



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 February 13, 2025 at 7:00 PM.

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

**2025 - Off to a crazy start:
rain, cold, fire, and wind.**



February 2025

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 Newsline) 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/netnigh.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:

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.

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 for more updates.

For the Tuesday night nets:

4-Feb	Frank Valdez KI6OQ - ORT
11-Feb	Lisa Trent KK6AKR
18-Feb	Ron Nelson K6RIN
25-Feb	Eric Oberg KE6MLF

The next event we are supporting is the Ventura Marathon on February 23. Latest info is that all slots are filled.

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Member Updates

Assorted Stuff by Eric KE6MLF

The company I work at has lots of computers and other equipment. (Joe W6JWP works here too, even though “works” is kind of a misnomer.) In any case, there is a big bin in the back of the warehouse for stuff to be recycled. Things pile up, and once or twice a year somebody comes and takes it all away as E-waste.

Joe and I both rummage through the old cables, assemblies, and crusty bits of junk with wires dangling. He and I put some of it in there, as our old equipment gets obsolete or just dies. Once it goes in the box, it is fair game.

Here are some of the recent finds:

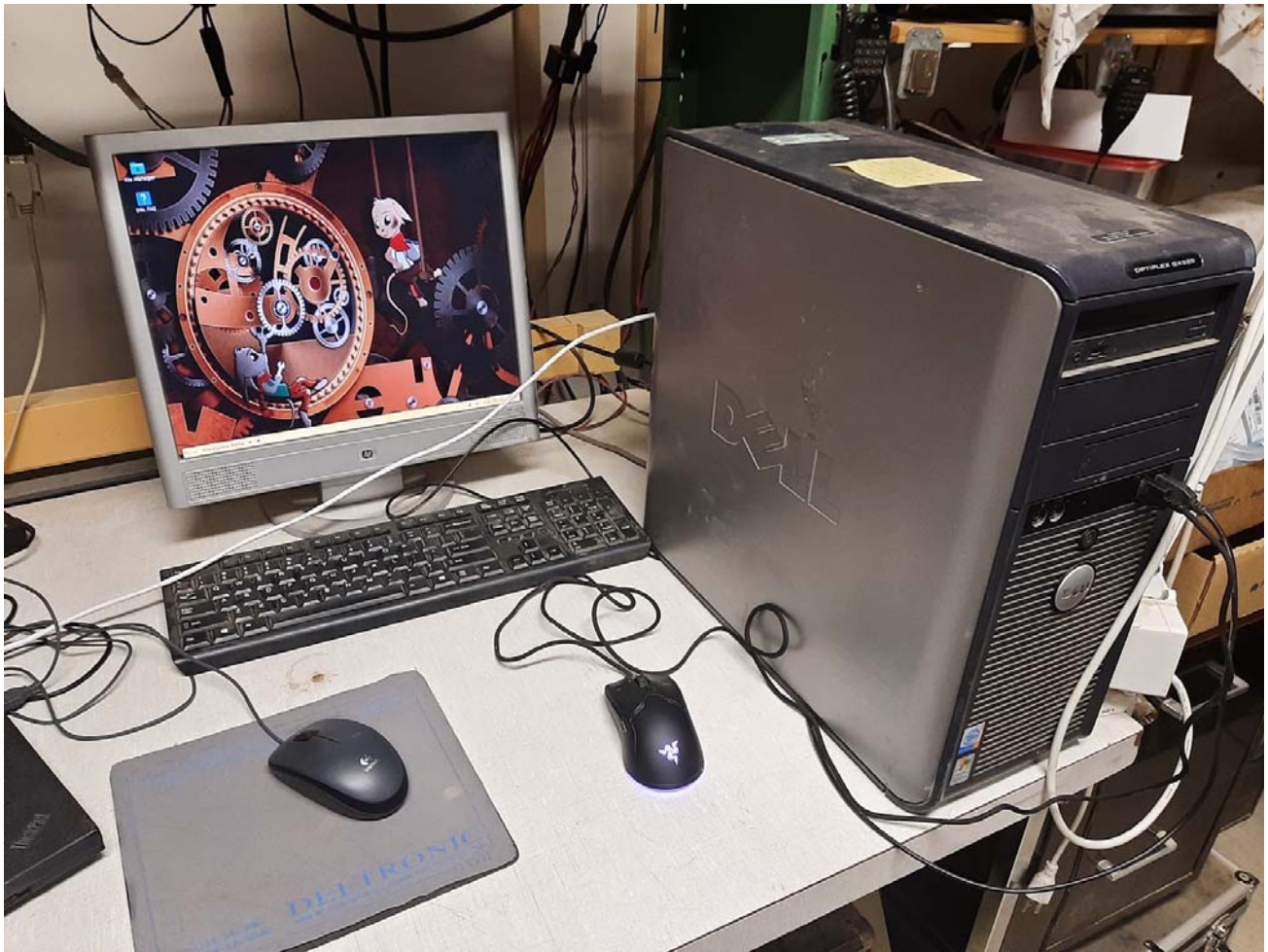


A 24 inch monitor with VGA input only (no DVI or HDMI)

February 2025



BNC "TEE"s and a protective cap



A computer that could not be updated to Windows 11, and so was replaced. Our latest security policy requires Windows 11, or a few select versions of Windows 10. The hard drive was pulled out, but I had one sitting around at home. Downloaded Linux, Libre Office, a few utilities, and now have a good computer.

Nothing wrong with dumpster diving if it gets you working and usable stuff.

I took a stack of older Dell laptops to the January meeting, 5 or 6 were snagged! Just because something is old does not mean it is not usable. Just look at most of our membership!

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Next: I do not have a collected set of equipment for ACS/ARES. Almost everything I have done so far was on my bicycle, a different set of radio stuff. About time to get with the program and make the so-called "go box" should I get sent off to distant and far away locations. I am going to mount a few radios in boxes, "soon".

Here is a lot of stuff piling up. Boxes, batteries, cables, radios, chargers, more cables, adapters...



Not shown in this picture is **all the other stuff** I am collecting.

Notebook and pencils, Glasses, Flashlight, Tiny computer, Computer power booster supply, Sound card interface, Paper map, Frequency list, Radio manuals, Charger cables for phones, HT, laptop, Small dry erase white board, TNC, Coax, Rope, Coax Adapters - N to UHF, DVM, Tape, Tools, Velcro straps, Inverter, Extension cord, 115 to 12 volt power supply, Spare fuses, Solar controller, Solar panel, Antennas, Poles, Mount - drive on, Mount - tripod, Chair, Table, Cart, Sun shade. Blanket, Water, Food, Eating stuff / utensils, Jacket, Hat / Beanie / Gloves / sunglasses, Sun screen, Tarp / towel / rain gear / first aid.

Not that this is all ready, but just to say I am working on the list.

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Stupid power “standards”

So I have laptop computers, TNCs, and a few other things that take power via barrel connectors. Which ones? I want spare cables to power my stuff from batteries, not an AC power supply. So I spent a few hours measuring the existing cable connectors, but could not quite find exactly the right connector. **Danged** if Amazon did not have **sets** of adapters. For under 15 dollars, I got **MANY** sizes of connectors, and a bag of feed cables (that also fit into Arduino boards!).



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Lets get all charged up!

This was one of the doo-hickeys from our dearly departed SK, Jim KI6MZ. How this ended up in the big box of junk is crazy. It is a battery charger for lots of different chemistries, and the little connector board in the upper right is somehow used to balance multi-cell battery packs.



No cables or instructions were with the unit, but I pushed the buttons a bunch and got it to charge up single LiPo batteries just fine. Thank you Jim! (I need to put his name on it to remember where I got it.)



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A view from the rooftop.

Bill AB6BW and I are working on getting an antenna at Lisa KK6AKR's house. She can JUST make it into the repeater, but has to go outside of the house to do it. We are going to put something up higher, with a cable ending up so she can plug in her HT and NOT have to go outside.

Who does not want to do the ACS check-in while dressed in warm jammies, on the couch, with a blanket and dog? (Can you tell it is cold while I am writing this?)

Don't really need any input, I have already planned a J-pole hanging on the backside of the chimney. Just have to bend up a bracket and hang it from the same place as the spark arrester.

So here, for your viewing pleasure, is the top of Lisa's chimney.



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 - 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.

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

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: FREE! Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

EDSYN MODEL CL1481 SOLDER STATION

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This solder station contains a 30 watt soldering iron, a soldering iron holder, a cleaning sponge and 4 different types of interchangeable soldering tips. Unit was originally won as a raffle prize and never used, but has been tested to work OK.

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

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TOWER CLIMBING HARNESS



This is a heavy duty tower climbing harness for climbing towers to repair existing antenna elements or to install a new antenna on top of a tower. The belt is of rugged leather construction with safety clip-ons to provide safety and security during a tower climb.

Condition: Fair/Good 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

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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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