



Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

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The next meeting is at the

Simi Senior Center,

3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley.

Thursday April 11 2024 at 7:00 PM.

The next Simi Settlers Pizza Night is at

Toppers, 2408 Erringer Road, Simi Valley.

Thursday April 4 2024 at 6:00 PM.

The March presentation was from Steve WA6EJO, using his simple microwave RF generator and detector to demonstrate the properties of antennas.

The April presentation will be from Vern W6NCT, starting things off for the 2024 June Field Day at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library.

The Settlers are again going to attend the **STREET FAIR** on May 4th.

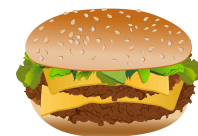


Save the date:

We are going to have a

Spring Picnic at Wood Ranch on **APRIL 20.**

9am to 1pm at Rancho Madera Community
Park (Wood Ranch), 556 Lake Park Dr, Simi
Valley



April 2024

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 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/netnic/ht.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 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

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/>

Here are our 8:30 PM Sunday night net controllers for the next month:

Mar 3	Kerwyn N6YHX
10	Brian KM6MIN
17	Kevin KD6UTC
24	Matt N3AR
31	Ron K6RIN
Apr 7	Matt KN6SEC
14	Kerwyn N6YHX
21	Brian KM6MIN
28	Kevin KD6UTC

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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.



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.

Visit vccomm.org for more updates.

April 28th has **two** different events you can help out with:

Aut2run at the Cal State University Channel Islands, <https://www.aut2run.org/>
Contact Wayne Frances at w6oeu@arrl.net

and on the very same day:

Mountains to Beach Marathon, Ojai to Ventura, <https://mountains2beachmarathon.com/>
Contact Burt Auerbach at bjauerbach@gmail.com

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Member Updates

Peace Officers Memorial Day from Ron N6RJN

Mark your calendars...May 15th is Peace Officers Memorial Day, a day we remember officers who have lost their lives while protecting their communities. To commemorate this special day, Ron Nelson K6RIN will be hosting ham radio Special Event Station in Lemon Park. Drop by and operate, or lend support. Contact Ron for more information: K6RIN73@gmail.com

Steve WA6EJO from Matt N6AR

Matt took this picture of Steve during his presentation. The silver lunch boxes contain a PIN diode oscillator, and a detector with signal strength meter. The frequency was in the giga-Hertz range, allowing for multiple wavelengths to be contained on the table top. The properties of ground planes, dipoles, yagis, ring yagis, and circular polarization were demonstrated. Reflections, ducting, and lensing were demonstrated. Really helps to understand how your full size antennas function.



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August Hamfest from forwarded by Eric KE6MLF

The guys over at theborednet.net are putting on a local exposition. It will be on August 31 at CSU Channel Islands. You can go the the details at:

<http://www.theborednet.net/index.php/2023/09/10/special-announcement-expo/>

They are looking for speakers or presentations. ~May~ have a gear swap, depending on how the details work out selling on state property.

A New Computer by Eric KE6MLF

Computers and Cars. When they work, is good. When they don't, much unhappiness is achieved.

The desktop computer I use at home started out as a Dell server scrapped out of a local university. When university grants end, the equipment and supplies acquired for that grant are sometimes put out in the hall, or hauled away to storage and dust collection. **Score!**

The Dell server was a monster, made in 2000. Very heavy case, big power supply, dual monitors, and dual hard drives set in a **RAID** (redundant array of independent disks) configuration. The CPU was a **dual** core Pentium. **Wow!** Had Windows 7 on it that was cranky (hacked up by university students). I got a deal on Windows 8 upgrade and installed it with no problems.

One thing I did was split the RAID hard disks to be a C drive with the operating system, and a D drive with my photos, music, and documents. If the new computer went south, my precious data was separated from the operating system. This computer served me for **5-6 years** before it stopped working. Tried CPR, to no avail. **Crap!**

Talked around to a few people, and made a choice to get a new case, motherboard, CPU, RAM, and power supply all from Newegg.com, who had a compatibility tool to make sure it would all fit together.

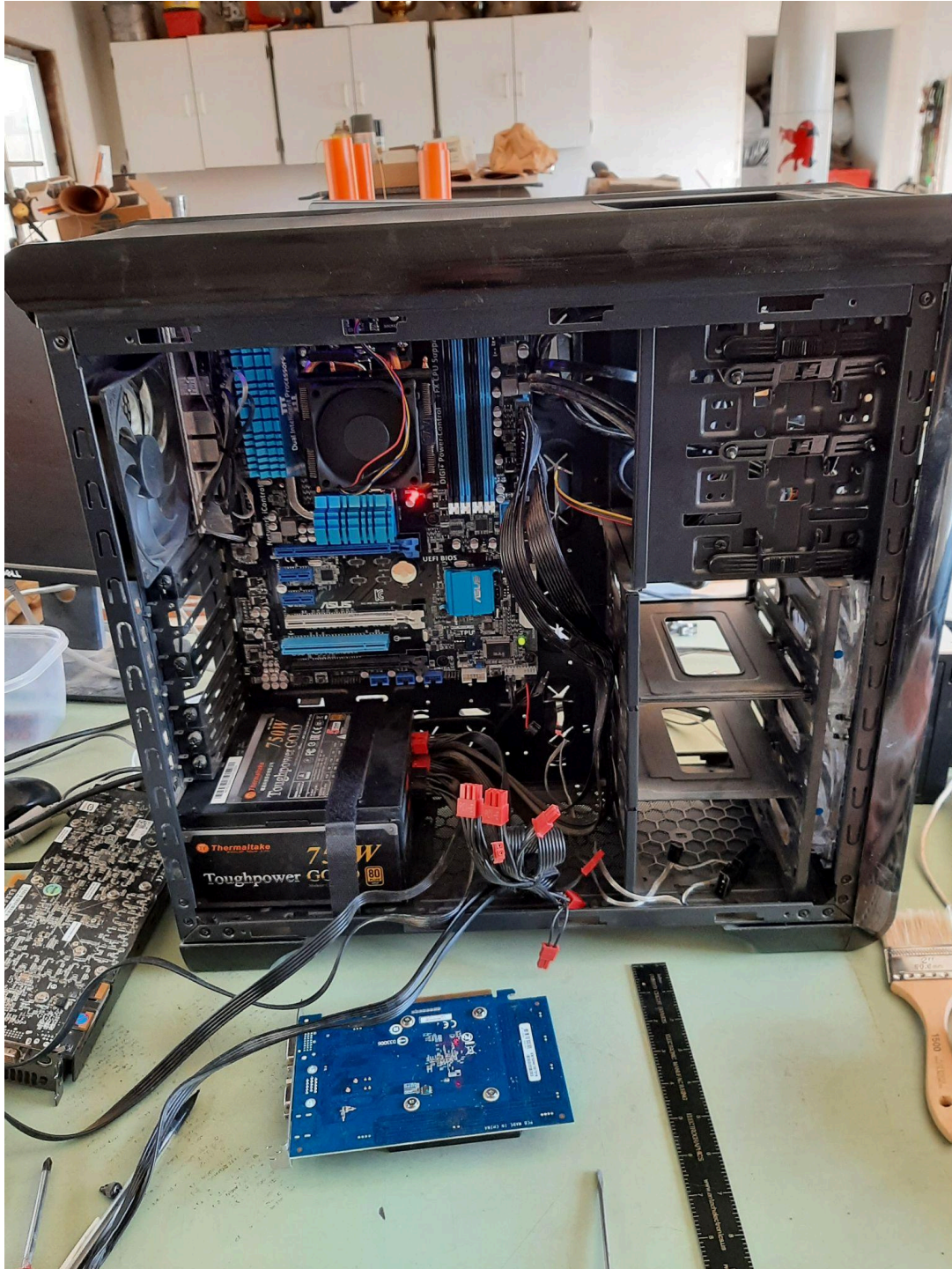
Connecting it all together, **Yippie!** works fine business. This **quad** core processor was much faster than the previous dual core CPU. Now with 8 Gig of memory! Will I ever use it all? As usual, you have to get Windows working, re-install or replace some programs, and spend more than a few hours working until you are all back in business. It did an automatic update to Windows 10 from my original version 8.

Whatever?

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THAT computer worked for 8 years, and then a few months ago got a tiny red LED glowing that indicates “CPU error”. **What?** Again with the reseating the CPU, diagnostic programs, more CPR, essential oils, borrowing a known good power supply, threats, pleading and begging, and finally a tiny computer likeness for some Voodoo work. Nothing. **Alas!**

Here is the old motherboard, with the red LED of death between the blue heatsinks:



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Maybe **8 years** is time for an update / upgrade. So, back to Newegg, and again with the shopping. So many choices and much confusion.

I do a bit of CAD, word processing, and a bit of programming. Do not really need that much speed or power, most certainly not ANYTHING with the word "**Gaming**" in it. The graphics card I scrounged up drives two monitors, but does not need to handle the huge amounts of data required for video games. Thus, I just decided on a fixed and modest amount of money to spend on the new CPU, motherboard, and RAM.

Put it all together, (again). Works! (again). This CPU has 6, count them, 6 cores! And the memory is 16 Gig! Quite **zippy!** I plugged it into the internet, and started updating and rebooting as is required for all the hardware changes to get recognized and properly running.

This new motherboard has WiFi and bluetooth, USB 2 and 3, all built in. I did not install the CD or DVD drives from the previous computer, I have not used them in a few years.

Here is the NEW motherboard running, with the NO LED of death:



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And here is the NEW computer, WITH all my old programs and data!



Funny, a little message of “This installation of Windows is not activated” popped up for a few minutes on the screen. **What?** I thought I had a legal version. A bit of poking and prodding, turns out I have “Windows 10 Enterprise”. **What? (again).** Turns out this was something left over from the old Dell server computer, more than 20 years ago. The Windows 7 on the Dell Server was this “enterprise” version, and the 8, and then 10 were just updates to it. Support is going to end this June for the Enterprise software. **Whatever!** (again).

I do a tiny bit of consulting, and so kind of like to be legal. I am going to get a licensed version of Windows 11, I just have to decide on Home or Pro versions, and either with a movable license, or an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) version. The OEM version is only good on this computer provided no major hardware changes occur. Dang, (again) with so many choices and a tiny bit of confusion.

Anyway, I am back to editing **THIS** edition of the newsletter on **TWO** big screens and a full size keyboard, as it should be.

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Funny stuff. For the 2 or 3 newsletters done the last few months, I used my laptop. Got it for \$150 off ebay with a **new** install of Windows 10, a **new** solid state hard disk drive (zippy) (again), and the battery is **good**. If it just had a bigger screen and bigger keyboard.....



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Little House on the Prairie by Kerwyn N6YHX

Kerwyn took these pictures of Frank KI6OQ and Lisa KK6AKR at the Simi Valley event celebrating the 50 year anniversary of the TV series.



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Theft Recovery by Eric KE6MLF

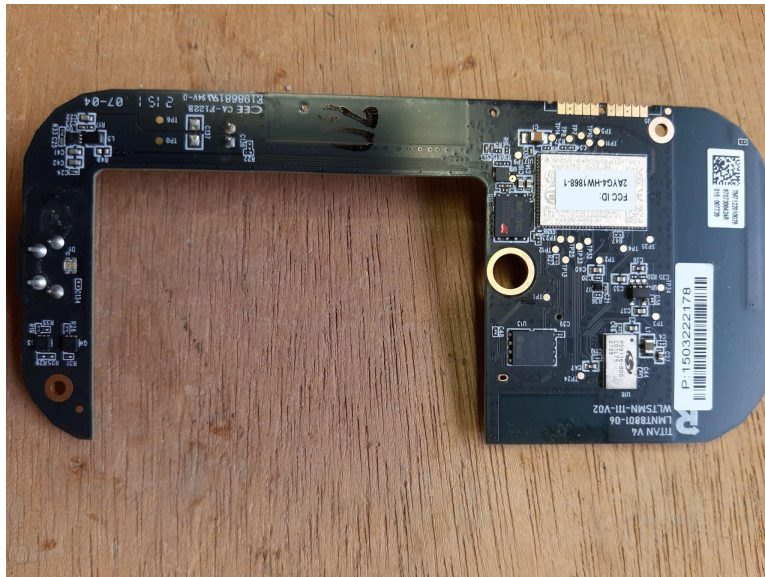
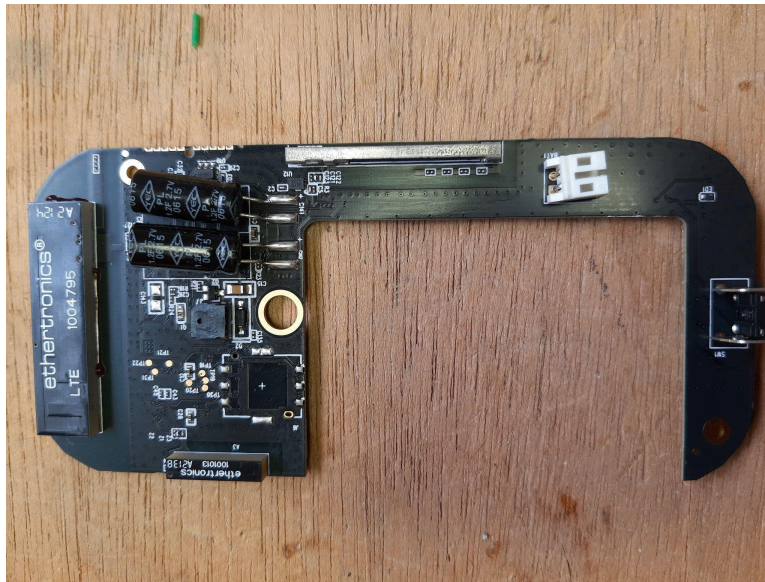
So, I went for a walk a few weeks ago. Saw a little plastic box sitting on a fence. Said “**Recovr**” on it. Figured it was a toll road pass device. Put it back on the fence post and carried on with my walk. Last night, I went for another walk, and the box is still sitting there. Dibs! Here is the front and back sides:



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Tore it open. Printed circuit board and a non-rechargeable battery.





Do a bit of searching on the internet. Seems to be “fleet management” and “loss recovery” targeted at automobiles. “Recovr” has lots a fancy web page and seems to be some kind of vertical marketing scheme. They offer it FREE to car dealers, with the following required subscription service to be paid by the customer.

Ummm, maybe?

So this little doo-hickey has a bluetooth and WiFi antenna (the black bars), 4G cell phone chip (silver on the back), and a memory IC. NO GPS. Sure, they can track it using “cell tower triangulation”, but how are they going to track your car or stolen item if it gets out of cell phone range, or the battery dies. The outer casing does not have any mounting holes or place to secure it on your car. Just throw it in the glove box? Sounds like a bit of a scam to me.

Ummm, no.

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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MFJ-335 MOBILE ANTENNA MAGNETIC MOUNT



This heavy-duty 5" diameter magnetic antenna mount uses a powerful 2.5 pound magnetic base for secure mounting on top of most vehicles. It features a standard 3/8-24 threaded receptacle for attaching various hamstick or other whip antennas as needed. The 9-1/2 ft. length of RG-58 cable has a standard PL-259 UHF end connector. Typical cost of this magnetic antenna mount from MFJ or DX Engineering is \$29.95.

Condition: Excellent Price: \$10 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

RADIO SHACK PRO-2044 SCANNER



The PRO-2044 is an 80-channel programmable scanner capable of receiving both AM and FM modulated signals in the HF, VHF and UHF bands ranging from 29 MHz to 512 MHz. The scanner's channels are divided into 10 channel-storage banks of 8 channels each. The scanner also has an additional 10 monitor memories available for temporary frequency storage if desired. The unit features keypad entry programming buttons plus standard volume and squelch controls to set desired audio level. The unit has a built-in internal speaker plus a headphone output jack. Power requirement is 12VDC with an AC adapter included. Rear antenna input is a BNC-type connector for connecting to an outdoor antenna or to a small collapsible whip (included). Size is 8" wide x 7" deep x 3" high.

Condition: Very Good Price: \$15 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

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MFJ-281 CLEAR TONE SPEAKER



This communications speaker is specially designed to provide clear speech within a narrow 600 to 4000 Hz frequency range that's specifically tailored to enhance voice communications. The result is improved audio quality that is free of the typical noise, static and hum that may be present in wide-range speakers. The speaker housing contains a 3-inch Mylar speaker cone with a fine mesh grill that allows sound to radiate without being muffled. The housing is of heavy duty construction with a swivel mounting bracket that allows you to direct sound where you want it. The speaker is 8 ohms and is rated at 8 watts and comes with a 6-ft. audio cable and 3.5mm mono plug. Typical cost of this speaker is listed at \$19.95.

Condition: Excellent Price: \$5 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

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AEA DM-1 DEVIATION METER



This AEA model DM-1 deviation meter can be used to adjust the maximum deviation levels on transceivers that allow adjustable frequency deviation settings for FM transmissions on either the 2m, 1.25m or 70 cm band. Typically, for wideband audio FM, this would be 5 kHz. For narrowband audio FM, this would be 2.5 kHz. For CTCSS sub-audible tones, this would typically be 1 kHz. For example, when the 5 MHz full scale button is selected, each LED bar represents 1 kHz of deviation on peak signal levels. When transmitting audio, transceivers with excessive deviation can cause out-of-band signals (or “splatter”) which can interfere with adjacent channel signals. A similar sale of this item was recently found on Ebay for \$65. The unit is powered by an internal 9-V battery and the AEA operating manual is included.

Condition: Excellent Price: \$10 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

Sold - pending pick up by ke6mlf

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LAFAYETTE RADIO MODEL TE-50 TUBE TESTER



This portable tube tester from Lafayette Radio is perfect for testing vacuum tubes from classic radios and television receivers sold back in the day. It has eight tube sockets capable of testing standard Octal, Loctal, 7-pin miniature, 9-pin miniature types as well as 9- and 12-pin Compactron tubes and nuvistor tubes that were popular back in the 1950's and 1960's. Tests include leakage, shorts and tube emission (e.g.- gain or μ -measurements). The tester includes a slide-out chart drawer plus supplemental charts for newer-type tubes listing the required selector switch and slide switch settings for each tube under test including a test clip for testing tubes with high-voltage anode top caps such as those used for horizontal sweep circuits of earlier televisions. Similar Lafayette Model TE-50 Tube Testers are listed on E-Bay for \$99.99 or more.

Condition: Very Good Price: \$15 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

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RADIO SHACK MODEL 15-1244 RF MODULATOR



This Radio Shack RF modulator can provide an NTSC type RF signal to older TVs or video monitors that require an analog signal as an input. The output is user-selectable for either channel 3 or channel 4 output and can provide 75 ohm or 1k ohm impedance. Input is AV video/video using standard phono-type plug cables. An RF coax jumper cable is provided.

Condition: Excellent Price: \$5 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

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From Kevin, KD6UTC; I'm selling some of my HF equipment that I don't use. I would like to sell it as a bundle. I hope this will be a good start kit for one of our members new to HF.

SSARC Marketplace HF bundle

- ICOM 7300 with original box
- LDG Electronics Z-100PLUS - Automatic Antenna Tuner
- LDG RBA 4:1 Balun
- LDG RBA 1:1 Balun
- (2) MFJ HAM sticks 20M
- (2) MFJ HAM sticks 40M
- (2) Mirror/Pipe Antenna Mounts
- MFJ Double T Pipe Mount

Condition: Excellent Price: \$850 - **NOW REDUCED to \$750**

Contact Kevin (KD6UTC) kevin.deadwylier@gmail.com



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From Glenn WA6GNB

GrandStream # 1620/1625 telephone for sale. New – still in the original box. Compatible with our MESH system. \$30.00 Contact Glen at gnb.2112@yahoo.com

From Sergey KT4UFA - ut4ufa@gmail.com

AC-DC switching power supply.

Input 115V AC 50-60Hz

Output 12V DC 5.4 Amps

It has small trimer to fine adjust output voltage

Dimensions: 7.5*5*2.5

Free, self pickup.



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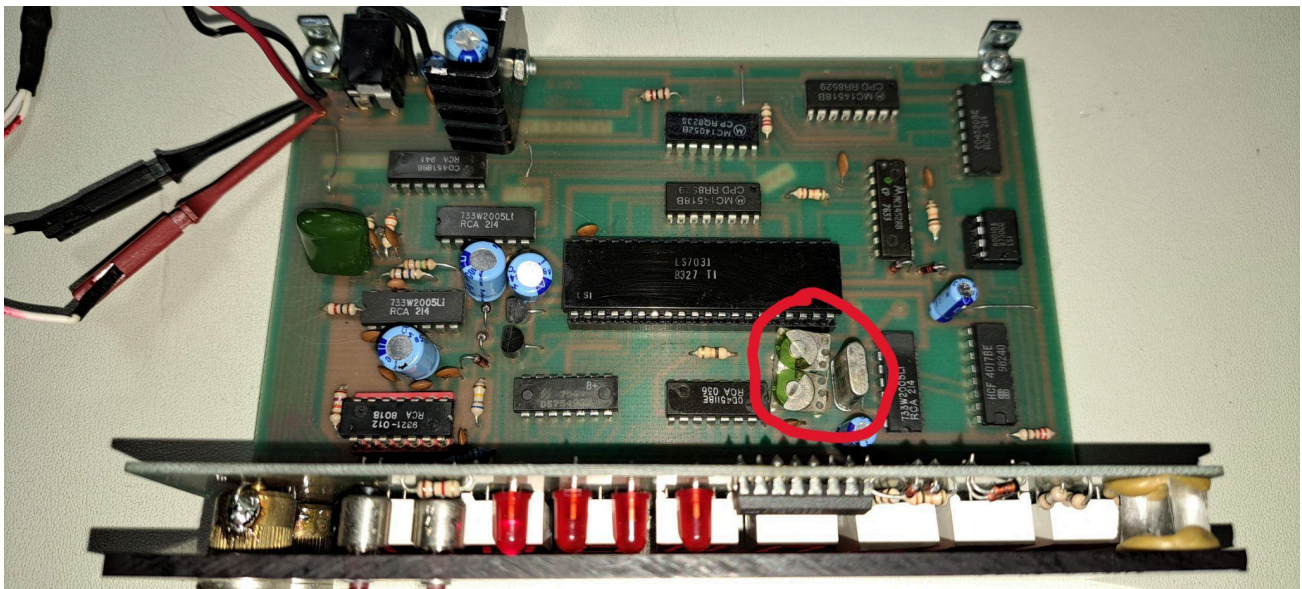
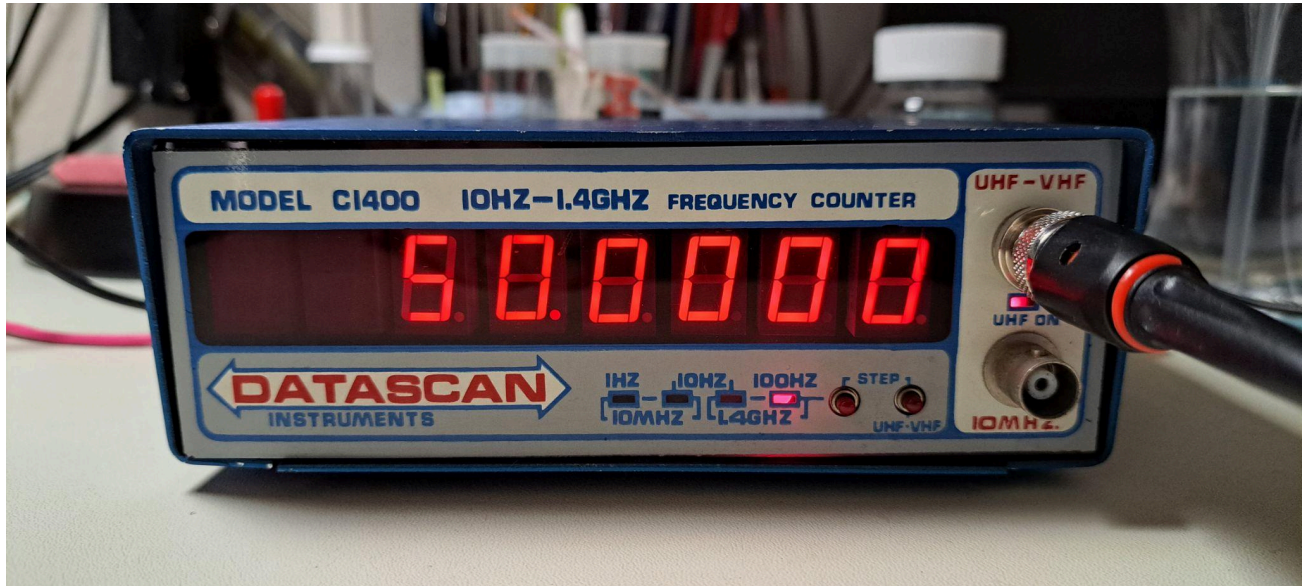
Frequency counter, Datascan C1400

Sensitivity 50 mVpp

The input BNC connectors are a little bit rusty, need cleaning up.
Internal battery is dead, was removed, and needs replacement.

To power up the device, on the back side present a connector for external power supply.
I made calibration, but the frequency counter is equipped with simple crystal quartz, so accuracy and stability is not so good.

Free, self pickup.



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Signal generator, Kronh-Hite model 5400A

Fully analog.

5 MHz.

Ramp, Sine, Triangle, Square.

\$30



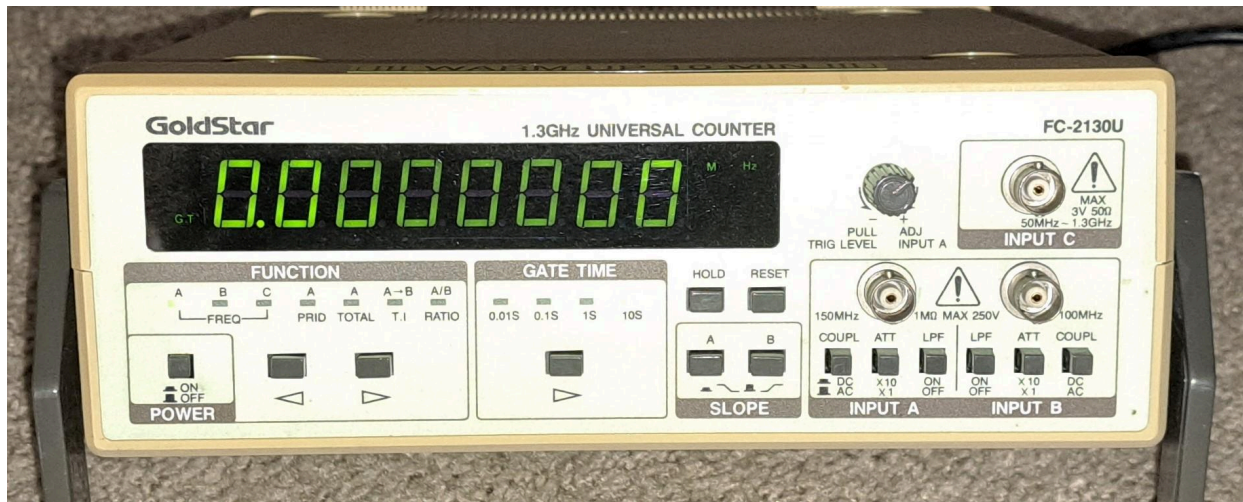
Frequency counter - Gold Star FC-2130U

1.3 GHz

3 input ports. Coupling, Attenuation, Filtering.

Mathematical function.

\$60



Universal, programmable, multi chemistry battery charger:

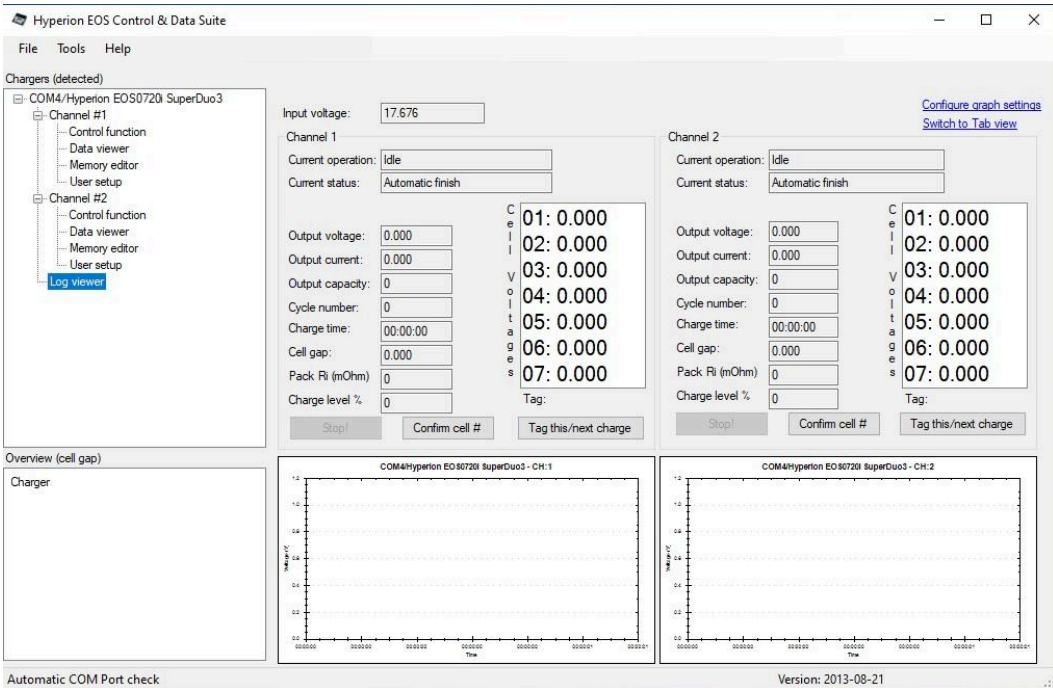
Hyperion EOS 720i Super DUO 3

+ Various cables set.

+ PC control and monitor software.

Power supply: eFuel 30A 540W

\$150



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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 cell	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Vice President	VACANT			
Secretary	Ron Nelson	K6RIN		rnelson759@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC		mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Committee Chairpersons				
Webmaster	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(661) 361-5955 cell	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Newsletter	Eric Oberg	KE6MLF	(805) 791-0745 cell	ericoberg1@gmail.com
Membership	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745 cell	kj6lxj@gmail.com
PIO	Donnie Williams	KJ6TTN	(818) 974-0020 cell	donniewilliams@gmail.com
Raffle Prizes	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(805) 433-4513 cell	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Youth Coordinator	VACANT			
Historian	Mike Tweedy	KV6I	(805) 231-9683 cell	mtweedy@roadrunner.com
Net Coordinator	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595 cell	km6min_bh@yahoo.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) 694-9019 cell	AB6BW1@gmail.com
Advisor	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		ki6ksv@gmail.com
Advisor Morse Code	John Percival	WI6O		johnspercival1@gmail.com
Advisor Mesh	Orv Beach	W6BI		orv.beach@gmail.com

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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 (\$25/yr)
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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