Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

The next **meeting** is at the
Simi Senior Center,
3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley.
Thursday July 13 at 7:00 PM.

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

DUES are PAYABLE at the July meeting!

Nominations and votes for the club leadership were held at the June meeting. No surprise, it is going to be the same motley crew of characters as last year, with one change; our new Public Information Officer PIO is Donnie KJ6TTN.

- The July presentation will be about APRS, from Eric KE6MLF.
- The August subject is an update from Steve WA6EJO on his shack restoration after the Ventura fire.

- Does anybody know where the Simi Settlers **club banner** is?

- We are aiming for a **picnic** at Rancho Madera Community Park on **August 20th**.

Save the date, we hope to see everybody!

July 2023

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/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

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 for the next few months:

Jun 4 Ron K6RIN
11 Matt KN6SEC
18 Brian KM6MIN
25 Kevin KD6UTC

Jul 2 Ron K6RIN
9 Matt KN6SEC
16 Brian KM6MIN
23 Kevin KD6UTC
30 Ron K6RIN

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.

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.

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

We are going to get new ACS cards. Check for an email from Bill Boyd, or send Frank a note if you did not receive one.

Member Updates

Brian KM6MIN is asking for volunteers for the **13soulsrun** event to be held **August 26**, 2023. This event is to honor and remember the 13 fallen U.S. service members, killed when a suicide bomber detonated an explosion at the Karzai International Airport on Aug. 26, 2021 in Kabul, Afghanistan.

This is the second time for this fund raiser event. Last year had some 400 participants who ran and walked along the Arroyo Bike Path.

This event will take place Saturday morning, **August 26th,** 2023 with registration opening at 5:30am, ceremonies starting at 6:15am, and participants to be released on course at roughly 7:00am, and will start at the Simi Valley Metrolink Station parking lot, located at 5050 E. Los Angeles Ave., in Simi Valley, and will span along the Arroyo west to Madera Rd. and back again, covering 13.1 miles.

Each mile will be dedicated to one of each of those service members lost until all of our 13 are remembered.

This is also a 1k, 5k, 10k & 1/2 marathon event with ceremonies, music, booths and family fun and festivities to remember and honor our 13 service members lost. NOT a timed race.

For more information, go to 13soulsrun.org

We need people with HT radios to patrol the course and provide any communication required.

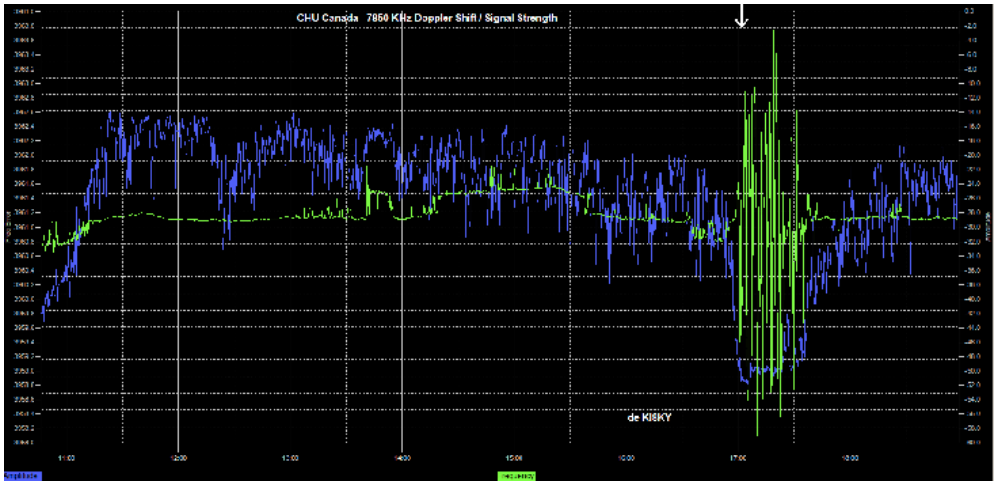
Please contact Brian KM6MIN at 805 813-7595 or km6min_bh@yahoo.com

From Kerwin N6YHX - Solar Flares

Kerwin stumbled across this fun article about HAMs using the Dopler shift of a station's carrier frequencies to detect solar flares.

https://spaceweather.com/archive.php?view=1&day=22&month=06&year=2023

Around the world, ham radio operators are experimenting with a new way to detect solar flares--the Doppler Shift method. Brian Curtis of Sault Ste Marie, Michigan, demonstrated the technique on June 20th when the sun produced a powerful X1.1-class solar flare:



You can read the entire article and more interesting information at spaceweather.com

Upgrade? by Orv W6BI

Orv spotted this class by our friends in Conejo Valley:

Hello to all,

Just a reminder that our General License Class will start on July 8 from 0800 to noon and runs for four weeks. There's still time to sign up! The class is open to everybody, not just club members.

Details are here http://www.cvarc.org/2023/05/16/general-license-class-set-for-july-2023/

From Keith W6KME

Field Day!

Here are pictures from the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library on Saturday.

Next month we will continue with pictures from our historian Mike KV6I.

Jon W6IO and Matt KN6SEC at the 20 Meter CW table

Bob KK6UE and Yuriy AC6A at the 40 Meter CW station

Jim KJ6LXJ and Frank KI6OQ at the 40 Meter phone

July 2023

A chat with the Mayor of Thousand Oaks!

Steve KE6SCS Brian KM6MIN and at the public information table.

July 2023

Rick KQ6NO and Mark KM6B at 15 meter CW

James KM6GUE at UHF / VHF

July 2023

Waiting for the sun to drop a bit….

Woody WA6WDY and Mike WA6FXT at 15 Meters

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Stu AG6AG at 80 Meter Phone

Stu and Vern hitting the juice. Gotta do chores even when you are not at work or home.

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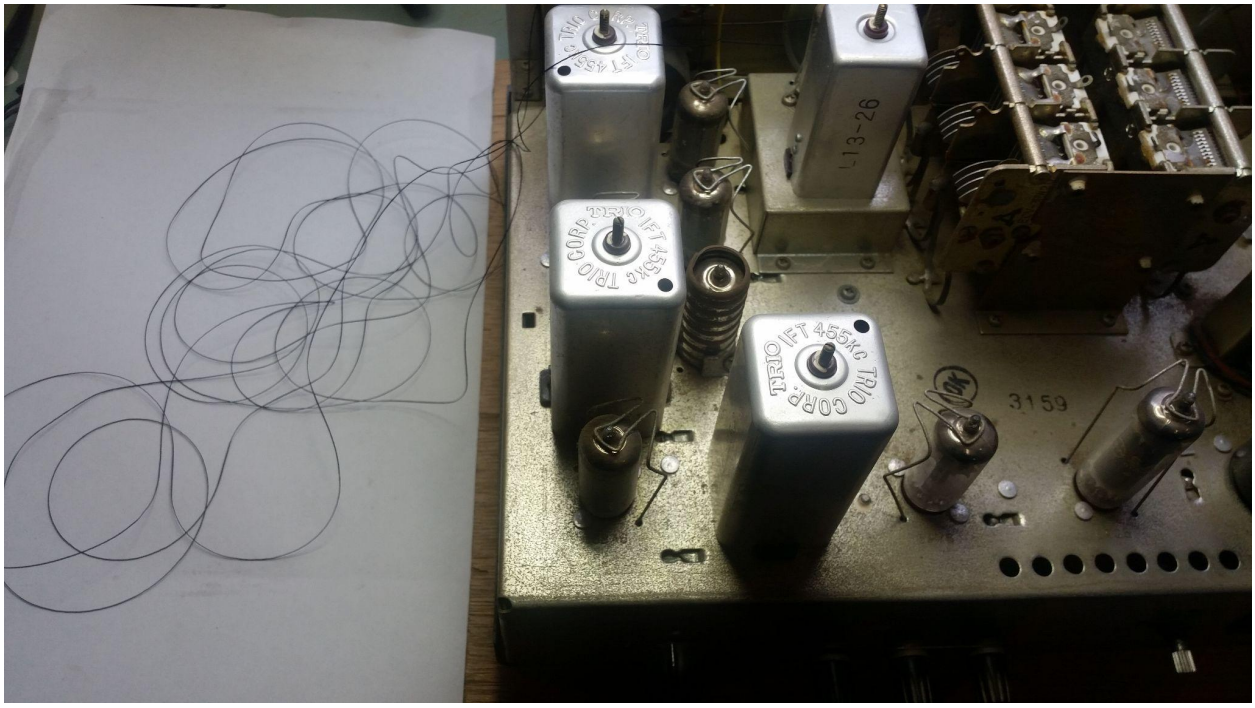
Radio update by Eric KE6MLF

So, there I was. Listening to the Lafayette shortwave receiver. Talk, music, news, talk, music, news…. Then just as I turned away, some idiot just kept babbling on about how ALIENS were already here on Earth. **Yes,** I know that, I am close personal friends with a few of them and **I like them.** Tell me something new. Reached over, spun the dial.

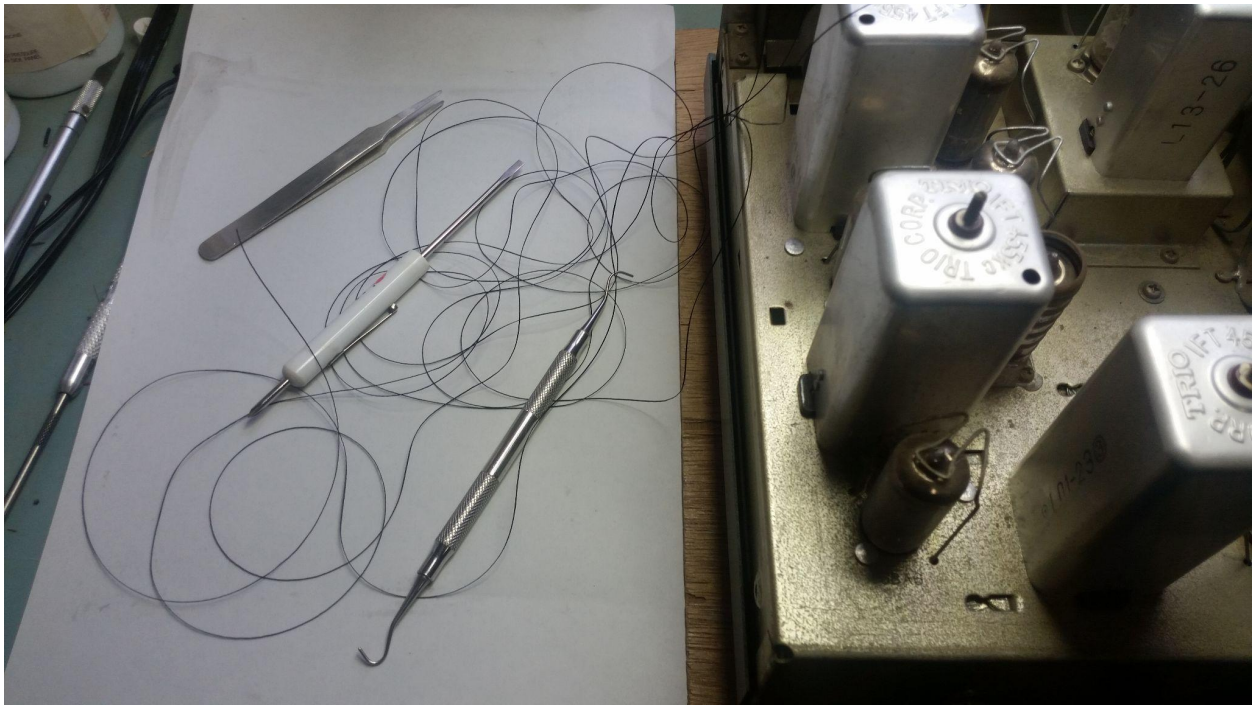
A twang, and the needle stopped moving. Crap, the dial cord either fell off the pulley, or broke. Took the cover off, sure enough, the sting had popped off the pulley. Strung it out the side so I can see what is going on.

Wow, that is a lot of string.



July 2023

No problem. A few dainty tools, a light touch, and we can have this thing back in operation.



Struggled for 20 minutes, then got a few more tools.

July 2023

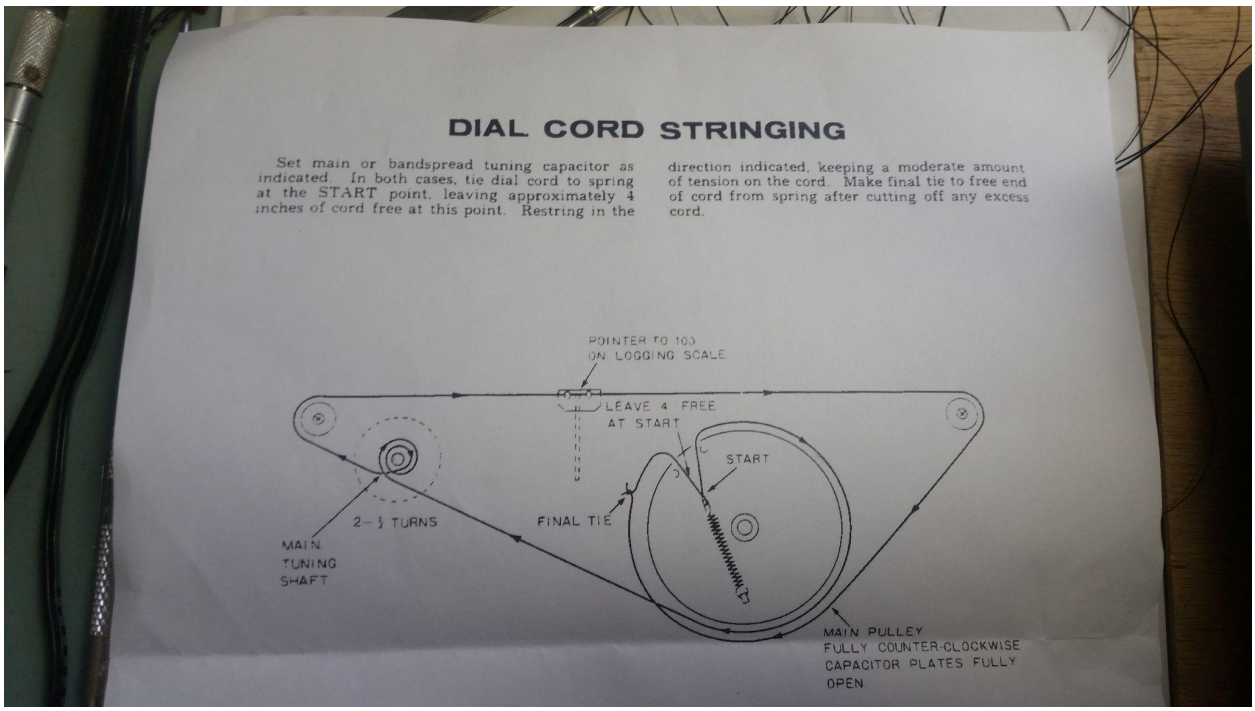
Learned a few new curse words, and decided to reset and think about how to approach this.

Started a few times, then decided to think some more.

July 2023

Tried a few more things to no avail, then came to this conclusion.
Just decided to end it quickly and end the suffering.

Turns out the lighter was out of gas, and I did not have flint and steel to get the cannon going. So, I went on the internet, and found a scanned copy of the manual. Dang if it did not have a page dedicated just to restringing the dial cords. Huh.

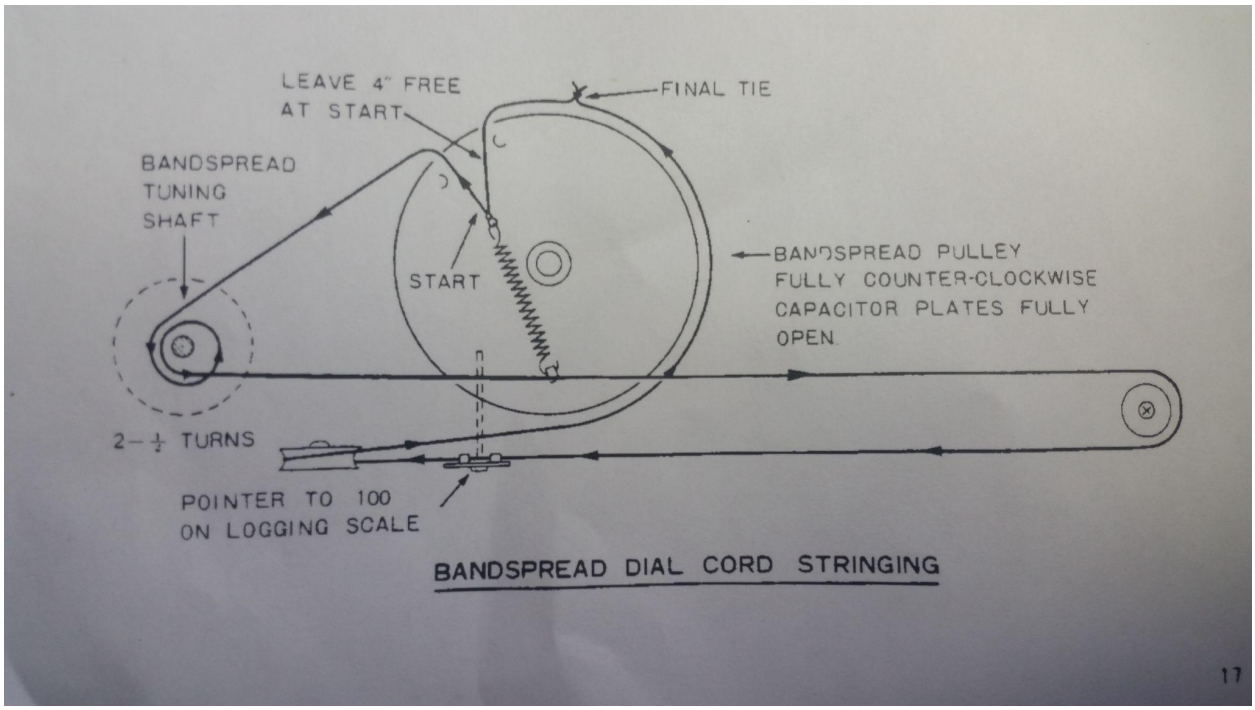


DIAL CORD STRINGING

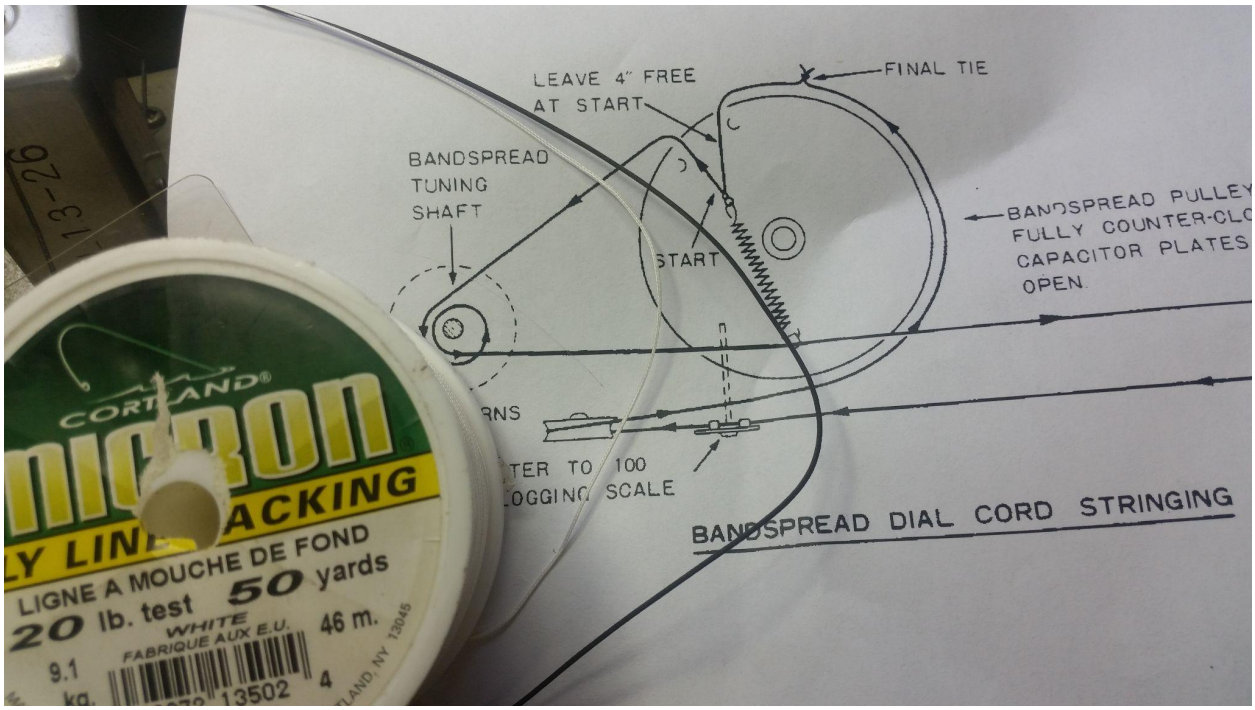
Set main or bandspread tuning capacitor as indicated. In both cases, tie dial cord to spring at the START point, leaving approximately 4 inches of cord free at this point. Restring in the direction indicated, keeping a moderate amount of tension on the cord. Make final tie to free end of cord from spring after cutting off any excess cord.

July 2023

But THIS radio is better than anything you have, it has TWO dial cords. The one that fell off is not the main tuning, but the “Bandspread” dial, whatever that is.



Wait, this shows where to start, and how to end. The existing cord was **not** done that way, both knots ended on the spring inside the pulley. Dug around in the HUGE amount of “stuff” I have, and found some fly fishing backing cord. Cut a new extra long length, and started in.



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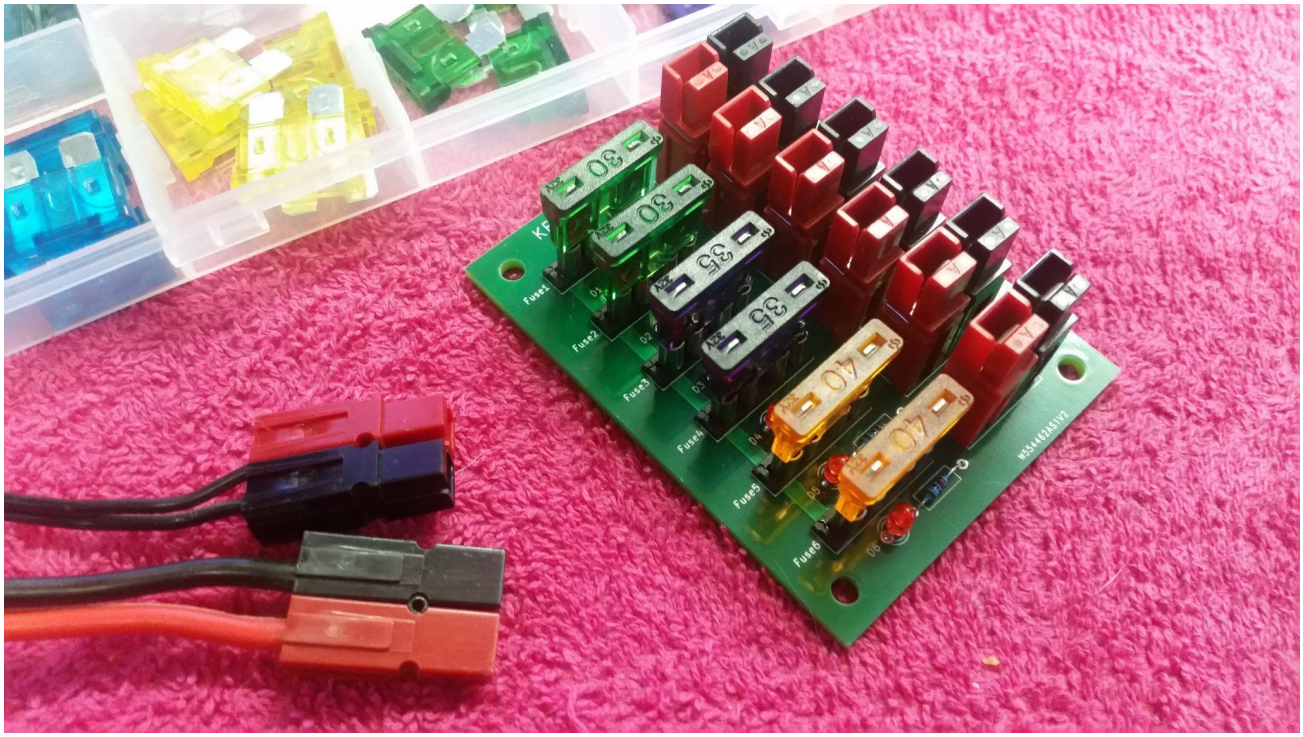
YES! Back up to snuff! Now do clear a permanent space on the shelf and listen away!

I did not completly put the cannon away, but set it off to the side.
Just in case, for the next time a radio misbehaves.

July 2023

6 position Power Pole distribution block by Eric KE6MLF and Joe W6JWP



Joe has one, I have mine. You want one, or two, or three?

Buy the circuit boards.
Buy the parts.
Have a soldering party.
Put in the fuses.
Connect a power source, lots of outputs, and bask in the glow of power safely flowing.

Ummm, what?

Get the “Gerber files'' and send them to a PCB manufacturer, like www.seeedstudio.com, JLCPCB.com, or www.pcbway.com. There is a file for each layer, but we usually pack them all into a “zip” archive file. Separate from the artwork, you have to give a few more details about the size, desired thickness, and copper weight (thickness).

Aside from the zip file (containing all the layers) (to be sent to the PCB manufacturer), here are those details to enter in to the ordering page:

- Size - 3 x 2.25 inches (76.2 x 57.15 mm).
- Thickness - .093 inch (most PCBs are .062 inch, but this one needs to be stiffer).
- Copper - 2 oz copper (more metal to carry more current).

It cost about $80 for 10 boards. Perhaps you should gang together for a group buy?

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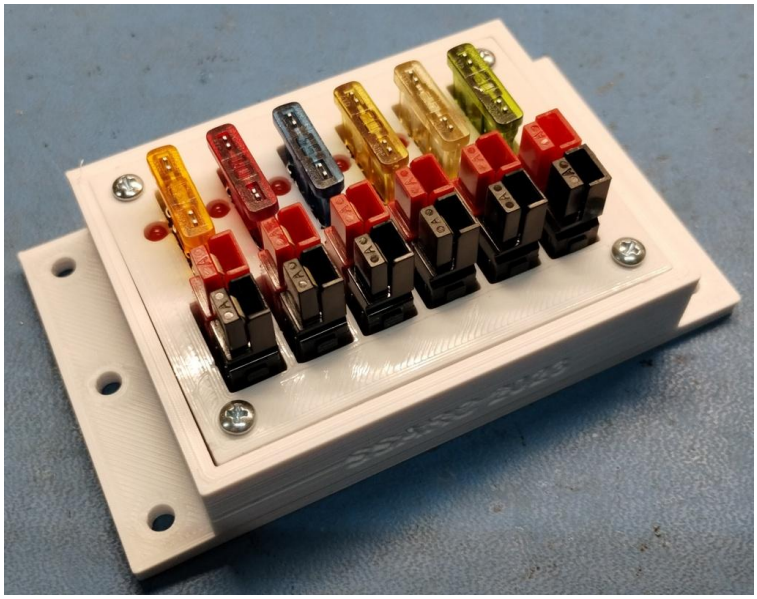
Here is the **parts list**. www.digikey.com, or www.mouser.com are both good.

Fuse holder - 6 each Keystone P/N 3522-2
LED - 6 each anything with .1 inch lead spacing
Resistor - 6 each (~10 K for 12 volt use)
Anderson connectors “Powerpole 45 contacts” - 12 each P/N 261G2-LPBK
Anderson connectors “Powerpole 15-45” Black - 6 each P/N 1327G6
Anderson connectors “Powerpole 15-45” Red - 6 each P/N 1327
About 6-8 inches of 14 AWG solid copper wire.

I bought an ATO type fuse assortment off of Amazon. It looks legit (as in not fake fuse values).

Do not have a soldering iron? Ask our fellow club members, perhaps you can do a get-together. Joe and I will give all the guidance required for you to acquire the parts and assemble this project.

Here are pictures from Joe, W6JWP. He has designed a 3D printed case. You can send the file away and get one or more prints made in the color of your choice.



I got at least one mention of a desire for a slightly different design, with several isolated sections for different voltages. Power pole connectors come in lots of colors to help identify the separate sections. Any requests?

July 2023

RF Detector by Eric KE6MLF

How is everybody doing with their **Arduino RF Detector**? Need help? Programming? Talk to me at the next few meetings.

Next? by Eric KE6MLF

The RF Detector, the power pole distribution PCB, and I saw the Jim Hutchenson KI6MZ designed tri-band antenna in Brian KM6MINs car trunk. Why Brian has NOT put it up, we can only guess. But anyway, what is the next project?

I am working on two things,

1.) An Arduino morse code decoder
2.) An Arduino APRS tracker

Anybody else got one? How about your ideas, and we use the combined brain power of the club to start making it happen?

July 2023

Atas 180 SSB Solid State Transceiver by Eric KE6ML**F**

Remember that Atlas 180 radio I got from Patrick WB6USZ? One of the first all solid state radios, made in the mid 1970s. It may have had a tendency to burn out the final transistors. I was then a bit hesitant to just hit the push to talk button and start blabbering. I hooked through my power meter, then to a dummy load. Carefully turned up the gain while talking “quite loud”. When I saw the power meter approaching 100 Watts in a PEAK setting, I returned to a normal speech volume, and saw peaks at about 80 Watts.

I got a pdf of the manual, which contains the schematics of the plug in cards. I was lucky and found a gif image of the chassis wiring, along with a web site of collectors with lots of good info.

It is alive and works great. I fired it up the last few hours of Field Day and made 10 contacts with it. Got a good audio report right as Field Day ended on 11:00 Sunday.

Still to do:

- Make a stand to angle the front end up a bit.
- Try a few different external speakers. The one pictured above does not sound any better than the internal speaker.
- Find out if my D-104 microphone is getting weak. I used the amplifier in the microphone base, and still had to turn the gain up quite a bit.
- Find out how to limit the output power to make sure I never get close to 100 Watts output.

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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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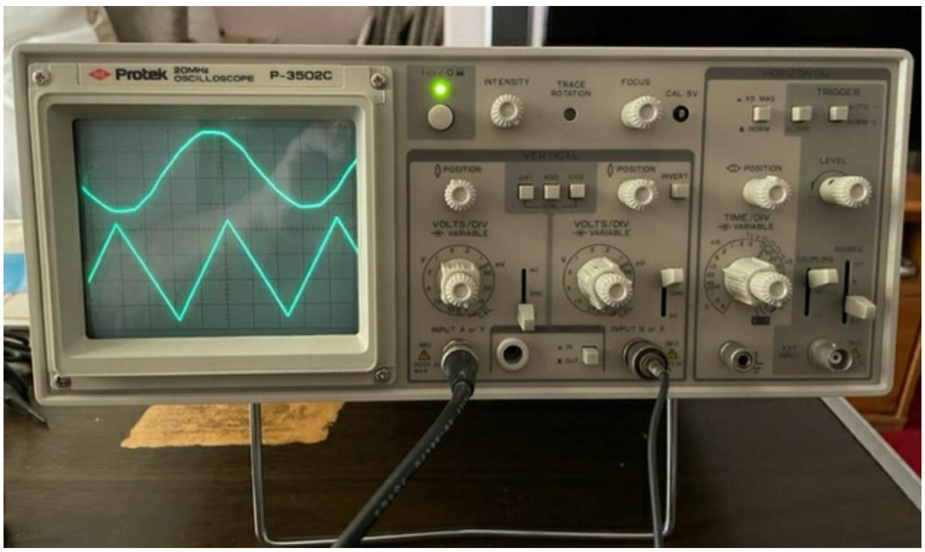
PROTEK 3502C OSCILLOSCOPE



This dual channel oscilloscope ranges from DC to 20 MHz. Input impedance is 1 MΩ shunted with 20 pF. Vertical deflection ranges from 5 mV to 20 V/Div over 12 ranges. Time base ranges from 0.2 µsec 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: $25 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: $15 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

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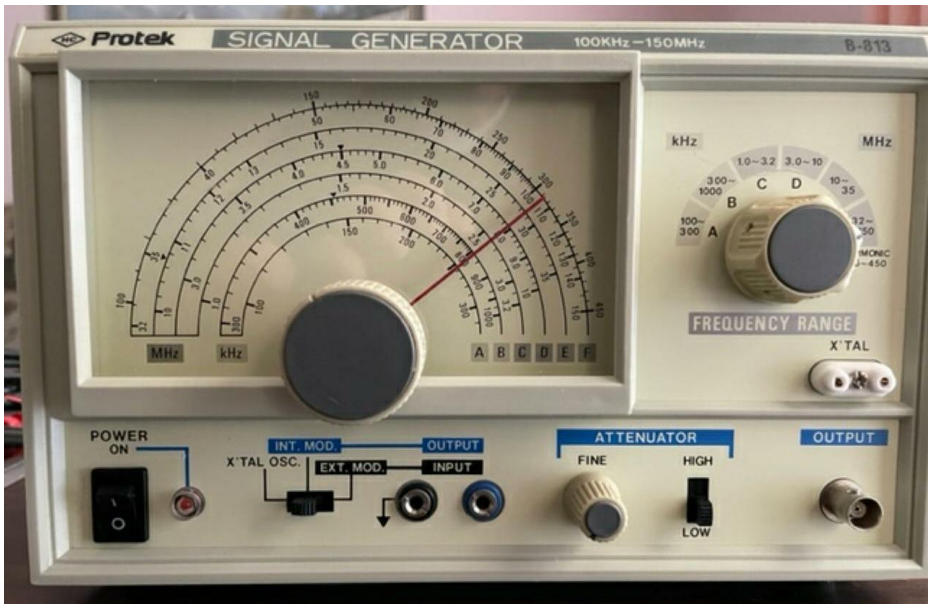
PROTEK B-813 SIGNAL GENERATOR



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: $15 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

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RADIO SHACK 3-1/2 DIGIT DMM w/ PC INTERFACE

Radio Shack's Model 22-168A DMM is a top-of -the line portable test instrument ideally suited for use in the field, lab, shop and home. It is a multi-function instrument that covers 38 total ranges covering full scale measurements of voltage (200mV-1000 V), current (200 µA - 20 A), resistance (200 ohms – 2000 MΩ), capacitance (200 pF – 200 µF), frequency (2 kHz – 20 MHz), transistor gain (hFE) and diode polarity check. It also features a dual measurement mode where, for example, both the AC RMS voltage and frequency can be shown simultaneously on the meter LCD display. The unit also features auto-ranging capability and overload protection including an auto-shutoff feature to preserve battery life.

This unit can also double as portable data acquisition device incorporating a RS-232 serial interface that allows your computer to directly capture data through a standard computer COM port using the interface cable and software provided.

Condition: Excellent Price: $10 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

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Dennis, a Simi Valley resident, has a B&K 2120 oscilloscope for sale.

Dual trace, 30 MHz bandwidth. Price is listed at $100. The scope is here in Simi. Here are the same items as listed on ebay for comparison:

https://www.ebay.com/sch/i.html?_from=R40&_trksid=p2380057.m570.l1311&_nkw=bk+precision+2120&_sacat=0

Contact Dennis at dkruse789@yahoo.com

Somebody gave Orv W6BI a 75 foot length of LMR 600 cable. It has N connectors on both ends. Starting bid is $50, it will be a donation to the club. Highest bid at the end of July wins. Send your bids to our treasurer Matt KN6SEC at mgriffi79@yahoo.com

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				
President	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595 cell	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Vice President	VACANT			
Secretary	Ron Nelson	K6RIN		rnelson759@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC		mgriffi79@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	Donnie Williams	KJ6TTN	(818 974-0020 cell	donniewilliams@gmail.com
Raffle Prizes	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(805) 433-4513 cell	mgriffi79@yahoo.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	John Percival	W6IO		johnspercival1@gmail.com

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club

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

Membership Application

Type of Application: **Type of Membership:**

New Member ☐ Individual ($25/yr) ☐
Renewal ☐ 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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