

## **Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club General Membership Meeting, Aug 8, 2019**

- Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by President, Bill Woods, AB6BW. Bill welcomed everyone to the meeting, held at the Simi Valley Senior Center. There was a recitation of The Pledge of Allegiance. 8 Officers and Board Members/Advisors were present. The total attendance was 21.
- Announcements: Bill reported that Jim Veronica, WA6NXK, is now home doing well after bypass surgery. Bill said Jim will welcome greeting calls.
- Introductions: There was a round of introductions for those in attendance. Guests included: Alysia Bright, KN6DPH, and Stephen Neveaux, KM6VCI.
- Meeting minutes: With the lack of an August Newsletter, the minutes of the July 11, 2019 meeting were not published. (Secretary's Note: The Board has considered having meeting minutes placed on the "Newsletters" page of our website, until publication of the Short Circuit can be resumed.)
- Treasurers Report: Glenn Daly, WA6GNB, reported our account balance is currently \$1,376.48. The report as given was approved by a motion, MSP. Glenn said we have a signup sheet going around for members wishing to order one of the new Club T-shirts that will soon be ordered.
- Pizza Night: There was discussion of our last Pizza Night at Toppers, where it was very noisy with two youth soccer teams having a party. Members were asked if they favor going back to MOD Pizza or staying with Toppers. The majority choice was to continue at Toppers for the September pizza night.
- Program: President Bill Woods introduced Orv Beach, W6BI, as our program speaker for an update on Mesh networking activity. His talk was titled: "RF Digital Networking: The Ham Radio Internet". Orv made a comparison between Mesh Networking and Packet Radio systems: Mesh data rate can be 100 Megabits/second while Packet is typically only 1.2 Kbits/second. Orv said that the AREDN (Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network) firmware now supports four equipment brands and over 60 models. There are beginner guides and YouTube videos online. He described the many kinds of services available through MESH networks. Some of these are keyboard to keyboard, BBS, and voice chat. Orv spoke about "Teamtalk" which supports text, audio, video, and file sharing. The use of webcams has grown after the 2017 Thomas fire sparked interest and improvement of video and cameras at MESH sites. Orv talked about equipment needed to set up for MESH operating. He showed pictures of mesh site installations and a map of the AREDN network in Southern Calif as well as our local Simi area, with photos of local sites. There are plans to expand the local network with new sites and upgrades to existing ones. Orv gave a live demo linking to other hams at their home stations with video on Teamtalk.  
After the program, Bill thanked Orv and presented a certificate of appreciation from the Club.
- Break: A 10-minute break was taken at 8:35pm, with refreshments provided by Bill Everett, KI6KSV.
- Member Drawing: The progressive Membership drawing was held. The winning name was Jim Seino, N6PV, who was not present to win the \$10 prize. The prize amount will therefore increase to \$20.00 for our September 2019 meeting. Members must be present to win, and the prize grows by \$10 each month it is unclaimed.
- Prize Drawing: Our monthly prize drawing was held, and the featured "grand" prize and this month was a high-power Duracell flashlight, won by John Percival, WI6O.
- September Meeting: Our next meeting will be on Thursday, Sept. 12, 2019, with a scheduled presentation by John Kitchens, NS6X, ARRL Santa Barbara Section Manager, with the latest news from the ARRL.
- Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

Submitted by: Secretary, John Percival, WI6O