

Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

October 2004

Meeting Program

This months program will be on APRS ham radio and GPS presented by Jeff Reinhardt AA6JR and Rob Hanson W6RH from the Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club.

The efforts of Jeff and Rob are very much appreciated as they are taking time away from their own club meeting, which also meets on the second Thursday.

Jeff Reinhardt AA6JR, is an Extra class operator and has been interested in a broad range of activities since having become licensed in 1992. He enjoys packet, APRS, PSK31 along with HF, and VHF/UHF phone operations. He has earned WAS, DXCC and the Worked all US Counties Awards. Jeff is the Public Information Coordinator for the Santa Barbara Section, serves on the ARRL's national Public Relations Committee and he writes two columns for CQ Magazine.

Rob Hanson, W6RH, an Extra class Amateur, first licensed in 1982, enjoys mobile HF, and many digital modes including PSK31, Digital HF voice, slow scan, and APRS. In his job for the City of Los Angeles, he leads a team of technicians that design, build, and maintain electronic systems for LAPD and LA Fire department helicopters. Presently the vice-president of the Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club (CVARC) he has also been involved in L.A. County DCS, the APA packet group, The Los Angeles ACS, TASMA, APCO, and the Airborne Law Enforcement Association. He is also a Volunteer Examiner.

Upcoming guest speakers:

November 11th, 2004 Randy White MULTI HAZARDS RESPONSE TEAM for the City of Simi Valley

January 13th, 2005 Ed Richards K6UUZ Electronic Lecture Part 1 "TUBES"



RAFFLE DOOR PRIZES

220 MHZ 4 ELEMENT BEAM

PRYME RD-78 VHF/UHF Dualband High Gain Handheld Antenna

RED'S BARBECUE GIFT CERTIFICATE

WE HAVE A NEW WEBPAGE!!!!

The webpage addresss may be the same, but everything else is NEW! Our new webmaster, Doug Dubrall WA6RJN, has done a wonderful job of creating a very useful new webpage. We welcome your suggestions on how to improve what you see. Great job, Doug!

ANYONE NEED COAX CABLE?

BULK BUY ON COAX ANYONE ?

Spencer Smith N6IWY is try to put together a bulk buy on coaxial cable, which is a very good idea since there is a significant savings when purchased in bulk.

Any interested people please let us know at the next meeting as we would like to get it on order.

Here are some of the prices we have been quoted so far: RG-213 .36 ft , 1318-fx (9913) .54 ft and LMR-400-ufx .98 ft

Equipment Auction for October Meeting

The Club has received a donation of radio equipment that will be auctioned to the members of the club at upcoming meetings. The following list of equipment should include something of interest to you.

At the September meeting, Patrick Nelson was high bidder for the **ICOM IC-2GXAT 144MHz FM Handheld**. Allen Pettibone is now the proud owner of the AKAI stereo amp.

The October auction is:

Sony color TV watchman AM/FM-TV mini 3" screen

Accessories: Amplified portable antenna

We will also be auctioning a **Kenwood KR-50 am/fm stereo receiver** donated by Jay Baker WA6BEB

At subsequent meetings we will be auctioning the following:

Realistic (Radio Shack) PRO-43 200 channel direct entry AM/FM programmable scanner

Radio Shack AM/FM handheld radio

Radio Shack 5-watt external speaker

Comet mag mount antenna 144/440 MHz dual band

Astron RS 20 amp power supply with meters

Daiwa 2 Port coax switch HF-600MHz

Information from Our Treasurer

Larry Pyle AD6ST

July was the start of the SSARC 2004/2005 year and membership dues became due for this new year. Any changes in your membership listing on the General Membership should be noted along with the appropriate membership fee of \$15 for single and \$20 for family. ARRL members should make certain that their membership is correctly noted on the membership

Student Memberships

Allen Pettibone, KA6WGO, has suggested that we offer a discounted membership to students to attract younger members to our club. The current proposal is to offer full-time students with appropriate school ID cards a \$5 membership while they

listing. We need 51% of the voting (paid) members as ARRL members to maintain our association with the ARRL. The ARRL also provides \$15 to the club for each NEW ARRL member signed up by the club. If you haven't renewed yet, the Club will be sending out reminder postcards. Please save the Club this extra expense and effort by renewing NOW!

remain enrolled full time. We would like to hear from the membership on this proposal. Furthermore, if the idea is outrageously successful, the Board agreed to send Allen a bill for the lost revenue! (Just kidding about that part.)

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 Sulphur Mountain Repeater (146.880 – PL 127.3)

BPL Report to be submitted on the same day as our October meeting

Subject: ARLB027 FCC Poised to Act on BPL Report and Order in mid-October

ZCZC AG27
QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 27 ARLB027
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT September 24, 2004
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB027
ARRL027 FCC Poised to Act on BPL Report and
Order in mid-October

The FCC Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) will present a draft broadband over power line (BPL) Report and Order to the full Commission when it meets October 14, the ARRL has learned. More than 6100 comments have been filed on the topic since the FCC released its initial Notice of Inquiry in the proceeding, ET Docket 03-104, in April 2003 and a subsequent Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM), ET Docket 04-37, in February of this year. The ARRL so far on this round has taken its concerns regarding Amateur Radio and BPL to three of the Commission's five members. In a meeting this week with FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein, an ARRL delegation again asserted that the FCC is pushing the proceeding to a predetermined conclusion with little regard for technical issues.

"Because the FCC has been unwilling to release for public review the results of its own tests and observations of BPL systems, the ARRL has no confidence that the draft Report and Order will be based on sound engineering and believes the rush to adoption is unwarranted and premature," ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said in a follow-up letter to Adelstein. The letter reiterated the League's key points that, it said, "represent the minimum protection" that should be incorporated into the

BPL Report and Order prior to Commission adoption.

"Without adequate safeguards, the deployment of BPL systems will result in the pollution and degradation of the unique natural resource of the high-frequency radio spectrum," Sumner said.

The League argued that a reduction in the radiated emission limit for BPL systems be included in the R&O. The ARRL wants the limit set 30 dB below current Part 15 requirements, which, it says, were established with narrowband point-source radiators in mind. "The record in this proceeding clearly establishes that BPL is not a point-source radiator," the ARRL's letter asserted.

The ARRL pointed out that the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has concluded that at the current Part 15 limit, interference is "likely" to receivers in land vehicles 75 meters from BPL-connected power lines and to fixed stations 460 meters from such power lines.

"Given the number of amateur stations and the fact that they almost invariably are located near power lines, the areas of potential interference at the existing Part 15 limit are clearly too large to permit case-by-case resolution of interference issues," Sumner said. Based on past experience with BPL field trials, the ARRL told Adelstein, "widespread BPL deployment at the existing Part 15 radiated emission limit will result in an unmanageable incidence of interference."

Arguing for a reduction in the radiated emission limit, the ARRL said mandatory "notching" of the amateur bands by 30 dB would reduce the probability of interference to amateur stations sufficiently that the remaining interference cases might be resolved on a case-by-case basis. "However," the League added, "such notching would not solve the problem for other radio services."

Other points the ARRL has stressed in its meetings with Commission

members include:

* consider including the NTIA's recommendations to standardize measurement procedures and to require that Access BPL systems be certificated, not merely verified.

* requiring independent confirmation of rules compliance before a BPL system is placed in operation.

* the need for advance public notification of BPL system locations and characteristics, something not included in the NPRM.

* performance standards for interference mitigation that would require that interference be terminated immediately upon notification to the operator; and meaningful penalties for non-compliance, including fines.

* require BPL marketers to "give clear notice to potential customers that licensed radio services have priority and that the delivery of broadband service via BPL cannot be guaranteed."

In addition to Adelstein, ARRL representatives have met so far with Commissioners Kevin J. Martin, and Michael J. Cops. The League hopes to meet with the principal advisors to Chairman Michael K. Powell and Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy before the October 7 cutoff for ex parte communications in the proceeding.

Upcoming events

No new listings

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club
General Membership Meeting, September 9, 2004
Secretary, John Percival, WI6O

Call to Order

President Dale Manquen, KO6VO, called the meeting to order at 7:35pm. Spencer Smith, N6IWY, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Five Board Members were present. The total attendance was 11, including one guest, Peter Grace, KB1CVH, who joined the club at this meeting. Peter is a new resident in the area, having moved here from Massachusetts.

Introductions: After Dale welcomed members to the meeting, a round of introductions was held with each member giving a brief word on their recent activities. Allen said he has been keeping in touch with Jim Schmidt, W6JIM, at Lake Tahoe, and Ed Meyer, WK7ED who is visiting Yellowstone Park.

Program: Dale said that James Pike of JamesPole Antennas, had to cancel as our speaker for this meeting. Dale spoke briefly about the Genesis Spacecraft that had failed in its attempt to land on Earth with parachutes. The instrument package was returning special disks that had captured solar particles. Without the parachutes, the craft landed at an estimated speed of 193 mph.

As a substitute program, Vice President, Rick Galbraith played a videotape from the ARRL, which told the story of the Transatlantic tests of December 1921. The test transmissions were made by station 1BCG from a location in Greenwich, CT. Paul F. Godley, who had traveled to Ardrossan, Scotland for the tests, received the signals that were transmitted on a wavelength of 230 meters. After the tape had been played, Dale reminded members that the Club has bought several ARRL Tapes that members may borrow.

Break: A twenty-minute refreshment break was taken at 8:30 pm following the end of our program.

Announcements: Dale thanked Allen Pettebone, KA6WGO, for hosting the Taco Party held Saturday, August 14, at Rancho Tapo Park, also known as Lemon Park. Allen said that about 150 Tacos were made and that the event was great exposure for our Club. It was agreed that we should do it again.

The idea of having a Club breakfast get-together was discussed. There was some interest indicated, so it was suggested that any interested members could meet at the Kountry Folks restaurant at about 8am on Saturday 18th.

Rick announced that the program set for our next meeting on October 14th is scheduled to be a presentation by Jeff Reinhardt, AA6JR, on the subject of APRS.

Member Drawing: The name drawn in the Membership Drawing was Greg Owens, WA6HKM, who was not present to win the \$5 prize. The prize fund will therefore be increased to \$10 for the October meeting.

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

Auction: Following the prize drawings, an auction was held for an ICOM IC-2GXAT 2-meter handheld radio that had been donated to the Club. Patrick Nelson, KF6RMI, received the radio with a winning bid of \$60. For a \$10 winning bid, Allen Pettebone, KA6WGO, won a Cassette Tape deck that was donated for auction by Jay Baker, WA6BEB. There are additional donated items that will be auctioned at future meetings.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Submitted by: Secretary, John Percival, WI6O

A Special Note to our Ambassadors At Large

Not all of our members live here in Simi Valley. We wish to thank those of you who have moved away for your continue support.

Jim Sackey, N9ESM, recently sent in his dues with a nice note. Jim, thank you for your greetings to all of us, and we return the salute to Snoqualmie. Settlers, check out <http://www.trainmuseum.org/>

Miscellaneous News

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

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

Anyone with interest in becoming a **Southern California Weather Spotter** please contact Rick Galbraith at 805-520-0127 or see me at the next meeting for an application There are no fees to become a member.

Simi Settlers' Officers

President	Dale Manquen KO6VO	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 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 September 9, 2004
7:30 p.m.
Talk-in Frequency: 147.93MHz
- Offset PL 127.3Hz
Seventh Day Adventist Church