

Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

June 2005

**Meeting Program
June 9, 2005**

June is our Field Day meeting, with final planning for Field Day at the Reagan Presidential Library. Terry Graves, K7FE, from the Ventura County Amateur Radio Club will join us again to work out final details.

In addition, June is election month for SSARC (see item below.)

Trouble Brewing!!!!

We don't have any candidates running for Vice President and Treasurer to replace our retiring officers!!! That means we need some volunteers for our June elections.

Just a few years ago we limped through an entire year without an elected President. Based upon that experience, I don't think we can continue with just a President and Secretary. If we don't get help, the continuing officers could "melt down" due to the overload of work. Is it your turn to give back a bit to the Club?

These jobs do not require a great deal of work. We hold an Officers' Meeting each month, usually 2 weeks after the regular meeting, to review the last meeting and plan for future activities. The Vice President coordinates programs (with inputs from other members, too) and the Treasurer collects dues, runs the raffles and oversees the Club's checking account. The officers usually like to meet for dinner before the meeting to welcome our guest speaker for the evening and to get to know him better.

Field Day

June 25, 26 2005 Ronald Reagan Presidential Library VCARS-SSARC

Terry Graves K7FE from VCARS will be joining us again to make sure that all of us are well informed on final preparations for this year's Field Day.

I have noticed that many of you have not signed up for any radio operations. There are plenty of band openings, so please join us this Thursday as we put together final plans on antennas, camping, set-up/tear down, and of course "dinner".

Please contact Rick Galbraith for further details.

73,
Rick Galbraith
W6DQE
805-433-4513

Raffle and Auction for June

RAFFLE DOOR PRIZES:

5 amp (7amp max) DC regulated power supply
ARRL 2005/2006 Repeater Directory
Buchanan fuse sectional terminal blocks
Yeasu Hat (from the Dayton Hamvention)

AUCTION:

These items are from Jay Baker's family, and we thank them for their continued support of our club.

This month's auction will be a: HAM 4 rotor and Highgain controller

Future months equipment auctions will be:

KLM Tri Band beam antenna KT-34A 10M, 15M, 20M

Test equipment: Computer Patch interface (AEA Inc.)
MFJ TNC 2 packet radio (MFJ-1274)
Simpson 260 Volt-Ohm meter
Signal generator
Tube tester

There is much more - this is only a partial list. Please call Rick Galbraith (805-433-4513) if you would like to stop by to view more of the items.

RACES Renewals

For those of you that need to renew your **ARES/RACES** White Badge in the near future, Jackie is out on leave for awhile. Please call **Willa Gustavson** at **805-654-5084** to renew your White Badge.

All you should have to do is give her a call, tell her that you want to renew your **RACES Disaster Service Workers White Badge**, and it should be done.

You will receive your new badge in the mail, along with a return envelope to send back your old badge.

Last Month's Program

Last month's program on the gas company was presented by Frank Valdez KI6OQ.

Thank you Frank, for a great presentation. Your many years of experience and knowledge was very evident. Your photographic skills are pretty impressive too. Frank was not to sure if he had enough information for a program. Well, he talked for at least an hour and could have kept on going all night! Maybe you could come back again and inform us on other aspects of "THE GAS COMPANY".

Equipment Auctioned at May Meeting

Last month we auctioned off the MFJ high-power tuner. In addition, we had a variety of test gear and other pieces that were sold to the highest bidder. We will have more gear at this month's meeting so don't miss out!

The Crystal Ball Sez

Upcoming guest speakers:

The NAB Convention in Las Vegas last month offered opportunities for recruiting speakers.

Mike Dorrough, KO6NM, has agreed to visit us in July for a program on AM HF. He also has a new technique for AM modulation, but it is currently under wraps until patent issues are completed. Darn!!

Lyle Henry, K7OO, volunteered to present a program on the new Digital Broadcast Radio methods. Don't confuse this with satellite transmission. This is In Band On Channel (IBOC) transmission right along with the conventional AM and FM signals. Lyle had a demonstration of four simultaneous sub-programs running on a single FM carrier along with the normal main channel stereo program. Unfortunately, Lyle will be back East until after Summer.

A third program in the works is about digital television. Dick Burden, a close friend of our late Jay Baker, is helping with this one. Do you know that there are several different formats for digital TV, including conventional and high definition? And, more importantly, do you know that the FCC plans to pull the plug on all the conventional VHF and UHF TV station transmitters in less than 18 months, rendering millions of our trusty analog TV sets useless for off-the-air reception?

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club **General Membership Meeting, May 12, 2005**

Call to Order President Dale Manquen, KO6VO, called the meeting to order at 7:42pm. The usual recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance was not held due to the lack of a Flag in our meeting room. This month's meeting was held in the Pastor's Study due to a scheduling conflict for our usual meeting place in the Youth Room. Five Board Members were present. The total attendance was 13. At this meeting visitor Bill Rust, K6WHR, became our newest member.

Introductions: After Dale welcomed members to the meeting, a round of introductions was held with members giving a brief word on their recent activities. Dale described his recent attendance at the NAB convention in Las Vegas with emphasis on the ARRL session. He mentioned talking to potential guest speakers for our Club, Lyle Henry on the subject of "In Band on Channel" radio broadcasting, and Mike Dorrough on the subject of AM operating in Ham Radio.

Program: Club member Frank Valdez, KI6OQ, who works for Sempra Energy, was our speaker for this meeting. Frank gave a talk and slide presentation about the natural gas transmission and distribution system for the Southern California areas served by Sempra Energy. About 90% of the gas is brought in from out of state, from Texas, Kansas, Wyoming and Canada. Over 7 million customers are served. Frank described the system of underground gas storage in former oil fields. The storage system is used to manage the supply for customer needs throughout the year, using the reserves in winter when less gas is available from suppliers. One of the largest storage facilities is located in the Porter Ranch area. After his talk, Frank answered questions from the members present.

Break: A fifteen-minute refreshment break was taken at 9:20 pm.

Announcements: Dale mentioned that with our Field Day plan to participate with VCARS at the Reagan Library this year, it would be more difficult to set up towers to support antennas. He asked if people were interested in a project to make a tower support that would not require staked down guy lines. Allen Pettebone, KA6WGO, said he has an idea that he has used to support towers in the past. Rick Galbraith said he has a small trailer that might be useable as the base for a tower.

Frank Valdez, our local Emergency Coordinator, said that RACES membership renewal can now be done by telephone and RACES cards will be sent out by mail.

Auction: An auction was held to sell, the MFJ model 989C antenna tuner that was donated to the Club by the wife of Jay Baker. This item was sold to Spencer Smith, N6IWY, for a bid of \$40.00. Rick said that he had brought to this meeting a selection of Jay's test equipment items also donated to our Club. Rather than auctioning each item, it was suggested that

persons interested in an item could make a reasonable offer to buy it from the Club.

Member Drawing: The winning name drawn was Patrick Nelson, KF6RMI, who was present to win the \$20 prize. The fund for this prize will start over at \$5 for our meeting in June.

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

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 pm.

Submitted by: Secretary, John Percival, WI6O

Information from Our Treasurer

Larry Pyle AD6ST

The club is still solvent, thanks in part to the several auction items over the last year. For those of you who never got around to paying your dues last year, the old year is just about up, and **it is now time to pay dues for 2005-2006.**

Amateur Television (ATV)

Bryon Foster N6IFU

ATV is very easy to receive with the cable ready tuners that come as standard equipment on most modern televisions. If you are interested in received ATV, I have a station set up in the center of Simi Valley transmitting a very respectful 28 watts driving an omni directional vertical antenna with 5 db gain, 40' above the ground. This should cover the entire valley.

All you should need to do to receive ATV is disconnect the cable connection that comes into your TV and attach an outside antenna (staying on the cable side of the tuner) and tune to channel 58 (426 MHz) and you should be able to see the signal.

WE3ST hooked up his antenna from his FM stereo, which is horizontally polarized, and he has no problem seeing the signal. KN6NN has a UHF high gain TV antenna with a preamp and he also has no problems receiving. His antenna is also horizontally polarized which gives both Hams the disadvantage of a 20db loss over a vertically polarized antenna.

Any vertically polarized antenna should have the advantage over these examples.

I am happy to turn the ATV transmitter on at anytime so anyone who wants can tune in and test their TV and have a signal to work with. I have also listed a schedule that the transmitter will be on the air.

I can be contacted the following ways:
on the local 147.930 Simi repeater

on the local 445.580 Simi repeater
on 146.43 simplex
n6ifu@arrl.net

Scheduled “on air” ATV Broadcast for two weeks from the date of this e-mail.

Monday/Wed/Friday @ 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm PDST

Saturday @ 11:00 am until 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm PDST

If you have interest in learning more about ATV or setting up a ATV station of your own you might want to visit www.hamtv.com to see what equipment is available.

The transmitter I am using is K6HXX’s (formally KA6HXX, JOHN) who has been so kind to loan it to me.

Thank you,
N6IFU-
Bryon Foster

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 June newsletter for Ventura County RACES wasn’t available at <http://home1.gte.net/res19999/index.htm> when this document when to press, but keep checking. The new version should show up soon.

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.

Tidbits

Vice President Rick Galbraith, W6DQE, attended the 2005 Dayton Hamvention®. Join us for his report on the trip at the meeting.

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 NEW INFO

Anyone with interest in becoming a **Southern California Weather Spotter** please 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	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 June 9th, 2005

7:30 p.m.

Talk-in Frequency: 147.93MHz

- Offset PL 127.3Hz

Seventh Day Adventist Church