

**Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club**

# **Short Circuit**

**SEPTEMBER 2006**

**Meeting Program  
September 14, 2006**

## **NEW MEETING PLACE!!!!**

Don't forget that we have moved ! 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 September 14<sup>th</sup>. Or come a few minutes early and socialize a bit before we start.

## **September Topic – High Speed Photography**

The Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club hosts Mr. Steve Champion, AE6NX / G8LOF who will discuss the aspects of "ECHOLINK" as related to amateur radio. He will also have a live demonstration using the Echolink system.

Please make a special effort to come out to the meeting and give CVARC President Steve a hearty welcome to the Settlers.

## **New Meeting Procedures**

The Senior Center's paid attendant must hang around to close up our meeting room after we finish. If we run overtime, the Senior Center must pay extra. To help speed up our meeting, we will hold the "introduction & what's new with me" time to a maximum of 2 minutes per attendee. Anyone taking too much time will be given the old radio "cutoff" signal of the finger slicing across the throat. Please don't feel offended if you get that signal – we just need to keep the meeting moving along.

If you have announcements, please make arrangements with the President to place the item on the agenda after the guest speaker.

## Ham and Electronics Equipment Sale

We are trying to help Mary Curry, widow of Silent Key Lewis Curry, WD6CAM, to dispose of her husband's ham radio and electronics gear. We conducted an Open House with a Silent Auction on August 12<sup>th</sup>. The next day we hauled some of the remaining equipment to the Santa Barbara Hamfest.

So far, we were able to sell over a thousand dollars worth of 'stuff'. These proceeds are split 50-50 with Mary. This is a good boost to our club's treasury.

Mary's garage still has quite a bit of gear. If you are interested in taking a look, please contact Dale Manquen. We will have some of the gear at our meeting this month.

We want to thank Mary for her help to our club.

## ATV NEWS by Bryon Foster

### Oat Mt. ATV Meeting

On September 16th (Sat.) there will be a meeting at my house in Simi Valley starting at 11:00 AM until we are all talked out or you have to leave. **Special Guest will be WA6SVT, Mike Collis, owner of ATN repeaters.** Mike will be bringing test equipment for ATV equipment so if you want to bring your downconverters, per-amps, ... etc. to the meeting he can check it out.

I have another downconverter coming from Communications Concepts Inc. to review. And I hope **W6KGE** can bring one of the many downconverters he has built and also invite the Hams he has supplied with downconverters or is about to supply. **K6UUZ** has built a downconverter and has built a special design dual band ATV antenna he might be able to bring if it isn't in service. And **K6RGW** has downconverters he is welcomed to bring as well as band pass filters.

**Note:** Please invite any of your Ham friends who are interested in ATV to the meeting. I am not limiting guests to just the people who receive this e-mail.

ATV transmitters will be covered at the meeting. Ways to get a signal on the air from manufactured, used, and other ways.

We will cover antennas as well and maybe **N6IWY** will have some of his "special results antennas" at the meeting.

**WA6SVT** will also update us on some of the unused features of the Oat Mt. ATV repeater as well as plans for the future.

**Lunch will also be served. Cold cuts, Salads, Fruit and Soft Drinks.** There will be lots of chairs to sit and chat a while.

Please R.S.V.P. by Sept. 12th to Bryon Foster [bryonfoster@hotmail.com]. If anyone needs directions to my house I will reply via e-mail to each request or by phone or ATV. My Address is 2461 Elizondo Ave. Simi Valley, CA 93065 Phone (805)522-4359

Talk in freq. will be 146.430 MHz with a PL of 100 Hz simplex.

I hope to see you all soon,  
N6IFU  
Bryon Foster

## The Simi Valley Days Parade is Coming Sept. 16!!

This year the theme of the Parade is “Let the Games Begin!” Our float will depict and describe our Field Day, leveraging off the Contest aspect of the event. This will give us an opportunity to include information on the how and why of Field Day on the side of the trailer.

We need a “Work Crew” to assemble the float on Friday, Sept. 15 at Allen’s house. Please contact Dale Manquen or Spencer Smith if you can assist.

## From Our Treasurer

Ed Richards, K6UUZ, has resigned as Treasurer. We need a replacement ASAP. If you are interested in helping out, please contact one of the officers.

Ed’s resignation was prompted by his strong feelings that we mishandled our efforts to help Mary Curry dispose of her late husband Lewis’ ham-related parts and equipment. Ed’s letter is posted on the website.

## The Pres Sez

Just when we get things running nicely, problems pop up! In this case, we have lost two Board members this month.

Ed Richards has been a hard worker in the club. He and his helpful wife got the financial records into shape, and Ed led the “Grab and Go” project, found our new meeting site at the Senior Center, and was trying to get a new repeater site. We will miss him at our meetings.

Our PIO and Membership Chairman Randy Strader, , has had a few changes in his life that will severely restrict his available time in the future. He feels that he won't have enough time to properly execute his club responsibilities, and he has therefore resigned. Randy has big burdens caring for his wife and earning a living. We wish him the best and thank him for his efforts and enthusiasm over the few months that he was able to serve.

This is a good time for some of the new members to raise a hand and volunteer to help the club. These vacant positions are important to the Club.

We had good representation August 13<sup>th</sup> is the Santa Barbara Hamfest. We even conducted an informal meeting during lunch regarding what to do with the repeater.

We are planning a House Warming in November to celebrate our new meeting place. We hope to have a reunion of some of the former members who are not currently attending meetings. Mark November 9<sup>th</sup> on your calendar.

## CVARC September 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. Their September Program is Steve Jensen talking about EMI.

Visit the CVARC website <http://www.cvarc.org/> for details.

## September Raffle Prizes

12 volt cooling fan (4")

Terminal blocks with 15 amp fuses

2.1-6 GHz pc board beam antenna

ICOM Hat

Simple Green Cleaner

AND the perpetual membership drawing prize of \$5!

## Last Month – High Speed Photography

Our own Mr. Al Febraro, KI6EKY, took us through the principles of High Speed Photography. High-speed photography is used in a wide variety of

applications to capture very fast events for later detailed study. Al's employer provides a wide variety of equipment to fit the specific needs.

Al had lots of interesting high-speed movies, and concluded with a live capture of a mouse trap in action.

Thanks, Al, for a very informative and entertaining presentation.

## From Our Treasurer

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Ed's resignation was prompted by his strong feelings that we mishandled our efforts to help Mary Curry dispose of her late husband Lewis' ham-related parts and equipment. Ed's letter is posted on the website.

## Simi Valley Repeater Update

Orv Beach W6BI, Repeater Trustee, Roger Armstrong WD6EVT and Chuck Benson KE6FSZ worked on the repeater Sept. 3 and 4. Due to the poor condition of the pole, they removed the antennas from the pole and mounted them to the cabinet. Chuck also checked the tuning of the cavities, but found nothing unusual.

Our next step is to replace the old wood pole with either a wood or metal pole.

## 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](http://www.emcomm.org/gear_list.htm) for a comprehensive list of supplies for your emergency kit.

## For Sale

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

Price: \$125

## Minutes for the August 10th Meeting

Call to Order:        President Dale Manquen, KO6VO, called the meeting to order at 7:42pm. Dale welcomed members and guests to our second meeting held at the new location, the Simi Valley Senior Center. There was no recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance as no American Flag was available in the room. Five Board Members were present. The total attendance was 11.

Introductions:        After Dale welcomed members to the meeting, a round of introductions was held. Dale suggested that members limit their comments to two minutes in order to conserve time for the program and due to our 10pm time limit in the meeting room.

Program:                President Dale introduced our speaker for this meeting, member Al Febraro, KI6EKY. Al gave a presentation on High Speed Photography. He has worked in the field of photography since 1972, specializing now in high-speed photography. He has currently been with the company Photo-Sonics for three years. Al said that the purpose of high-speed photography is to see what the human eye cannot see and that it refers to more than 125 pictures per second. He related some of the history going back to the famous photos examining how a horse gallops with all four hooves off the ground at once. Al said that the use of film is being phased out in favor of digital for high-speed photography. He showed video examples of its applications and gave an impressive live demonstration at the end of his talk. Using a digital camera capturing 2800 frames per second, he showed the action of a mousetrap being tripped.

At the conclusion of the program, Dale presented Al with a certificate of appreciation from the Club.

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

Announcements:       Dale announced that an auction of ham radio and electronic items from the estate of silent key Lewis Curry, WD6CAM, would be held Saturday, Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>, from 9am to 1pm. He reminded members of the Santa Barbara Hamfest that is the next day, on Sunday August 13<sup>th</sup>, starting at 8:30am. . The Simi Valley Days parade will be September 16<sup>th</sup> and the theme this year is "Let the Games Begin". We plan to participate with a float depicting the amateur radio "Field Day". For JOTA on Oct. 21-22, we are exploring a joint activity with CVARC. Dale asked if members were

interested in polo style Club shirts, and six to eight indicated they were interested.

Member Drawing: The winner in the monthly progressive membership drawing was John Percival, WI6O, who was present to win the \$5 prize. For the drawing in September, the amount will again start over at \$5.

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

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 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.

<b>Simi Settlers' Officers</b>			
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	Open		
Historian	Patrick Nelson KF6RMI		
		Committee Chairpersons	
Webmaster	Doug Dubrall WA6RJN		wa6rjn@arrl.net
Membership	Open		
PIO	Open		
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 September 14, 2006**  
 7:30 p.m.  
 Talk-in Frequency: 147.93MHz  
 - Offset PL 127.3Hz