

# Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

## Short Circuit

***October 2008***

**Orv Beach  
The Basics of Repeaters  
October 9, 2008 7:00pm**

Orv Beach, W6BI, was first licensed in 1967 as WN6WEY. His interests have always been the digital modes: first CW, then RTTY, then some time on packet radio, and now PSK31.

He became trustee of the AD6SV repeater in 1988, and maintains it to this day.

### ARRL Southwestern Division Convention

I attended the 2008 ARRL Southwestern Division convention in Meza AZ the weekend of September 13-14, 2008. I drove there with KI6LSH. We left on Friday night after KI6HUV returned home from work. We spent the night in Blythe CA. Folks on the Pocket Autopatch Association (PAPA) system kept me company for much of the way out and some of the way back.

I enjoyed the convention. It was a joy to meet K7DF and KE7IDC. KE7IDC was the 2007 ARRL Hiram Percy Maxim Award winner and the recipient of the 2008 ARCA Young Ham of the Year Award.

N6AA gave a fine talk about happenings at and thoughts on the ARRL Board of Directors. Part of N6AA's talk was about tower restrictions. Seems a ham was threatened with fines while appealing a city council decision against his tower. He took the tower down and as a result, the basis of the appeal fell apart. He had gotten free service from ARRL volunteer legal council. Perhaps he wouldn't have given in so easily if the legal council services were not free.

I also enjoyed a program on High Altitude Ballooning given by KD7LMO.

Seems that gas prices did put a crimp in attendance combined with the competition from many other AZ area hamfests. The dealers room was well stocked with HRO and RF Parts and many other vendors in attendance. Icom and Yaesu were also present. Surprisingly, Yaesu didn't have the new VX8R handheld to show off. The presence of vendors targeted at non-ham XYLs seemed a bit archaic and not well patronized.

Two food functions were also held – A dinner and a DX Breakfast.

I had fun and made some contacts on HF using hamsticks on a magmount during my ride home with a HF radio in the passenger seat next to me and my son in the back seat logging.

## 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.

Do you know amateur radio operators in Moorpark and Simi Valley who do not belong to our club or who are not active in the club ? Would you consider inviting them to our picnic on November 2<sup>nd</sup>?

Do you know someone who does something interesting, perhaps using amateur radio or that might use amateur radio? I received a suggestion about having a speaker that is involved with a radio controlled airplane club. I also may have a connection that uses Automatic Packet Reporting System and GMRS while riding 'all-terrain' vehicles in the desert. At the hamfest in Arizona, I met some hams that do interesting things with amateur radio, including ballooning.

Do you do something interesting ?

Interesting people are invited to contact a club officer about being a speaker at a general meeting.

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

73 de Peter Grace AI6PG [pcg@acm.org](mailto:pcg@acm.org)  
President, Simi Valley Settlers ARC

Have you become an ARRL VE? Please let me know. VE certification is free. More information is available here: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/>

## Picnic in the Park

Amateur Radio Operators, family and friends are invited to our potluck picnic November 2, 2008 in Lemon Park (AKA Rancho Tapo Community Park) at 2850 Lemon Drive near Tapo Canyon and Alamo about 11 a.m.  
This QTH is a half block west of the Senior Center where we hold our evening meetings.

Please bring an entree, appetizer, salad or side dish and a dessert. The Club will furnish soft drinks and paper goods.

Since we don't know yet if we will be able to use the covered pavilion, plan on bringing some lawn chairs and tables. Please RSVP  
<http://hamradio.meetup.com/110/calendar/8840094/>

# From the Secretary

*Our Club Secretary kindly submitted these Minutes from our September General Meeting*

## ***Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club*** **General Membership Meeting, September 11, 2008**

Call to Order: President Peter Grace, AI6PG, called the meeting to order at 7:08pm. Peter welcomed everyone to the meeting held at the Simi Valley Senior Center, and then led our recitation of The Pledge of Allegiance. Peter asked those present to observe a moment of silence to commemorate the 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11/2001. This was our second meeting with the new starting time of 7pm. Four Board Members were present. The total attendance was 16, with 3 guests.

Announcements: Our Club Breakfast this month will be held on Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 8:00am, at the Carriage Cafe on Tapo Street. President Peter reminded everyone that we still need a Vice President to provide the vital function of finding and scheduling programs for our meetings. Jim Hutchinson asked if the Senior Center might let us use the digital projector in their computer room for a future program that Jim could present. For our meeting on October 9, we may have Orv Beach, W6BI, give a presentation. We had a guest, Christopher Stinnett, who had questions about how to get his Ham license, and about operating privileges and radios. Peter and several members offered information and helpful ideas to this prospective ham.

Program: There was no formal program or guest speaker for this meeting, so an informal "show-and-tell" evening was held. Several members showed or spoke briefly about their special interests or recent projects. Member Jim Hutchinson, KI6MZ had his laptop computer set up with a link to the Senior Center's wireless internet connection network. He showed a connection to a website that monitors the audio on H.F. radio frequencies using software-defined radio that allows the user to remotely "tune" the receiver. The URL is "<http://websdr.ewi.utwente.nl:8901>". Spencer Smith, N6IWY, had some of his homebrew crystal-set receivers to show. John Percival, WI6O, displayed some of his small QRP CW transceivers built from kits, and showed some QSL cards for some of his low power contacts.

Break: A 20-minute break was taken, with refreshments supplied by Brad Rife, KI6KSY. During the break time, members could examine and ask questions about the show and tell items.

Member Drawing: The progressive membership prize drawing was held this month. The winning name was Frank Valdez, KI6OQ, who was not present to win the \$25 prize. The prize fund will increase to \$30 for our October meeting.

Prize Drawing: Peter had several prizes available for a raffle drawing, with tickets sold as follows: One ticket, for \$1, three tickets for \$2, or ten tickets for \$5. The prizes were an ARRL Extra Class License Study Guide book, shrink tubing, and a water powered toy rocket.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

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](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.

Wednesday October 1st 2008 7:30pm VCARS General Meeting  
The Cameron Center 288 Greenmeadow Dr. Newbury Park, CA 91320  
<http://www.vcars.org>

**Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup>, 8:00am** Ham Radio License **exam** session at  
ORTHRIDGE HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER 18300 ROSCOE BLVD EDUCATION AUDITORIUM  
FAR WEST SIDE OF BASEMENT NORTHRIDGE, CA 91325  
Walk-ins Allowed: WILLIAM E MILLER (818)368-4438 [BILL@LTGA.COM](mailto:BILL@LTGA.COM)

**Thursday October 9<sup>th</sup> 2008 7:00pm Simi Settlers General Meeting**  
**Simi Valley Senior Center**

- note start time – must be out by 2055 local

Friday October 10<sup>th</sup> 2008 7:30pm VCARC / K6MEP club meeting  
The American Red Cross of Ventura County Chapter House  
2355 Portola Road , Ventura CA.

**Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:00am** Ham Radio License **exam** session at  
CARROW'S RESTAURANT 18355 VENTURA BLVD TARZANA, CA 91356  
RSVP Required: NORMAN M GOODKIN (818)222-7893 [K6YXH@ARRL.NET](mailto:K6YXH@ARRL.NET)

**Saturday October 12<sup>th</sup>, 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

Wednesday October 15<sup>th</sup> 2008 7pm Santa Clarita Club General Meeting  
Santa Clarita City Hall <http://www.w6jw.org/>

Thursday October 16<sup>st</sup>, 2008 7:30pm CVARC General Meeting  
East County Sheriff's Station (ECSS) 2101 East Olsen Road Thousand Oaks, CA 91360  
<http://www.cvarc.org/>

**Jamboree on the Air (JOTA)** October 18-19, 2008  
Contact Peter Grace [pcg@acm.org](mailto:pcg@acm.org) for more info.

**Thursday October 23<sup>th</sup> 2008 7:30pm SVARC Board Meeting**  
W9YPM's residence

Saturday October 25<sup>th</sup> 2008 7am W6TRW Swapmeet and Exam Session (10am)  
Redondo Beach, CA [http://w6trw.com/swapmeet/w6trw\\_arc\\_swapmeet.htm](http://w6trw.com/swapmeet/w6trw_arc_swapmeet.htm)

**Sunday November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2008 11:00am Picnic in the Park**  
Lemon Park, Simi Valley. See article. Please RSVP  
<http://hamradio.meetup.com/110/calendar/8840094/>

**Earthquake Drill**, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008 <http://www.shakeout.org>

**ARRL Field Day 2009**, June 27-28, 2009

# 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		<a href="mailto:percivaljohns@cs.com">percivaljohns@cs.com</a>
Treasurer	Norbert Rehaut, W9YPM		<a href="mailto:nrehaut@dslextreme.com">nrehaut@dslextreme.com</a>

### Committee Chairpersons

Webmaster	Doug Dubrall WA6RJN		<a href="mailto:wa6rjn@arrl.net">wa6rjn@arrl.net</a>
Repeater	Spencer Smith N6IWY	(805) 583-1127	<a href="mailto:N6IWY@SBCGLOBAL.NET">N6IWY@SBCGLOBAL.NET</a>
ex-President	Dale Manquen KO6VO		<a href="mailto:dmanquen@email.msn.com">dmanquen@email.msn.com</a>
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://hamradio.meetup.com/110/>

## 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 October 2008 meeting will be at the Simi Valley Senior Center 3900 Avenida Simi. Note meeting start time is now 7pm**

**Next General Meeting**  
**The Basics of Repeaters**  
– Simi Valley Senior Center  
**Thursday October 9th, 2008**  
**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://hamradio.meetup.com/110/>

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.