

Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

# **Short Circuit**

- 1 Timely Information and the President's message
- 2 Nets of Interest ACS/ARES Corner
- 3 Member Updates
- 4 The Market Place
- 5 Simi Settlers' Leadership
- 6 Membership Form

The next Simi Settlers club meeting is **Thursday June 9** at 7:00 PM Simi Senior Center (Enter by the Southwest door)

3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley.

The next Simi Settlers Pizza Night is

Round Table, 2410 Sycamore, Simi Valley

Thursday June 2 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.

Going to try **Round Table pizza** this month. Be sure to make your preferences known to President Brian, KM6MIN after the visit.

**Dues** are due July 1st. See the form at the end of this newsletter for details to renew.

## **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 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/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: <a href="http://www.cvarc.org">http://www.cvarc.org</a>

## **Sunday Night Net Control Operators:**

May	1	Barry K6ZA
	8	Ron K6RIN
	15	Matt KN6SEC
	22	Brian KM6MIN
	29	Rick W6DQE
June	5	Kevin KD6UTC
	12	Barry K6ZA
	19	Ron K6RIN
	26	Matt KN6SEC

<sup>\*</sup> For more information, see <a href="http://www.pvarc.club/mesh/mesh-applications/">http://www.pvarc.club/mesh/mesh-applications/</a>

### **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 <a href="mailto:frankki6oq@gmail.com">frankki6oq@gmail.com</a>.



Be sure to check 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. **Stop buy and say Hi.** You do not have to do anything other than check to test out your simplex or repeater connection.

**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.

## 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

Love Run, June 5th, Westlake. Contact is Zak, N6PH@arrl.net

**Mountains to Beach Marathon** is on Sunday June 5th. The contact is Rick Tate, KQ6NO@arrl.com

## 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 Glen Daily, WA6GNB via email at gnb.2112@yahoo.com or a letter to:

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, Ca 93062-2125

Results will be announced at the July meeting.



## Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club General Membership Meeting, April 14, 2022

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by President Brian Hernandez, KM6MIN. Brian welcomed everyone to the meeting, which was held in-person at the Simi Valley Senior Center. There were 16 in attendance, including seven Officers and Board Members/Advisors.

Jim Parker KJ6LXJ led the Club in the Flag Salute.

Brian Hernandez presented John Percival WI6O with a beautiful desk plaque for his 22 years as the Club Secretary.

Treasurer:

Glenn Daly, WA6GNB, was present, and provided his Treasurer's Report. The Club currently has a checking account balance of \$1,933.39. Disbursements for

the month included \$200 for the Club's annual insurance policy, an increase of \$100 from last year's premium. The Treasurer's report was approved.

Secretary:

Ron Nelson K6RIN was present and provided his Secretary's Report. Minutes of the last General Membership meeting were provided to all members present. The Minutes were approved.

Ron reported that the Club's application to the ARRL to be recognized as a ARRL affiliated club has been sent off.

Ron also announced the upcoming planned Peace Officer Memorial Day Special Event Station, which will be held on Sunday May, 15. Looking for volunteers to staff and work the station.

Membership:

Jim Parker, KJ6LXJ was present and reported that he had received four membership applications. One was for a new member, Ron Fischbach KC6ZCE. The others were for renewal members. Jim also reported that he had sent an updated club roster to all board members and had updated the Club website.

PIO: Linda Parker was present and said there was nothing new to report.

Newsletter: Eric Oberg KE6MLF provided encouragement for all members to submit articles

for the monthly Newsletter.

Vern Potter W6NCT, member of the Ventura County Amateur Radio Society (VCARS) provided a presentation on the upcoming Field Day operation at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, June 25-26, 2022. He requested that the Simi Settlers staff the 40-meter phone, and 20-meter CW stations. Jim Parker KJ6LXJ volunteered to take on the role of Band Captain for 40-meter phone. John Percival WI6O and Mike Tweedy KV6I will coordinate 20-meter CW. Vern also encouraged the membership to fill in the time slots for other stations, such

as other band phone and digital modes.

The second half of the program was provided by Stuart Sheldon AG6AG, who will be hosting a HT Evaluation Day on 4/23 in Newbury Park. The event is free for hams desiring to have their HT's evaluated for spurious emissions and performance. Hams are asked to make appointments as each radio takes about

five minutes to evaluate.

Announcements: Brian Hernandez announced an upcoming opportunity involving an ICom IC-718

that has been donated to the club by Seymore Botan K6PWP.

Member Drawing: President Brian Hernandez conducted the progressive membership drawing of

\$10. Doug Dubrall WA6RJN was present and won the drawing.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Submitted by: Ron Nelson, K6RIN, Club Secretary

## Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club General Membership Meeting, May 12, 2022

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by President Brian Hernandez, KM6MIN. Brian welcomed everyone to the meeting, which was held in-person at the Simi Valley Senior Center. There were 18 in attendance, including six Officers and Board Members/Advisors.

Bill Woods, AB6BW, led the Club in the Pledge to the Flag.

Brian started a round of introductions by those in attendance.

Nominations:

Brian mentioned that the Club Officer Election will be held in June and nominations for the positions are to be made at the May meeting. Brian went over the list of officers and said that he is willing to serve again as President. The other officers: Secretary Ron Nelson, Treasurer Glenn Daily, Membership Chair Jim Parker, PIO Linda Parker, Newsletter Editor Eric Oberg, and Historian Mike Tweedy have also indicated agreement to serve another term. Brian reminded us that the important office of Vice President is still open, and he asked members to consider volunteering for that or any of the other offices.

Treasurer:

Glenn Daly, WA6GNB, was present, and provided his Treasurer's Report. The Club currently has a checking account balance of \$1,853.89 including recent payment of \$200 for the Club's annual insurance policy. The Treasurer's report was approved.

Secretary:

Ron Nelson, K6RIN, was not present. Former Secretary John Percival, WI6O, who is filling in at this meeting, said Ron is home recovering from an illness. The Minutes of the April General Membership meeting were not included in the May Newsletter, but they may go int the June issue. The Secretary report was approved.

Membership:

Jim Parker, KJ6LXJ reported that he had received two membership renewals. Jim also mentioned that dues for the new Club Year 2022-2023, will be due at the end of June. The Membership report was approved.

<u>PIO:</u>

Linda Parker reported that next Wednesday, May 18, from 8 am to 12 noon, is the Wellness Expo. It is organized by the Simi Valley Council on Aging and Adventist Health Simi Valley. This outdoor event will be set up in the Quad area of the Civic Center.

Newsletter:

Eric Oberg KE6MLF was not present, but he has an ongoing invitation for all members to submit articles/pictures for the monthly Newsletter.

Program:

Brian introduced John Kitchens, NS6X, ARRL Santa Barbara Section Manager who was visiting our Club. John spoke about a shift of emphasis at the ARRL to support the Amateur Radio membership. Previously the idea was that the membership was to support the ARRL organization. As one of the benefits of ARRL membership, the QSL Bureau is still active run by volunteers. He said that the ARRL is looking to recognize Radio Clubs. On May 4<sup>th</sup>, ARRL

June 2022

introduced a Club Grant Program funded by a grant from Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC) to make \$500,000 available to support individual Club projects. John said that club project proposals may qualify for grants up to \$10,000.

After the presentation, Joe Partlow, W6JWP described his radio Go-Kit that he had brought to display.

Announcements:

Brian Hernandez reminded members to watch for more news about an auction of the ICOM IC-718 that has been donated to the club by Seymore Botan K6PWP. John Percival, WI6O, said that there was an ARRL product review of the IC-718 in the July 2000 issue of QST.

Brian mentioned Field Day will be June 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> with setup starting noon on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Participants are still needed.

Member Drawing:

President Brian Hernandez conducted the progressive membership drawing with \$10 as the prize. The name drawn was Scott Mayer, KE6HGB, but he was not present to win the drawing. The prize will be increased to \$20 for the June meeting.

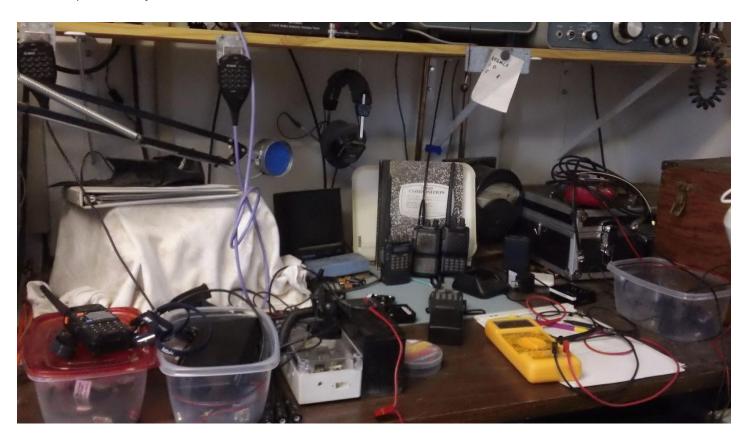
Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Submitted by: John Percival, WI6O, acting for Ron Nelson, K6RIN, Club Secretary

### **Member Updates**

I for one, am ready for Field Day. Just a few things in the way of the HF radio (somewhere under all that stuff). OK, maybe I need to clean off the desk BEFORE June 25th. Eric KE6MLF



### The July and August presentation is going to be a whopper!

From the March 2019 issue of QST "An Arduino Powered RF Detector". The actual product may not be so important, but the process of creating your own printed circuit board may be of great value. This process will use KiCAD, an freely available electronic design tool.

This will cover a LOT of ground. Rest assured, we will continue as required to get through it all. During this presentation, we will:

- Enter a circuit schematic
- Layout a printed circuit board
- Order the printed circuit board
- Order parts
- Program an Arduino single board microcontroller
- Stuff the board and see the blinking LEDs!

We can turn this into a "build it yourself at home or with a friend project". As we progress with the entry and layout, we will discuss who wants to get in on a group buy of the PCB and components.

An Arduino-Powered

**RF** Detector

### Teri Bloom, AC5YL

One delight of hanging around my neighbor Glen Popiel, KW5GP, is the constant exposure to all things Arduino — a community based around open-source hardware and software projects involving microcontrollers. Glen has authored two books on the subject - Arduino for Ham Radio1 and More Arduino Projects for Ham Radio<sup>2</sup> and I helped him with some of the project ideas. But you still have to build a project to really understand how Arduino works.

While at Hamvention, as I watched everyone communicating with handheld radios, I wondered how much RF was really there. That's when I was inspired with the idea for a wearable RF detector built into a backpack. To begin, I adapted the project "RF Probe with LED Bar Graph" from Glen's Arduino for Ham Radio.

A string of LEDs and a microcontroller field strength meter.

> This Arduino project idea was going to be my first scratch build, and it turned out I learned more than I ever did from previous kits. I used Glen's inhome lab, many of his components, and his mentoring. My RF radiation monitor includes the Arduino Nano, 11 standard LEDs, and a 19-inch wire antenna optimized for the 2-meter band, all combined into a wearable, usable, functional, and eye-catching electronics package.



### Construction

I arranged the LEDs in the shape of a tower on a rectangle of copper-clad perfboard using a template made of heavy paper. Figure 1 shows my placement of the green, yellow, and red LEDs. Using the template,

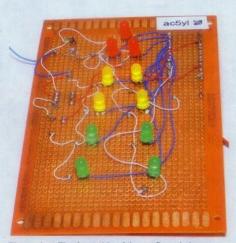


Figure 1 — The front side of the perfboard shows the LED arrangement.

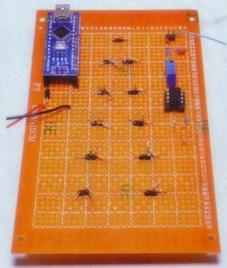


Figure 2 — The back side of the perfboard shows the Arduino Nano in the upper left corner.

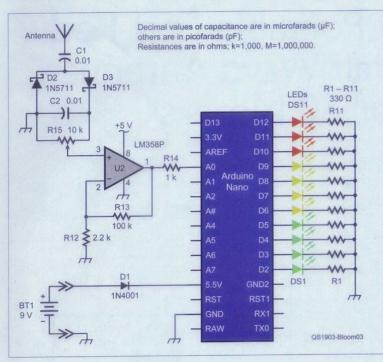


Figure 3 — Schematic diagram of the project.

BT1 — 9 V battery C1, C2 — capacitor, 0.01 μF D1 — diode, 1N4001 D2, D3 — diode, 1N5711 DS1 – DS4 — green LED DS5 – DS8 — yellow LED DS9 – DS11 — red LED R1 – R11 — resistor, 330  $\Omega$ R12 — resistor, 2.2 k $\Omega$ R13 — resistor, 100 k $\Omega$ R14 — resistor, 1 k $\Omega$ R15 — potentiometer, 10 k $\Omega$ U1 — Arduino Nano U2 — IC, LM358P op amp

I marked those LED locations on the perfboard and then soldered the LEDs, leaving space underneath for wires.

The current-limiting resistors are on the back side of the perfboard (see Figure 2) with the Arduino Nano in a corner of the board. This design allows the LEDs to be close to the material of the backpack while the rest of the components are safely out of the way. The schematic is in Figure 3. I used a standard Powerpole connector for the antenna so I could remove the project from the backpack as needed.

I snagged the sketch [A sketch is an Arduino program — Ed.] for the RF Probe project from Glen's book and

adapted it to use standard LEDs, and to light the green LEDs first by twos, then the yellow LEDs, and, finally, the red LEDs all based on the strength of the detected RF signal. I hadn't done any programming in quite a while and had never written anything in Arduino's C++ style language, so this was a fun challenge. My Arduino sketch is on the www.arrl.org/qst-in-depth web page. Thank you, Glen, for your mentoring!

### The Backpack

After testing everything, I grabbed my backpack and mounted the project into an exterior zippered compartment. I used the template and a soldering iron to make the holes in

44 You have to build a project to really understand how Arduino works. 55

the fabric for the LEDs. I also placed Styrofoam™ behind the board to hold it in place once it was inside the zippered compartment. The battery is held to the board and Styrofoam by a rubber band, to prevent its weight from breaking the wires at the solder joints. I made one more hole near the top of the zippered compartment for the antenna. Then I brought the antenna wire through the hole, bent it near the top of the backpack's seam, and hand-stitched it in place.

Now as I walk the aisles of hamfests, my RF Radiation Exposure Monitor lights up from green to yellow to red and back down again, depending on the strength of and distance from RF sources. It gets a lot of attention!

#### Notes

"Glen Popiel, KW5GP, Arduino for Ham Radio, ARRL Bookstore Item no. 0161. Available from your ARRL dealer, or from the ARRL Store, www.arrl.org/shop/; pubsales@arrl.org

pubsales@arrl.org.

2Glen Popiel, KW5GP, More Arduino
Projects for Ham Radio, ARRL Bookstore
Item no. 0703. Available from your ARRL
dealer, or from the ARRL Store, www.
arrl.org/shop; pubsales@arrl.org.

Teri Bloom, AC5YL, became a ham in December 2009, upgraded to Amateur Extra class in 2010, and became a Volunteer Examiner. She has since retired to Mississippi where she attends a number of hamfests, meets many hams, and is as active as she can be. You can reach Teri at ac5yl@amsat.org.

For updates to this article, see the QST Feedback page at www.arrl.org/feedback.



The above two pages are the original article. I will show a working breadboard at the June meeting and ask a vitally important question. Surface mount or through hole technology? During the presentation, I will pass out notes to help guide you through the process.

### Local Stuff by Orv W6BI

I've been working with the city's Emergency Services manager for a while trying to come up with a solution to allow the city's DSW (Disaster Services Workers) to communicate well over the entire city. The current DSW repeater (W6GRG, 146.94 MHz with 127.3 PL) being located at the Mellow Lane site, doesn't have good coverage of Simi's east end. The Emergency Services manager has budgeted for an additional DSW repeater at the city's Yosemite site (the water tanks on the hill north of McDonalds on Yosemite).

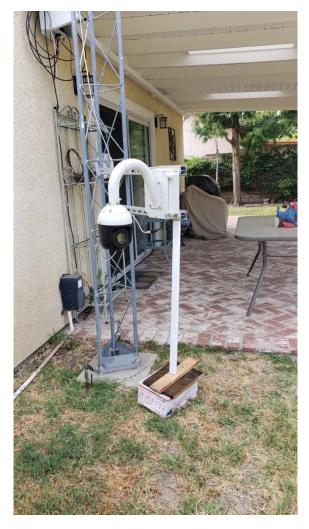
Prior to commissioning a repeater there I've asked the DSW manager to have her volunteers deploy on the east end and determine which areas don't have adequate coverage. That will determine the antenna and power required for a repeater to fill in that area. At some point we'll give the ES manager a buy list for the repeater, antenna, cavities, etc.

At the Simi North site, the rust remover Eric KE6MLF applied several weeks ago didn't... That is, the rust blossomed through the paint, so a plan B needs to be come up with. We've finished replacing the old weatherstripping on the door. Hopefully this will keep the rain out in the future.

We had hoped that over Memorial Day weekend we would have replaced the PTZ (pan-tilt-zoom) camera at Simi North which has become increasingly unreliable. It's been locking up every week or so, and so far has been revived with a powercycle. However due to a site access issue we weren't able to do so. Hopefully we can make it happen in the near future.

It'll eventually be replaced by a camera that was gifted to PVARC (the Pleasant Valley ARC). It's a high-end camera probably ten years old but still works.

Here's the donated camera. It's big and bulky, but it works and has a zoom of 33X compared to the current camera with 20x zoom. The reason it's propped up is because the unistrut braces are dimensioned for the tower at Simi North and it doesn't quite fit correctly on my tower.



I tested it while strapped to the tower in my back yard. Here it is zoomed out:



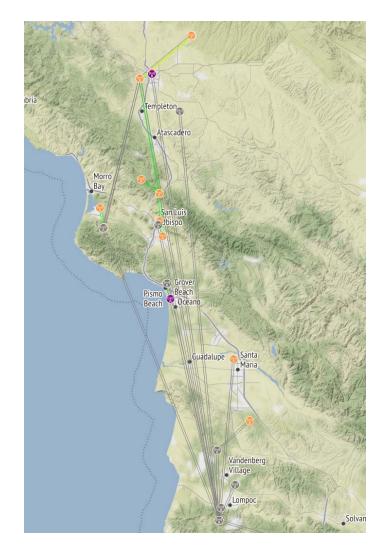
1: 2077-03-70 23-03-33

And here it is fully zoomed in:

### **Network News by Orv W6BI**

The growth of the ham radio network in Ventura County has slowed in the last year, due to lack of new hilltop sites to occupy. So I'm working with our fellow hams in the northern half of our ARRL Santa Barbara Section to expand the network there. They're making good progress, having deployed network coverage in Lompoc Valley, Orcutt/Santa Maria, Pismo Beach, Los Osos/Morro Bay, and the Paso Robles areas. They've identified a couple of hilltop sites that can extend the network farther north. Similarly, there are hams in the Bay area working to extend the network south to Williams Hill. The north and south ends of that network will join, maybe in the first half of 2023. If that happens, maybe we'll have some sort of "Golden Packet" ceremony, similar to the Golden Spike celebration held when the Union Pacific Railroad met the Central Pacific Railrod in Promontory Summit, Utah:-)

Here's the current ham network in the northern half of our ARRL Section. Several more hilltop nodes are planned in the next several months. Those will enable some of the links currently using Internet tunnels to be dropped in favor of true RF links.



## The following three pages are from old newsletters:

Many thanks to those who helped kept the club going through the millenia. I see Orv, W6BI on more than a few places. We can ask if he chiseled these out in stone, made individual prints on a hand press, and then had them delivered by postal burro.



Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 2125, Simi Valley, CA 93093-2125

Web Site: http://www.angelfire.com/stars/settlers

President's Message

(Personalized issue for Jim King, KJ6ZY)

## "Tomorrow Has Been Cancelled Due To Lack Of Interest!"

Boy, my head is spinning! It all happened so fast. If you were not at the last Simi Settlers' meeting, you won't know what I'm talking about, but I accepted the position of President since it appeared no one was going to take it! I had read the June issue of "Short Circuit" and I noted that both Ed, KA6OMG, your outgoing President, and Dave WA6AYI, your out-going Vice President, made appeals for new leadership. I decided to go to the meeting, never really expecting to get this deeply involved...but it happened!

I have to acknowledge that I have not been very active over the past couple of years. (I have been a member since 1987 and was VP in 1989). The main reason was that I had both heavy work responsibilities and other community activities that pulled me away from SSARC (Church, YMCA, etc. But, this past January I pulled away from the "other" activities, freeing me up for this great opportunity.

But, we do have serious business. For what reason does SSARC exist? Those of you that are members, why do you attend each month? (and there is a group of the same members that are there just about every month). What about others? What has happened to the club?

Rather than have a speaker in August, we are going to discuss our future. It is essential that EVERY MEMBER attend, whether active or not.

Before you say to yourself that you do not plan to attend, let me ask you this...do you believe that the future of the SSARC is in any way in YOUR hands? Is this a club for everyone? Or, is it for only the officers... and for the very few? And,

another question: How would you feel if the club is "shut down" due to a wide-spread lack of interest?

I mentioned at the July meeting that most volunteer organizations thrive when people are INVITED to attend. So I am asking you to call and invite your friends back! Plus, I note that many of you receiving Short Circuit are not paid-up members!

Do you want SSARC to survive? Then it's up to all of us to support it. Let's make sure that tomorrow is not canceled "due to lack of interest!"

See you at our next meeting, Thursday, August 9, 2001 at 7:30 p.m....same time, same place.

### --73-- Steve Abarta K6TLM

#### New Officers for 2001-2002

Steve Abarta – K6TLM – President K6TLM@Yahoo.com

Dominick Nelson - KA6UJF - Vice President

Dale Manquen - KO6VO - Treasurer

John Percival - WI6O - Secretary

Patrick Nelson - KF6RWI - Historian

Committee Chairpersons: Diane Belcher – KE6FSZ – P.I.O.

Orville Beach - W6BI - Newsletter W6BI@mindspring.com

Next Meeting, August 9, 2001, 7:30 p.m.

## Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

# **Short Circuit**

## July 2003

Next General Membership Meeting
Thursday, July 10, 2003-Simi Valley Seventh Day Adventist Church

# Simi Settlers' Elect New Officers! Dale Manquen (KO6VO) Elected President

After a year of an incomplete set of officers, Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club again has a President and Vice President. **Dale Manquen (KO6VO)** was elected *President* after having served as Treasurer for the past two years. Dale brings to the club a strong desire to invest his time and talents on behalf of Simi Settlers along with a strong technical background.

Also joining the Officer ranks as *Vice President* is **Rick Galbraith (W6DQE)** who has been active in promoting Simi Settlers and placing literature about the club in local businesses

The third new officer is Larry Pyle (AD6ST) who was elected *Treasurer*.

Patrick Nelson (KF6RMI) has agreed to continue as club *Historian*, and John

Percival (WI6O) will continue as *Secretary*.

Steve Abarta (K6TLM) agreed to continue publishing Short Circuit as Newsletter Editor.



Bill Starkgraf (KD6UQB)

## **Brief Field Day Report**

We had a total of 625 contacts in the log, with 324 by CW (304 on 20M plus 20 on 40M) and 301 on SSB (144 on 40M, 87 on 20M, 43 on 15M, 13 on 6M, 14 on 2M and last but not least, 1 on 10M). We had lots of fun, and the Saturday Dinner was excellent as usual. The sign-in list for members and visitors showed a total of 24.

### Simi Settlers' Officers

President Dale Manquen KO6VO dmanquen@msn.com
Vice President Rick Galbraith, W6DQE rick@keymaterial.com
Secretary John Percival W16O percivaljohns@cs.com
Treasurer Larry Pyle, AD6ST lpyle@pacbell.net
Historian Patrick Nelson KF6RMI
Committee Chairpersons

P.I.O Diane Belcher KF6FSZ ac6oe@pacbell.net
Webmaster Orv Beach W6BI w6bi@arrl.net
Newsletter Steve Abarta K6TLM k6tlm@arrl.net

## Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

# **Short Circuit**

## April 2004

## **April Speaker**

Skip Bolnick, KJ6Y
"ISLANDS ON THE AIR"

## Field Day Preparations - Simi Valley YMCA

By Dale Manguen, President

Our preferred site this year is the lawn in front of the YMCA on Cochran at Galena (the old Police Station). This will give us a lot of visibility by the public, hopefully attracting more visitors than we have had in recent years. We hope to have confirming word from the YMCA soon.

Since the YMCA is very close to the new location of Red's Barbeque, we will change the format of the Saturday evening dinner to be either a group trek to Red's or a Will Call pickup to eat at our site. We have had some recent bad experiences with pre-ordering more food than we had ticket holders, with the club holding the bag for the extra expense. By using Red's, we will order only the paid-up amount, avoiding any extra club expense.

Dave Timoshik, WA6AYI, has confirmed that he will be at our Field Day to help with a

CW station. Hopefully, our other regulars will also participate. We do need sign-ups for the various stations regarding radios and antennas, including a 'Get on the Air' station. Please be ready to volunteer at the April meeting. If we have any interest, we will again offer the code oscillator kit building.

### Field Day Raffle

We will have a drawing at the Field Day Dinner for a Vertex Standard VX-150 2 meter handheld transceiver. Tickets will be available at the monthly meetings and at Field Day for \$5/ticket. Contact Treasurer Larry Pyle, AD6ST, for tickets. (We will use a self-identifying ticket that includes your name so that you don't need to worry about keeping a ticket stub safe until Field Day.

## **Special Field Day Note:**

COME TO THE MAY 2004 MEETING WHERE A SPECIAL VIDEO PRESENTATION OF THE 2002 FIELD DAY (TWO YEARS AGO) WILL BE PRESENTED BY STEVE ABARTA, K6TLM.

## **Interesting Information**

Rick W6DQE

Here's a list of a few nets that might be of interest to my fellow Simi Settlers. Please let me know if any of you have other nets that you would like me to list. Hope to hear a few of you on the bands.

- ✓ 1296.1 mhz
- √ 144.240 mhz
- ✓ 3.908 mhz
- ✓ 449.360 mhz (-) pl 167.9
- USB Friday nights at 8pm
- USB Sunday & Wednsdays at 8pm
- LSB Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursdays 8pm
- Every night at 8pm

Anyone with interest in becoming a **Southern California Weather Spotter** please contact Rick Galbraith at 805-520-0127 or see me at the next meeting for an application There are no fees to become a member.

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.

### **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.

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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.simisettlers.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					
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Vice President	VACANT				
Secretary	Ron Nelson	K6RIN		rnelson759@sbcglobal.net	
Treasurer	Glenn Daly	WA6GNB		gnb.2112@yahoo.com	
Committee Chairpersons					
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Elmers and Members at Large					
Past-President	Bill Woods	AB6BW	(818) 694-9019 cell	AB6BW1@gmail.com	
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Advisor	Jim Hutchinson	KI6MZ		jhutch17@adelphia.net	

## Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, Ca 93062-2125 --- (<u>www.simisettlers.org</u>)

## **Membership Application**

Type of Application: Type of Membership:

New Member Individual (\$18/yr) Renewal Family (\$20/yr)

Simi	Settler
Simi V	alley, Ca.
Wateur	Radio Ca

Name:			Day & Month of Birth	ı:
Call:				(Omit year) No
Address:		City:	State: Zip	):
Phone: ()		Alt. Phone: () _		
E-Mail Address:				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Additional Family Member				
Name:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		Day & Month of Birth	n:
Call:		Class:	ARRL: Yes	(Omit year) No
Name:			Day & Month of Birth	1:
Call:		_ Class:	ARRL: Yes	(Omit year) No
Name:			Day & Month of Birth	n:
Call:		Class:	ARRL: Yes	(Omit year) 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, 2	XL, etc):		
Jackets Requested: Yes	No	How many?	X \$88.00 = \$	
Name (s) Call(s) Size(s) (	Sm, Med, L,	XL, etc):		<del></del>
		OFFICE USE ONLY		
Application type: New	Renewal	Membership type	e: Individual Famil	у
Date Received:	Am	ount Received:	Database completed:	
Badges and Shirts ordere	d:			