



## **Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club**

# **Short Circuit**

<b>1</b>	Timely Information
<b>2</b>	Nets of Interest ACS/ARES Corner
<b>3</b>	Member Updates
<b>4</b>	The Marketplace
<b>5</b>	Simi Settlers' Leadership
<b>6</b>	Membership Form

The next meeting is at the

**Simi Senior Center,**

3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley.

**Thursday January 9, 2024** at 7:00 PM.

The next **Pizza Night** is at

**Toppers Pizza,** 2408 Erringer Rd, Simi Valley

**January 2 at 6:00 PM**

**No meetings in December.**

December 2024

## 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 Newslines) 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/netnic/ht.htm">http://atn-tv.org/netnic/ht.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:

Dec	1	Matt N3AR
	8	Ron K6RIN
	15	Matt KN6SEC
	22	Kerwyn N6YHX
	29	Brian KM6MIN
Jan	5	Kevin KD6UTC
	12	Matt N3AR
	19	Ron K6RIN
	26	Matt KN6SEC

December 2024

## 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**.

Now during the winter, it is back to 3.987 lower side band.

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.

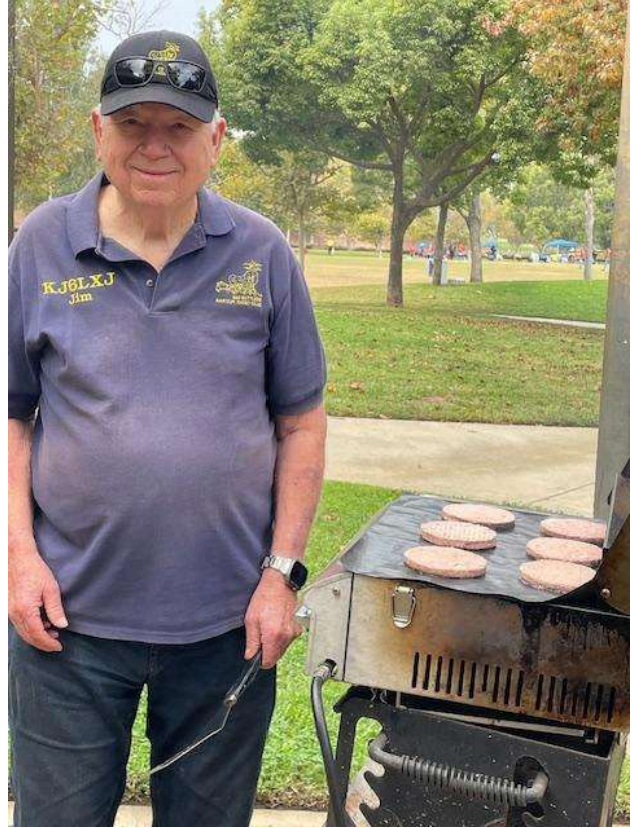
Visit [vccomm.org](http://vccomm.org) for more updates.

(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.)

December 2024

## Member Updates

### Fall Picnic by Mike



December 2024



December 2024



December 2024

## In before the Trump by Eric KE6MLF

Tariffs coming? Jumped the gun and got a new radio and battery before the prices go up. These will probably go into portable equipment. Bet I can mount the Btech radio on my bicycle.



December 2024

## **Santa Paula Work Party (Again)**

Another trip up to Santa Paula to continue the work, mostly on the Mesh network backbone. This time was a bit different, as the recent Mountain fire burned all the power lines up to the various sites. The whole mountain was a moonscape, with areas colored by fire retardant. The City of Santa Paula is on the valley floor in the background.



December 2024



Paul WD6EBY and a few others went up before and replaced the burned power lines and conduit. Most of our work on Saturday was to mount and align microwave dish antennas, and to mount a vertical VHF/UHF antenna that had to be replaced from the first work session.



December 2024

And this is why I wear gloves on some of the towers. Somebody told me these are crows, nope, they are Turkey Vultures using our tower as a perch and lookout.



While we were up and down ladders with our antennas and cables, work crews were busy all over the mountain replacing power poles and other equipment. How do they get the old burned stuff out, and new in? With two helicopters! At one point, we saw one go past with two guys at the end of the cargo hook, several hundred feet over the ground.



December 2024

## Emergency Communications and Backup Power by Orv W6BI

Part of being a ham radio operator is being ready to offer your services for emergency communications. Obviously that's not possible without electrical power and many hams have some source of backup or emergency power. It could be a generator, battery, solar panels, or some combination of those. Backup power is typically batteries, for short to moderate power outages, while a generator or solar panels (plus batteries) will support an extended power outage.

It's doubly-important for the hilltop radio sites we depend upon when we need to relay communications. All of the sites we routinely use in Ventura County have some sort of backup or emergency power, some more robust than others.

Our two radio sites here in Simi Valley, Mellow Lane and SimiNorth, at the north end of Sycamore, both have battery backup. Mellow lane has separate battery stacks for the two SMRA repeaters and another for the SVPD's DSW (Disaster Services Workers) repeater. The network equipment there taps off of SMRA's battery stack.

But neither site has emergency power, unless you count shlepping a generator up there (which we can do).

A better solution would be to add solar panels to each site. PVTAC (the non-profit that supports some amateur radio efforts in Ventura County) recently had a chance to buy some lightly-used solar panels at an excellent price, and they were kind enough to buy eight panels for our two Simi Valley sites, along with 20+ others for other PVARC radio sites. (I had previously gotten agreement from both site owners to allow us to install them.)





Donnie KJ6TTN was kind enough to offer a place to store our eight panels until we're ready to install them.



That could be a while; mounts for the solar panels have to be designed and built. Batteries at both sites need to be replaced with LFP batteries, but that's OK - the batteries at both sites are at end of life. And suitable solar power controllers are needed. And funding needs to be arranged for all of that.

Stay tuned for further developments!

December 2024

## Internet Resources

simisettlers.org - us!

cvarc.org - Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club

k6mep.org - Ventura County Amateur Radio Club

vcars.org - Ventura County amateur Radio Society

pvarc.club - The home of many of the counties repeaters

arednmesh.org - Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network

vccomm.org - Ventura County ACS / ARES

www.arrl.org - American Radio Relay League

archive.org/details/simi-settlers-arc - Our old newsletters!

qrz.com - forums, for sale, articles

eham.net - forums, for sale, articles (kind of a zombie site)

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

Under the groups.io banner (a free account is required):

groups.io/g/SimiSettlers/messages - A great place to post

groups.io/g/SIMI-VALLEY-HAMMESHNET/messages

vc-acs.groups.io/g/main/messages

vc-acs.groups.io/g/area-1/messages

Note: Most listings have been sitting around for quite a while, and so removed. If you wish to re-list, send the editor an email.

## **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.

.....

### **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)

December 2024

## 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)

December 2024



## 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)

## 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)

December 2024

## 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)

December 2024

## 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  $\mu$ -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)

December 2024

## 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)

December 2024

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>	VACANT			
<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>	Donnie Williams	KJ6TTN	(818) 974-0020 cell	donniewilliams@gmail.com
<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

December 2024

# 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: \_\_\_\_\_

December 2024