

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 Manquen, 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.

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club
General Membership Meeting, March 13, 2004
Secretary, John Percival, W16O

- Call to Order President Dale Manquen, KO6VO, called the meeting to order at 7:36pm. Allen Pettebone, KA6WGO, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Five Board Members were present and the total attendance was 18, including two guests.
- Introductions: After Dale welcomed members to the meeting, a round of introductions was held with each member giving a brief word on their recent activities in Ham Radio or other interests. During the introductions, Steve Abarta, K6TLM, announced that the June newsletter will have to be his last as our Editor, he needs to resign from the post. Allen mentioned that the Visalia DX convention is coming in April, on the 23rd and 24th.
- Program: Vice President, Rick Galbraith, W6DQE, introduced our guest, Richard Rudman, W6TIA, who gave a talk on the subject of The Emergency Alert System and the state of Public Warnings at the national state and local levels. Richard related the history of public warning systems via broadcast radio from the 1951 CONELRAD system through the Emergency Broadcast System started in 1976 and up to the current Emergency Alert System that was set up in the 1990's. Richard made the point that in the existing system broadcasters are mandated only to have the EAS equipment, maintain and test it and to relay national level warnings. There is no nationwide strategy for emergency warnings. Richard described the recently formed (2001-2002) Partnership for Public Warning (PPW) and its efforts to develop a national warning strategy. A list of Internet sites with information was given at the end of Richard's presentation.
- Break: A fifteen-minute refreshment break was taken at 9:10 pm following the end of our program. .
- Announcements: Rick Galbraith said the guest speaker he has lined up for our April 8 general meeting can give us a presentation on antenna towers or a DXpedition. Rick asked those in attendance to indicate their choice between these two topics. By a show of hands vote, the members indicated a preference for the DXpedition program.
Dale mentioned the board has discussed the idea of our Club offering Amateur Radio licensing classes, and asked members for ideas and suggestions. Volunteers to help give the classes would be needed. Dale said we would keep working on this.
Rick gave out copies of registration forms to become a member of the Southern California (Weather) Spotter Network. He reminded us that if ten or more of our members signup, we could have a training course set up for our people.
- Member Drawing: The name drawn in the Membership Drawing was our President, Dale Manquen, KO6VO, who was present to win the \$20 prize. The prize fund will therefore start over at \$5 for the April meeting.
- Prize Drawings: The monthly prize drawing was held with the lucky winners selecting their prizes.
- Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 pm.

A Note from Your Treasurer Larry Pyle – AD6ST

I have updated the membership list and changed its format slightly. The format change divides the list into two parts, 1) the paid members and 2) the Associates. The Associates list includes unpaid members, those who are not

currently active in the club, and honorary members. We will make this revised list available to you shortly.

As a reminder, I also want to mention that the club fiscal year runs from July to July of the following year. We are looking forward to your ongoing support of the club..

ARRL Encouraging "Thoughtful, Considered" Comments on Proposed BPL Rules

(Reprint from ARRL's Web Site)

NEWINGTON, CT, Mar 24, 2004--The ARRL will comment by the deadline on the FCC's proposals to amend its Part 15 rules to adopt new requirements and measurement guidelines for so-called "Access BPL" systems that provide broadband access via electric utility power lines. Comments are due May 3. The deadline for reply comments is June 1. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, says the League recommends that members read the FCC's Broadband over Power Line Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in ET Dockets 03-104 and 04-37, then develop their own thoughtful, considered comments. The ARRL advocates filing comments that specifically address the FCC's BPL proposals, reflect positively on the amateur community and, if possible, offer alternative recommendations.



"It's important to remember four things," Sumner said. "First, this is not a proceeding to 'permit' or 'authorize' BPL. BPL is already permitted under the existing Part 15 rules. Second, the NPRM reaffirms the important principle that licensed services must be protected from harmful interference and are not required to protect BPL systems; this is good, but we can't take it for granted nor can we assume that the principle will be honored in practice."

"Third," Sumner went on, "the NPRM proposes additional, new constraints on BPL to protect licensed services. The FCC did not go far enough, but at least the proposals aim in the right direction."

"Finally, while we continue to believe firmly that BPL is a very bad idea, arguing that the FCC should 'ban BPL' will not get us anywhere." Sumner says that instead, amateurs must document beyond any doubt the levels of protection that must be given to over-the-air services, then leave it for others to decide whether BPL is feasible within those limits.

Simi Settlers' Officers

President	Dale Manquen KO6VO	dmanquen@msn.com
Vice President	Rick Galbraith, W6DQE	rick@keymaterial.com
Secretary	John Percival WI6O	percivaljohns@cs.com
Treasurer	Larry Pyle, AD6ST	lpyle@pacbell.net
Historian	Patrick Nelson KF6RMI	
	Committee Chairpersons	
P.I.O	Diane Belcher KF6FSZ	ac6oe@adelphia.net
Webmaster	Orv Beach W6BI	w6bi@arrl.net
Newsletter	Steve Abarta K6TLM	k6tlm@arrl.net

WEBMASTER WANTED!

Here's your chance for Glory and Fame! Well, at least the good feeling you will get from helping out your ham radio club. The Simi Settlers ARC is looking for a webmaster for their web page. Good knowledge of web tools is needed. Familiarity with Linux is helpful but not required. As a bonus, you can have a free email address and ftp site of your very own! Applicants apply at W6BI@arrl.net.

Future Speakers:

May 13th, 2004 Art Goddard, W6XD *"The Search For Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI)... Another First For Amateur Radio"* + **SPECIAL VIDEO PRESENTATION OF 2002 FIELD DAY**

June 10th, 2004 Gary Hirth, Store Manager "BATTERIES PLUS STORE 1,000 of Batteries for 1,000 of Items" located in Thousand Oaks 805-494-8484
www.batteriesplus.com <<http://www.batteriesplus.com>>



Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 2125
Simi Valley, CA 93063-2125

Next General Meeting

Thursday April 8, 2004

Talk-in Frequency: 147.93

PL 127.3

Seventh Day Adventist Church
1636 Sinaloa, Simi Valley