



Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

February 2019

February 9, 2019

Static & Sparks

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General Meeting
Time: 7:00pm
Location: Simi Valley Senior
Center
3900 Avenida Simi
Simi Valley, CA 93063

February Program

Thursday, February 14 7:00 PM

Kevin Maiberger "Simi Valley Police Dept. Dispatch office operations"

Kevin will inform and entertain us with his talk on SVPD Dispatch procedures and anecdotes.

Upcoming Programs

- March 14; Mark Weiss
"Remote controlled radio"
- April 11; Bill Woods
"FT8 Digital Radio How To"
- May 9; Eric Oberg
"BitX SSB QRP how it works"
- June 13; Lea Veronica
"Living aboard a Sail boat with a Ham (operator)"
- July 11; Stewart Sheldon
"New Antenna Design"

Bill Woods - AB6BW

VOTE - VOTE - VOTE

If you haven't already voted by email for the revised constitution and bylaws, please do so NOW. Or come to the club meeting on Feb. 14 and vote in person. If you missed the email about the vote, contact me at ab6bw1@gmail.com and I will send you another copy of the voting email.

NEW MENUS

We have migrated across the streets from TGI Fridays to the **Macaroni Grill** for our pre-meeting Dinner With The Speaker. If you've avoided these opportunities to get acquainted with our speaker of the month because of TGIF's menu or ambiance, come give the MG a try.

And of course by now we all know that our pizza joint for the last millennium. Round Table Pizza, has closed its doors. Last month we tried going to Chuey's which received very mixed reviews. After all, **PIZZA NIGHT SHOULD HAVE PIZZA!** Right? **RIGHT!!!** This month we will try **Toppers** (NE corner of Cochran and Erringer).

Dinner with the Speaker

Where? Macaroni Grill
NE corner of Alamo & Tapo Cyn
When? 5:15 pm
Join our speaker and your club members for dinner before the club meeting.

Nets of Interest

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
LSB Net 8pm 3.908 MHz SSARC 2 Meter Net* 8:30 pm SMRA-ERN Repeater 146.805 -0.6MHz PL100.0 or 445.580 - 5.0MHz PL100.0	Condor Connection 7pm (Plays Newslines) Frazier Mountain 224.720-1.6 MHz PL156.7	LSB Net 8pm 3.908 MHz ACS Area 1 Simi Valley SMRA-ERN 7:05pm Repeater 146.805 -0.6MHz PL100.0 or 445.580 -5.0MHz PL100.0 ATN-CA Net 7:30pm http://atn-tv.org/netnight.htm	Channel Islands chapter 10-10 International 28.34 MHz at 10AM and 6PM Mesh IRC Net. 6-10 PM Mesh VOIP Net 8pm 2.4/5.8 GHz Mesh	LSB Net 8pm 3.908 MHz		SSARC SSB HF Net 8:30am 7.240 (+ or - QRM/N) 40 meter CW-QRP 9am 7.032 MHz Quad Squad net 1PM on 21.365 MHz's

Additional information on local nets can be found on the CVARC web site at: <http://www.cvarc.org>

Sunday Night Net Control Operators

Thanks to our fine Net Control Operators: Steve, KE6WEZ; Rick, W6DQE; Ray, KI6LKD; Jay, AG6JF, Brian KM6MIN and Dante, KK6JCQ.

ACS/ARES Corner

We are always looking for ACS members that would like to become Net Controllers. You will receive hands on training at the Simi Valley PD (where we normally conduct the Weekly Net). It is both fun and at times challenging. You will gain valuable experience in running a controlled Net as well as becoming more than just familiar with the equipment in the Radio Room at the PD. If you would like to volunteer for this, let me know - ke6wez@gmail.com

If anyone is interested in how to setup your own packet station, RMS Winlink station, or a Mesh Node, let me know and we can get you started in the proper direction.

NOTE: Please be advised that we hold the Tue. countywide net at 19:30 (7:30PM) on the Sulphur Mountain WD6EBY repeater 145.200, minus 600 KHz offset, CTCSS of 127.3. Until further notice, this will be our standard frequency for countywide communications.



- Steve King KE6WEZ (ke6wez@gmail.com)

Upcoming ACS/ARES Events:

1. On the upcoming rain storm, have your go boxes, batteries and gear ready for assignment.
2. The 2 meter repeater at Sulphur Mountain has been fixed. The MESH camera was relocated away from the antennas.
3. Changed antennas at Venture Fire HQ.
4. Tuesday, 5 February 2019: ORT
5. Saturday, 9 Feb 2019 T Hunt in Goleta. Contact Rob w6rh@arrl.net for more information about this event.
6. Tuesday, 12 February: 2019: NBEMs practice at 5:30pm
7. Sunday, 3 March 2019: Area 2 Crop Walk. Contact Zak n6pk@arrl.net for assignments.
8. Monday, 4 Mar 2019 ACS District meeting at the Oxnard EOC.

Events

Thursday, February 7, 2019, 6:00pm SSARC Pizza Night

Toppers Pizza, 2408 Erringer Rd , Simi Valley

Thursday, February 14, 2019, 7:00pm SSARC General Meeting

Simi Valley Senior Center, 3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley, CA 93063

Thursday, February 26, 2019, 7:00pm SSARC Board Meeting

Simi Valley Senior Center, 3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley, CA 93063



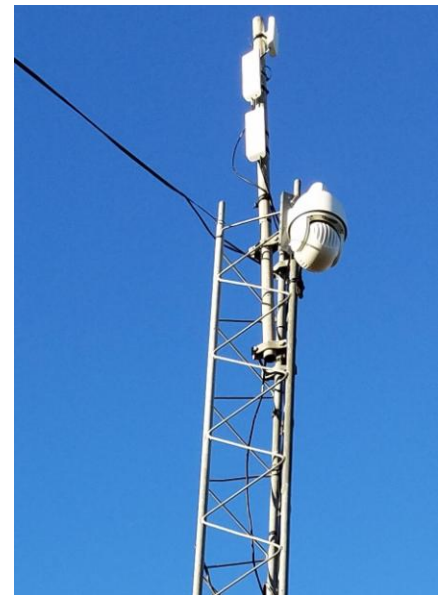
Raffle Prize!

Jim Hutchinson KI6MZ, our new raffle coordinator, has several great prizes lined up. Bring \$\$\$!!

Simi-North Site Upgrades!

About 18 months ago we put a PTZ camera on the tower at SimiNorth (north of the north end of Sycamore Road). We immediately found that during significant winds, which the site experiences frequently, the camera had horrible video jiggle.

A few months ago Dave KM6FQ and I removed the 125+ foot long aerial span of phone cable that had been used to provide a phone line to the site for an auto-patch (yes, the site's that old). It was broadside to the direction that our wind typically comes, and was tugging on the top of the tower. That helped, but not as much as we had hoped.



We found that while the tower is very secure, it's not secure enough to provide a stable video platform. So on MLK Day (Jan 21) we undertook with the property owner's blessing a project to add bracing to the tower. Photos show the work party, consisting of me, W6BI, Eric KE6MLF on the tower, and Dave KM6FQ (ground assistant and photographer).

It was windy that afternoon so we could check the camera and see if the braces made any



improvement. While the camera's not 100 percent stable, it's significantly improved and usable at zoom levels of 20x.

While on the tower Eric discovered that the cheap no-name Chinese camera is poorly fastened within its own mount and jiggles a bit in the wind by itself. Fortunately we had a higher quality replacement camera (a Sunba) staged.



On Jan 26, Eric made yet another climb up the short tower and swapped cameras. While he did that I wired up the 12V to 48 V converter that the new camera needed for power, and the new camera came up nicely. The video image is only a bit sharper on the new camera, but it stays in focus, whereas the old one would drift out of focus every couple of days. And as hoped the new camera image is almost completely steady at maximum zoom under windy conditions.

Photos show old camera, new camera (smaller) and a screenshot of the camera pointed at the Pass.

I verified that as before the video stream can be sent to YouTube. So we're in good shape for showing any incident the camera can see.

Other upgrades pending for that site are replacing the weather stripping on the door, and removal of one dead tree that's partially blocking the view of the southern part of the valley (again, with the owner's blessing).

73

Orv W6BI



**Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club
General Membership Meeting, January 10, 2019**

Call to Order: In the absence of President, Mike Hasenfratz, WA6FXT, the meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Vice President, Jim Veronica, WA6NXX. Jim welcomed everyone to the meeting, held at the Simi Valley Senior Center. There was a recitation of The Pledge of Allegiance.

9 Officers and Board Members/Advisors were present. The total attendance was 28, with 1 visitor.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Glenn Daly, WA6GNB, reported our club treasury balance stands at \$845. Glenn reminded us that Membership Dues are due for the 2018-2019 Club year. It was MSP to approve the Treasurer's report.

Introductions: There was a round of introductions for members and guests. The club welcomed visitor Tim Ryan, K6RYN.

Announcements: Bill Woods, said he will give a presentation at next month's meeting about the digital operating mode, "FT8". Bill then mentioned that the RoundTable Pizza closed after our November Pizza night. This month, on January 3rd, a group dinner was held at Chuy's. It was suggested that we try going to Toppers Pizza on Feb. 7, at 6pm. Bill said the "Dinner with the Speaker" was held at Macaroni Grill before tonight's meeting and will be held there again in February.

Orv Beach, W6BI, spoke about recent work at the Chatsworth Peak repeater site and mentioned the pictures in the January Newsletter. Jim Veronica said there will be a total Lunar Eclipse on the night of January 20th.

Program: Rick Galbraith, W6DQE, presented three short videos he got from the internet. The first was a commentary by Dave Casler, KE0OG, from a series called "Ask Dave" and "Ham Radio Answers". It talked about the many Chinese VHF-UHF radios that have been imported to the U.S. and questions about them being certified for commercial or Amateur Radio use. Many of these imported radios can transmit outside of the Ham bands. The second video talked about the Bouvet island DX-pedition and "DX etiquette" that operators should use. A third video showed the very large antennas at the station of Russian operator R7AB. Rick ended his program with pictures of the Field Day operation he did with Jay, AG6JF, at Mt. Pinos. He showed the antennas and operating position setups that they used.

Break: A 15-minute break was taken, with refreshments provided by Bill Everett, KI6KSV.

Member Drawing: The progressive Membership drawing was held. The winning name drawn was Glenn Daly, WA6GNB, who was not present to win the \$10 prize. The prize amount will therefore increase to \$20 for our February 14, 2019 meeting. Members must be present to win, and the prize grows by \$10 each month it is unclaimed.

Prize Raffle: Jim Hutchinson, KI6MZ, our prize chairperson showed the selection of prizes for tonight,

February Meeting: The next meeting will be on Thursday, February 14, 2019. The program will be a presentation on the FT-8 operating mode, given by Bill Woods, AB6BW. For March, the scheduled speaker will be Mark Weiss, K6FG, who will talk about remote-control operation of a home station.

Constitution/Bylaws: Jim Veronica mentioned that we will have a vote at the February 14th General Meeting to adopt the updated Club Constitution and Bylaws documents. A two-thirds vote of the paid membership is needed. Bill Woods said he will send out an email to members asking them to vote at the meeting, or to send an email reply as a form of absentee ballot.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

Submitted by: Secretary, John Percival, WI6O

Letter From The Editor

Please submit articles, pictures, etc. on things of interest to our SSARC community for publication to me at ab6bw1@gmail.com. Such items may discuss your recent antenna project, shack modifications, new operating modes, anecdotes from portable field operations, and so forth. A picture with a caption works. A few sentences strung together works. A few paragraphs, a few pages with detailed illustrations.... It's all good. I look forward (with a wee bit of trepidation) to your submissions. **Submission Deadline is Sunday night before 1st Thursday!**

73, Bill (AB6BW)

Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club Web Page: <http://www.simissettlers.org/index.htm>

Simi Settlers' ARC Yahoo Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SimiSettlersARC>

Mail: P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, CA 93062-2125

Simi Settlers' Leadership				
President	Mike Hasenfratz	WA6FXT	(805) 405-8696	mikeh@tothe.net
Vice President	Jim Veronica	WA6NXX	(818) 389-3453	fun4all8@earthlink.net
Secretary	John Percival	WI6O		percivaljohns@cs.com
Treasurer	Glenn Daly	WA6GNB		gnb.2112@yahoo.com
Committee Chairpersons				
Webmaster	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
Newsletter	Bill Woods	AB6BW	(818) 694-9019 cell	ab6bw1@gmail.com
Membership	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
PIO	Linda Parker		(805) 558-1731 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
Raffle Prizes	Rick Galbraith	W6DQE	(805) 433-4513 cell	rick@keymaterial.com
Youth Coordinator	Dante Smith	W6JCQ		danterusso1999@gmail.com
Historian	Mike Tweedy	KV6I		mtweedy@roadrunner.com
Net Coordinator	Ray Campbell	KI6LKD	(805) 404-3246	ki6lkd@yahoo.com
Net Coordinator	Steve King	KE6WEZ		ke6wez@gmail.com
Food Services	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		ki6ksv@gmail.com
Room Coordinator	Linda Parker		(805) 558-1731 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
Elmers and Members at Large				
Past-President	Frank Valdez	KI6OQ	(805) 404-0394	frankki6oq@gmail.com
Past-Treasurer	Norbert Rehaut	W9YPM(SK)		
Elmer	VACANT			
Advisor	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		wildpoky45@earthlink.net
Advisor	Jim Hutchinson	KI6MZ		jhutch17@adelphia.net
Advisor	Brad Rife	KI6KSY		speedy@earthlink.net

Field Day 2019 - New VCARS Web Site

For those who are interested in the upcoming 2019 Field Day, Vern Potter W6NCT has indicated that there is a new VCARS website to replace the old Yahoogroups.com website that has been decommissioned. The new VCARS website is shown in the email below. This is the site that will have all the information and updates pertaining to the 2019 Field Day at the Reagan Library on June 22-23. If you have not subscribed to the new website you should go ahead and do so.

As a matter of interest to hams operating HF during the current solar minimum cycle, I mentioned in the SSARC board meeting today there are several remote SDR receiver sites in the U.S. and around the world that you can use to help you hear distant stations during the current poor HF propagation conditions. Please check out what is available on websdr.org that you can paste into your browser. For example, when I take part in the Northrop Grumman Family Net every Wednesday on 14.270 MHz at 12:00 noon I use either the SDR remote receiver in Half Moon Bay (KFS) or the one in northern Utah (websdr #2) to assist in hearing the other station. You can save the internet link to your favorite SDR site and use it as needed. Within any of the programs you selected you can pick a frequency you typically use and store it so when you come back the following week to operate the weekly net you can easily pull it up. The presentation is in a standard panadapter waterfall display. You should really give it a try.

Mike KV6I

Hello,

Welcome to the [FD-2019@VCARS-events.groups.io](https://VCARS-events.groups.io) group at Groups.io, a free, easy-to-use email group service. Please take a moment to review this message.

You can visit your group, start reading messages and posting them here: <https://VCARS-events.groups.io/g/FD-2019>

The email address for this group is: FD-2019@VCARS-events.groups.io. Because our system allows for participants to post via web or email, you can use this email to post new topics.

But most importantly, please add this email address to your safe sender list in your email client's contacts.

This is a sub-group of **VCARS-events**, to aid in organizing the **2019 "N6R" Field Day** event at the Reagan Presidential Library.

You can set your subscription settings here: <https://VCARS-events.groups.io/g/FD-2019/editsub>. You can opt to receive: all messages in individual emails, collections of messages in a digest, a daily summary, or only special notices.

If you do not wish to belong to this group, you may unsubscribe by sending an email to: FD-2019+unsubscribe@VCARS-events.groups.io

To see and modify all of your groups, go to <https://groups.io>

Regards,

The [FD-2019@VCARS-events.groups.io](https://VCARS-events.groups.io) Moderator

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, Ca 93062-2125 --- (www.simisetters.org)

Membership Application



Type of Application:

New Member
Renewal

Type of Membership:

Individual (\$18/yr)
Family (\$20/yr)

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes No

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Alt. Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Additional Family Members:

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes No

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes No

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes No

Badges requested: Yes No How many? _____ X \$18.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s): _____

Shirts requested: Yes No How many? _____ X \$35.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s) Size(s) (Sm, Med, L, XL, etc): _____

Jackets Requested: Yes No How many? _____ X \$88.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s) Size(s) (Sm, Med, L, XL, etc): _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Application type: New Renewal Membership type: Individual Family

Date Received: _____ Amount Received: _____ Database completed: _____

Badges and Shirts ordered: _____