



## **Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club**

# **Short Circuit**

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- 2** Nets of Interest  
ACS/ARES Corner
- 3** Member Updates
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- 6** Membership Form

The next Simi Settlers club meeting is **Thursday May 12** 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 May 5** at 6:00 PM

### **Assorted:**

**Note:** The Senior Center has a touch computer screen at the entrance. Keyfob or not, be sure to tap a few times on the screen to find our meeting and say you attended.

**Elections** are just a **month** away. If you want to try your hand at ANY position, just say so. Nominations will take place at this month's meeting, and voting is going to take place in **June**. Positions are listed on the club leadership table at the end of this newsletter. Don't feel that you are taking somebody away from an existing position, they will probably be happy to take a break!

**Field Day** is **fast approaching** on June 25th. The Settlers and Ventura County Amateur Radio Society (VCARS) will again be at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library.

## It's Official!

John, W6IO has retired from his 20+ year tenure as club Secretary. Ron, K6RIN has been filling in while John has been on his travels, and will take the position. Here is John passing the official club briefcase to Ron. How come John looks happy, and Ron is glum?



John was presented with a really nice memento by club president, Brian.



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**Our club historian, Mike K6VI, has this to say:**

**Congratulations to John WI6O's Retirement as SSARC Secretary**

John Percival, WI6O is finally retiring after 21 years of service as the Simi Settler's Secretary! John originally took over the Secretary duties from Chuck Benson WA6FGK back in 2001. John has served with distinction for over two decades and is best noted for taking meticulous and accurate notes during both the Club's General meetings and Board Member meetings. John has been succeeded by Ron K6RIN who took over the official duties of SSARC Secretary at the last election. Shown below is a picture of John accepting the Longtime Service Award from President Brian Hernandez KM6MIN at the April SSARC General meeting.



John has lived in Moorpark over these past years where he began work as an Electronics Engineer at Meggitt Safety Systems here in Simi Valley back in 1997. He has also recently retired professionally from there as of December 2021 but prior to that he had also worked for 25 years at Systron-Donner, the predecessor company to Meggitt Systems back in 1972 located up in the East Bay area.

John will still be around locally as he plans to participate in the upcoming 2022 Field Day as the 20m CW operator at the Reagan Library on June 25-26 like he has historically done. Hopefully everyone will come out to support both the SSARC and VCARS clubs during Field Day this year!

Great Job John and wish you the best on your future adventures!

Mike KV6I  
SSARC Historian

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## Nets of Interest

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>LSB Net</b> 8pm 3.908 MHz  <b>SSARC 2 Meter Net*</b> 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)	<b>Condor Connection</b> 7pm (Plays Newslane) Frazier Mountain 224.720-1.6 MHz PL156.7	<b>LSB Net</b> 8pm 3.908 MHz  <b>ACS Area 1</b> Simi Valley SMRA-ERN 7:05pm Repeater 146.805 -0.6MHz PL100.0 or 445.580 -5.0MHz PL100.0  <b>ATN-CA Net</b> 7:30pm <a href="http://atn-tv.org/netnight.htm">http://atn-tv.org/netnight.htm</a>  <b>ACS Area 1</b> Simplex net, 6:45 PM on 145.510MHz	<b>Channel Islands chapter 10-10 International</b> 28.34 MHz at 10AM and 6PM  <b>Mesh VOIP Net*</b> 8pm 2.4/5.8 GHz Mesh	<b>LSB Net</b> 8pm 3.908 MHz		<b>SSARC SSB HF Net</b> 8:30am <b>7.240</b> (+ or - QRM/N) 40 meter  <b>CW-QRP</b> 9am 7.032 MHz  <b>Quad Squad net</b> 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:

2022 Simi Settlers Net Schedule		
May	1	Barry K6ZA
	8	Ron K6RIN
	15	Matt KN6SEC
	22	Brian KM6MIN
	29	Rick W6DQE

## ACS/ARES Corner

Frank Valdez KI6OQ is the Area 1 Emergency Coordinator

**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, just message Frank Valdez at [frankki6oq@gmail.com](mailto:frankki6oq@gmail.com).



Be sure to check [www.vccomm.org](http://www.vccomm.org) for the latest!

If anyone is interested in how to set up your own packet station, RMS Winlink station, or a Mesh Node, contact Frank, he will point you in the right 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.**

The **Area 1** (Simi Valley) net occurs Tuesdays. Generally it is just a brief checking, but usually some news about upcoming events is passed on.

The simplex net is on 145.510 at 6:45 PM. The regular net is on the 146.805 (-, PL100) repeater at 7:00 PM.

**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.

### Upcoming ACS events:

These selected events are from the Ventura County ACS/ARES Communication site **VCCOMM.ORG**. These are great practice to get your equipment and procedures working.

**Ride to Defeat ALS** is on May 14th in the Conejo Valley. Contact is Stu Sheldon at [ag6ag@arrl.net](mailto:ag6ag@arrl.net)

**There are 3 overlapping events, please help us support one:**

**Scandinavian Festival**, June 4 and 5, California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks. Contact is Zak, [N6PK@arrl.net](mailto:N6PK@arrl.net)

**Love Run**, June 5th, Westlake. Contact is Zak, [N6PH@arrl.net](mailto:N6PH@arrl.net)

**Mountains to Beach Marathon** is on Sunday June 5th. The contact is Rick Tate, [KQ6NO@arrl.com](mailto:KQ6NO@arrl.com)

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And forwarded from Rob Hanson, W6RH about this months ACS-ARES meeting:

## **Below is the information about our **IN PERSON** ACS-ARES meeting for **May 02, 2022****

Our first in-person meeting in 2 years is Monday!

The meeting will start promptly at 7:30. You are welcome to arrive at 7:00 for a bit of social time before the meeting. There are no mask, testing, or vax requirements, but you are welcome to take any precautions that you wish. Yellow shirts are appropriate. Either the County one or ARES shirts. I will have ACS-ARES patches if you want to add them to your clothing or gear.

Wearing your ACS ID is suggested

The meeting is open to all.

Members, non-members, and the curious. Anyone interested in what we do is encouraged to attend. Feel free to pass on this information to others you believe might be interested.

This is a chance to put a face to the people you may only know as a voice on the radio while remaining safely at home. We look forward to hearing about your unique Ham experience during this difficult time..

We will review progress on our systems, and new information about upcoming events will be discussed. A report on our return to activity with a review of upcoming and recent events

- Information on
  - the Ride to Defeat ALS on May 14
  - CLU Scandinavian Festival June 5&6
  - Our busiest day ever on June 6th
    - Mountains to Beach Marathon
    - CLU Scandinavian Festival
    - Love Run
  - ARRL Field Day June 25-26
  - Moorpark Fireworks July 3
- Progress reports on EOC and infrastructure systems.
- An update on the ACS-ARES web portal
- Info on the HF net
- An overview of Winlink activities.
- A report from ARRL Section Manager
- You will have a chance to tour the ACS radio installation at the station.

If you have a subject that you would like to discuss or have discussed, please let me know and I will put it on the agenda.

Please join us if you can. 2101 E Olsen Rd, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

What3Words – secret.oath.daytime GPS - 34.24742973319309, -118.83498824072164

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## This radio could be yours!

The radio is a cherry ICOM IC-718. It's about a year old, and was treated with great care by Seymour K6PWP. He has donated it to the Settlers. It's in the original box with the microphone, manual, and power cable.

This radio will be used at Field Day, you can operate it there!

After field day, it will be put up for auction, with a reserve of \$300. If it does not meet the reserve, it will be kept for use at field day and other club operations.

Send your sealed bid to President Brian KM6MIN at **km6min\_bh@yahoo.com** AND Secretary Ron K6RIN at **rnelson759@sbcglobal.net**. Results will be announced at the July meeting.



## **Updates From Our Members:**

### **Tails from the Trail**

#### **Colorado Rocky Mountains**

**By Ron Nelson K6RIN**

During the fourth weekend in April, my wife Diana attended a health and nutrition conference in the Denver area in Colorado. She invited me to come along, which meant giving up eating unhealthy foods for a weekend, but also tackling some high peaks in the Colorado Rocky Mountains. The Rockies have some of the highest accessible summits in the United States, including several that are over 14,000' about sea level.

While I've flown commercially several times with a dual band Handy Talkie (HT) in my carry-on luggage, I have never flown commercially while toting HF Ham Radio equipment, including long wire antenna systems. Other hams I've talked with have said they've never had an issue bringing their equipment in their carry-on luggage through airport security. Still, I didn't want to chance an argument, or having to give up or remove the equipment from my bag, so I packed a checked suitcase with my Icom IC 705, and three antenna systems. Fortunately, the suitcase made it to Denver on my flight, and nothing was damaged.

Once in Colorado, our hotel was within an hour drive from multiple eligible Summits on the Air (SOTA) mountain tops. My first activation was on Mount Herman, near the town of Monument, Colorado, an easy 1.5 mile hike to the top, with 1,000' of elevation gain to the summit at 9,063'. If this was in California, SOTA would have scored it as an 8-point summit. Since most peaks in Colorado are higher in elevation, this summit was scored as a 4-pointer. For this activation, I took along a laptop computer to operate FT8.

Once at the top, I managed to make two QSO's on my HT using 146.52 MHz. in simplex. Both stations were about 50-60 miles away. I then set up my HF gear, including an inverted-V linked dipole antenna for 20 and 40 meters. There was a recent solar storm which left behind challenging HF conditions. 20-meters sideband was providing a fairly short skip with strong signals into the Pacific North-West. 40-Meters was almost unusable. I completed two 40-meter SSB QSO's with stations in the Denver area, but nothing more distant.

Now for the fun part...I set up my laptop to run FT8 on WSJTX software, using the IC-705 at 10 watts on 20 meters, and performed a little experiment. The WSJTX programming called out "CQ K6RIN DM79" and I managed to complete a few hard-earned QSO's. "DM79" was the grid-square for the Mount Herman area. I then updated the text to call out, "CQ SOTA K6RIN DM79." After one transmit cycle, I had a pileup of 8 stations responding to my CQ. I worked through the pile-up to complete each QSO and then transmitted another round. This was met with another pile-up of 6 stations to work through. One last adjustment...I published a "spot" on the SOTA website through APRS, alerting hams about my frequency, mode and location, and sent out another transmission using the CQ SOTA text. This one was met with another pile-up of mostly familiar callsigns of the usual SOTA chasers.

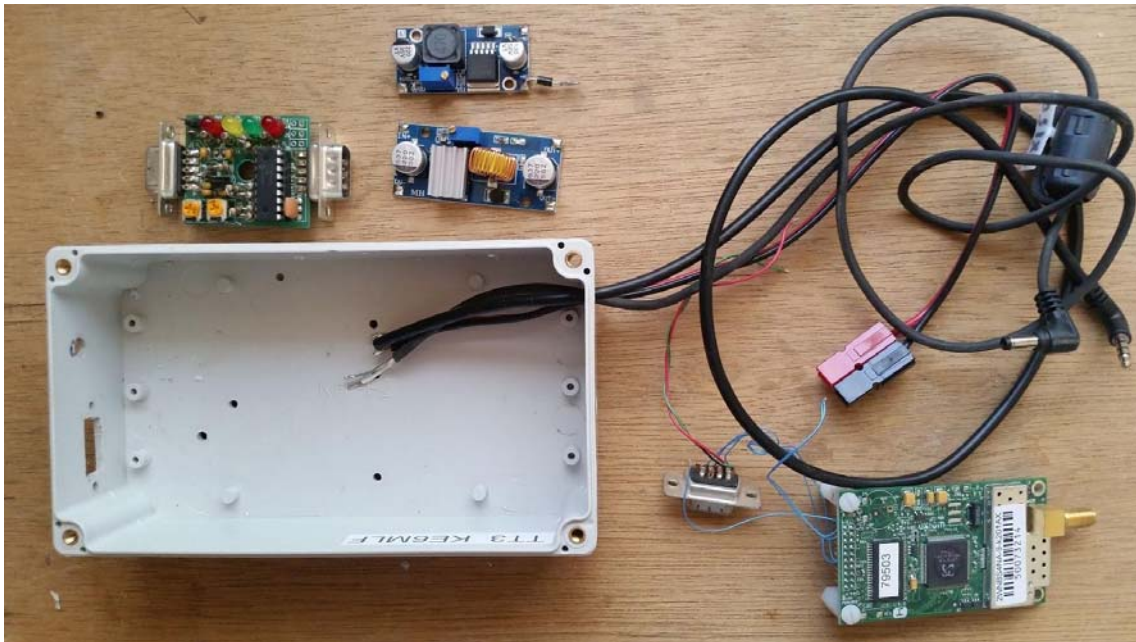
I packed up and headed back down the mountain and headed into the town of Monument in search of a good hamburger, which I found a busy local eatery. Not a bad day for a trip that started out as a weekend convention surrounded by health and nutrition experts.

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### From Eric KE6MLF:

Rewiring my APRS system to remove adapters that were required for power and to the radio. Less interconnections means a lower chance for failures, and makes it easier to connect at 4:00 AM in Ojai! Two power modules, the Tiny Trak APRS controller, and the GPS module in the lower right.



### This from Joe Partlow W6JWP:

So I took my DIY magnetic loop antenna to the micro field day hosted by the CVARC Bored Net for some field testing on Saturday 4/30/22.

The antenna is made up of a 16 foot (5 foot diameter) loop of 1/2 inch hard line (donated by Paul WB6EBY), a 3.2 foot (1 foot diameter) 1/4 inch copper tubing coupling loop, a 270pF variable capacitor and is tuned using a 12VDC 5RPM motor and control box.

Let me say that while the antenna works, it is difficult to tune manually and only has a bandwidth of about 20kHz. On 40 meters, using the SWR scan on my Xiegu X-108G+ I was only able to get about a 3:1 SWR match and was hard to read outdoors even in the shade. I could get a 1.07:1 match using my Nano VNA and could verify it with my MFJ 259. The PWM motor speed controller I used also created a lot noise during tuning.

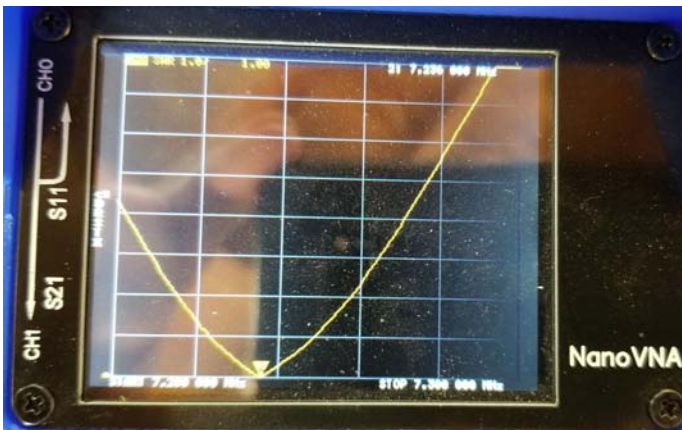
Though I could hear stations I did not make any contacts and there was a lot of bleedover from the other stations operating the micro field day. I have more work to do.

73  
Joe W6JWP



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And our own Mike Tweedy, KV6I, is keeping 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. The term "OBO" means "Or Best Offer" and serves only as a starting point in negotiating a fair price. 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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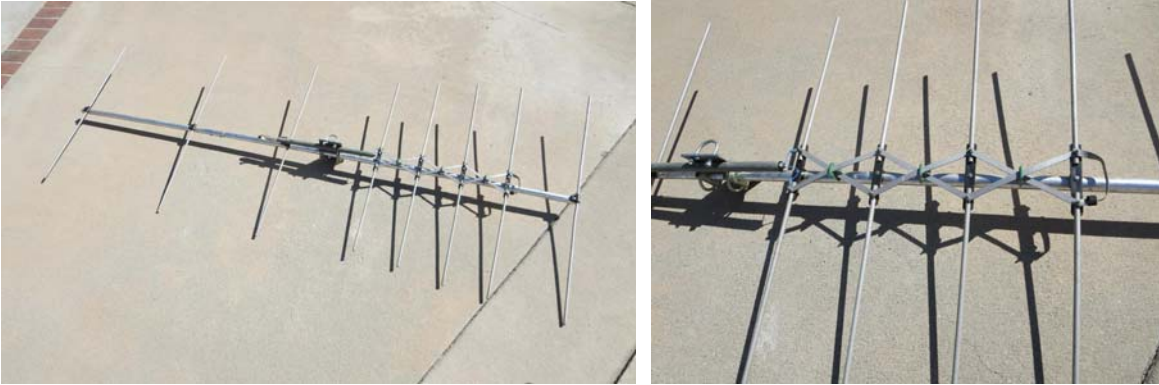
### **CUSHCRAFT A270-10S VHF/UHF ANTENNA**



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. The antenna is perfect for Field Day operations with an antenna rotator.

Condition: Excellent Price: \$40 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: \$20 OBO. Please contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

### **ANTENNA ROTATOR**

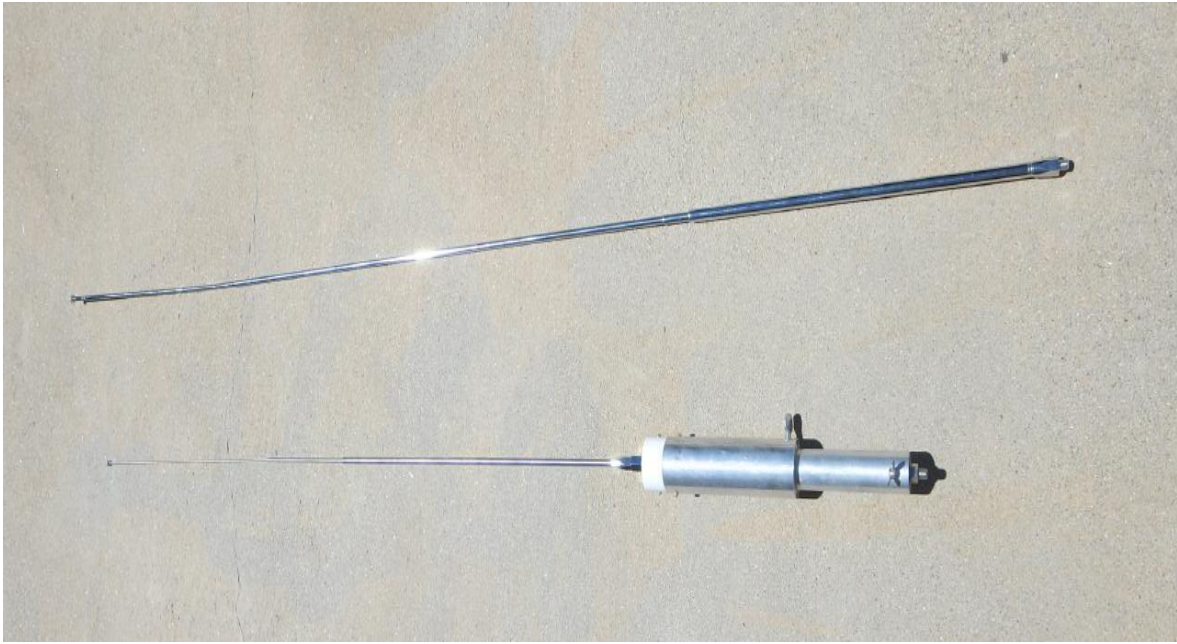
The antenna rotator and two control boxes and cable shown are perfect for rotating small Yagi-type or Log-Periodic antennas for 2m or 440 MHz operation for operations such as Field Day or at your home QTH.



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

### **MFJ-1662 MANUAL SCREWDRIVER ANTENNA**





This MFJ-1662 manual screwdriver antenna operates from 6 to 40 meters. It has a continuously adjustable loading coil along with two telescopic whip antennas provided, a 4.5 foot for mobile operation and a 10 foot length for portable operation at a fixed location. The antenna has a standard 3/8-24 threaded end for vehicle mounting or for attachment to a tripod (not supplied) for fixed-base operation. This antenna is manually tuned by sliding the cylindrical housing up or down to vary the contact point along the internal loading coil thereby changing its resonant frequency. Tuning is easily accomplished with the help of an antenna analyzer or a low-cost nano-VNA and then locking the tapped position in place with the supplied wing nut. This item is still being produced by MFJ and has a current list price of \$189.95.

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



### MFJ-931 ARTIFICIAL GROUND, 1.8 MHz TO 30 MHz



This unit is designed to be used for occasions where a true RF ground cannot be obtained due to a remote location such as a second story or higher location of your ham shack. Not being able to connect to an earth ground directly can lead to issues of RF interference or “hot spots” when transmitting on HF bands. This unit effectively tunes out any reactance when used in conjunction with a random length counterpoise wire to effectively achieve an artificial ground. This item can handle up to 300 watts of power and is still being produced by MFJ for \$149.95 new.

Condition: Very Good   Price: \$15 OBO. Please contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

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

<b>Simi Settlers' Leadership</b>				
<b>President</b>	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
<b>Vice President</b>	VACANT			
<b>Secretary</b>	Ron Nelson	K6RIN		rnelson759@sbcglobal.net
<b>Treasurer</b>	Glenn Daly	WA6GNB		gnb.2112@yahoo.com
<b>Committee Chairpersons</b>				
<b>Webmaster</b>	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
<b>Newsletter</b>	Eric Oberg	KE6MLF	(805) 791-0745 cell	ericoberg1@gmail.com
<b>Membership</b>	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
<b>PIO</b>	Linda Parker		(805) 558-1731 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
<b>Raffle Prizes</b>	Rick Galbraith	W6DQE	(805) 433-4513 cell	rick@keymaterial.com
<b>Youth Coordinator</b>	VACANT			
<b>Historian</b>	Mike Tweedy	KV6I	(805) 231-9683 cell	mtweedy@roadrunner.com
<b>Net Coordinator</b>	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
<b>Food Services</b>	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		ki6ksv@gmail.com
<b>Room Coordinator</b>	Linda Parker		(805) 558-1731 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
<b>Elmers and Members at Large</b>				
<b>Past-President</b>	Bill Woods	AB6BW	(818) 694-9019 cell	AB6BW1@gmail.com
<b>Advisor</b>	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		wildpoky45@earthlink.net
<b>Advisor</b>	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](http://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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