

Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

April 2005

Meeting Program

Mr. Terry Graves, K7FE, of the Ventura County Amateur Radio Club.

Terry will be discussing this years Field Day at the Ronald Reagan Library. VCARS has been kind enough to extend the Simi Settlers an invitation to join them for this year's ARRL Field Day. So please come and join us for this meeting as band plan sign ups will be taking place. Station, antenna installations, and camping issues will be covered.

TACOS IN THE PARK March 19th

Allen Pettebone, KA6WGO, hosted another great Taco Party in the park on Saturday, March 19th. In spite of less than sunny skies, the faithful gathered at the park for a great outing. The food was great, as always, and nobody went away hungry.

This time we were located inside the covered pavilion, which provided shelter from the rain that never materialized. This area had the added benefit of providing lots of picnic table space for the food and for sitting together for rag chewing. QRP John, WI6O, operated a QRP station, but that was the only radio operations.

We stayed around chatting for quite a while after we were too full to eat any more. The picnic benches facilitated the formation of small conversation groups on various topics.

Thanks also to Larry and Rick for coordinating the food and drinks.

A Little Bit of History

On April 8, 2005, yours truly, Spencer, N6IWY had the opportunity to participate with the Conejo and VCARS radio clubs in providing an audio feed from the International Space Station (ISS) to the entire student body of the Flory School, in Moorpark. The event took place at 1100 hours in the Multi-purpose room of the school.

There were 12 student participants who all had questions to ask Astronaut Leroy Chiao, KB5BWR who was aboard the orbiting ISS.

The ISS was at an altitude of 200 miles above the earth traveling at a speed of 17,500 miles per hour. This meant that time was at a premium. The whole question and answer period lasted a little over 12 minutes.

Each student was able to ask their question and receive an answer from Astronaut Chiao before the signal was lost.

On the technical side, the Amateur Radio International Space Station (ARISS) is a consortium of volunteers from 9 nations that develop and operate the amateur radio station on the ISS. The stateside members of ARISS are the American Radio Relay League, the Radio Amateur Satellite

Corporation and NASA. The amateur radio ground station that established contact with the ISS is NN1SS, located at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland.

It was a very exciting time for all.

73

Spencer, N6IWY

And for all of you who are 'space cadets' like me, mark May 14 and 15 as the annual JPL Open House. Dale M.

Equipment Auction for April Meeting

We postponed the auction of the Hustler antenna because the newsletter was late, and we wanted everyone to have a fair chance at purchasing this antenna. Since the March meeting is our joint meeting with CVARC, we have rescheduled the antenna auction for our April meeting.

Quite a while ago, Todd Andrews, KJ6H, our former Newsletter Editor, donated a 5-band **Hustler 5-BVT** with 10, 15, 20 meter traps and RM75 75m resonator at top. See http://www.new-tronics.com/main/html/base_hf_5_band.html for details. Come to the meeting and place your bid on this multi-band antenna.

Last Month's Program

Wow, what a great program last month during our visit to CVARC! Adrian Popa spoke on "THE HISTORY AND STATE-OF-THE ART FOR COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITES". This was a very interesting story from someone who was on the inside, doing the work.

We really appreciate the hospitality of CVARC, and we hope to soon have a worthy program for a reciprocal invitation for CVARC to join us.

Donations to the Club

With the passing of Jay Baker WA6BEB, the family has been kind enough to donate much of his radio gear to the Simi Settlers for auction at our club meetings, with all the proceeds going for club activities. We will start out in April's meeting with a 3KW MFJ antenna tuner.

Our thanks go out to Jay's wife Millie and family for this most generous offer.

The Crystal Ball Sez

Upcoming guest speakers:

From Mr. Frank Valdez, KI6OQ, guest speaker for May 12, 2005:

The program will be about how the Gas Company stores gas in underground formations (depleted oil fields). I will cover some of the uses of wireless communications (Spread Spectrum) 902-928 MHz in gas measurement and plant automation.

Crisis Developing – We Need a NEW Refreshment Coordinator!!!!

Patrick Nelson has been providing our refreshments for quite a while, and he has politely asked for someone to step forward to take over this responsibility. Now Pat is experiencing some knee problems that will force him to the sidelines. Ed Richards, K6UUZ, has volunteered to help out in the short term, but **we need a volunteer to take over the refreshments permanently.** Someone PLEASE step forward and volunteer!

Pat, we thank you for your efforts, and we hope that everything heals up quickly. (Pat will continue as Historian.)

Equipment donation for ARES/RACES use

Ed Richards has donated two 2-meter coaxial antennas to our club. We can combine these antennas with some of the 2-meter gear recently donated by Harry Hall KJ6AG, a blind ham who lives in Tarzana, to make up some portable emergency stations. Anybody interested in lashing the various components together into portable packages?

Contact Dale Manquen for more details on the donated items.

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club **General Membership Meeting, February**

No minutes for the February meeting since 1) we were visiting CVARC, and 2) our secretary wasn't in attendance.

A Special Thank You

Have you noticed the great job Doug Dubrall, WA6RJN, is doing with the website? We certainly appreciate this vital communications link. Three cheers for Doug....

Information from Our Treasurer

Larry Pyle AD6ST

The current club roster has been distributed by e-mail to the members. Members should make certain that their information is correct

Student Memberships

In response to Allen Pettebone's, KA6WGO, suggestion that we offer a discounted membership to students to attract younger members to our club, the Executive Committee has approved a trial program to test the concept. The current proposal is to offer full-time students with appropriate school ID cards a \$5 membership while they remain enrolled full time.

RACES NET ON TUESDAY NIGHTS

Everyone is invited to check in to the RACES NET every Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m. on the Simi Valley Repeater (147.93 – PL 127.3). The local 7:00 net is followed by the county-wide RACES NET at 7:30 on the SMRA Repeater (146.880 – PL 127.3)

The January newsletter for Ventura County RACES is available at <http://home1.gte.net/res19999/index.htm> .

SSARC Stockroom – More goodies

Don't forget that the Club has a supply of components in our SSARC 'Stockroom'. Most of these items were acquired through Orv Beach (W6BI) when MICOM shut down their engineering lab. All items are free to club members (in reasonable quantities.) So far, Spence and Michael Selden are the only members to take advantage of this resource. Parts categories include cables; fans; EMC filters, cores, inductors and shielding; solid and stranded wire and some semiconductors. A complete inventory list is posted on our Club Website. Call Dale Manquen at 529-2496 for access to these parts.

In addition, Ed Richards, K6UUZ, has offered to share some of his stash of parts with us:

PARTS LIST

My parts are segregated according to category as listed below. Most have quantities from 10 to 50 items. I can do a search from a phone call for anything but tubes. My tubes are separated according to base type. i.e. 7-pin peanut, 9-pin peanut, Octal, Locktal, Compactron, transmitting and misc. The requester will need to come to my place and search the appropriate box(s) himself. They are mostly unboxed and in bulk. My tube-testers are available for anyone who needs one. My phone number is (805) 577-5958. My address is Friendly Village Mobile Home Park, 195 Tierra Rejada Rd space 80, Simi Valley.

1. 200 assorted tubes. mostly receiving types. Nothing bigger than 1625 (12 volt 807).
2. Assorted tube shields.
3. Misc. insulators.
4. Misc switches.
5. 200 push-on knobs from BC home and car receivers.
6. Some set-screw knobs for communications equipment.
7. Assorted electrolytic capacitors, mostly 150 volt, some higher, some lower.
8. Misc connectors. Anything that connects electrical circuits together.
9. Misc dial lamps and sockets.
10. Misc solid state devices.
11. Misc relays.
12. Misc potentiometers
13. Misc crystals, mostly CB.
14. Misc power resistors
15. Misc vibrators.
16. Misc hardware including 4-40 and 5-40 SS threaded rods and 5-40 nuts.

Thank you, Ed, for your willingness to help! (By the way, those Vibrators in Item 15 are for power supplies!!!)

Tidbits

Announcing! the dates for the 2005 Dayton Hamvention®

<http://www.hamvention.org/>

Celebrating our 54th show, **May 20,21, & 22, 2005**, Dayton Hamvention® is the world's largest amateur radio gathering and trade show.

You are invited to attend:

- our **Forums** where you can meet and hear authorities on all facets of amateur radio -
Note: All Forums time slots are BOOKED in advance. We still have a few additional space or times available. Plenty of space for guests to attend. Seating is provided on a first come first served basis so plan to arrive early.
- **500 inside exhibit spaces** where the exhibitors are showing their latest equipment and are available to answer questions about their products
- our **HUGE 2500+ space Flea Market** area! The largest of its kind!
- Help **DARA** celebrate our 75th year! See many old members as well as our newest members.

Come meet your friends, make new ones and remember: "If you can't find it at Dayton, you'll never find it!"

Experience amateur radio tradition
Dayton Hamvention®!
 at the [Hara Arena](#)
1001 Shiloh Springs Road
Trotwood, Ohio

Nets of Interest

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.

1.925 MHz AM Tuesday, Thursday nights at 8 pm

3.908 MHz LSB Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday nights at 8 pm

7.039 MHz CW-QRP Saturday mornings at 9 am

14.265 MHz USB every night 9 pm (trying to contact WK7ED Ed Meyer on his cross country road trip)

144.240 MHz USB Sunday, Wednesday nights at 8 pm

222.100 MHz USB Monday night at 8 pm

449.360 (-) pl 167.9 every night at 8 pm

1296.100 MHz USB Friday night at 8 pm

Weather Spotter

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' Officers

President	Dale Manquen KO6VO	(805) 529-2496	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		
Membership	Richard Johnson		snurpus@aol.com
P.I.O	Vacant		
Webmaster	Doug Dubrall WA6RJN		wa6rjn@arrl.net
Newsletter	Vacant		

Monthly Meetings

Our normal meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. every second Thursday of the month except December at the Seventh Day Adventist Church at 1636 Sinaloa Road between L.A. Avenue and Royal.

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

Next General Meeting

Thursday March 10th, 2005

7:30 p.m. at CVARC

Elks Lodge in Thousand Oaks!!!!

Talk-in Frequency: 147.93MHz

- Offset PL 127.3Hz