



## 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 September 12, 2024** at 7:00 PM.

The next **Pizza** Night is at  
**Toppers Pizza,** 2408 Erringer Rd, Simi Valley  
**September 5 at 6:00 PM**

**Now hear this!** We have so many pictures that I am breaking the newsletter into 2 parts, -1 and -2. Joe W6JWP is mostly to blame.

The **Share the Road Ride** is coming **September 28**. This is reported to be the last time this event is held. We need radio support at various points along the different rides. They have 100, 2, 50, and 25 mile routes, along with a 40 mile dirt route.

We are going to provide communications support along the course. Contact **Frank Valdez** at [frankki6oq@gmail.com](mailto:frankki6oq@gmail.com) or see him at the meeting.

You can see the various rides at : <https://soaringspirits.org/events/share-the-road-ride/rides/>

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## 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/netnight.htm">http://atn-tv.org/netnight.htm</a>  <b>ACS Area 1</b> Simplex net, 6:45 PM on 145.510MHz	<b>Channel Islands chapter</b> <b>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

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:

Sep	1	Kevin KD6UTC
	8	Matt N3AR
	15	Ron K6RIN
	22	Matt KN6SEC
	29	Kerwyn N6YHX

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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).



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.

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. **Stop by and say Hi.** You do not have to do anything other than check in to test out your simplex or repeater connection.

The **HF net** during summer months is on 7.242 +/- at **6:30 PM**.

The **simplex net** is on 145.510 at **6:45 PM**.

The **repeater net** is on the 146.805 (-, PL100) repeater at **7:00 PM**.

**NOTE:** Please be advised that we hold the Tuesday **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](http://vccomm.org) for more updates.

(ed - I send in my packet and winlink check in usually Sunday or Monday night. Leaves me free to do the voice check-ins with just a handheld while out and about.)

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## Member Updates

### Cheap Switching Power Supplies - Orv W6BI

Switching power supplies utilize electronics to allow them to provide significant amounts of DC power in a small package, unlike older analog power supplies that needed big heavy transformers to provide the same amount of power.

A knock against switchers was that sometimes their output power could be noisy; that is significant amounts of ripple could be found on the DC output. Another issue was that they sometimes radiated significant amounts of RF, either from the DC output, or the AC input, or both.

I had a huge Astron power supply and wanted something more compact, as I was running out of space on the shelf behind the operating position. Cheap switchers were available inexpensively from many vendors through Amazon. They're probably the same design as they all look alike. So I took a chance and bought one.



This particular one is from a vendor called eTopxizu, and is rated at 30 amps. My gamble paid off; it doesn't generate any perceptible RF noise and the output voltage is clean. HOWEVER, it came with a loud, whiny internal fan. Fortunately it's thermostatically controlled so only runs when needed, but every time it started it set my teeth on edge. And because my HF radio runs RMS Trimode, it runs frequently throughout the day, responding to incoming connections from Winlink stations. The fan noise made staying in the shack unpleasant! So I resolved to do something about it.

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I had a new spare PC chassis fan. I forget the brand but the package was labeled "Superquiet" and it was a 12 volt fan. I ripped out the tiny, whiny stock fan and replaced it with the 6" (actually 120 mm) PC fan. There wasn't room inside for the larger fan so I mounted it externally. I had to drill extra holes in the power supply cover to allow more air through to the power supply, and drill a hole for the power leads.



The result: Not only is the power supply substantially quieter, when the fan does come on the greatly increased air flow results in a reduced "on-time" for the fan. Now I can stay in the shack when the HF rig is being utilized heavily!

Note: The switcher costs \$20; a fan will be under \$10. Compare that to about \$135 for the least expensive switching power supply from DX Engineering.



## Wings over Camarillo - Matt N3AR

Matt provided us with these pictures taken at the Pt Magu air show, where a number of us provided “walking about” communications throughout the show.



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## Show us your Go Boxes - The August meeting!

Brian KM6MIN with his simple approach.



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Funny thing, at the 13 Souls event, he found that the radio RF was getting into the battery and shutting things down. A few ferrite beads were sourced from Dave KM6FQ to be tested.



Joe W6JWP with his very tidy entry.



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Ron K6RIN with his 2 radio solution.



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Kerwyn N6YHX with his Tripod mounted antenna and “two cases of stuff” approach.



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Bill AB6BW with his wood case and more goodies for show and tell. Bill is working on getting his morse code back up to speed.



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Me? I figure I have a radio, antenna, and battery in my truck. I figure I can just drive to where I am needed, and am not afraid to put a few scratches on my truck to get there! ed - ke6mlf.

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## 13 Souls - Eric KE6MLF

The event was held August 24 along the Simi Arroyo Bike Path. Here is **Brian KM6MIN** doing his best net control at the train station parking lot. The booth was originally set up next to a generator. Nope. Then the music started up, you can see the black speaker in the upper left corner. Nope, again. Moved again a bit farther away from everybody just as the runners / walkers / rollers got started. Better.



There was a tiny bit of disarray in the event. First aid bags did not get passed out till after the start. For some reason, there were two staff members in a golf cart who went the full distance to Madera. They had **NO** first aid kit, water, breakfast Mimosas, OR donuts. Humph! But, they were communicating and helping where needed.

Passed out a few bandaids, pumped up a bicycle tire, and heard that one person took a fall, but in general, a great day out with no drama. We used the **two** Disaster Service Workers repeaters, **they are working fine business.**

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Here is Dave KM6FQ helping out with net control.



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This is the view of the parking lot near the start. Who got all these people up so early on a weekend? Speeches, music, various booths, and a flyover of three planes from the Van Nuys Condor T6 Squadron.



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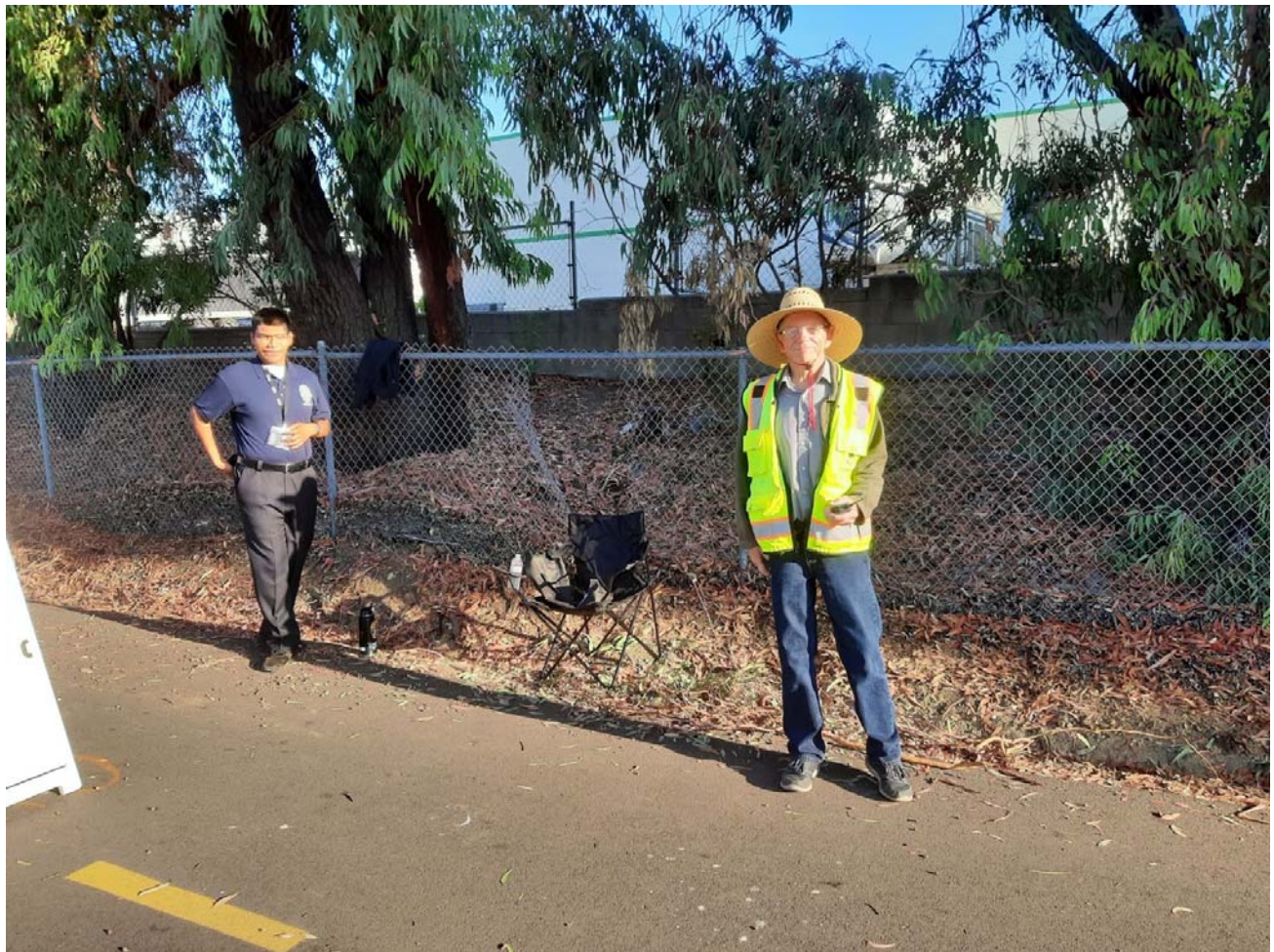
As I started down the bike path, **I missed Tim KN6YSH**. I think he was napping in the bushes or something? Maybe it was **ME** that was napping as I slowly trundled past him on the bike. I have inserted an artists rendition of how I envisioned Tim to be situated:



or maybe:



In any case, here is Don N6XEK at the 5K turn around point.



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Ron K6RIN at the bike path and Sequoia, "Med station 1".



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Kerwyn N6YHX, also along the bike path. Adjacent to a Scout Troop water stop. Scout on the left, Kerwyn on the right, just to clear up any confusion.





Eric KB6DYJ at Erringer, stationed with a mess of medical people “Med station 2”.



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Mat KN6SEC was stationed at the far end, Madera. Kind of quiet by the time I got there. In the vest is Greg W6GRG. He and I were on bikes herding the stragglers along.



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Here is our golf cart, (the one with NO snacks for me.) Thank you Matt, for having a box of donuts. (Pink box, lower right, in the chair. Had to keep my strength up after tootling the entire length of the bike path at 2-3 miles per hour. Next year, hope to see a few more of you, this is a good day out.



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## Redneck Radio Fix - Eric KE6MLF

The power switch died on this radio months ago. Tried to get a replacement, no luck. Found a suitable work around with an external switch. Mess of wires to the internal PCB, toggle switch in a handy little box. Burned out screen light bulbs replaced with LEDs. I can even open the little box for a tiny bit of storage, like maybe a wee little rocket launcher or life vest (or probably a spare fuse?).



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**Be sure to check out the -2 section of this month's newsletter!**

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## Internet Resources

[simisettlers.org](http://simisettlers.org) - us!

[cvarc.org](http://cvarc.org) - Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club

[k6mep.org](http://k6mep.org) - Ventura County Amateur Radio Club

[vcars.org](http://vcars.org) - Ventura County amateur Radio Society

[pvarc.club](http://pvarc.club) - The home of many of the counties repeaters

[arednmesh.org](http://arednmesh.org) - Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network

[vccomm.org](http://vccomm.org) - Ventura County ACS / ARES

[www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org) - American Radio Relay League

[archive.org/details/simi-settlers-arc](http://archive.org/details/simi-settlers-arc) - Our old newsletters!

[qrz.com](http://qrz.com) - forums, for sale, articles

[eham.net](http://eham.net) - forums, for sale, articles (kind of a zombie site)

[www.theborednet.net/index.php/schedules/](http://www.theborednet.net/index.php/schedules/) is a great local bulletin board including net schedules and **stuff** for sale!

Under the [groups.io](http://groups.io) banner (a free account is required):

[groups.io/g/SimiSettlers/messages](http://groups.io/g/SimiSettlers/messages) - A great place to post

[groups.io/g/SIMI-VALLEY-HAMMESHNET/messages](http://groups.io/g/SIMI-VALLEY-HAMMESHNET/messages)

[vc-accs.groups.io/g/main/messages](http://vc-accs.groups.io/g/main/messages) -

[vc-accs.groups.io/g/area-1/messages](http://vc-accs.groups.io/g/area-1/messages) -

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



## COMET CF-4160 DUPLEXER



The Comet CF-4160 is a 2m/70cm duplexer that can act as a splitter to provide separate VHF and UHF coax outputs that can feed separate 2m and 70cm antennas for dual band transceivers having a single coax output. Alternately, it can combine outputs from separate VHF/UHF rigs or a transceiver having separate VHF and UHF coax outputs that can be combined together to use a single coax cable that connects to a VHF/UHF antenna such as a MFJ-1760 or MFJ-1768 dual band Yagi. For low bands such as 2m, the frequency range is from 1.3 to 170 MHz. For high bands such as 70cm, the frequency range is 350 to 540 MHz. UHF-type coax connectors provided are a single female SO-239 and two male PL-259 connectors. The Comet CF-4160 duplexer currently sells for \$52.98 from GigaParts.

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

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## PARA DYNAMICS PDC9 SWR & POWER METER



The Para Dynamics PDC9 inline SWR / Power Meter operates from 144MHz to 430MHz which includes the 2m - 70cm ham bands. The unit has two power ranges, 15W and 60W. Unit provides two female SO-239 coax connectors. Unit measures approximately 2" X 2.5" X 1". A similar unit recently sold on eHam.net for \$25.

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

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## 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. Instruction manual is included.

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

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## REALISTIC PRO-42 SCANNER



The PRO-42 is a handheld 10-channel programmable scanner radio capable of receiving FM frequencies in three separate bands: 30 MHz to 54 MHz (VHF Low), 138 MHz to 174 MHz (VHF High) and 380 MHz to 512 MHz (UHF). The unit features keypad entry programming buttons plus standard volume and squelch controls to set desired audio level. The display is an LCD type with a backlit display for improved readability in low-light conditions. It includes a channel lockout capability with an optional 2-second scan delay to eliminate missed replies. The unit has a built-in internal speaker plus a headphone output jack. Antenna input is a BNC-type connector for connecting to an 8-inch flexible antenna (included) or an outdoor antenna if desired. Power (9VDC) is provided by six internal AA batteries or via an external power jack. A separate charger input is also provided should rechargeable 1.25 volt nickel-cadmium batteries be used instead. A convenient belt clip is also provided for ease of use.

Dimensions are 6.75" tall x 2.75" wide x 1.50" deep. Weight is 15.9 Oz.

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

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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 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  $\mu$ -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: \$10 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 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](mailto:gnb.2112@yahoo.com)

## From Sergey KT4UFA - [ut4ufa@gmail.com](mailto:ut4ufa@gmail.com)

### TYT MD-390 GPS for sale.

It's hardly been used, mostly sitting on a shelf for radio traffic monitoring, so it's in excellent condition.

Features include supports both analog and digital DMR, GPS function, TXT messaging, group and private calling, as well as a logbook.

Additionally, there's the option to download custom firmware, offering numerous new features and unique customization options.

Included in the original set are:

- DMR transceiver
- Antenna
- Battery
- Charging station with power supply
- Earphones
- Programming cable

Price: \$75



Alinco DX-SR8

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Removable face, for remote installation in car or truck.  
1.6-30MHz  
CW, SSB, AM, FM.  
10, 50, 100 Watt.  
Very good condition.

Included in the original set are:  
HF transceiver  
Microphone  
Power cord

\$400, or BO.



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**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.



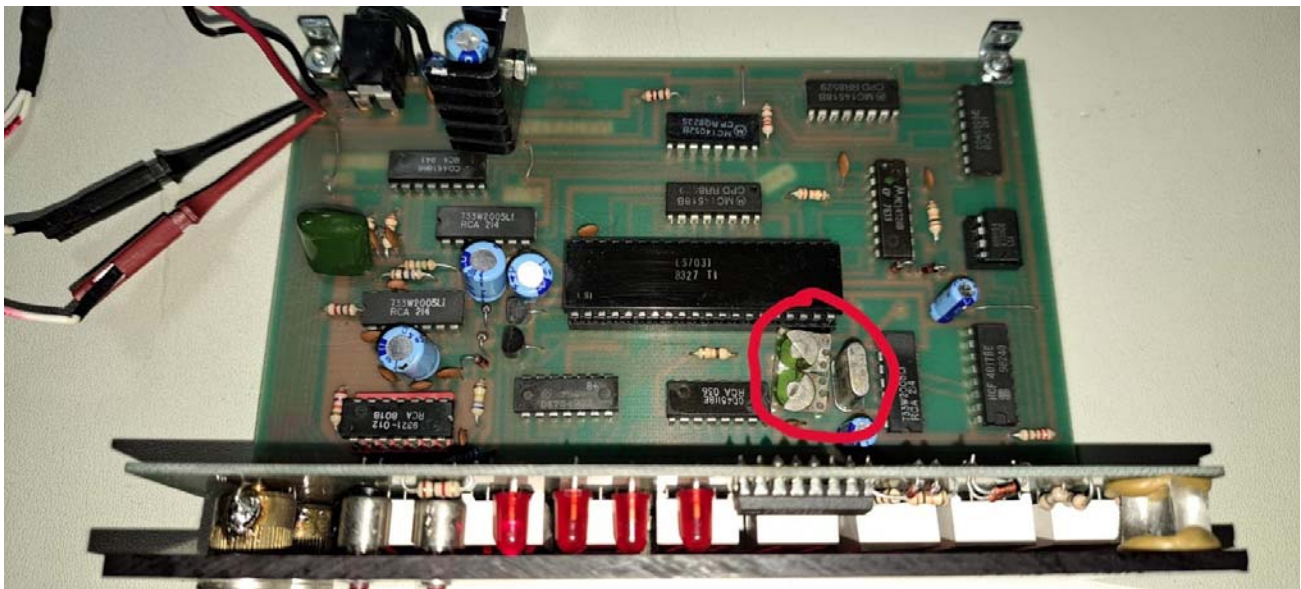


## Frequency counter, Datascan C1400

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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## Universal, programmable, multi chemistry battery charger:

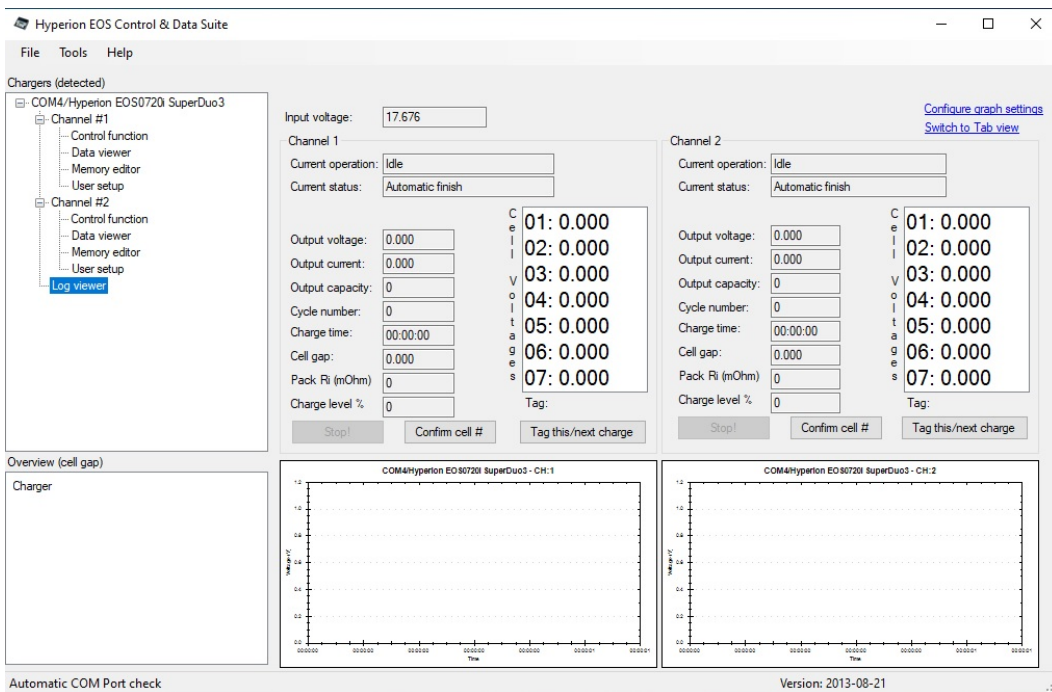
Hyperion EOS 720i Super DUO 3

+ Various cables set.

+ PC control and monitor software.

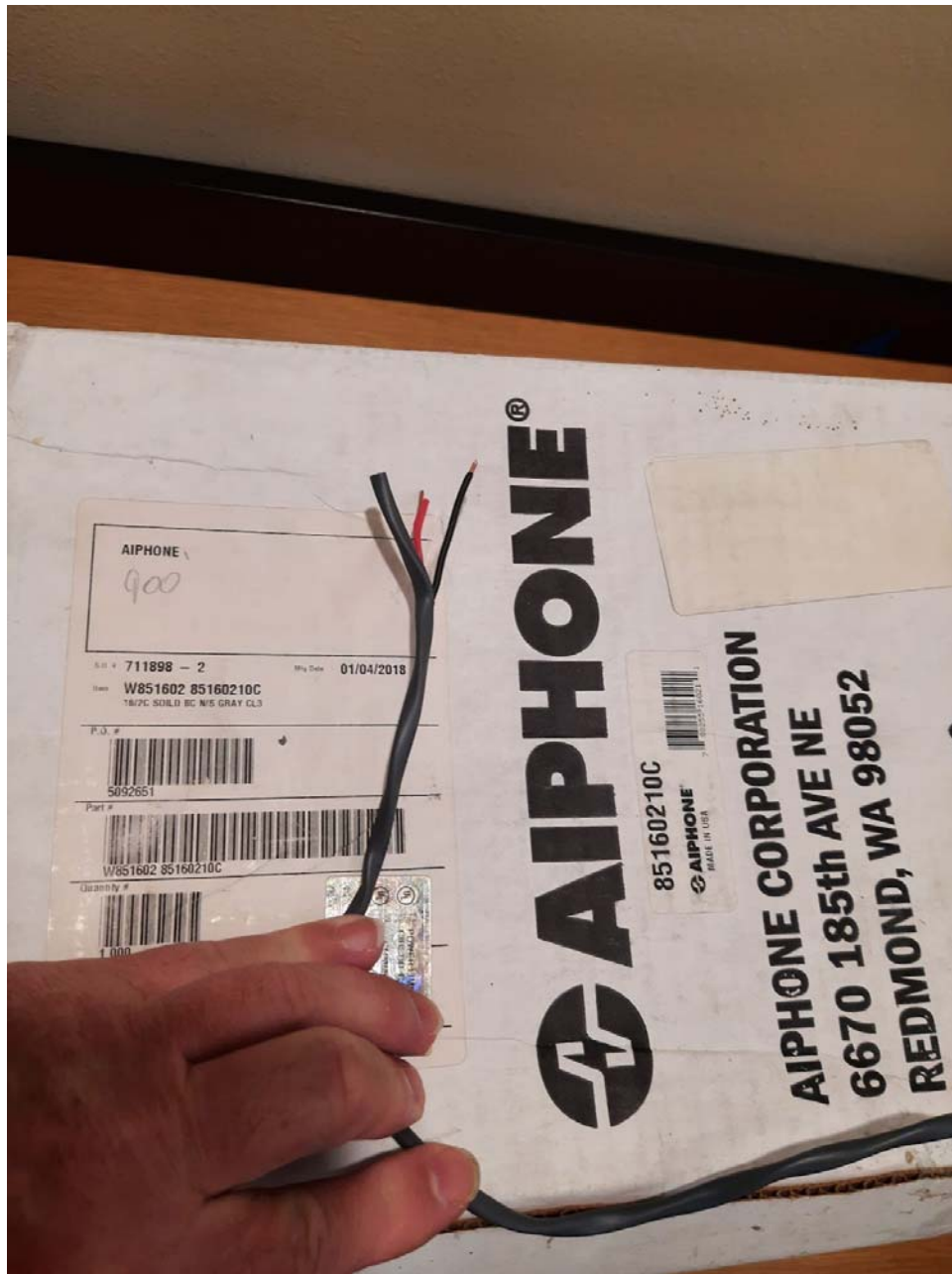
Power supply: eFuel 30A 540W

\$150



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Need any wire? Black and red pair, 16 awg, solid conductor in a grey sheath.  
Contact Eric ke6mf to find out where this large spool of went.



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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

<b>Simi Settlers' Leadership</b>				
<b>President</b>	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595 cell	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
<b>Vice President</b>	Matt Kaufman	N3AR		matt.d.kaufman@gmail.com
<b>Secretary</b>	Ron Nelson	K6RIN		rnelson759@sbcglobal.net
<b>Treasurer</b>	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC		mgriffi79@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>	VACANT			
<b>Raffle Prizes</b>	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(805) 433-4513 cell	mgriffi79@yahoo.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		ki6ksv@gmail.com
<b>Advisor Morse Code</b>	John Percival	WI6O		johnspercival1@gmail.com
<b>Advisor Mesh</b>	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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