

Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

January 2009

Jon Clark N6NQ
Software Defined Radio
January 8, 2009 7:00pm

Jon was trained on and repaired LF, HF, VHF and UHF transmitters and receivers by and for the USAF. He studied electrical engineering in college and designed automated PCB test systems in Silicon Valley in the 70s. In 1980, Jon moved into software engineering, designing user interfaces for microprocessor test and debug systems. Later, he worked for Sybase and Microsoft, where he contributed to the design of the Tablet PC.

After almost thirty years of messing about with computers, Jon finally came back to RF when he got his first ham license in 2002. His favorite ham activity is DX but he has little time to pursue it. He enjoys building antennas and has been designing and building various radio and computer projects since his first radios in the 50s.

Jon has been studying and building Software Defined Radios for six months.

Model Airplanes

Thanks to Bob Fricke, K6OUA for this presentation on Model Airplanes.
The Simi Valley Flyers website is: <http://www.simifyers.com/>

Upcoming event: January 8-11, 2009 Academy of Model Aeronautics EXPO

Ontario Convention Center, Ontario CA

<http://www.modelaircraft.org/amaexpo.aspx>

Advance tickets are available through December 31st, 2008.

See the link at <http://www.modelaircraft.org/>

Kids and teens 18 yrs old and under in Boy Scouts, Civil Air Patrol, Jr. ROTC, Navy Sea Cadets or related organizations and in uniform are admitted free. TICKETS ORDERED AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2008 WILL NEED TO BE PICKED UP AT THE SHOW OFFICE, ROOM 104A.

Membership

REMINDER: 2008-2009 membership dues were due in July. The existing application form can be used for renewals, just by filling in the name/call sign and noting any changes. Or see our treasurer and give him a check or cash.

We need 51% of the voting (paid) members as ARRL members to maintain our association with the ARRL. ARRL members should make certain that their membership is correctly noted on the membership listing.

We receive many benefits as Amateur Radio Operators by being affiliated. See <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/benefits.html>

Static and Sparks

Greetings Simi Settlers and other friends.

I'd like to thank all of you who participated in the club raffle. The people who won prizes were:

ARRL Repeater Directory -- Bill Everett, KI6KSV
ARRL 2009 Handbook -- Ed Redington, NC4ER
Wood Ranch \$50 Gift Card -- Ed Lucas, K6EJL
Yaesu VX-6R -- John Percival, WI6O

Congratulations to the prize winners and all raffle entries. You are all winners in my book.

Flu and Pandemics

It's that time of year. People are getting colds and flu. The risk of pandemic flu is in the news. Many of us had ancestors who suffered during the 1918 pandemic.

The City of Simi Valley Office of Emergency Services has a page that contains links to information: <http://www.simivalley.org/index.aspx?page=272>

Of particular note: The Ventura Public Health Department's presentation: <http://www.simivalley.org/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=775>

I know that the influenza vaccine can help prevent or reduce influenza symptoms. Your doctor may be able to provide you and your family members with the vaccine, or local pharmacies, e.g. CVS may be able to.

Solar Cycle 24

I hope it is here. So far, not much is happening. Does a watched Sun boil?

Here's an excellent site with information about HF Propagation and Space Weather <http://prop.hfradio.org/>

Here's a site with some interesting applets for calculating MUF, etc <http://www.stroobandt.com/propagation/frequency.html#calculator>

and this site is also interesting - <http://www.solarcycle24.com/>

A general presentation on Solar Cycles is on Wikipedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solar_cycle

And further discussion about cycles and the organization of the information about solar cycles within Wikipedia is happening in http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Talk:Solar_cycle

Field Day

The **N6R team** of the Simi Settlers ARC, Ventura County Amateur Radio Society, and the Ventura County Amateur Radio Club scored 3,796 in category 12A. We bested the other 12A entry N0EV who came in with 1,476.

Please join our new internet groups – a Yahoo group and Meetup group.

73 de Peter Grace AI6PG pcg@acm.org
President, Simi Valley Settlers ARC

From the Secretary

Our Club Secretary kindly submitted these Minutes from our November General Meeting

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club **General Membership Meeting, November 13, 2008**

Call to Order: President Peter Grace, AI6PG, called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm. Peter welcomed everyone to the meeting held at the Simi Valley Senior Center. Our recitation of The Pledge of Allegiance was led by John Percival, WI6O. Three Board Members were present. The total attendance was 17, with 3 guests.

Introductions: A brief round of introductions was held. The club welcomed guests: Bob Fricke, K6OUA, who serves as Treasurer of the Simi Valley Flyers, Brian Fawcett, KG6WHO, and Jim Parker.

Announcements: A Club Breakfast has not been scheduled for this month. Peter mentioned our Holiday Party is set for Saturday, December 6th, at the home of Mike Tweedy, KV6I. The party will start at 6pm. Peter described the list of prizes for our party raffle drawing. Tickets are available at this meeting.

The results of Field Day are in. Our group, N6R, with VCARS and VCARC, was second place in our category "12A". (Peter added that there were only two 12A entries).

Program: Our program speaker for this meeting was Bob Fricke, K6OUA, on the subject of radio controlled model airplanes. Bob is Treasurer of the Simi Valley Flyers Radio Control Model Airplane Club. Originally from New York, Bob said he was exposed to Ham Radio in 1954, and became a novice. Moving to California in 1955, he upgraded to General with his present callsign. He had previously become active with model airplanes using control-lines.

Bob described the Simi Valley Flyers Club (95 members), that meets on the 4th Fridays at the Simi Valley Library. The Club has a flying field at Oak Park where they hold many activities. It has a 450ft by 50ft runway. Bob had three model planes to show with both gas and electric motor engine types. He also demonstrated how the radio control units operate the control surfaces of the models. The radio control units have used 6Meter, 72 MHz, and now 2.4 GHz frequencies. Bob showed aerial photos taken by a camera that can be mounted in model planes.

Bob is an instructor in his club and teaches people how to fly model planes. He demonstrated a set of special dual-control boxes that allow the instructor to take over control from the student as needed. Bob welcomed our members to visit their flying field. The best times are mornings on weekdays and Saturdays.

Member Drawing: The progressive membership prize drawing was not held this month. The prize fund will remain at \$5 for our January 8, 2009 meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

Submitted by: Secretary, John Percival, WI6O

ATV NEWS

If you would like to subscribe to the ATV Newsletter send me an e-mail and I will add you to my mailing list.

bryonfoster@hotmail.com

If you are currently receiving the newsletter and would like it stopped, please send me an e-mail as well.

My Mailing List is not shared or sold.

The "ATV Newsletter" is not part of the ATN network.

**See you on ATV, N6IFU Bryon Foster
Editor and Publisher of the "ATV Newsletter"**

ACS ARES/RACES News

Information about Ventura County ACS ARES/RACES is available at <http://www.vcacs.org>

Please participate in the ARES/RACES net Tuesday nights beginning at 7:10 on our local repeater 147.930 – pl 127.3, 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.

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.

Events

Tuesday 7:10pm , Every Tuesday ACS Net (ARES/RACES) beginning at 7:10pm on our local repeater 147.930 – pl 127.3, and then continuing at 7:30pm on the county repeater at 146.880. Every Tuesday.

Kids Day – Sunday January 4th 1800 UTC-2400UTC
<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kd-rules.html>

Wednesday January 7th 2009 7:30pm VCARS General Meeting
The Cameron Center 288 Greenmeadow Dr. Newbury Park, CA 91320
<http://www.vcars.org> – and join http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/VCARS_discussion/
to stay on top of developments.

Thursday January 8th 2009 7:00pm Simi Settlers General Meeting
Simi Valley Senior Center

- note start time – we must be out by 2055 local

Friday January 9th 2009 7:30pm VCARC / K6MEP club meeting
The American Red Cross of Ventura County Chapter House
2355 Portola Road , Ventura CA.

Wednesday January 21st 2009 7pm Santa Clarita Club General Meeting
Santa Clarita City Hall <http://www.w6jw.org/>

Thursday January 15th, 2009 7:30pm CVARC General Meeting
East County Sheriff's Station (ECSS) 2101 East Olsen Road Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
<http://www.cvarc.org/>

Saturday January 31st 2009 7am W6TRW Swapmeet and Exam Session (10am)
Redondo Beach, CA http://w6trw.com/swapmeet/w6trw_arc_swapmeet.htm

Thursday January 22nd 2009 7:30pm SVARC Board Meeting
W9YPM's residence

Sunday January 11th, 2:00PM Ham Radio License **exam** session at
AGOURA HILLS/CALABASAS COMMUNITY CENTER
27040 MALIBU HILLS RD
AGOURA HILLS, CA 91301
No Walk-ins Allowed: Contact - [_NORMAN M GOODKIN_](mailto:_NORMAN_M_GOODKIN_) (818)222-7893 **Email:** K6YXH@ARRL.NET

Sunday February 8th, 8:30am Ham Radio License **exam** session at
VENTURA CTY SHERIFF'S E COUNTY STATION
2101 E OLSEN RD BETW 23 HWY & REAGAN LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM THOUSAND OAKS, CA
91360 Walk-ins-Allowed. **Contact:** JEFFREY M REINHARDT (818)706-3853

ARRL Field Day 2009, June 27-28, 2009

Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) October 17-18, 2009
Contact Peter Grace pcg@acm.org for more info.

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.

Times are local (Pacific Time) unless otherwise stated.

147.930 – pl127.3 Tuesday ACS Net (ARES/RACES) beginning at 7:10pm and then 7:30pm on the county repeater at 146.880. Every Tuesday.

1.925 MHz AM Tuesday, Thursday nights at 8 pm

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

7.040+/- MHz CW-QRP Saturday mornings at 9 am

14.265 MHz USB every night 9 pm (try to contact WK7ED Ed Meyer in New Mexico)

144.240 MHz USB Sunday, Wednesday nights at 8 pm

NTS Net

147.000 Mhz + 131.8 FM Daily 9 pm **(temporarily on 145.180 Mhz - 131.8)**

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

SkyWarn - 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	Peter Grace AI6PG	(805) 223-0729 cell	pcg@acm.org
Vice President	open		
Secretary	John Percival WI6O		percivaljohns@cs.com
Treasurer	Norbert Rehaut, W9YPM		nrehaut@dslextreme.com

Committee Chairpersons

Webmaster	Doug Dubrall WA6RJN		wa6rjn@arrl.net
Repeater	Spencer Smith N6IWY	(805) 583-1127	N6IWY@SBCGLOBAL.NET
ex-President	Dale Manquen KO6VO		dmanquen@email.msn.com
Membership	open		
PIO	open		
Newsletter	open	It's not hard. I use Open Office which is free.	
Field Day	open	It was great. How about 2009?	
Youth Coordinator	open		
Logistics	open		

Yahoo Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SimiSettlersARC/>

Meetup Group: <http://www.meetup.com/SimiSettlersARC/>

Monthly Meetings

Our normal meetings begin at **19:00 (7:00 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

The January 2009 meeting will be at the Simi Valley Senior Center 3900 Avenida Simi. Note meeting start time is now 7pm

Next General Meeting
Software Defined Radio
– Simi Valley Senior Center
Thursday January 8th, 2009
7:00 p.m.

Talk-in Frequency: 147.93 MHz
- Offset PL 127.3Hz

3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley

Simi Settlers ARC Yahoo Group <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SimiSettlersARC/>

Simi Settlers ARC Meetup Group <http://www.meetup.com/SimiSettlersARC>

The Yahoo group is for discussion and non-calendar specific information discussion. The Meetup group is used to schedule and distribute information about meetings and events. Please join both to help our club be visible to those that might be interested in learning more about our club and amateur radio.