



March 2009

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

Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club Short Circuit

Mike Hasenfratz, WA6FXT, discusses Portable PSK31

Mike Hasenfratz, WA6FXT, an engineer with Northrup Grumman, is heavily into digital circuitry and now has satellite ham communications as a favorite avocation.

Mike has done the digital and satellite station, N6R (Nancy Six Ronnie), at the past two (or more) Field Days at the Reagan Library, and has become very adept at PSK31 as well, which was his topic of presentation at our November 2007 meeting and, as an update, will be demonstrating the previously mentioned "NUE-PSK" Portable PSK31 modem, a kit or assembled module, that allows PSK31 operation without needing a PC at our upcoming the March meeting.

Mike is also involved with the Northrup Grumman station WA6AQQ at the Woodland Hills facility, as well as with Ventura County ACS (RACES) / ARES. He is also a member of VCARS, CVARC, and is one heck of a nice guy. He enjoys developing hardware and software projects for Amateur Radio.

Mike has said he is looking forward to sharing Portable PSK31 with us, and we look forward to hearing his presentation and watching his demonstrations.

Static & Sparks

Club Leadership

Your club needs you to become a club leader. The June 2009 General meeting is where club officers will be elected.

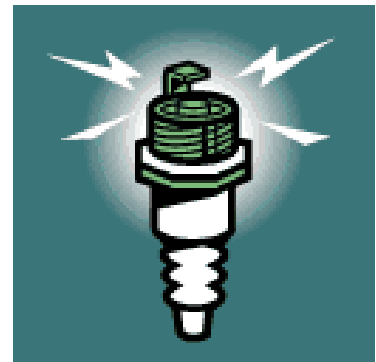
The most difficult and most appreciated office is that of Vice-President. The Vice-President is responsible for our program. Many hands make light work. Would you lend your hands to the job of running the club ?

Field Day ? It's Only Three Months Away

No, no, it is not too early to start planning for Field Day 2009. Start by thinking about how our 2008 Field Day went. The club collaborated with the Ventura County Amateur Radio Club and the Ventura County Amateur Radio Society at the Ronald Reagan Library.

The result was a resounding success. We set up, operated, and tore down with ease – and had fun doing it. The Ronald Reagan Library and Museum is the place; 27-28 June is the weekend. The fun is yours for the taking. We will be discussing it at regular meetings and at special planning meetings to be announced but, most especially online at:

http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/VCARS_events/messages



Bring your ideas, or just say you want to be there – to see, to learn, to try, or maybe to see how other people have fun.



FEMA Revises the National Incident Management System (NIMS)

NIMS is the national standard for incident management. NIMS establishes standardized incident management processes, protocols, and procedures that all federal, state, tribal and local responders will use to coordinate and conduct response actions. According to DHS, it has clarified "existing NIMS concepts, better incorporating preparedness and planning and improving the overall readability of the document. The revised document also differentiates between the purposes of NIMS and the National Response Framework (NRF) by identifying how NIMS provides the action template for the management of incidents, while the NRF provides the policy structure and mechanisms for national level policy for incident management."

The popular introductory course, IS-700, is being revised and updated, and new materials must be used when available. If you have previously started the IS-700 course and need to take the final exam, you must complete the exam and obtain a passing score before 13 February 2009. After that date the IS 700 exam will no longer be available. At this time there are no downloadable materials for the revised IS 700, but they are forthcoming.

It is highly recommended that hams who intend to participate in emergency or other public service activities take (and pass) the online IC-700 course which is a basic introduction to NIMS, but is not designed to replace the Incident Command System and position-specific training.

More specifically, FEMA has issued a new online course, ICS-802, Emergency Support Functions – Communications. This course presents a variety of communications options, not

limited to any specific group responding to a disaster. It enables hams to be better aligned with the emergency management structure. It can be found at: <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS802.asp>

Field Day Packets Now Available

-- ARRL Letter, January 30, 2009

Get ready for ARRL Field Day, June 27-28, 2009. Packets are available on the ARRL Field Day Web site



www.arrl.org/fieldday Packets include the complete rules (including changes for 2009). Other reference items that will be available include forms, Section abbreviations, a kit to publicize your

event with the local press and more.

Join ARRL and the Simi Settlers' ARC Benefits

The ARRL club commission program allows ARRL Affiliated Clubs to retain a portion of the ARRL dues from each new member or renewal that the club submits. Under the ARRL Club Commission Membership Recruitment Program, clubs retain \$15 for each new membership and \$2 for each renewal submitted (regular and senior memberships only). Just make your ARRL membership check to BARC and the Treasurer will take it from there. Details and forms can be found on the web at the ARRL Club Companion page:

www.arrl.org/field/club/benefits.html#commission

Emails Asking for Personal Information Are Not from ARRL

ARRL HQ has received several reports from members with arrl.net email reflectors who have recently been contacted via email asking for personal information, such as user names and passwords. Please be assured that these emails are fraudulent attempts at "phishing" and did not originate from ARRL.

According to ARRL Information Technology Manager Don Durand, "This is a very crude attempt at phishing, using an easily determined spoof of the originating/return address. There is never a time when we would ask via mass email for user names and passwords of arrl.net users. There is simply no need to ever do so."

If you receive an email asking for personal information and it looks like it originated from ARRL, please do not respond,

Events

More complete list at <http://www.meetup.com/SimiSettlersARC/calendar/list/>

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.

Wednesday March 4th 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.

Saturday, March 7, 2009 9:00am ARDF antenna and attenuator building and fox-hunting event. See <http://www.homingin.com/joemoell/topangamap.html>

Thursday March 12th 2009 7:00pm Simi Settlers General Meeting
Simi Valley Senior Center

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

Friday March 13th 2009 7:30pm VCARC / K6MEP club meeting
 The American Red Cross of Ventura County Chapter House
 2355 Portola Road , Ventura CA.

Wednesday March 18th 2009 7pm Santa Clarita Club General Meeting
 Santa Clarita City Hall <http://www.w6jw.org/>

Thursday March 19th, 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, March 21, 2009 8:00am Simi Settlers Breakfast
Carriage Cafe 2295 Tapo St Simi Valley, CA 93063

Thursday March 26th 2009 7:30pm SVARC Board Meeting
 W9YPM's residence

Saturday March 28th 2009 7am W6TRW Swapmeet (7am) and Exam Session (10am) Redondo Beach, CA
http://w6trw.com/swapmeet/w6trw_arc_swapmeet.htm

Sunday March 29th 2009 Simi Settlers Picnic in the Park - Potluck
 11am – 3pm Simi Settlers Picnic / Lemon Park
<http://www.meetup.com/SimiSettlersARC/calendar/9586530/>

Sunday April 11th, 7:00AM Ham Radio License exam session at
 THE PAPA SYSTEM
 Time: 7:00AM (No walk-ins) PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
 VEC: Los Angeles ARG
 Exam Location: CARROW'S RESTAURANT
 18355 Greater VENTURA BLVD HTTP://PAPASYS.ORG
 TARZANA, CA 91356
No Walk-ins Allowed:Contact - [NORMAN M GOODKIN](mailto:NORMAN.M.GOODKIN@ARRL.NET) (818)222-7893 **Email:** K6YXH@ARRL.NET

Sunday April 19th, 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

Pacificon 2009 Fri-Sun May1-3, 2009 <http://www.emcommwest.org/>
Circus Circus Hotel, Reno NV

Dayton Hamvention – Fri-Sun May 15-17, 2009 <http://www.hamvention.org/>
Dayton OH

ARRL Field Day 2009, June 27-28, 2009 N6R Ronald Reagan Library **with the Ventrura County Amateur Radio Club and the Ventura County Amateur Radio Society**

Antenna setup on June 26, 2009
Discussion at http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/VCARS_events/

Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) October 17-18, 2009

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.

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club General Membership Meeting, February 12, 2009

Call to Order: President Peter Grace, AI6PG, was unable to attend this meeting. The meeting was informally called to order at 7:18 pm. Club member Brad Rife, KI6KSY, stepped up to welcome everyone to the meeting and he then led the recitation of The Pledge of Allegiance. Two Board Members were present. The total attendance was 19, with 5 guests.

Introductions: A brief round of introductions was held. Members spoke about their recent Ham Radio activities. The club welcomed guests: Roger Beard, AF6CE, Marvin Johnston, KE6HTS, Rod Fritz, WB9KMO, and Steve King, KE6WEZ, who is Assistant E.C. for Simi Valley. Chris Stinnett, KI6TKU, joined the club at this meeting. Long time former member, Randy Strader, KE6JQT, said he has moved back into Simi Valley and plans to become active with the club again.

Program: Treasurer Norbert Rehaut, W9YPM, introduced our guest speaker for this meeting Marvin Johnston, KE6HTS, who spoke on the subjects of Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) and the Santa Barbara Hamfest plans for this year. Marvin got started in ARDF in the 1990's when an interest in transmitter hunting led to his participation on the US ARDF team in International World Championship competition. He explained that ARDF combines T-hunting with orienteering in on-foot competition to find 4 or 5 hidden transmitters within a limited area of 1 to 2 square miles. The competitions use 2Meter or 80Meter frequencies. Marvin showed examples of some ARDF equipment

and demonstrated how easy it is to get accurate bearing with the simple tape-measure beam antenna and the special "blue-box" receiver. Marvin invited members to attend a training ARDF hunt on Saturday, March 7th at Topanga State Park. More information is at homingin.com website.

Marvin, who is on the Board of the Santa Barbara Amateur Radio Club, spoke about the plans being made for the Santa Barbara Hamfest, August 15 and 16, 2009. It will be held at the Earl Warren Show grounds in Santa Barbara and it is hoped that it can be free or very low cost admission and parking. The theme will be Emergency Preparedness and the planners want to make this year's event Section-Wide to attract attendees and club participation from all of the S. B. Section. Marvin listed activities being planned; Vendor exhibits, Club booths, Swap Meet, Prize Raffle, programs such as demos of Ham Radio modes, Red Cross and Fire Department exhibits, and of course, Food, that will be from Woody's Barbecue. They hope to break the record for the largest VE testing session, which was 319, at Dayton in 1987. Information about the Hamfest is available at sbhamfest.com.

Announcements: A Club Breakfast has been scheduled for Saturday, February 14th this month.

Member Drawing: The progressive membership prize drawing was not held. Therefore, the prize fund will remain at \$10 for our March 12, 2009 meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.

Submitted by: Secretary, John Percival, WI6O

Simi Settlers' Leadership				
President	Peter Grace	AI6PG	(805) 223-0729 cell	pcg@acm.org
Vice President	VACANT			
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
Newsletter	Steve Abarta	K6TLM	(805) 584-6523	k6tlm@mac.com
Membership	VACANT			
PIO	VACANT			
Field Day	<i>What will <u>you</u> do?</i>			
Youth Coordinator	VACANT			



Reminder:
Simi Settlers General Meeting
March 12, 2009 7:00 p.m
Topic: Portable PSK31



FROM ARRL.NET



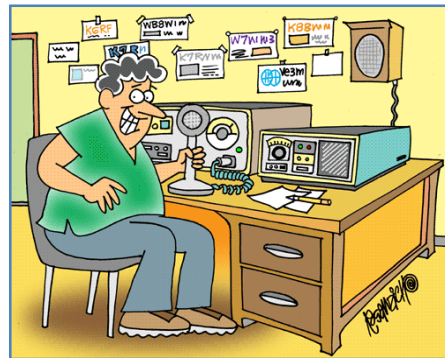
US ARDF Championships Registration Now Open (Mar 2, 2009) -- Registration is now open for the next [USA Amateur Radio Direction Finding Championships](#), June 5-7, 2009, in Boston, Massachusetts. Radio-orientees of all skill levels will gather for a practice day,

followed by two days of intense competition -- first on 2 meters and then on 80 meters. This year's USA Championships will be combined with the IARU Region 2 championships. The events are open to everyone, with or without a ham license. The contest will be at the [Blue Hills Reservation](#), a 7000 acre open space, about 10 miles south of downtown Boston. To encourage first-timers and foreign visitors, the competition fee will be waived for persons who have never participated in the USA ARDF Championships and for competitors coming from outside North America. Learn more about ARDF [here](#). -- *Information provided by ARRL ARDF Coordinator Joe Moell, K*

ARRL Invites Nominations for 2008 Hiram Percy Maxim Award (Mar 3, 2009) -- The ARRL invites nominations for the 2008 Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award. The League's premier youth recognition, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award is awarded annually to a radio amateur under age 21 in recognition of the recipient's accomplishments and contributions "of the most exemplary



nature" to both the Amateur Radio community and the local community during the previous calendar year -- 2008 in this instance.



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