



Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

1	Timely Information
	Nets of Interest ACS/ARES Corner
3	Member Updates
4	The Marketplace
5	Simi Settlers' Leadership
6	Membership Form

The next **meeting** is at the

Simi Senior Center,

3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley.

Thursday March 14 2024 at 7:00 PM.

The next Simi Settlers Pizza Night is at

Toppers, 2408 Erringer Road, Simi Valley.

Thursday March 7 2024 at 6:00 PM.

The March 14 meeting will feature a presentation by Steve Noll, WA6EJO, on antennas and propagation. This will be a live demonstration exploring radiation patterns and polarization of a variety of antennas from ground planes to loop yagis to helices, plus actual demonstrations of a variety of propagation phenomena including ducting, refraction, diffraction, knife edging, Fresnel zone, velocity of propagation, and more.

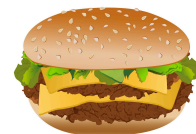
(Steve gave this presentation in 2017, but it is still a learning experience - ed.)



Save the date:

We are going to have a

Spring Picnic at Wood Ranch on May 20.



March 2024

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

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/>

Here are our 8:30 PM Sunday night net controllers for the next month:

Mar 3	Kerwyn N6YHX
10	Brian KM6MIN
17	Kevin KD6UTC
24	Matt N3AR
31	Ron K6RIN

March 2024

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.

March 2024

Member Updates

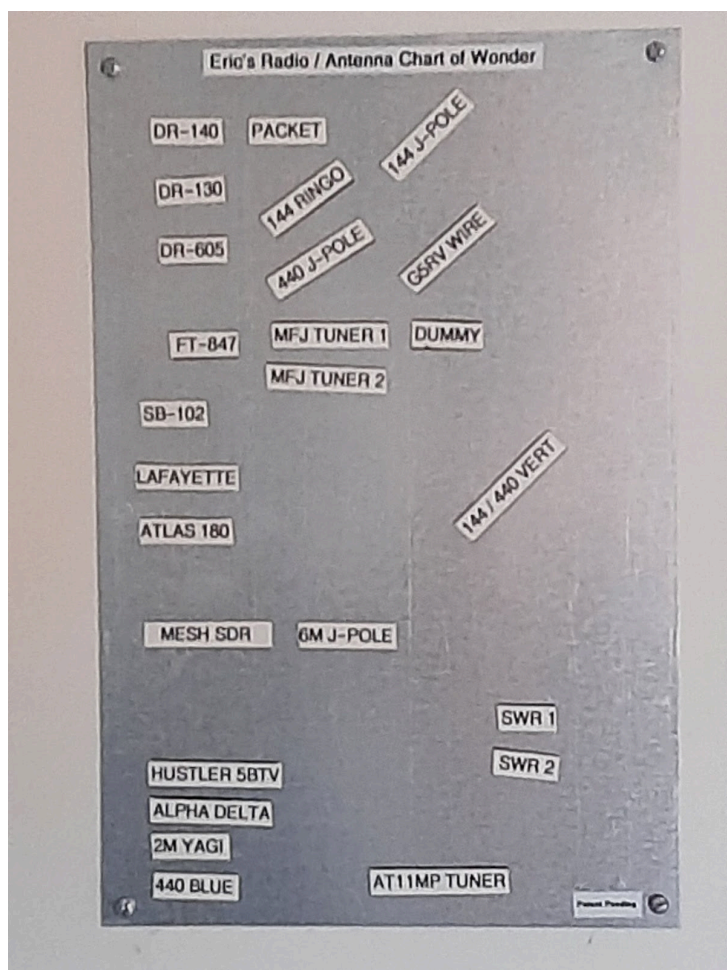
The Settlers ARE forever enshrined on the Internet!

Our newsletters are now stored on the archive.org web site, in the Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communications section. Visit <https://archive.org/details/dlarc>, search on "simi settlers". We have 115 issues dating back to 2014!

If we can dredge up older issues, DLARC will be happy to include them. They will even scan in paper copies. Send me anything you have, I will copy it and return the original.

Space Weather by Eric KE6MLF

This last month, we had a few events that altered the atmospheric conditions, specifically Coronal Mass Ejections (CME) from the sun. Between that, the blustery weather conditions, and being out of town for a few days at a time, I decided to unplug the antenna feed lines to my radios. Maybe overly paranoid, maybe not, but now I have an easy way to track what is disconnected, and where to put it back - the super duper magnet message board! After things are put back in use, the magnetic strips get tilted back to horizontal.

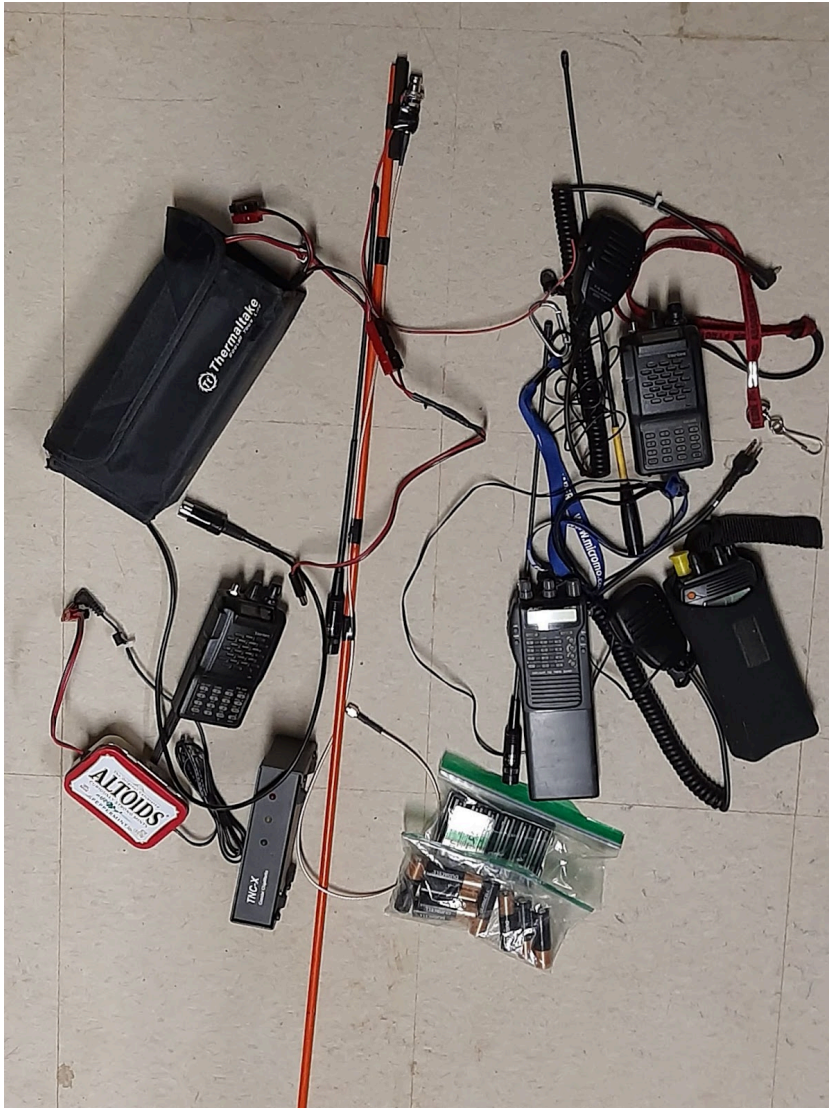


March 2024

Ventura Marathon by Eric KE6MLF

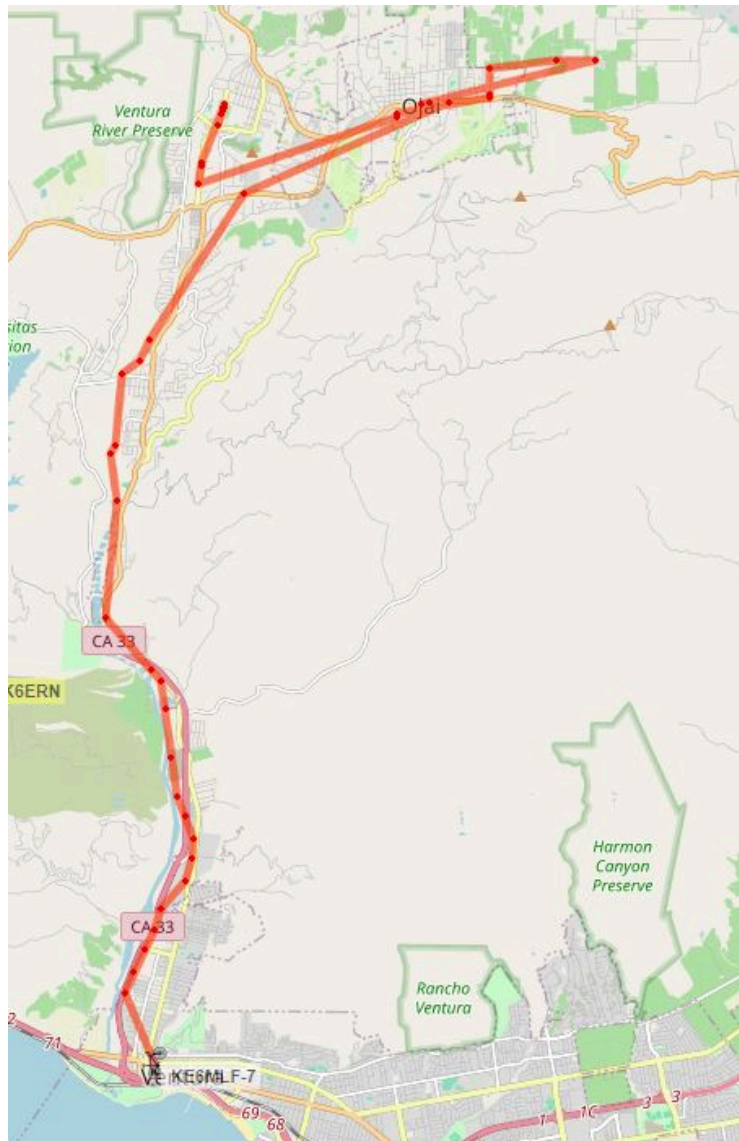
On February 25, the Ventura Marathon was held between Ojai and Ventura. We had a number of the Settlers assisting with communications. Frank KI6OQ, Bill AB6BW, Kerwyn N6YHX, Ron K6RIN, Dave KM6FQ (did I miss anybody?) were all at the party.

I did the (now) usual task of following along as a chase bicycle. Getting to the task of cleaning up, here is the pile of stuff I carried. APRS packet on the left, voice radio on the right. This does not include water, food, bicycle tools and tire patch kit, lights, or clothes. Batteries to recharge, cords to straighten, antennas to store, bits of tape to clean off...



March 2024

Here is the APRS track from my bicycle using APRSDroid. Started in Meiners Oaks for the ½ marathon start, then rolled up to find the end of the pack for the full marathon.



March 2024

Street Fair by Eric KE6MLF

The Settlers are again going to attend the street fair on May 4th. Last year we passed out all the candy, flyers, and a bunch of Jim's KJ6LXJ old QST magazines. This year we aim to have some "Simi Settlers ARC" imprinted handouts, like keychains, pens, or maybe bazookas. Matt KN6SEC is all over this. I got the old flyer (created by Joe W6JWP) from Jim KJ6LXJ and made a few changes. Do you see any changes that are a "must have"? Send me a note!

Here is page 1 of the trifold flyer:

How to Find Out More



ARRL - Devoted Entirely to Amateur Radio

Founded in 1914, The American Radio Relay League is the national association for Amateur Radio in the USA. Today, with more than 156,000 members, ARRL is the largest organization of radio amateurs in the United States.

<http://www.arrl.org>

Stop by and say "Hello!"

Club meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the second Thursday of the month at the Simi Senior Center. (Enter by the Southwest door) 3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley. **You do not have to join any club to enjoy amateur radio.**



SSARC

P.O. Box 2125
Simi Valley, CA
93063-2125

<http://www.simisetters.org>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SimiSettersARC>

Or Brian Hernandez-KM6MIN
km6min_bh@yahoo.com
805-813-7595



**Affiliated
Club**

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club

Serving Simi Valley for
over 30 years.



*"When all else fails...
...Amateur Radio works!"*



March 2024

What is Ham Radio?

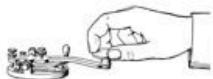
Amateur radio, also known as ham radio, is a hobby enjoyed by several hundred thousand people in the United States and by over a million people worldwide. Amateur radio operators call themselves "radio hams" or simply "hams."

To become a radio ham, you must pass an examination. There are several license classes. The more privileges a class of license conveys, the more difficult the examination that one must pass to obtain it. Training classes can be found locally or on-line. Testing is done many times a year and conducted locally.

And although Morse code is still used, it is no longer a requirement for any of the amateur radio licenses.

You do not have to join any club to enjoy amateur radio, but we can help you get your license and up to speed!

We have many members with all sorts of experience and capabilities.



Fun with a Purpose

The Settlers are one of several clubs in Ventura County that provide communications in case of emergency. Cities, Hospitals, Police departments, the Sheriff's Office, and various other entities depend on us to provide voice and data communications.

We have communications equipment setup in many locations around the county and have a mobile trailer that is setup and ready to use.

Many of our members are Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) or Ventura County Auxiliary Communication Services (ACS).

We run regular exercises to keep the equipment running and our procedures up to date.

We provide auxiliary communication support for many events like marathons, air shows, and bicycle races to stay current.

The amateur radio community has many shared resources. Mountain top repeaters allow us to extend the range of mobile radios. Beacons are constantly sending information about atmospheric propagation.

We also have various remote sites where you can listen in to amateur radio (and everything else) at <http://websdr.org/>

What do we do?

Our members do many different aspects of Amateur radio.

Voice communications:

High Frequency from 3-30 MHz
Very High Frequency – 144-146 MHz
Ultra High Frequency – 420-450 MHz
Microwaves in the ~~Giga~~Hertz range

Data communications:

Slow and fast scan (live) video
Keyboard to Keyboard modes
Propagation beacons
Mesh Networking in the 2 and 5 GHz range
Online weather stations and video cameras

Activities:

Rag chewing (really just gossip and chatting)
Contesting – Counting the number of ~~contacts~~ in a given time or the furthest ~~distance~~
Transmitter hunting – hide and go seek?
Country chasing – talk around the world
State chasing – talk to all 50?
County chasing – so many to choose from!
Near Space – Rockets and balloons
Outer Space – Amateur satellites
Equipment design and building
Antenna construction
Antique Radio restoration
Parks on the Air – Go out for some fresh air!
Summits on the Air – Go climb a mountain!

We will get a bunch of them printed up for future events.

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.

.....

MFJ-335 MOBILE ANTENNA MAGNETIC MOUNT



This heavy-duty 5" diameter magnetic antenna mount uses a powerful 2.5 pound magnetic base for secure mounting on top of most vehicles. It features a standard 3/8-24 threaded receptacle for attaching various hamstick or other whip antennas as needed. The 9-1/2 ft. length of RG-58 cable has a standard PL-259 UHF end connector. Typical cost of this magnetic antenna mount from MFJ or DX Engineering is \$29.95.

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

RADIO SHACK PRO-2044 SCANNER



The PRO-2044 is an 80-channel programmable scanner capable of receiving both AM and FM modulated signals in the HF, VHF and UHF bands ranging from 29 MHz to 512 MHz. The scanner's channels are divided into 10 channel-storage banks of 8 channels each. The scanner also has an additional 10 monitor memories available for temporary frequency storage if desired. The unit features keypad entry programming buttons plus standard volume and squelch controls to set desired audio level. The unit has a built-in internal speaker plus a headphone output jack. Power requirement is 12VDC with an AC adapter included. Rear antenna input is a BNC-type connector for connecting to an outdoor antenna or to a small collapsible whip (included). Size is 8" wide x 7" deep x 3" high.

Condition: Very Good Price: \$20 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

March 2024

MFJ-281 CLEAR TONE SPEAKER



This communications speaker is specially designed to provide clear speech within a narrow 600 to 4000 Hz frequency range that's specifically tailored to enhance voice communications. The result is improved audio quality that is free of the typical noise, static and hum that may be present in wide-range speakers. The speaker housing contains a 3-inch Mylar speaker cone with a fine mesh grill that allows sound to radiate without being muffled. The housing is of heavy duty construction with a swivel mounting bracket that allows you to direct sound where you want it. The speaker is 8 ohms and is rated at 8 watts and comes with a 6-ft. audio cable and 3.5mm mono plug. Typical cost of this speaker is listed at \$19.95.

Condition: Excellent Price: \$5 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

March 2024

AEA DM-1 DEVIATION METER



This AEA model DM-1 deviation meter can be used to adjust the maximum deviation levels on transceivers that allow adjustable frequency deviation settings for FM transmissions on 2m, 1.25m or 70 cm. Typically, for wideband audio FM on the 2 meter amateur band, this would be 5 kHz. For narrowband audio FM, this would be 2.5 kHz. For CTCSS sub-audible tones, this would typically be 1 kHz. Transceivers with excessive deviation can cause out-of-band signals (or “splatter”) which can interfere with adjacent channel signals. A similar sale of this item was recently found on Ebay for \$65. The unit is powered by an internal 9-V battery and the AEA operating manual is included.

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

March 2024

LAFAYETTE RADIO MODEL TE-50 TUBE TESTER



This portable tube tester from Lafayette Radio is perfect for testing vacuum tubes from classic radios and television receivers sold back in the day. It has eight tube sockets capable of testing standard Octal, Loctal, 7-pin miniature, 9-pin miniature types as well as 9- and 12-pin Compactron tubes and nuvistor tubes that were popular back in the 1950's and 1960's. Tests include leakage, shorts and tube emission (e.g.- gain or μ -measurements). The tester includes a slide-out chart drawer plus supplemental charts for newer-type tubes listing the required selector switch and slide switch settings for each tube under test including a test clip for testing tubes with high-voltage anode top caps such as those used for horizontal sweep circuits of earlier televisions. Similar Lafayette Model TE-50 Tube Testers are listed on E-Bay for \$99.99 or more.

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

March 2024

RADIO SHACK MODEL 15-1244 RF MODULATOR



This Radio Shack RF modulator can provide an NTSC type RF signal to older TVs or video monitors that require an analog signal as an input. The output is user-selectable for either channel 3 or channel 4 output and can provide 75 ohm or 1k ohm impedance. Input is AV video/video using standard phono-type plug cables. An RF coax jumper cable is provided.

Condition: Excellent Price: \$5 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

March 2024

From Kevin, KD6UTC; I'm selling some of my HF equipment that I don't use. I would like to sell it as a bundle. I hope this will be a good start kit for one of our members new to HF.

SSARC Marketplace HF bundle

- ICOM 7300 with original box
- LDG Electronics Z-100PLUS - Automatic Antenna Tuner
- LDG RBA 4:1 Balun
- LDG RBA 1:1 Balun
- (2) MFJ HAM sticks 20M
- (2) MFJ HAM sticks 40M
- (2) Mirror/Pipe Antenna Mounts
- MFJ Double T Pipe Mount

Condition: Excellent Price: \$850 - **NOW REDUCED to \$750**

Contact Kevin (KD6UTC) kevin.deadwylier@gmail.com



March 2024



March 2024

From Glenn WA6GNB

GrandStream # 1620/1625 telephone for sale. New – still in the original box. Compatible with our MESH system. \$30.00 Contact Glen at gnb.2112@yahoo.com

From Sergey KT4UFA - ut4ufa@gmail.com

AC-DC switching power supply.

Input 115V AC 50-60Hz

Output 12V DC 5.4 Amps

It has small trimer to fine adjust output voltage

Dimensions: 7.5*5*2.5

Free, self pickup.



March 2024

Frequency counter, Datascan C1400

Sensitivity 50 mVpp

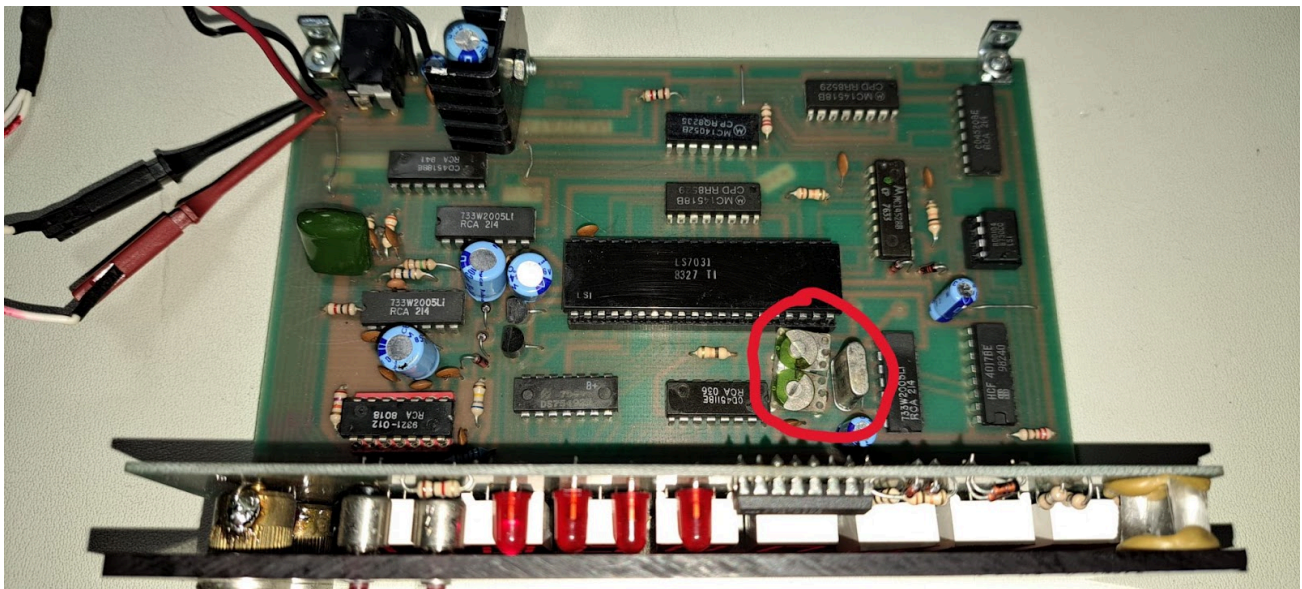
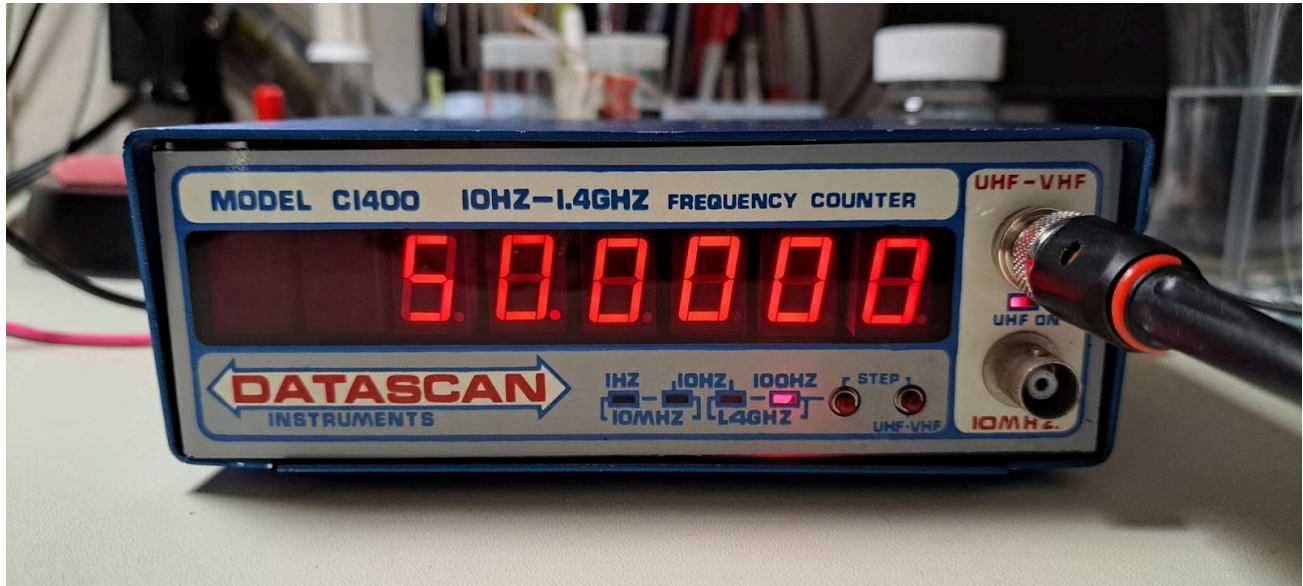
The input BNC connectors are a little bit rusty, need cleaning up.

Internal battery is dead, was removed, and needs replacement.

To power up the device, on the back side present a connector for external power supply.

I made calibration, but the frequency counter is equipped with simple crystal quartz, so accuracy and stability is not so good.

Free, self pickup.



March 2024

Signal generator, Kronh-Hite model 5400A

Fully analog.

5 MHz.

Ramp, Sine, Triangle, Square.

\$30



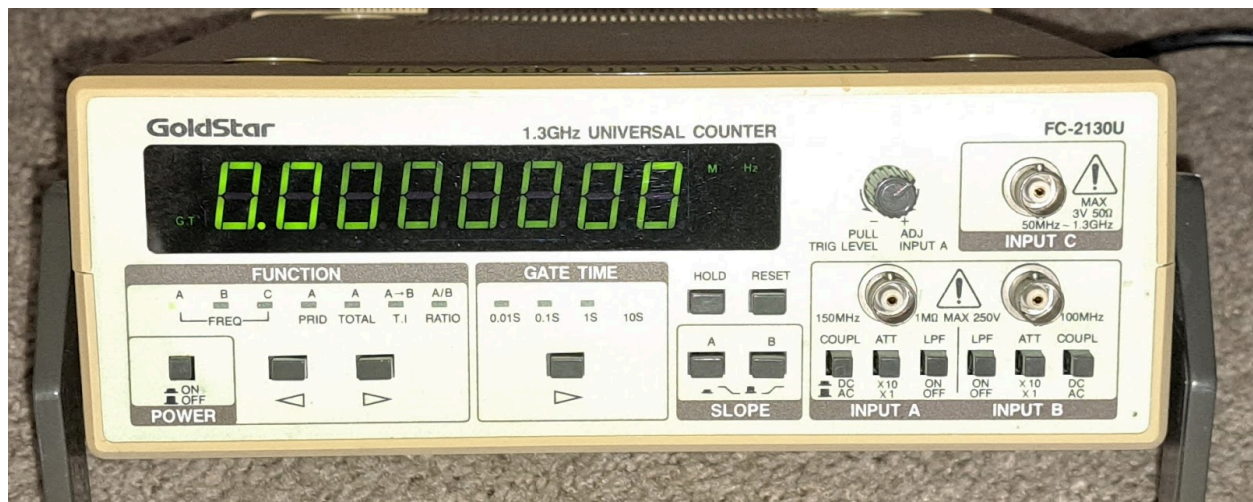
Frequency counter - Gold Star FC-2130U

1.3 GHz

3 input ports. Coupling, Attenuation, Filtering.

Mathematical function.

\$60



March 2024

Universal, programmable, multi chemistry battery charger:

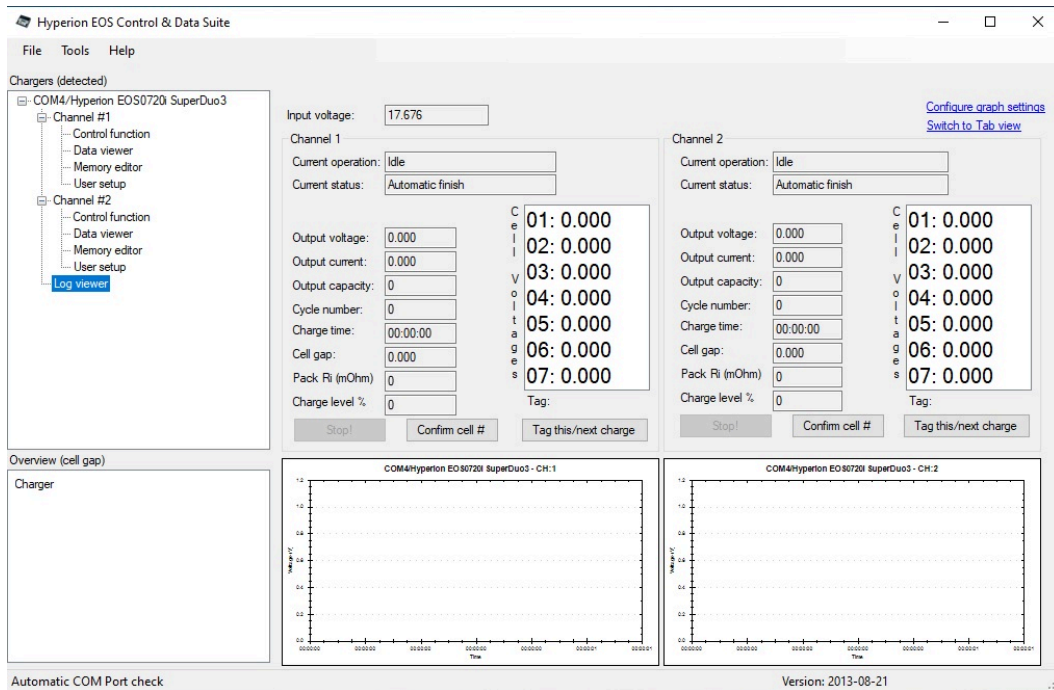
Hyperion EOS 720i Super DUO 3

+ Various cables set.

+ PC control and monitor software.

Power supply: eFuel 30A 540W

\$150



March 2024

Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club Web Page: <http://www.simisetters.org/index.htm>
 Simi Settlers' ARC Yahoo Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SimiSettlersARC>
 Mail: P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, CA 93062-2125

Simi Settlers' Leadership				
President	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595 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 Morse Code	John Percival	WI6O		johnspercival1@gmail.com
Advisor Mesh	Orv Beach	W6BI		orv.beach@gmail.com

March 2024

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club

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

Membership Application



Type of Application:

New Member ☐
Renewal ☐

Type of Membership:

Individual (\$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: _____

March 2024