



Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

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No meetings in December

The next Simi Settlers Pizza Night is at
Toppers, 2408 Erringer Road, Simi Valley.
Thursday December 1 at 6:00 PM.



December 2022

Assorted Tidbits:

No meetings in December, but the **January** meeting has some important business:

We are going to **VOTE** to increase the dues.

We are going to **VOTE** on the “Eyeball QSO” card. We have two entries by Ron, K6RIN, and I, KE6MLF.

Glenn, WA6GNB is retiring from the **Treasurer** position after 12 years. We need a **new** volunteer by February. Anybody know how to run a spreadsheet?

The RF bar graph **PCB project** will continue where it left off. The schematic and board layout are DONE. We will go over finishing details and prepare to send the board off for fabrication. Left is buying parts and programming the Arduino.

Have you done a **presentation** in the past? We are going to post old presentations for you to browse through. Find that old power point slide show, convert it to PDF, and forward it to our web page via Matt, webmaster at mgriffi79@yahoo.com.

Linda, our PIO has club flyers posted in the lobby of the Senior Center. Care to get some and post them in your favorite haunt? Just ask at the next meeting or send an email to Jim and Linda at kj6lxj@gmail.com.

Glen WA6GNB has a limited number of parts “kits” available for the RF detector PCB project. This is not (yet) the PCB, but MOST of the parts you may need to stuff the circuit board. The cost is \$17 and includes the Arduino Nano. Send an email to Glenn WA6GNB at gnb.2112@yahoo.com.

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/netnight.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/>

Our repeaters are too quiet!

If you are sitting around evenings or on the weekend, turn on your radio and listen in. Sometimes there is local activity on 146.520, the simplex channel.

Here are our 8:30 PM Sunday night net controllers:

Dec	4	Ron K6RIN
	11	Matt KN6SEC
	18	Brian KM6MIN
	25	Rick W6DQE
Jan	1	Kevin KD6UTC

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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.



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 check in, 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 by and say Hi.** You do not have to do anything other than check in 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.

December 3 is Skyward Recognition Day

Organizer: Rick Tate kq6no@arrl.net 8054057457

Description: Short Field-Day format event. All bands, all modes allowed and encouraged including IRLP and Echolink. We set up antennas on the grounds of the building and operate from positions in the conference room and outdoor setups. Email Rick with your questions and/or your requests to activate a particular band and mode.

December 11th is Santa to the Sea

Organizer: Stu Sheldodn ag6ag@arrl.net

More information at <https://santatothesea.com/>

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From David Gilmore via Groups.io:

To all,

This is a blast from the past! For those that have been members for awhile, you probably remember our group supporting the Camarillo Christmas Parade in past years. I guess they missed us, because they have requested our assistance for this year. The parade will be on Saturday, December 10, with the parade starting at 10am. Prior to the parade will be a High School band competition where High Schools from all over Southern California will compete with each other. After the competition, the bands will go on to participate in the parade.

Avi Carmi has asked me to take the lead with our participation. I will have further information as I get it from the Parade organization, but please put this on your calendar. It is a fun event, and gets you into the Christmas spirit.

If you have any questions, or want to volunteer, you can reach me at **aa6vh@arrl.net**.

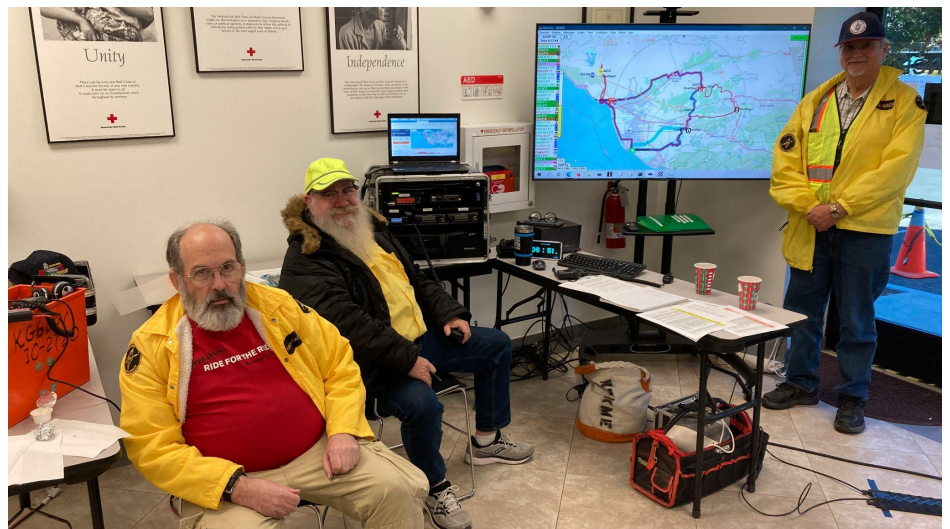
v/r
Dave AA6VH

Visit **vccomm.org** for more updates!

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Member Updates

Donnie, KJ6TTN, got these pictures from November's Ride for the Red bicycling event.



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From Orv, W6BI / **State of the Net**

Here's a review of some of the ham radio network activities in Ventura County and beyond over this last year done by PVARC.

Backbone upgrades

PVARC successfully submitted a grant request to Amateur Radio Digital Communications and received those monies earlier this year. A large chunk of it was meant for network backbone equipment upgrades, as the existing equipment is over 5 years old.

Those backbone upgrades, while still planned have been considerably delayed due to supply chain issues, mostly for network switches. We now expect them to mostly take place over the first half of 2023

Site Upgrades

South Mountain (East)

Work continues on upgrading PVARC's newest site, South Mountain East (as opposed to the original South Mountain site, now known as South Mountain West). The current project is building a battery enclosure at the side of the building and equipping it with a number of high-capacity batteries for emergency backup. Some network equipment upgrades are also planned for the near future.

Leisure Village

The network equipment at Leisure Village has been in place for quite a few years. I recommended an equipment upgrade to their club and they agreed to fund it. On November 20th, Eric KE6MLF and Eric N6RFI went there with the new gear. Eric MLF went up the tower, retired the dead Ubiquiti Nanostation M2, and replaced the Nanostation M5 with a Mikrotik SXTsq 5. In the ham shack Eric RFI swapped out the old Netgear GS108 with a Mikrotik hAP ac Lite router loaded with AREDN gear and moved the laptop and VOIP phone over to it. The new installation not only gives them a better SNR into the network via the Camarillo Hills node, it also give them a lot more flexibility with the network in the shack. Props to Mike N6MDA and Jonathan KT6LA for supporting this effort!



Caption: Eric KE6MLF doing tower work at KJ6LV

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New sites

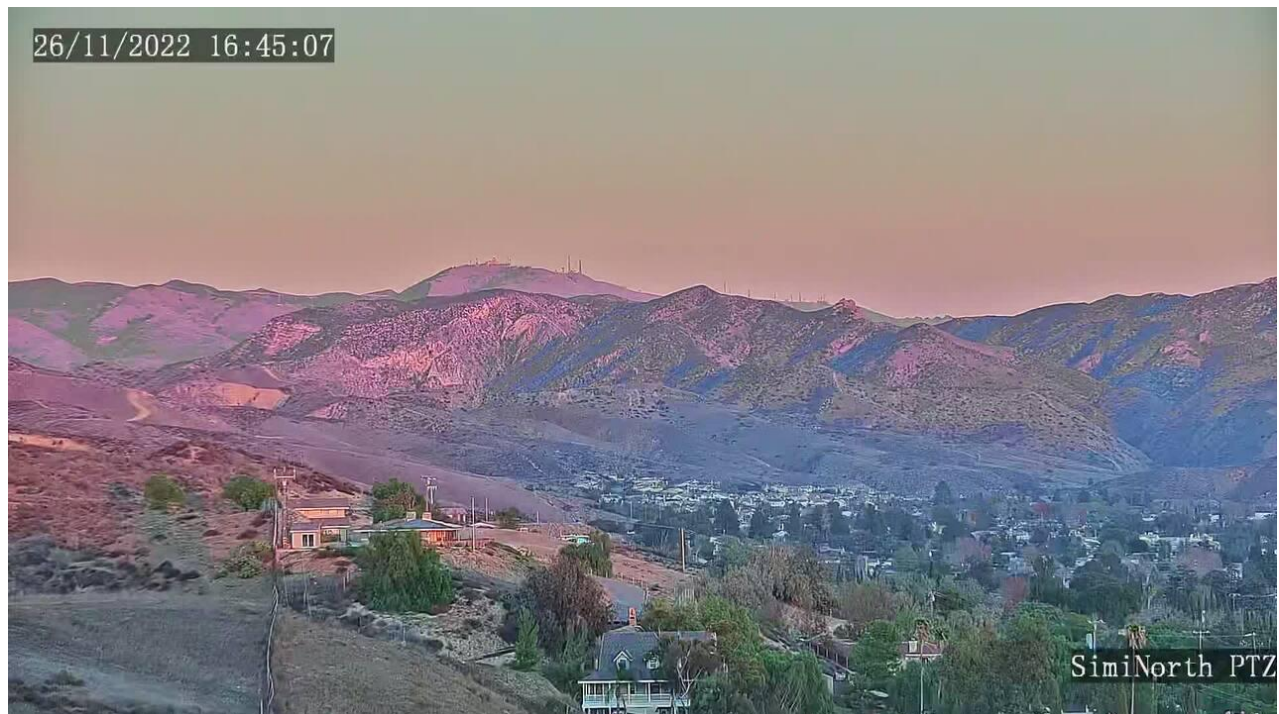
Negotiations are ongoing to enable PVARC to occupy several more sites around the county and its surrounds. Success will allow us to provide better network coverage in the county, in addition to expanding it to the northwest, and improving it to the east.

Camera upgrades

Part of the ARDC grant money was targeted for replacing the existing PTZ (Pan-Tilt-Zoom) cameras at our network sites. The existing Sunba cameras have been in place for 4-5 years. Not only are they no longer supported by the vendor, but full management of them requires Internet Explorer 6 with a proprietary plug-in.

We've replaced three cameras in Simi, at the SimiWest, SimiNorth and SimiEast site. We replaced them with a more current model from the same vendor. It can be managed with any browser, has a great user interface, greater zoom and is highly configurable.

Here's a screenshot from the new SimiNorth cam (on private property above the north end of Sycamore Road).



Over and above replacing existing cameras, we deployed a high-end Axis PTZ camera at the South Mountain East site. It has excellent optics and is very configurable. Here's a screenshot from it.

Sat Nov 26 16:55:04 2022
South Mountain
www.pvarc.club



Those four cameras now "patrol" - they move between several preset directions and zooms periodically. So if you view the screenshots at <http://wd6eby.actusa.net/cameras/> they could be pointed at any of their presets.

There are one or two "cameraless" sites that we hope to deploy cameras to in the future.

Look for another network update in the first quarter of 2023.

Happy networking!

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From Eric, KE6MLF

j

The group at Leisure Village, Camarillo, has a shack for use by any of the licensed residents. These guys mentioned that out of 20+ operators, only about 4 use the shack on a regular basis. In the hat is Mike, N6MDA, next is Jonathan KT6LA, and in the back is Eric N6RFI who was helping to connect the new equipment



The AREDN mesh node was replaced, the old one had finally failed. Orv, W6BI prepped the node and a new router for us. The tower was only 40 feet up, but a good breeze had the tower moving around a bit. Decided NOT to climb up another 10 feet onto the rotator mast and trim off some flapping bits of electrical tape. The crows are picking at the tape and slowly peeling it off. Next time...



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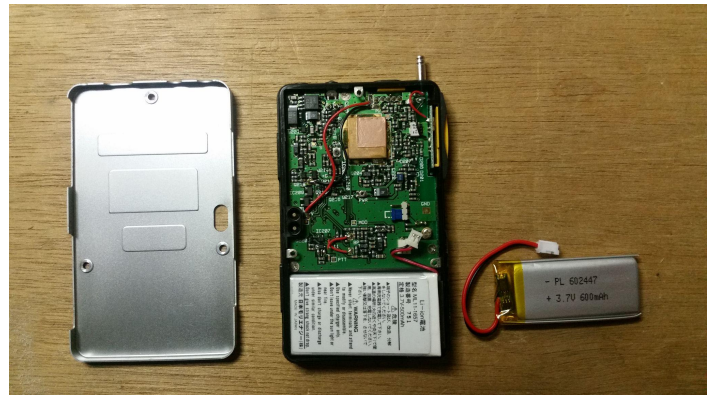
Here is a picture of **Orv** W6BI and his son **Eric**, KB6DYJ on top of the container at Simi East doing the mesh camera upgrade.



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More radio surgery, by Eric KE6MLF

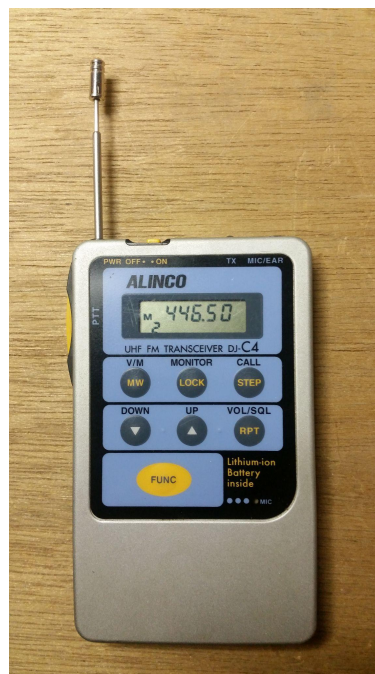
I got this Alinco DJ-C4 UHF off of Ebay 15 years ago. Some guy had a starting bid of \$30, and nobody bid on it. Do not know why nobody bid, these units were quite in demand. I missed the auction closing, but I sent him an email and offered his starting price. Got it! Worked fine for 10 years, then the battery got cranky and died. Alas, Alinco no longer had parts for this radio.



Saw a few months ago on QRZ that Doug, KD9PK had two of the VHF versions for sale, with "new battery". Sent Doug an email and he replied with the battery part number off of Amazon he used. I tried that same part, **none** for sale. Dang! Took his advice of a 3.7 volt, **600** mAh (the original battery, off to the right, was only 500 mAh). Found several, just had to make sure the one I got was the same size or smaller than the original. As you can see, I will need a bit of foam to pad around the new battery.



Works! Now I just have to get back with the local repeater owner and nag him to get our 440 link radios working! **Thanks** to Doug, KD9PK from Tennessee for answering my email.



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Seen any good hats lately?

Here is our fearless President, Brian, modeling an official Simi Settlers hat. If you would like one, send an email to Glen, WA6GNB at gmb.2112@yahoo.com (Beard and plaid shirt **not** included).



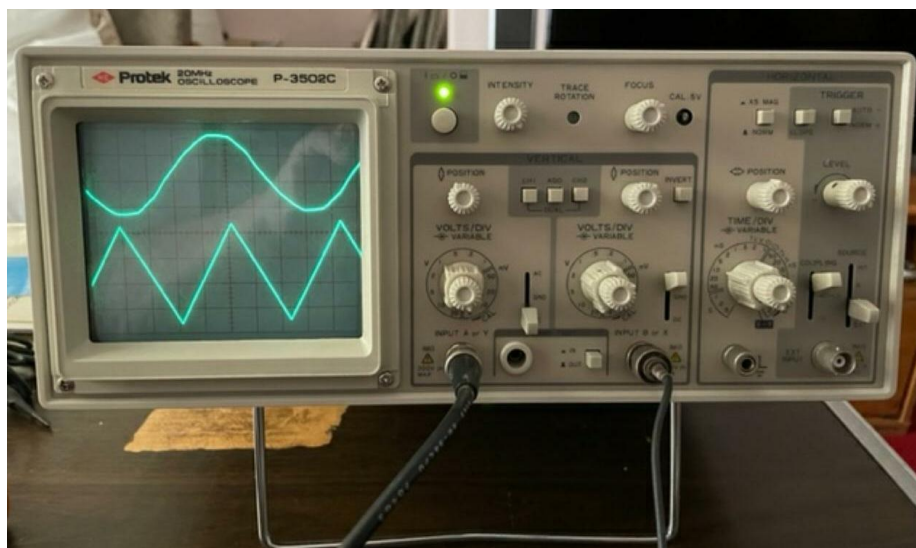
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SSARC Marketplace

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 two days 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.

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PROTEK 3502C OSCILLOSCOPE



This dual channel oscilloscope ranges from DC to 20 MHz. Input impedance is 1 M Ω shunted with 20 pF. Vertical deflection ranges from 5 mV to 20 V/Div over 12 ranges. Time base ranges from 0.2 μ sec to 0.5 sec/DIV on 20 ranges. Channel inputs can be selected for either Channel A or Channel B separately, Channel A and B displayed together, or a display of Channel A signal summed with Channel B. X-Y operation can be selected as well to display various lissajous patterns as desired. Two scope probes are provided with the unit. Perfect for testing applications and/or general experimental use.

Condition: Excellent Price: \$60 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

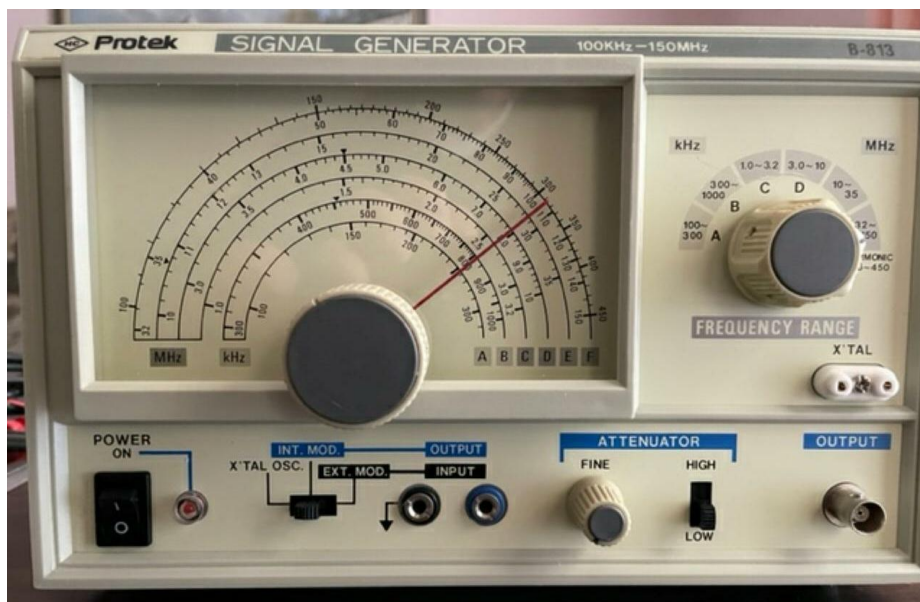
EICO 390 FUNCTION GENERATOR



This function generator can provide sine wave, triangular wave or square wave outputs with a frequency range of 0.2 Hz to 200 KHz selectable over 4 ranges. Output waveforms can be selected to perform a wide variety for testing of electronic equipment. Output up to 10 v p-p is provided which may be attenuated from 0 to -50 dB. This unit also provides a sweep generator which can provide linear or logarithmic sweep modes of up to 1000:1 sweep range with a choice of three different sweep speeds.

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

PROTEK B-813 SIGNAL GENERATOR



This signal generator provides an RF sine wave signal from 100 kHz to 150 MHz over 6 different frequency ranges. The output level can be adjusted from 30 mV to 250 mV RMS Max via the attenuator control. The unit also allows a 1 MHz to 15 MHz external crystal to be used for operation on a fixed frequency in lieu of VFO operation. Output is modulated at a 1 kHz signal at a 1V RMS level.

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

MOBILE HAMSTICK ANTENNAS

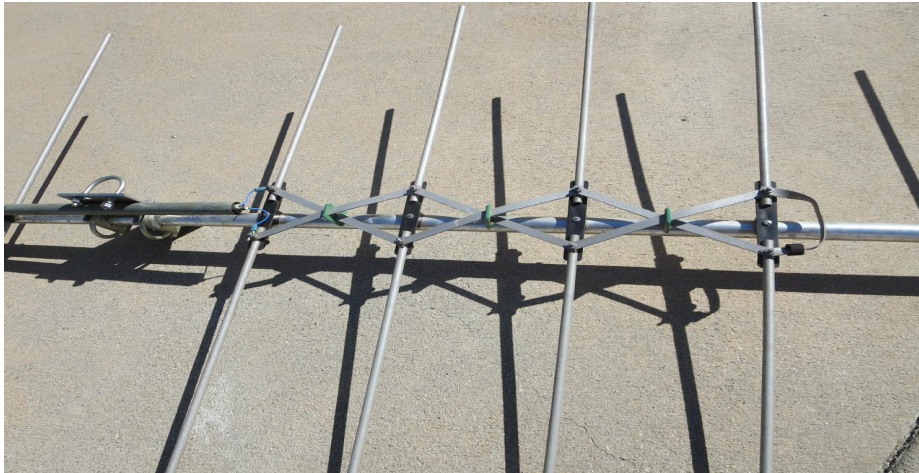


I have five MFJ 1/4 wave hamstick-type antennas for sale, ranging from 75m, 40m, 20m, 15m and 10m plus a 5/8 wave Hustler CG-144 for operation on 2m. All of them feature a standard 3/8-24 threaded mount with a Hustler QD-2 quick disconnect adapter installed for quick R&R when operating on different bands. Typically the MFJ hamsticks sell for around \$30 new, the Hustler 2m antenna currently lists for \$73 while the Hustler QD-2 quick disconnect adapters sell for \$35 per set.

Condition: Excellent Price: \$100 for all or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

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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 when used in conjunction with a simple TV-type antenna rotator.

Condition: Fair/Good Price: \$10 OBO. Please contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

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 cell	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Vice President	VACANT			
Secretary	Ron Nelson	K6RIN		rnelson759@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Glenn Daly	WA6GNB		gnb.2112@yahoo.com
Committee Chairpersons				
Webmaster	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(661) 361-5955 cell	mgriffi79@yahoo.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 cell	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		ki6ksv@gmail.com
Advisor				

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2022 - 2023

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 (\$25/yr) ☐
Family (\$30/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): _____

Shirt Printing: Yes ☐ No ☐ How many? _____ X \$25.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s): _____ (Self Supplied Polo Shirt, no emblem or pocket)

Hats Requested: Yes ☐ No ☐ How many? _____ X \$20.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s): _____

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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