

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club General Membership Meeting, Sept 12, 2019

- Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Vice President, Brian Hernandez, KM6MIN. Brian welcomed everyone to the meeting, held at the Simi Valley Senior Center. There was a recitation of The Pledge of Allegiance. 7 Officers and Board Members/Advisors were present. The total attendance was 19.
- Introductions: There was a round of introductions for those in attendance. Guests included: Art Jukes, KM6ZXO, and Chris Aiery.
- Announcements: Brian mentioned that the Board is considering doing a project building activity. Members are invited to make project suggestions. Tonight's dinner with the Speaker was held at Macaroni Grill and it went very well. Brian reported that last Sunday's Club Net had just 3 check-ins, with a mix of good and poor conditions on the repeater (146.805). After consideration of changing the net time, it was decided to keep it at 8:30pm. Frank Valdez, KI6OQ, spoke about Field Day saying that we need more member participation for next year.
- 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 plans to have meeting minutes placed on the "Newsletters" page of our website, until publication of the Short Circuit can be resumed.)
- Treasurers Report: With Treasurer, Glenn Daly, WA6GNB, away on vacation, there was no report available.
- Pizza Night: There was discussion of our last Pizza Night at Toppers. Members were asked if they favor staying at Toppers. The majority choice was to try MOD Pizza again for the October 3rd pizza night.
- Program: Vice President Brian Hernandez introduced John Kitchens, NS6X, as our program speaker for tonight. John is the ARRL Santa Barbara Section Manager and his talk was titled: "ARRL, Information and History". The American Radio Relay League was founded in 1914 by Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW. John described the ARRL's Vision Statement. He said that the "Relay League" in the name originated because early radio communication distance was short, and it required messages to be received and retransmitted by operators to cross the country. John mentioned that Dick Norton, N6AA, is the Southwest Division Director and said the directors who favored a "closed Board" are now out of office. John described many of the benefits and services available to the ARRL membership and Ham radio. After his report about the ARRL, John spoke about the importance of safety measures hams should observe with antenna installation and when working with high voltage in radios. He also mentioned that grounding and bonding are very important for safe ham radio operating. After the program, Brian thanked John Kitchens and presented him with a certificate of appreciation from the Club.
- Break: A 15-minute break was taken at 8:20pm, with refreshments provided by Bill Everett, KI6KSV.
- Member Drawing: The progressive Membership drawing was held. The winning name was Chuck Benson, WA6FGK, who was not present to win the \$20 prize. The prize amount will therefore increase to \$30.00 for our October 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, with two donated ARRL books from John Kitchens, NS6X. The featured "grand" prize this month was a 2019 ARRL Handbook. It was won by Jim Hutchinson, KI6MZ.
- October Meeting: Our next meeting will be on Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019, with a scheduled presentation by Eric Oberg, KE6MLF about model rocket tracking.
- Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

Submitted by: Secretary, John Percival, WI6O