

Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

February 2007

Amateur Television (ATV) Down-Converters February 8, 2007

Amateur radio operator, Bob Miller, W6KGE will be our speaker for our February 8th, Simi Settlers ARC meeting.

He will present a review of how Amateur Television Down-converters work, and if time permits, an informal introduction into how the circuit boards can be produced by Amateurs. Building projects with surface mounted components will also be discussed.

Bob began building electronic projects as a hobby in the late 50's. He enjoys designing and fabricating projects with printed circuit boards. Bob uses methods that allow the boards to be made "at home".

Bob has recently completed several 900 MHz. Down-converters for local amateur television enthusiasts. The Down-converters use surface mounted components on a printed circuit board.

Last Month – Ham Shacks of the 1930's

A big "Thank You" to Steve Abarta, K6TLM, for a very interesting presentation on the equipment used by hams in the 1930's. Steve was able to blow up some photos and QSL cards with amazing resolution so that we could see details of the rigs and setups.

March Meeting

Vice President Spencer Smith, N6IWY, is working on programs with Jon Becker describing the new automated control system that allows Jon to control many facilities on the Valley College campus remotely, and with CVARC members to learn about their project to build Tiny Tracker APRS controllers. More on these as they firm up.

The Pres Sez

We can always learn from others. I would like to suggest that we might be able to learn a few things about RACES stations from the Conejo Valley ARC. CVARC has equipped the East Valley Sheriff Station with a fairly complete array of radios and antennas. Their on-site crew of several people works multiple bands and modes for the Tuesday night RACES net check-in.

If you would like to visit with them on a Tuesday, and maybe participate as an operator, contact Jerry B. Goldman, KC6JSO, at kc6iso@yahoo.com or (805) 241-9187.

From the Secretary

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club

General Membership Meeting, January 11, 2006

Call to Order: President Dale Manquen, KO6VO, called the meeting to order at 7:40pm. Dale welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the New Year, held at the Simi Valley Senior Center, and then led our recitation of The Pledge of Allegiance. Four Board Members were present. The total attendance was 12, including 1 guest.

Introductions: After Dale welcomed members to the meeting, a round of introductions was held with members and visitors speaking briefly about their recent activities and special interests in ham radio. Guest, Glen Kirkpatrick, W9LS, an engineer with Collins Radio, was welcomed. Frank Valdez, KI6OQ, Emergency Coordinator for Simi Valley, mentioned some ARES/RACES events that will be coming up during 2007. Advance information will be given on the Tuesday evening RACES nets.

Program: Our program speaker as this meeting was Steve Abarta, K6TLM, who served as President for the period 2001-2002. Steve's topic was "Ham Shacks of the 1930's" based on photos collected by his father, Les Abarta, who was W6BIF, licensed in 1929. Steve explained that it was common in the 1930's for hams to send a picture of their station along with a QSL card. The old photos, scanned for projection, provided fascinating glimpses into the equipment and station layouts from that era. Using the computer video zoom, great details could be seen in the pictures, including QSL cards on the walls and even ceilings of the radio shacks. Most of the pictures were from hams in Japan, Europe, and South America. Steve also had pictures of W6BIF's stations in 1932 and '34 and of his father's contributions to emergency communications following the 1933 Long Beach earthquake. At the end of the program, Vice President, Spencer Smith, N6IWY, presented Steve with a certificate of appreciation from the Club.

Member Drawing: Following a break at 9:00pm, the monthly progressive membership prize drawing was held. The name drawn was Al Febraro, W6AAX, who was not present to win. Therefore, the prize fund will increase to \$10 for our next meeting on February 8th.

Prize Drawings: Prizes were awarded to the lucky winners.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

Submitted by: Secretary, John Percival, WI6O

From Our Treasurer

Gee, we don't have a Treasurer!! We need a volunteer to assume this position until the next election.

ATV NEWS by Bryon Foster

The "ATV Open House/Swap Meet" in January was a great success and many thanks to those of you that attended.

Now that we are through the holidays and well into a new year, things are taking off and advancements are being made.

Oat Mt. and the Network:

The Oat Mt. ATV repeater will be moved soon to the new building with only a minor interruption of service. The controller is currently being serviced and an additional port installed for the 2.4 GHz FM receiver. The Oat repeater is currently "Slaved" to Santiago Peak's repeater while the controller is absent. And all systems are functioning throughout the ATN network.

Getting ready to play with Microwave:

We are waiting for the installation of the 2.4 GHz FM receiver. W6DQE (Rick) has his equipment ready to work Oat as soon as it is installed. W6KGE also has equipment he has been itching to put the spurs to.

Frequencies for Oat Mt.:

In the near future an additional output will be added to Oat Mt.. It will be a 3 GHz FM output. This will make Oat Mt. with two inputs: 434 MHz (VSB) and 2.4 GHz (FM). And two outputs: 900 MHz (VSB) and 3 GHz (FM). An old TVRO satellite receiver can be modified to receive the 3 GHz FM output, so don't through any away. As well as LNB's LNA's and downconverters.

New ATVers in the area:

WA6FGK should be on the air any day with his ATV station. And K6UUZ is building his ATV equipment. Santa Clarita Valley just picked up 3 new ATVers since the last newsletter.

More info ?

If you are interested in ATV or would like to know more about the "Amateur Television Network" (ATN) contact me or check out this web site. <http://atn-tv.org>
n6ifu@arrl.net

Want a field test?

I now have a mobile ATV station. If you are interested in ATV, I would be happy to come to your QTH and see what kind of signal I can receive. And maybe even shoot a picture from your front yard. Don't be put off by old stories about trees and building blocking you from the repeater. The only way to know for sure is see what is there.

N6IFU

Bryon Foster

n6ifu@arrrl.net

AD6SV Repeater News

From Repeater Trustee Orv Beach,

"Roger (Armstrong WD6EVT) had committed to getting some Unistrut that we were going to mount on the sides of the repeater cabinet so we could remount the permanent antennas. I'll start bugging him about it again. (Feel free to do likewise)."

Rather than bugging Roger, if you would like to assist Roger with this project, please contact him directly at 584-6052 or armsrus@earthlink.net .

CVARC February Program

Visit the CVARC website <http://www.cvarc.org/> for details.

ARES/RACES News

The latest edition of the Ventura County ARES/RACES Newsletter is available at <http://home1.gte.net/res19999/> .

Please participate in the ARES/RACES net Tuesday nights beginning at 7:10 on our local repeater, and then continuing at 7:30 on the county repeater at 146.880.

Visit http://www.emcomm.org/gear_list.htm for a comprehensive list of supplies for your emergency kit.

For Sale

For sale

Yaesu YO-100 Monitor scope & Instruction Manual \$100.00



Ebay just sold one for \$185.00

Signalink SL-1+ interface for all the sound card digital Modes
With cable for Yaesu 8pin round mic. \$30.00

John Beckers w6jon
805)527-3989

From Rick Tate:

Jeff Maslin, KQ6HD, a Moorpark resident, has asked me to advertise the fact that he has some radio equipment he wishes to sell. The items are:

1. Kenwood TM-D700, including various accessories, asking \$600.

2. Icom IC-706MkIIIG with antenna tuner, mobile antenna, asking \$550.

If you are interested in purchasing or learning more about these items Jeff asks that you call him at 805-529-8040.

73, Rick

SSARC Stockroom

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.) 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.

Tidbits

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

Weatherspotters

You can also go to <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/lox/spotter/html/> for online training with 31 slides in a packaged slideshow. The last slide has information on how to file an online application.

Simi Settlers' Officers			
President	Dale Manquen KO6VO	(805) 529-2496	dmanquen@msn.com
Vice President	Spencer Smith N6IWY		N6IWY@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	John Percival WI6O		percivaljohns@cs.com
Treasurer	Open		
Historian	Patrick Nelson KF6RMI		
		Committee Chairpersons	
Webmaster	Doug Dubrall WA6RJN		wa6rjn@arrl.net
Membership	John Mendez AE6YA		
PIO	Al Febraro		
Newsletter	Vacant (Dale Manquen acting Editor)		

Monthly Meetings

Our normal meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. every second Thursday of the month except December at the Simi Senior Center at 3900 Avenida Simi one block north of Alamo and a half block west of Tapo Canyon (next to the Simi Library). Park and enter from the West parking lot, not the North lot.
Talk-in Frequency: 147.93MHz -Offset PL 127.3Hz

Next General Meeting

ATV Down-Converters

Thursday February 8, 2007

7:30 p.m.

Talk-in Frequency: 147.93MHz

- Offset PL 127.3Hz