



## Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

# Short Circuit

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The next Simi Settlers club meeting is

**Thursday November 10** at 7:00 PM

Simi Senior Center (Enter by the Southwest door).

3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley.

The next Simi Settlers Pizza Night is at

**Toppers**, 2408 Erringer Road, Simi Valley.

**Thursday November 3** at 6:00 PM.

This newsletter brought to you by:



### Assorted Tidbits:

The Simi Settlers Christmas party is tentatively scheduled for Saturday December 3rd at 6:00pm at Jim and Lea's house.

The RF bar graph **PCB project** will continue where it left off this month, November. The intent is still to complete the schematic, complete the printed circuit board, program the Arduino, and buy parts so that we can all make one. At LEAST two more sessions.

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Have you done a **presentation** in the past? We are going to post old presentations for you to browse through. Find that old power point slide show, convert it to PDF, and forward it to our web page via Matt, webmaster at [mgriffi79@yahoo.com](mailto:mgriffi79@yahoo.com).

**Linda**, our PIO has club flyers posted in the lobby of the Senior Center. Care to get some and post them in your favorite haunt? Just ask at the next meeting or send an email to Jim and Linda at [kj6lxj@gmail.com](mailto:kj6lxj@gmail.com).

We have an idea to make an “**Eyeball QSO**” card. Meet somebody interested in the club or Amateur radio, we could slip them a card with details like:

- Club web site
- Meeting times and locations
- Selected contacts
- Links to ARRL, or other amateur radio information web sites.

**Come up with your best ideas**, we will vote on the design and get them printed up.

**Glen WA6GNB** has a limited number of parts “kits” available for the RF detector PCB project. This is not (yet) the PCB, but MOST of the parts you may need to stuff the circuit board. The cost is \$17 and includes the Arduino Nano. Send an email to Glenn WA6GNB at [gnb.2112@yahoo.com](mailto:gnb.2112@yahoo.com).

I am ready for turkey sandwiches already. Anybody else?



## Nets of Interest

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>LSB Net</b> 8pm 3.908 MHz  <b>SSARC 2 Meter Net*</b> 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)	<b>Condor Connection</b> 7pm (Plays Newsline) Frazier Mountain 224.720-1.6 MHz PL156.7	<b>LSB Net</b> 8pm 3.908 MHz  <b>ACS Area 1</b> Simi Valley SMRA-ERN 7:05pm Repeater 146.805 -0.6MHz PL100.0 or 445.580 -5.0MHz PL100.0  <b>ATN-CA Net</b> 7:30pm <a href="http://atn-tv.org/net_night.htm">http://atn-tv.org/net_night.htm</a>  <b>ACS Area 1</b> Simplex net, 6:45 PM on 145.510MHz	<b>Channel Islands chapter 10-10 International</b> 28.34 MHz at 10AM and 6PM  <b>Mesh VOIP Net*</b> 8pm 2.4/5.8 GHz Mesh	<b>LSB Net</b> 8pm 3.908 MHz		<b>SSARC SSB HF Net</b> 8:30am <b>7.240</b> (+ or - QRM/N) 40 meter  <b>CW-QRP</b> 9am 7.032 MHz  <b>Quad Squad net</b> 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/>

Our repeaters are too quiet!

If you are sitting around evenings or on the weekend, turn on your radio and listen in.

Sometimes there is local activity on 146.520, the simplex channel. Here are our 8:30 PM Sunday night net controllers:

Oct	2	Rick W6DQE
	9	Kevin KD6UTC
	16	Barry K6ZA
	23	Ron K6RIN
	30	Matt KN6SEC
Nov	6	Brian KM6MIN
	13	Rick W6DQE
	20	Kevin KD6UTC
	27	Barry K6ZA

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## ACS/ARES Corner

Frank Valdez KI6OQ is the Area 1 Emergency Coordinator

**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, just message Frank Valdez at [frankki6oq@gmail.com](mailto:frankki6oq@gmail.com).



Be sure to check [www.vccomm.org](http://www.vccomm.org) for the latest !

If anyone is interested in how to set up your own packet station, RMS Winlink station, or a Mesh Node, contact Frank, he will point you in the right direction.

**Barry K6ZA** wants to remind everybody that they have options to check in with something other than a 2 meter handheld. The **80 meter net is Tuesday nights at 18:30 (6:30 PM) on 3.987 MHz.**

The **Area 1** (Simi Valley) net occurs Tuesdays. Generally it is just a brief check in, but usually some news about upcoming events is passed on.

The simplex net is on 145.510 at **6:45 PM**. The regular net is on the 146.805 (-, PL100) repeater at **7:00 PM. Stop by and say Hi.** You do not have to do anything other than check in to test out your simplex or repeater connection.

**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.

**Ride for the Red** is November 12. Rick Tate, KQ6NO is leading this effort. Can you help?

Visit [vccomm.org](http://vccomm.org) for more updates!

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**Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club  
General Membership Meeting, October 13, 2022**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm by President Brian Hernandez, KM6MIN. Brian welcomed everyone to the meeting, which was held in-person at the Simi Valley Senior Center. There were ten in attendance, including five Officers and Board Members/Advisors.

Brian led the Club in the Pledge to the Flag.

Brian started a round of introductions by those in attendance and announced that the position of Club Vice-President is still open. He also reminded everyone that they are all welcome to attend the Board meetings held the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month, the next meeting of which will be held on October 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

Treasurer: Glenn Daly, WA6GNB reported that the club treasury contains \$1,519.38. In the past month, the club paid the renewal on the P.O. Box, and the rental for the park facility for the club's annual picnic in October. He also reminded everyone that John Percival WI6O was the winner of last month's can drawing for the prize of \$50.

Glenn reported that the Club will resume selling ballcap style hats with embroidered logo and callsign for \$20, and embroidered shirts for \$25, although members desiring shirts must provide their own shirt to be embroidered.

The Treasurer's report was approved.

Secretary: Ron Nelson K6RIN provided printed copies of the minutes from the last club meeting on September 8, 2022.

Ron discussed a topic from last month's meeting in which it was suggested that the club membership annual dues be raised to \$25 for each member and \$30 for each family. According to the club constitution, Article V, the dues are established by a majority vote of the paid-up members at any regular meeting. Ron made a motion that the club postpone the vote for another month since this meeting was attended by such a small number of members. The motion was approved.

The Secretary's report was approved.

Webmaster: Matt Griffin KN6SEC reported that the Club Website has been updated monthly.

Newsletter: Eric Oberg KE6MLF reported that he is still looking for stories and items of interest for the Newsletter.

Program: Eric Oberg KE6MLF continued Part 3 of his presentation on building an Arduino based RF detector. This presentation emphasized circuit board layout and design.

Announcements: Richard Moore KN6RCC asked about the status of the suggestion to design a club business card for membership recruitment purposes. A brief discussion took place about the club looking for members to provide design ideas for the card.

Bill Everett KI6KSV made an announcement about an upcoming event, American Heros Airshow, to be held November 12 at the Hanson Dam Recreational Center in Sylmar. Admission is free.

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Member Drawing: President Brian Hernandez conducted the progressive membership drawing with \$10 as the prize. The name drawn was John Kitchens NS6X, who was not present. The prize for the November meeting will be \$20.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Submitted by: Ron Nelson, K6RIN, Club Secretary

## Member Updates

### First, a novel from From Orv, W6BI

A ham in Running Spring who was renting, got evicted. He never returned to retrieve his belongings so the owners got a court order allowing them to auction off his belongings including ham radio gear. Among them was a trailer with an extendable mast on it. The winning bidder for the trailer was a ham in San Francisco who is a member of ITDRC (the Information Technology Disaster Resource Center - <https://www.itdrc.org/>).

They'll deploy it as needed during emergencies that need some radio gear on top of the mast. Being up in San Francisco, the call went out in the ITRDC Slack channels asking if someone would be willing to retrieve it. It was only a hundred miles away, so I thought "What the heck." and volunteered to retrieve it. My SUV, while it had a hitch, didn't have a towing package. So I asked my son Eric KB6DYJ if he'd be willing to take me to Running Springs and haul it back to Simi Valley. He agreed and one Saturday we went up to the house in Running Springs. The rental house has a sloping hill behind it, and that's where the trailer was, which had been sitting on its outriggers for years. We were able to pull the Jeep in front of it and inflate the tires (zero pounds of pressure initially). We backed the Jeep in and hooked it up to the trailer. The outriggers had had the weight of the trailer and tower on them for so many years they were bent and wouldn't go back in completely. With the aid of a couple of cinder blocks we were able to pound them in far enough so we wouldn't get pulled over. The tires seemed to be holding pressure OK.

We pulled the trailer out in front of the house, paid the auctioneer, and headed back to Simi. About halfway back I realized we hadn't checked the lug nuts. We pulled into a truck stop and found that while one wheel was fine the lug nuts on the other wheel were not tight, with one able to be tightened a bit by hand (!)

We got home safely, backed the trailer into the driveway, dropped the outrigger legs and leveled the trailer with cinder blocks under the outrigger legs (the driveway is slanted). Home safe!

A couple of days later we decided to see if the mast could be extended. We plugged its compressor into AC and started it up. When the tank was up to 100 psi, we applied pressure to the mast. The mast started to extend and as it did we got showered with water that had collected in the mast over the years. As each seven foot section started extending we got another (albeit progressively lighter) shower. We got it up to its full height (60 feet) and it was a sight to behold, being only 15 feet lower than my tower in the backyard.

As I was going to Pacificon in the Bay area two weeks later, I told the owner we'd tow it up there and hand it off. Before leaving we put a new set of tires on it, and replaced the trailer hitch stand with one that would raise up off the ground more. My grandson, who has an auto detailing business, gave it a quick power-wash so it would look nice when we arrived :-)

The trip up there on Friday was uneventful. However, the parking lot of the Marriott hotel in San Ramon is quite overgrown with trees and we ended up 'trimming' a few low-hanging branches here and there until we got to the back of the parking lot where there was room to park a truck and trailer.

Sunday morning we turned the trailer over to its new owner. It will need some TLC before its ready for deployment, but that's OK. The winning bid for the trailer was \$737, while the pneumatic tower itself sold for \$11K new..

Orv W6BI

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## From Joe, W6JWP, photos of Pacificon

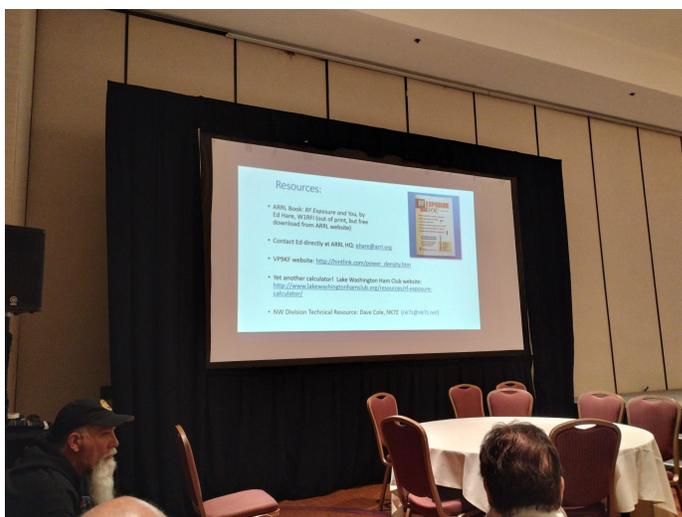
Both Joe and Orv went to Pacificon. Did either one go to the swap meet and bring me back anything?  
NO. Dang!



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Orv !  
 AREDN presentation



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Joe liked this one, a WWII Enigma machine!

**This from Orv, W6BI, featuring me!**

Just a bit of maintenance on Glen's WA6GNB tower. Replacing the Ubiquity Nanostation M5 with a dish.



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## More from Orv W6BI, and Bill AB6BW.

### The Simi Valley Street Fair and the Simi Settlers

Saturday, October 29th was the annual Simi Valley Street Fair. The Settlers had a pop-up there, courtesy of Eileen Connors, the city's Emergency Service Manager. The fair was well attended (translated - it was crazy busy!)



Our booth was manned by Bill AB6BW, Donnie KKJ6TTN, and Orv W6BI (morning shift) and Ron K6RIN (afternoon shift). Bill brought both of his go-boxes (digital and analog), and Donnie brought his go-box.



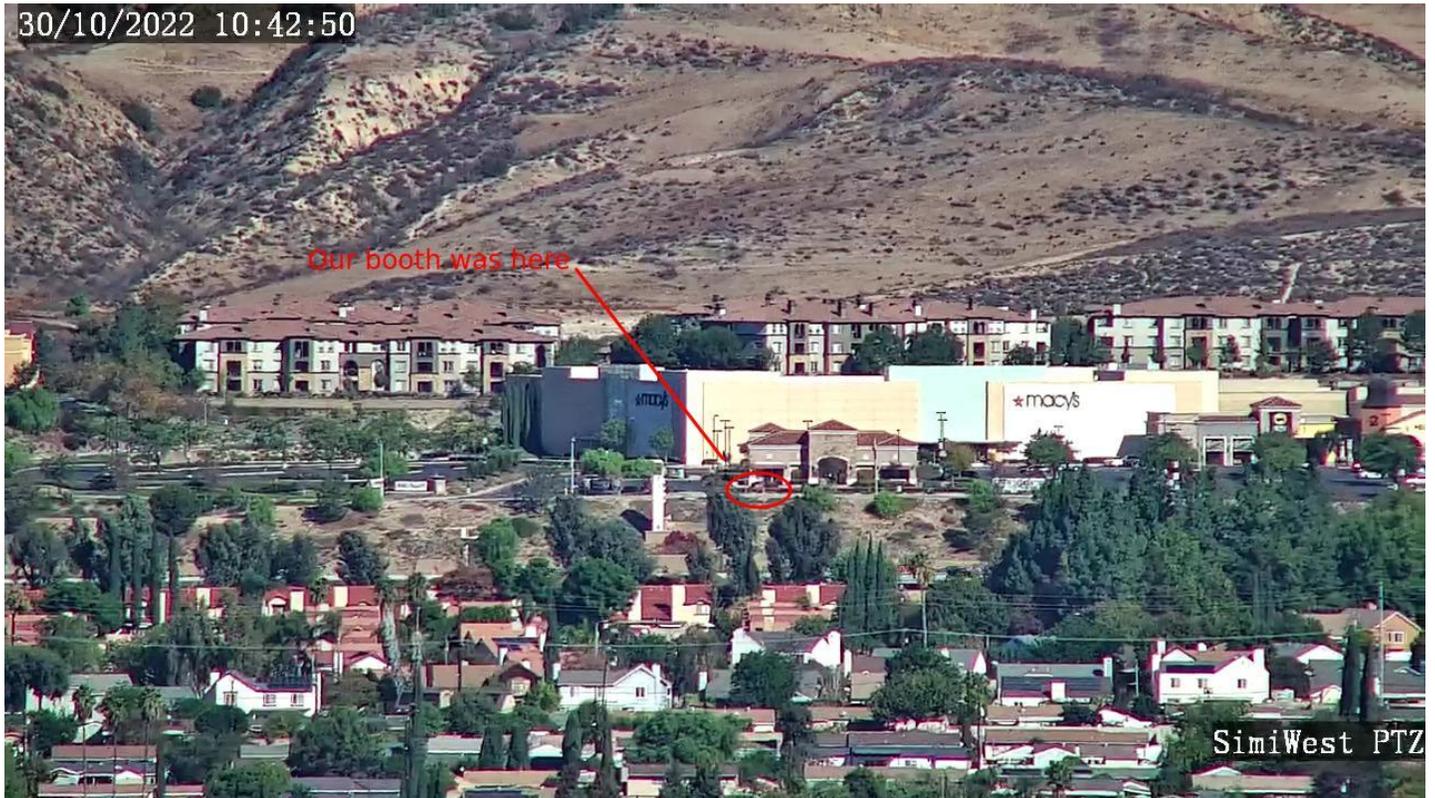
Bill had forms printed up for passers-by. The top had some information and the bottom third was a form for them to fill out if they wanted to send an email via Winlink to their own email address. A number of people took advantage of that, and Bill and Donnie shipped them out via Winlink Express over VHF VARA FM, or the mesh network, or even old school packet radio to my station which in turn relayed them to a Winlink email server via the Internet.

Bill had set up a dish on a tripod at the booth for connection to the local AREDN mesh network. He had a solid link into the node at Mellow Lane (the same location as the 146.805 repeater). Donnie had a dual-band VHF/UHF antenna on a similar tripod, for use with the radios in his go-box.

With that network link, I was able to stream video from one of the cameras at "SimiWest" (the network name for the Mellow Lane site) to a monitor in our fair booth. I used the PTZ (pan-tilt-zoom) camera. I pointed it at the fair site 2 1/2 miles across the valley and zoomed in as much as possible. The monitor wasn't well-positioned in the booth, but I was able to invite people back to view it.

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30/10/2022 10:42:50



The setup worked well and we had decent traffic through the booth. However our preparations were, to be charitable, lame. After the fair had concluded, I sent a few ideas on how our presence at the fair next year could be improved. Bill expanded on those with some excellent suggestions, and we believe the club should use next year's fair to show how the Simi Settlers can be a valuable asset to our city. Here are his ideas (lightly edited):

1. Get plugged into city event planners to secure a booth site that works better with our antenna and monitor viewing requirements. Note that this year there was a late ( last minute) shuffle in the booth assignments. The overnight shuffle had us in a worse position than we ended up with. DSW helped get us moved where we were so that we were able to have a viable mast setup for the mesh dish.
2. Work out masts that can anchor solidly to the pop-up. Four masts total. 1 for network, 3 for vhf/uhf.
3. Plan logistics to get our gear to the assigned booth location. We won't have adjacent parking.
4. Design banner for the fair and handouts and get them produced.
5. Get wider participation.
  1. Get club members scheduled to join a special vhf net for the duration of the event.
  2. Coordinate with event planners on locating mesh cameras around the event that highlights how live video can enhance emergency comms and the fair itself as well as other community events (bicycle rides, marathons, etc)
  3. Include/recruit club and ACS team members in helping with logistics, design and testing (equipment, handouts, etc.).
  4. Get the story out to local media, local educators, city officials, local politicians...

Amateur Radio is much more than an obsolete hobby for crazy recluses. It is also a community resource that can enhance the city in so many ways.

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**[Bill]:** I admit to having had my focus too limited to ACS. It became obvious to me that while EMCOMM is a great hook, we need to be ambassadors for amateur radio in general, and highlight VC-ACS/ARES Area 1, SSARC, ham radio classes/testing and all Ventura County amateur radio clubs. We should have handouts highlighting each area.

### **And from Joe W6JWP Again!**

Some pictures from the K6TZ Carpinteria Club Station (Ted Green Memorial Station) Open House today. I didn't get a good picture of their antenna, but there's one on <https://www.sbarc.org/>. It's located in the Chrisman California Islands Center in downtown Carpinteria.





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### **And a last tiny update from Eric, KE6MLF**

Yes, more digging in the dirt! This update is from **Paul WD6EBY**, owner and operator of many of our local repeaters:

Today the Battery platform foundation was poured. As expected it took about 5 hours to complete. It took all 28 bags of concrete and all 30 gallons of water plus some bottled water which was used to wash off the tools. The dirt was compressed under the concrete mixing tubs and I will use one of the leftover 2x6 boards to frame this area, install stepping stones for a work surface for battery construction and maintenance.

In about 10 days the concrete should be cured enough to start the construction of a dog house and placing the 6 each 200 ah batteries.

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## SSARC Marketplace

This section of the newsletter is for Simi Settler club members to post various used or previously owned items for sale that they may no longer have a need or use of. Please submit a brief description of the sale items (along with a photo if possible) and suggested price to Eric Oberg KE6MLF, the newsletter editor, at least two days before newsletter publication. It is suggested that a portion of each sale be donated to the SSARC treasury to help support the club's several activities. The term "OBO" means "Or Best Offer" and serves only as a starting point in negotiating a fair price.

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### PROTEK 3502C OSCILLOSCOPE



This dual channel oscilloscope ranges from DC to 20 MHz. Input impedance is 1 M $\Omega$  shunted with 20 pF. Vertical deflection ranges from 5 mV to 20 V/Div over 12 ranges. Time base ranges from 0.2  $\mu$ sec to 0.5 sec/DIV on 20 ranges. Channel inputs can be selected for either Channel A or Channel B separately, Channel A and B displayed together, or a display of Channel A signal summed with Channel B. X-Y operation can be selected as well to display various lissajous patterns as desired. Two scope probes are provided with the unit. Perfect for testing applications and/or general experimental use.

Condition: Excellent Price: \$60 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

## EICO 390 FUNCTION GENERATOR



This function generator can provide sine wave, triangular wave or square wave outputs with a frequency range of 0.2 Hz to 200 KHz selectable over 4 ranges. Output waveforms can be selected to perform a wide variety for testing of electronic equipment. Output up to 10 v p-p is provided which may be attenuated from 0 to -50 dB. This unit also provides a sweep generator which can provide linear or logarithmic sweep modes of up to 1000:1 sweep range with a choice of three different sweep speeds.

Condition: Excellent Price: \$25 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

## PROTEK B-813 SIGNAL GENERATOR



This signal generator provides an RF sine wave signal from 100 kHz to 150 MHz over 6 different frequency ranges. The output level can be adjusted from 30 mV to 250 mV RMS Max via the attenuator control. The unit also allows a 1 MHz to 15 MHz external crystal to be used for operation on a fixed frequency in lieu of VFO operation. Output is modulated at a 1 kHz signal at a 1V RMS level.

Condition: Excellent Price: \$25 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

## MOBILE HAMSTICK ANTENNAS



I have five MFJ 1/4 wave hamstick-type antennas for sale, ranging from 75m, 40m, 20m, 15m and 10m plus a 5/8 wave Hustler CG-144 for operation on 2m. All of them feature a standard 3/8-24 threaded mount with a Hustler QD-2 quick disconnect adapter installed for quick R&R when operating on different bands. Typically the MFJ hamsticks sell for around \$30 new, the Hustler 2m antenna currently lists for \$73 while the Hustler QD-2 quick disconnect adapters sell for \$35 per set.

Condition: Excellent Price: \$100 for all or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

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## KLM 2-METER YAGI / LOG PERIODIC ANTENNA



This antenna is an unusual 2-meter antenna in that it has both a Yagi high-gain portion of the antenna combined with a Log Periodic portion of the antenna for wide bandwidth. The antenna is perfect for Field Day operations when used in conjunction with a simple TV-type antenna rotator.

Condition: Fair/Good Price: \$10 OBO. Please contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club Web Page: <http://www.simissettlers.org/index.htm>  
Simi Settlers' ARC Yahoo Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SimiSettlersARC>

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

<b>Simi Settlers' Leadership</b>				
<b>President</b>	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595 cell	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
<b>Vice President</b>	VACANT			
<b>Secretary</b>	Ron Nelson	K6RIN		rnelson759@sbcglobal.net
<b>Treasurer</b>	Glenn Daly	WA6GNB		gnb.2112@yahoo.com
<b>Committee Chairpersons</b>				
<b>Webmaster</b>	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(661) 361-5955 cell	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
<b>Newsletter</b>	Eric Oberg	KE6MLF	(805) 791-0745 cell	ericoberg1@gmail.com
<b>Membership</b>	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
<b>PIO</b>	Linda Parker		(805) 558-1731 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
<b>Raffle Prizes</b>	Rick Galbraith	W6DQE	(805) 433-4513 cell	rick@keymaterial.com
<b>Youth Coordinator</b>	VACANT			
<b>Historian</b>	Mike Tweedy	KV6I	(805) 231-9683 cell	mtweedy@roadrunner.com
<b>Net Coordinator</b>	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595 cell	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
<b>Food Services</b>	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		ki6ksv@gmail.com
<b>Room Coordinator</b>	Linda Parker		(805) 558-1731 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
<b>Elmers and Members at Large</b>				
<b>Past-President</b>	Bill Woods	AB6BW	(818) 694-9019 cell	AB6BW1@gmail.com
<b>Advisor</b>	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		wildpoky45@earthlink.net
<b>Advisor</b>				

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**Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club**

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

**Membership Application**



Type of Application:

Type of Membership:

New Member

Individual (\$25/yr)

Renewal

Family (\$30/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): \_\_\_\_\_

Shirt Printing: Yes  No  How many? \_\_\_\_\_ X \$25.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name (s) Call(s): \_\_\_\_\_ (Self Supplied Polo Shirt, no emblem or pocket)

Hats Requested: Yes  No  How many? \_\_\_\_\_ X \$20.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name (s) Call(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

Application type: New  Renewal  Membership type: Individual  Family

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Database completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Badges and Shirts ordered: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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