

Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

JULY 2006

**Meeting Program
July 13, 2006**

NEW MEETING PLACE!!!!

We are moving!!! Our new meeting place is at the Simi Senior Center at 3900 Avenida Simi, between the Simi Library and Lemon Park. Go north on Tapo Canyon one block past Alamo, turn left on Avenida Simi, pass the Library then turn into the west parking lot entrance at the Senior Center. Park and enter through the WEST parking lot (not the North lot.)

We have a beautiful new room with built-in video monitor, powered projection screen and adjoining kitchen facilities. And it is air conditioned (hurrah!!)

See you at 7:30 on July 13.

July Topics – WINLINK

Mr. Rick Tate, KQ6NO is a retired electronics engineer who specialized in digital applications in telephony and development of line interface circuits for a variety of types of telephone subscriber loops, with some digital signal processing thrown in late in the career. Rick retired two years ago as Vice President of Engineering for T-Metrics, Inc., which he co-founded in the late 1980's.

Besides ham radio he enjoys developing microcontroller-based applications and writing real-time firmware in C and assembly language.

Rick first became a Ham while in middle school but drifted away from the hobby while in college. He reentered the hobby in 1995 and now holds an Extra Class license, call sign KQ6NO. Also, he's active in disaster communications and is the ARES/RACES Emergency Coordinator for Area 8, Moorpark. Other ham radio interests have been antenna construction and experimentation, digital modes, QRP kit assembly, VHF/UHF weak signal operation and small amounts of HF operating, mostly QRP CW. He currently a member of the Ventura County Amateur Radio Society (VCARS) and the Conejo Valley ARC.

Elections Results

The incumbent slate of officers was re-elected for another term. In addition, Randy Strader was elected as Public Information Officer and Membership Chairman.

ATV Open House a Big Success

The Open House on June 17th had a great turnout and two Hams are now putting together stations. **W6KGE** Bob Miller is working out details to build a number of 900 MHz downconverters. **K6UUZ** Ed Richards has a receiver and antenna and should be watching the Oat Mt. repeater by August.

I want to thank everyone who attended, I had a great time and looking forward to doing it again.

If you missed the open house and would like to find out more information about ATV, please contact me and we can set a time for a demo.

Field Day 2006:

N6IWY and I set up an ATV demo at the "Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum," for Field Day. We were able to receive P5 pictures from Oat Mt. (P5 being perfect reception.) Of all the other ATV demo's set-up on Field Day, the signal coming from the library was the best of Southern California. Thanks to good planning and Spencer's home brew antennas. They sure work well.

Field Day Report

Rick Galbraith, **W6DQE**, our Field Day Chairman, did a great job of coordinating everything. Thank you, Rick.

The Reagan Library was once again a great site for Field Day. Rick's trailer was in the same location as last year, while Bryon and Spencer set up next to the entrance to the Library's courtyard.

The Saturday night dinner was terrific. Not only was the food good, but we also got a good chance to sit down with the VCARS folks and socialize. We want to thank VCARS for their fine hospitality again this year. Next year's planning is already underway, and of Special Events call sign of **N6R** is already approved.

Check the VCARS website for photos of Field Day.

The Pres Sez

Thank you for your continued support by re-electing me for another year as President. I think the coming year is going to be very exciting for our Club.

Our new meeting site is more centrally located, and certainly will be more comfortable during the hot summer and cold and wet winter. I think this will attract and hold new members and add to the credibility of the Club.

Randy Strader is off and running as PIO and Membership Chairman. I hope that regular notices in the newspapers will enhance community awareness. We will be conducting a membership drive to get some of the old members back, find hams who have never belonged, and interest new people in the hobby.

August 13th is the Santa Barbara Hamfest. Let's get a carpool going so that we can be properly represented there.

September bring the Simi Valley Days parade. This year's theme is "Let the Games Begin", which doesn't bring any great ideas rushing to my head. If you have any suggestions, please speak up.

Our Thanks to the Seventh Day Adventist Church

As we move to our new meeting place, we must remember the support offered by the SDA Church over the many years that we met there. We certainly appreciate their support, and we especially want to recognize the efforts of Mr. William Hebard, N6MBV, who made our tenure at the church possible.

CVARC June Program

Now that CVARC has changed its meeting to the third Thursday of the month at the West Valley Sheriff's Station on Madera/Olsen road, our members can attend their meetings without any conflict.

Visit the CVARC website to find the topic for July.

July Raffle Prizes

YAESU MAP

TEKONSHA 12 VOLT 5AH BATTERY

PL259s

WEATHERPROOFING FOR COAX CABLE AND CONNECTORS

AND the perpetual membership drawing prize of \$20!

Last Month – ARRL

Our speaker for June was Richard "Dick" Norton, N6AA who is the Southwest Division Director of the ARRL. He spoke on recent Board Policies and happenings within the ARRL. He also provided helpful hints on how to get the most out of our ARRL memberships.

From Our Treasurer

Treasurer Ed Richards, K6UUZ, is eager to collect dues for the '06-'07 fiscal year that starts July 1. Please forward your dues to Ed, and please include an updated membership form from our website if any of your information has changed.

Simi Valley Repeater Update

Have you noticed improved performance from the repeater? The backup receiver has been installed at the repeater site. Thanks, Orv!

An inspection of the wooden pole supporting our repeater antennas has confirmed that the base is rotting out. We need a new pole and the resources to install it. If you have any ideas or contacts that might be able to assist us, please speak up! We do have permission from the property owner to enter the site to make the exchange.

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

By Ed Richards, K6UUZ (805) 577-5958:

Hustler 75 meter mobile antenna. Works good.

\$25.00

RM-75 resonator, MO-3 mast, R/S 21-961 mount, instructions included.

No tax, no shipping cost.

by Spencer, N6IWY (805) 583-1127 or email n6iwy@sbcglobal.net

SWAN Triband Beam Antenna, TB-4HA. This is a 4-element beam antenna for 10, 15 and 20 Meters. It is brand new (never been installed) and is complete with all hardware and mounting plates.

Specs.

Boom Length	24' 1 1/2"
Longest Element	28' 10"
Turning Radius	18' 6"
Max. wind rating	100 MPH
Wind Surface area	6 sq. ft.

Power rating	2000 Watts P.E.P.
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Price: \$125

Minutes for the May 11th Meeting

Call to Order: President Dale Manquen, KO6VO, called the meeting to order at 7:37pm. This meeting was held in the Pastor's Study at the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. No flag was available so no Pledge of Allegiance. Five Board Members were present. The total attendance was 20, including our guest speaker and two visitors.

Introductions: After Dale welcomed members to the meeting, a round of introductions was held with members giving a brief word on their recent activities, trips, and radio operating. The Club welcomed returning member Bob Miller, W6KGE. Also welcomed were visitors Terry Graves, K7FE and Kevin Shute, KG6BCL, representing VCARS.

Meeting Location: Vice President Spencer Smith announced that this would be our last meeting at the church, with a new location arranged to begin with our July meeting. He said our next meeting 7:30pm on July 13th would be held at the Simi Valley Senior Center. The address of the Senior Center is 3901 Avenida Simi, just north of the Simi Valley Library. Spencer thanked Ed Richards for his help making arrangements with the Senior Center.

Program: Vice President Spencer introduced our guest speaker for this meeting, Dick Norton, N6AA, who serves as the ARRL's Southwest Division Director. Dick spoke on a wide variety of topics of interest to Ham Radio. He emphasized the many services the ARRL makes available to members, including license renewal at no charge. He also mentioned the efforts of the ARRL representing the interests of Amateur Radio to the FCC and at International conferences. At the conclusion of the program, Spencer presented Dick with a certificate of appreciation from the Club.

Field Day: Our visitors from VCARS, Terry Graves and Kevin Shute reported to us on plans for Field Day at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library. They mentioned the differences we can expect this year at the Library. Due to a special meeting at the Library to be attended by Senator John McCain on Friday, June 23, we will have to begin our setup on Saturday morning at 7:00am. It is a goal this year to encourage more interaction, socializing and cooperative efforts among the members of VCARS and SSARC. This will include a centralized get together for dinner on Saturday evening. Kevin mentioned that Rick Tate, KQ6NO, would serve as a coordinator for equipment to be used at Field Day.

Election: President Dale conducted our election of officers for the new Club Year 2006-2007. He said one "email ballot" was received. The present officers were all willing candidates to serve for another year. As a nomination from the floor, Spencer nominated Randy Strader, KE6JQT for Vice President. By a show of hands vote, the members present elected to retain the current officers, with Spencer Smith elected as Vice President. Thus the officers for the new year are: **President**, Dale Manquen, KO6VO; **Vice President**, Spencer Smith, N6IWY; **Secretary**, John Percival, WI6O; **Treasurer**, Ed Richards, K6UUZ; and **Historian**, Patrick Nelson, KF6RMI. After the vote, Dale appointed Randy Strader to serve as our Public Information Officer, (**P.I.O.**) (and Membership Chairman – ed.)

Announcements: Frank Valdez reported on participation at the Sea-to-Summit bike ride and the RACES booth set up at the Simi Valley Street Fair and Emergency Expo on Saturday, May 13th. Dale reminded members about our new meeting location, and said that there will be publicity for our club in the Senior Center's newsletter, so we may get more visitors at our meetings. Dale announced there would be an Amateur Television, (ATV) Open House at the home of Bryon Foster, N6IFU, between noon and 3pm on Saturday, June 10th.

Repeater: Rick Galbraith, W6DQE, said he has talked to Greg Riegert, W6GRG, about possible new locations for the repeater. Greg said there are two possible locations, but it would be at least a year before they might be available.

Break: A fifteen-minute refreshment break was taken at 9:37pm.

Member Drawing: The winner in the monthly membership drawing was Jerry Crabtree, W6OVH, who was not present to win. The prize for the drawing in July will therefore increase to \$20.00. Only names for members who are paid up for the new year will be in the July bucket.

Prize Drawings: The monthly prize drawing was held with the lucky winners selecting their prizes.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 pm.

Submitted by: Secretary, John Percival, WI6O

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	Ed Richards, K6UUZ		ZUU6K@juno.com
Historian	Patrick Nelson KF6RMI		
		Committee Chairpersons	
Webmaster	Doug Dubrall WA6RJN		wa6rjn@arrl.net
Membership	Randy Strader	(805) 582-9542	randolph.strader@sbcglobal.net
P.I.O	“	“	“
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
Thursday July 13, 2006
 7:30 p.m.
 Talk-in Frequency: 147.93MHz
 - Offset PL 127.3Hz