



Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

April 2021

Programs

Static & Sparks

Inside this Issue

President Brian - KM6MIN

Happy April Everybody!

I hope everybody is doing well. It looks like we're making it through the woods and things are starting to open up. That's great! Maybe we'll all get to see each other again sometime soon.

And while I'm at it. It was good seeing most of you for pizza night. Thank you Rick for opening up your patio for us. Hopefully by the next time we'll get to meet at a pizza place.

Hopefully I've reached you in time to let you know to not miss this months meeting, we are going to start the dialogue on this year's field day.

Exciting stuff!

Brian KM6MIN

As we go to press, no speakers are lined up for April. Heard any good stories? How about a video tour of your shack?

Orv has created an email group at <https://groups.io> You can sign up to receive (or not) emails each time a post is made.

Thanks to past presenters:
March -

Meetings

The April general meeting is Thursday the 8th via Zoom.

The April board meeting will be on Thursday the 22th via Zoom.

If you did not get an invite for any meeting, send an email to our president, Brian at km6min_bh@yahoo.com. We are happy to have you!

General Meetings
Time: 7:00pm on the 2nd
Thursday of every month.
Held via Zoom.

April 2021

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 The Newbie net 7 pm, Bozo Repeater 147.885 (– 127.3)	Condor Connection 7pm (Plays Newslane) 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 ACS Area 1 Simplex net, 6:45 PM on 145.510MHz	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>

* For more information, see <http://www.pvarc.club/mesh/mesh-applications/>

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. New Winlink PO in VC - AG6AG-10 Packet Winlink
2. Saturday, May 8th, 2021 Red Cross Drill
3. Sat. 5/30/2021 Mountain to Beach Marathon

April 2021

Events

Thursday, April 1, 2021, 6:00pm SSARC Pizza Night

Toppers Pizza, 2408 Erringer Rd, Simi Valley (even months)

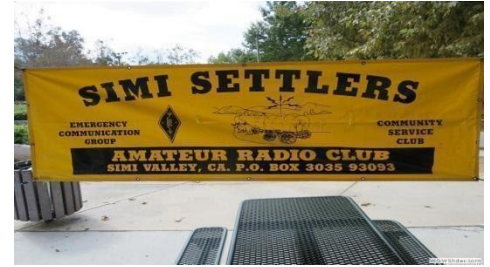
Mod Pizza, 2941 Cochran St, Unit 1A, Simi Valley (odd months)

Thursday, April 8, 2021, 7:00pm SSARC General Meeting

Via Zoom

Thursday, April 22, 2021, 7:00pm SSARC Board Meeting

Via Zoom.



Projects

Projects listed here are intended to peak your interest. Ask questions or submit your entry for the next newsletter.

Triunfo Lookout trip March 4, 2021 from Ron K6RIN

One of my favorite aspects of Ham Radio is participating in Summits on the Air (SOTA). SOTA is an organization that promotes hiking and portable ham radio operation. The main premise is to hike to an identified mountain top with your equipment, operate completely portably, and make at least four radio contacts. I try to hike and activate two to four peaks per month. The hikes can range from a mile to more than 10 miles each, depending on the mountain.

On March 4, 2021, I hiked to the top of Triunfo Peak, also known as Triunfo Lookout (W6/SC-219, 1-point). It is located nearby in the Santa Monica Mountains and is one of the easier hikes that qualify as a SOTA activation site. The hike is only about .8 miles to the top, with about 544 feet of elevation gain. The top of the summit contains an old cement structure that once supported a fire lookout building that burned down in the 1950's. Views from the top include the Pacific Ocean and Channel Islands, Conejo and San Fernando Valleys, and the San Gabriel and Topa Topa Mountains.

For this activation, I took along my Yaesu FT891 HF radio, with a telescoping vertical antenna on a small tripod. The setup was powered by a 12ah Bioenno LiFePO4 battery. I also used a Yaesu FT3DR HT radio and a handheld Log Periodic antenna for 2-meter simplex operation. My activation time was kept short (about 1 hour) due to the fact my XYL had a list of chores for me to complete that day. In that short hour, I managed to make 31 contacts on 2-meter simplex, and 17, 20, and 40 meter SSB. These included AH6V on the Big Island of Hawaii, F4WBN in southern France, VE1PHV in Novia Scotia, and many other hams throughout the United States.

While on a mountain top it is always very exciting to make contacts with other SOTA activators, known as Summit to Summit (S2S) contacts, and for this activation I managed to contact N6AN on Flint Peak and NA6MG on nearby Buzzard's Roost Peak.

Let me know if anyone is interested in joining me on any future SOTA adventures.

Here are some photos from the adventure:

Here is the hike route, which starts on Mulholland Drive



A bit of the trail



What's left of an old concrete fire lookout structure and a view of the pacific ocean



My SOTA Flag posted



View from the top



.

Yaesu FT-891 with antenna tuner



Vertical Telescoping Antenna with wire radial ground plane



My Contact Map



April 2021

Ventura County Ham Network News from Orv W6BI:

Network software

A new version of AREDN software for network nodes will be out in maybe 2-3 weeks. It will be a production release that includes any patches added since July, including add support for new hardware and any updates or patches applied since then.

Network maintenance & troubleshooting

The number of the nodes on the network had grown to over 700. That in itself isn't a bad thing, but the network was becoming unstable, as evidenced by occasional "routing storms", that make the network unusable. More and more tunnels (nodes linked across the Internet) were appearing and it's likely that some of them were involved in one or more "routing loops", which tend to encourage these routing storms. So action was taken several weeks ago to drop three or four of the "long haul" tunnels. As a result the node count and the number of tunnels detectable dropped precipitously. Since then the network has been very stable.

Winlink over the mesh network

More and more county stations are coming up on Winlink, the messaging system that's uniquely adapted for emergency communications. While Winlink supports these low- and medium-speed data protocols:

- ALE (Automatic Link Establishment)
- APRS (Automatic Packet Reporting System)
- AX.25 Packet Radio
- D-Star (Digital Smart Technologies for Amateur Radio)
- PACTOR, PACTOR-II, PACTOR-III, PACTOR-IV
- VARA FM, VARA HF

it also now supports communications via the ham 'mesh' network. That supports much quicker message handling as you'd expect. Several stations are now supporting Winlink Post Offices on the mesh network with a couple in Ventura County, and we expect this to continue to grow.

Letter From The Editor

Please submit articles, pictures, etc. on things of interest to our SSARC community for publication to me at ericoberg1@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.

73, Eric KE6MLF

April 2021

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club General Membership Meeting, March 11, 2021

- Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:07pm by President, Brian Hernandez, KM6MIN. Brian welcomed everyone to the meeting, held over the internet using Zoom. 8 Officers and Board Members/Advisors were present. The total attendance was approx. 17.
- President:** Brian gave an update on the remodeling work at his home. He also reports that he got the new job he had applied for.
- Secretary:** Minutes from the February General Meeting are in the March newsletter
- Treasurer:** Treasurer Glenn Daly, WA6GNB, reported the account balance now stands at \$2002.87, with \$41 of it being petty cash. He said there had been no new memberships or renewals received since last month. It was MSP to approve the Treasurer's Report.
- Membership:** Membership chairman Jim Parker, KJ6LXJ, said he has added the March Club newsletter to the website.
- Publicity:** PIO, Linda Parker, said there was nothing new to report.
- Newsletter:** Editor Eric Oberg, KE6MLF, said the March newsletter has been posted on the webpage and it has been posted on the new 'groups.io' page that Orv Beach set up for the Club. Eric said there is a story and pictures from a recent work party to install new repeater equipment at a PVARC repeater site. Eric also welcomes any contributions for publication in future issues.
- Program:** President Brian said we have no guest speaker for this meeting, so he invited members in the zoom meeting to tell us about any recent projects or activities they have been doing.
- Eric talked about an antenna installation project at Glenn Daly's home last weekend. With a group of helpers, they raised a Spider-Beam antenna. Glenn said it tunes up and works well.
 - Orv Beach talked about a new SDR receiver that has been installed at the Simi North Mesh network site. He also mentioned HF Winlink and VARA FM operation he has been doing.
 - Rick asked Glenn how the new antenna is working and how the noise level is on receive.
 - Ken Sandberg, KS3I, spoke about on-line VE session license testing. He described how some of these sessions are conducted.
 - Patrick O'Bryan, WB6USZ, said that he had received the first dose Covid vaccine and is about to get the second dose.
 - Ron Nelson, K6RIN, spoke about National Police Week coming up in May. He is planning to set up a special event station to operate at the Simi Valley P.D. during the week of May 9 to 15.
 - Brian reminded members about the Sunday evening SSARC Nets at 8:30PM, on the K6ERN repeater.
 - Bill Woods spoke about a new mast he has set up for a new antenna.
 - Rick Galbraith also asked when we might be able to have a Club Picnic again. The Board of Directors will discuss this idea.
- Member Drawing:** Brian made the drawing for the progressive Membership drawing and reported the winning name was Leslie Mayer, KF6GNE. Leslie was not logged into this Zoom meeting, so she did not win the \$30 prize. The prize amount will now increase to \$40 for our April meeting. While the Club continues to hold meetings on Zoom, members must be logged into the meeting to win. The prize amount grows by \$10 each month it is unclaimed.
- Adjournment:** The Zoom meeting was adjourned at 8:04 pm.
- Submitted by: Secretary, John Percival, WI6O

April 2021

Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club Web Page: <http://www.simisetters.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	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Vice President	VACANT			
Secretary	John Percival	WI6O		johnspercival1@gmail.com
Treasurer	Glenn Daly	WA6GNB		gnb.2112@yahoo.com
Committee Chairpersons				
Webmaster	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
Newsletter	Eric Oberg	KE6MLF	(805) 791-0745 cell	ericoberg1@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	VACANT			
Historian	Mike Tweedy	KV6I		mtweedy@roadrunner.com
Net Coordinator	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595	
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	Bill Woods	AB6BW	(818) 694-9019cell	AB6BW1@gmail.com
Elmer	VACANT			
Advisor	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		wildpoky45@earthlink.net
Advisor	Jim Hutchinson	KI6MZ		jhutch17@adelphia.net
Advisor	Brad Rife	KI6KSY		speedy@earthlink.net

April 2021

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, Ca 93062-2125 --- (www.simisettlers.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: _____

April 2021