 5-Pack Snagless Short Cat6 Ultra Thin Ethernet Cable 7 ft (Thin Cat6 Cable) in Black

Cost was \$14.99

5 cables, 7 feet each, 30 AWG stranded wire



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Monoprice Cat6A Ethernet Patch Cable - 7 Feet - Black | Network Internet Cord - RJ45, 550Mhz, UTP, Pure Bare Copper Wire, 10G, 30AWG, 5-Pack - SlimRun Series

Cost was \$13.99

5 cables, 7 feet each, 30 AWG stranded wire



I chose the first and thinner of the two cables for the first assembly. Cut the cable in half and ended up with a 38 inch finished length. The conductors are 30 AWG, and very flexible, so as not to stress the microphone's internal circuit board solder pads.

Used the existing wiring, the radio manual, and the microphone pin out to connect the following:

- +5 Volts
- Ground
- Up (frequency or memory)
- Down (frequency or memory)
- Push To Talk
- Microphone
- Microphone Ground
- (1 no connect)

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The new cable fit right inside the old strain relief.
Seems to have the appropriate weight to hang
straight. **Works!**



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Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club General Membership Meeting, Nov 11, 2021

- Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm by President, Brian Hernandez, KM6MIN. Brian welcomed everyone to the meeting, held over the internet using Zoom. This meeting was to be held at the Simi Valley Senior Center, but it was closed in observance of Veterans Day. 7 Officers and Board Members/Advisors were present. The total attendance was approx. 17.
- President:** Brian mentioned our Holiday Party this year will be hosted by Jim and Lea Veronica on Saturday, December 4. The raffle prize list for the party was discussed and some adjustments were agreed to. Information will be sent out and also put in the December Newsletter.
- Secretary:** Secretary John Percival, WI6O, thanked Ron Nelson, K6RIN, for recording minutes at the October General meeting. Ron said the Minutes from the October General Meeting have been published in the November newsletter.
- Treasurer:** Treasurer Glenn Daly, WA6GNB, reported the Club's current account balance is \$2,267.72. It was MSP to accept the Treasurer's report.
- Membership:** Membership chairman Jim Parker, KJ6LXJ, said he will update the roster with the latest information from Glenn about renewals or new members.
- Publicity:** PIO, Linda Parker, said she had received word that the Simi Valley Senior Center would be closed Nov. 11 for Veterans Day. The Senior Center is requiring that all individuals attending our meetings at the Center to submit a "registration" form online or in person at the Senior Center during their daytime open hours.
- Newsletter:** Editor Eric Oberg, KE6MLF, asked for stories or pictures of activities for use in the newsletters.
- Program:** Our program speaker for this meeting was Ron Nelson, K6RIN, who related his recent Summits On The Air (SOTA) activities. Ron said he has been a Ham for 5 years and has become very active in SOTA and has recently been doing one or two summit hikes per week. He said he has made 151 summit hikes to "activate" as of today. The international SOTA organization was started in the U.K. and there are now over 119,700 recognized "Summits" that can be activated for credit points. Ron said he is one of 491 summit Activator Hams in California and he is high in the points ranking among them. Ron showed pictures from his recent trips in the Lake Tahoe area and his SOTA activations on Maggie's Peak and Mount Tallac. He described the radio equipment he takes on his hikes, either an Icom 705 for 10 watts or a 100W radio. After his talk, Ron answered questions about his SOTA activities.
- Member Drawing:** Brian made the drawing for the progressive Membership drawing and reported the winning name was Bill Everett, KI6KSV. Bill was not logged into this Zoom meeting, so he did not win the \$50 prize for this month. The prize amount will therefore increase to \$60 for our January 13th, 2022 meeting. When the Club resumes in-person meetings, members must be present at the meeting to win. The prize amount grows by \$10 each month it is unclaimed.
- Announcements:** Ron Nelson mentioned that Bill Woods' wife is in the hospital after a bad fall. Ron also reports that Jim Hutchinson, KI6MZ, is now at home, doing well, and gives his thanks to the club members who helped organize things at his house. The next Board meeting will be over zoom on Nov. 18, at 7pm.
- Adjournment:** The Zoom meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Submitted by: Secretary, John Percival, WI6O

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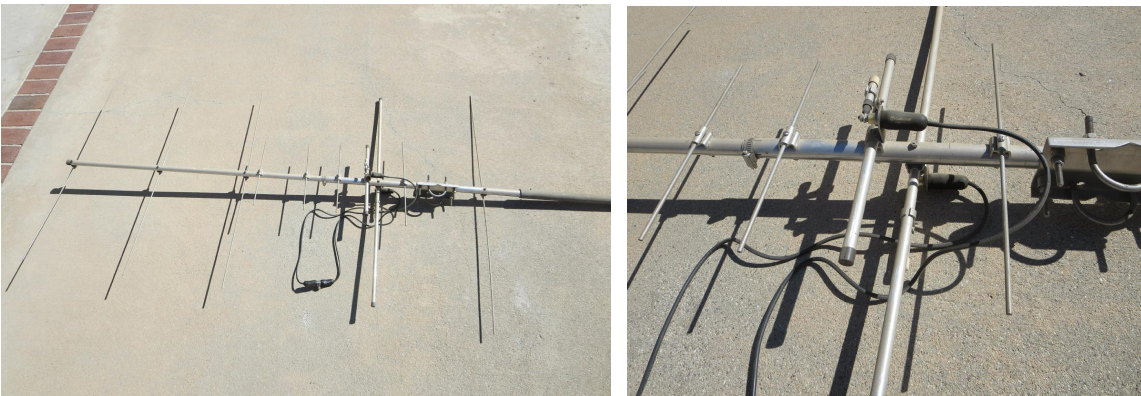
And our own Mike Tweedy, KV6I, wishes to get the ball rolling on a permanent sales column. Not a requirement, but if you sell something, feel free to donate any portion of the proceeds to the club.

SSARC Marketplace

This section of the newsletter is for Simi Settler club members to post various used or previously owned items for sale that they may no longer have a need or use of. Please submit a brief description of the sale items (along with a photo if possible) and suggested price to Eric Oberg KE6MLF, the newsletter editor, at least a week before newsletter publication. It is suggested that a portion of each sale be donated to the SSARC treasury to help support the club's several activities. Any items not sold will NOT be carried over to the following month's newsletter unless specifically resubmitted by the seller.

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CUSHCRAFT A270-10S VHF/UHF ANTENNA



This antenna, still being produced by Cushcraft that retails for \$210 new offers a combined VHF/UHF antenna in one package. Both the VHF and UHF sections individually feature 5 element Yagis for each band. The T-coupler shown can be connected to a transceiver that outputs both a VHF and UHF signal on the same antenna port, or, alternately, separate coaxes can be connected to each antenna separately. Works great with a TV-type antenna rotor.

Condition: Excellent Price: \$50 OBO. Please contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

KLM 2-METER YAGI / LOG PERIODIC ANTENNA



This antenna is an unusual 2-meter antenna in that it has both a Yagi high-gain portion of the antenna combined with a Log Periodic portion of the antenna for wide bandwidth. The antenna is perfect for Field Day operations with an antenna rotator.

Condition: Fair/Good Price: \$25 OBO. Please contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

ANTENNA ROTATOR

The antenna rotator and two control boxes and cable shown are perfect for rotating small Yagi-type or Log-Periodic antennas for 2m or 440 MHz operation for operations such as Field Day or at your home QTH.



Condition: Excellent Price: \$25 OBO. Please contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

11-METER CB CAR ANTENNAS



These 11-meter CB magnetic mounted car antennas were originally purchased to be modified for 10-meter operation by shortening the antenna length. Obviously, this was never done but it otherwise provides a great antenna for modification and experimentation. Each antenna provides at least 16 feet of RG-58 coax.

Condition: Never Used Price: FREE ! Please contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

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MFJ-864 WATTMETER



This MFJ-864 Wattmeter, still being produced by MFJ that retails for \$140 new can measure both forward and reflected power from 1.8 to 60 MHz using two power ranges, 30W and 300W. The frequency covers all the typical HF, VHF and UHF amateur frequencies which makes it perfect for any transmitter capable of up to 300 Watts output.

Condition: Never Used Price: \$50 OBO. Please contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

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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	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Vice President	VACANT			
Secretary	John Percival	WI6O		johnspercival1@gmail.com
Secretary	Ron Nelson (When John is out of town)	K6RIN		rnelson759@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Glenn Daly	WA6GNB		gnb.2112@yahoo.com
Committee Chairpersons				
Webmaster	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
Newsletter	Eric Oberg	KE6MLF	(805) 791-0745 cell	ericoberg1@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	VACANT			
Historian	Mike Tweedy	KV6I	(805) 231-9683 cell	mtweedy@roadrunner.com
Net Coordinator	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595	km6min_bh@yahoo.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	Bill Woods	AB6BW	(818) 694-9019 cell	AB6BW1@gmail.com
Advisor	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		wildpoky45@earthlink.net
Advisor	Jim Hutchinson	KI6MZ		jhutch17@adelphia.net

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Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, Ca 93062-2125 --- (www.simisettlers.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: _____

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