



Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

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3	Member Updates
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The next **meeting** is at the
Simi Senior Center,
3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley.
Thursday July 10, 2025 at 7:00 PM.

The next **Pizza** Night is at
Toppers Pizza, 2408 Erringer Rd, Simi Valley
July 3 at 6:00 PM

Dues were due in **June**. Print out the last page of this newsletter, or we will have a few forms at the meeting.

At the meetings, the **raffles** are intended to be a fundraiser for the club. Clean out your piggy bank and bring a few dollars to the meetings!

How was your field day?

July 2025

A selection of NETS

Monday	Condor Connection (Plays Newslines)	7:00 PM	Frazier Mountain 224.720-1.6 MHz PL156.7
Tuesday	County ACS HF net	6:30 PM	Summer 7.242 +/- Winter 3.987 +/-
	ACS Area 1 - Simi Simplex net	6:45 PM	145.510 MHz Simplex
	ACS Area 1 - Simi Repeater net	7:00 PM	Simi Repeater 146.805 -0.6 MHz PL 100.0
	ATN-CA Net	7:30 PM	https://www.atn-tv.com
	LSB Net	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
Wednesday	Channel Islands chapter 10-10 International	10:00 AM 6:00 PM	28.34 MHz
	Mesh VOIP Net* Voice / video / data	8:00 PM	2.4/5.8 GHz Mesh
Thursday	LSB Net	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
Friday			
Saturday	SSARC SSB HF Net	8:30 AM	7.240 (+ or - QRM/N) 40 meter
	CW-QRP	9:00 AM	7.032 MHz
	Quad Squad net	1:00 PM	21.365 MHz
Sunday	The Newbie net	7:00 PM	Bozo Repeater 147.885 -0.6 MHz PL 127.3
	LSB Net	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
	SSARC 2 Meter Net**	8:30 PM	Simi Repeater 146.805 -0.6 MHz PL100.0

Additional listings of **MORE** 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 Sunday night control 8:30 on the Simi Repeater:

Jun 29	Matt N3AR
Jul 6	Ron K6RIN
13	Kerwyn N6YHX
20	Matt KN6SEC
27	Brian KM6MIN

July 2025

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

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

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

The Tuesday **repeater net** is on the 146.805 (-0.6 MHz, PL 100) 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:

24-Jun-25	Eric Oberg	KE6MLF
1-Jul-25	Bill Woods	AB6BW
8-Jul-25	Dante Smith	W6JCQ
15-Jul-25	Lisa Trent	KK6AKR
22-Jul-25	Frank Valdez	KI6OQ
29-Jul-25	Ron Nelson	K6RIN

July 2025

Member Updates

Mellow Lane Repeater site updates by Orv W6BI

The city owns the box our 146.805 repeater is installed in. They have taken a bit of interest in the installation, and asked us to clean up a few things. While the 3 repeater antenna cables have protection already installed, Orv is adding surge suppressors for the Mesh network data cables. Here are the tidy protection junction boxes for each network cable leaving the shed. The green wires go to the ground bar, which then has a big fat lead to a ground rod outside the shed.



Next bit of work is to cut cables and re-install connectors. Might not be quite so tidy looking after it all gets buried in the network cables.

Ed - Orv is also nudging me to get the old linked 440 repeater up and running, so we will try and give it a bit of love.

July 2025

Ventura County Ham Radio Month Proclamation by John NS6X

The County Supervisors recognize the contribution we make as emergency communication when needed. June has been declared Amateur Radio Month. John, our ARRL Section Manager, presented club president Brian KM6MIN with the proclamation.



July 2025



Proclaiming

June 2025

Amateur Radio Month in Ventura County

Whereas, Amateur (Ham) Radio operators stand ready to serve the residents of Ventura County during times of emergency, providing communications to protect life and property through the use of their skills and advanced communications technologies; and

Whereas, The American Radio Relay League's Santa Barbara Section includes Ventura County, which is now home to over 4,000 Amateur Radio operators licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC); and

Whereas, during wildfires, earthquakes, floods and large community events, Ventura County Ham Radio operators have responded to provide communications support to protect life and property, logging some ten thousand person-hours of service to the county annually; and

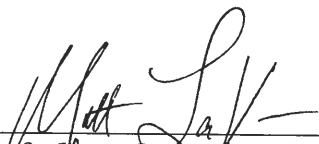
Whereas, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) volunteers in Ventura County commit to extensive training and drills, in order to work closely with law enforcement, public safety agencies, hospitals and relief organizations when needed by the county and California OES; and


Whereas, Amateur Radio operators are committed to the values of community service, continuous training, staying current with advancements in technology, providing mentorship to new operators and never charging a fee for their services; and

Whereas, During the fourth weekend of June each year, Amateur Radio operators conduct a national 24-hour exercise that simulates field operations under emergency conditions, this year occurring on June 28 and 29, at multiple locations within Ventura County.


Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Ventura County Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim June 2025 as "Amateur Radio Month" honoring the men and women who are prepared to serve the county and community whenever their communication skills may be needed.

Presented on this 3rd day of June 2025


Matt LaVere, Supervisor 1st District


Jeff Gorell, Supervisor 2nd District


Kelly, Supervisor 3rd District


Chair of the Board of Supervisors
Janice S. Parvin, Supervisor 4th District


Vianey Lopez, Supervisor 5th District

Camarillo Air Show by Avi K6AVI

The 2025 Wings Over Camarillo Airshow is coming up Sat-Sun August 16-17. If you have volunteered in previous years, there should be no (or minimal) changes from last year.

This year Eric Schwarm will be the volunteer coordinator, and Mike Felio will be the comm lead during the show. Each day is divided into two shifts, a morning shift and an afternoon shift

There are two main types of jobs, the roaming color teams (and rovers), and the net control (and comm lead / asst comm lead) jobs

There is also a show director "shadow" job, which should be a very exciting close-up assignment, you will have two radios: a commercial show radio and your ham radio. The Shadow will follow the show director and provide communication support to the show director. You are welcome to sign up for two consecutive Shadow shifts and stay with the show director for the entire day.

The net control (and comm/asst comm lead) will be based in the comm trailer, slightly longer shifts to ensure overlap between morning and afternoon shifts

The showgrounds is divided into four sectors A/B/C/D (maps showing the four sector and grids will be provided)

There are four two-person color teams (blue/green/purple/red), each two-person color team will cover one of the show sectors for an hour and then move to a different sector (as instructed by net control), allowing each color team to enjoy all sectors of the show.

The rover position is similar to color teams, but roves solo and not limited to single sector at a time and can rove over the entire show, also acting as a "gofer" and as backup for any color team member who might need to take a break

The color teams and rovers will stroll through the showgrounds enjoy the static displays and the airshow above, while providing eyes/ears/comms

Plan on four hours of walking in the hot August sun.

Bring your HT, headset/earpiece, a yellow shirt, communications vest (if you have one), hat, sunscreen, food/snacks, water, etc

Free entrance to the show, parking, t-shirt, pancake breakfast, lunch, and all the water and soft drinks you can drink

If you volunteer for a morning shift, you may stay and enjoy the show in the afternoon, and vice versa come early enjoy the show in the morning then work your afternoon shift

You may sign up for both morning and afternoon shifts and/or for both days or for different job types.

The volunteer registration requires multiple steps and forms to fill in and submit. **Go and read the full instructions on the Simi Settlers groups.io site.**

Eric Schwarm (N6RFI)
eric@schwarm.us
(970) 646-8267

July 2025

K6PWP Seymour K6PWP - SK

Seymour left us last month. Orv W6BI tells me Sy was one of the Settlers founding members. His daughter, Lisa, forwarded this fun poster.

No Man's Master

THE BOARDWALK BUGLE

1904 - 1970s

Santa Cruz, California

Four Pages - Vol. 1, No. 1 - CALIFORNIA'S FINEST SEASHORE PLAYGROUND - Printed on Time, Weekly

K6PWP GETS 100 PERCENT ON ADVANCED

Santa Cruz . . . Home of "Miss California - Miss America" Beauty Pageant Since 1924



FIRST ANNUAL MISS CALIFORNIA BEAUTY PAGEANT
SANTA CRUZ BEACH - 1924

MISS CALIFORNIA PAGEANT

Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium is the site of the state preliminary to the Miss America Pageant. Each June thousands come to Santa Cruz for the pageant to see the crowning of the new Miss California who serves as of Royal Hostess for the State of California.

His Six-Guns Wrote California History



HARRY LOVE

It was Harry's hands that he could make 1,000 gamblers. History records him with accuracy during his own, Joseph's, and others' days in the Golden State. . . .

Million Dollar Fire Destroys Santa Cruz Beach Casino



Less than a year old, flames consumed the newly constructed Beach Casino, ballroom and Grill on June 27, 1904, when city water pressure failed and firemen were unable to fight a blaze that completely gutted the huge structure.

Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo Discovers Santa Cruz Beach In The Year 1542

When California search for greater adventures along with the search for gold led to the discovery of Santa Cruz, Cabrillo's discovery was not a simple one. . . .

Less than a year old, flames consumed the newly constructed Beach Casino, ballroom and Grill on June 27, 1904, when city water pressure failed and firemen were unable to fight a blaze that completely gutted the huge structure.

FOR THIS COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ . . .

And this from Orv, W6BI:

In about 1977, some hams in Simi Valley decided to start a ham radio club. A couple of the original founders were **Sy Botan K6PWP** and Dick W6AFF. It was Sy's wife Shelly who gave the club the name of The Simi Settlers.

I helped Sy put a huge log-periodic antenna on top of his new 70 foot tower in the late '80s. It was quite an exercise. Sadly Sy became a Silent Key several weeks ago. Eric KE6MLF is coordinating with Sy's daughter to get his tower removed and dispositioned.

So, who wants a “free” tower? 70 foot crank up with a good winch, rotator, and log periodic antenna. Also up is a tubular crank up, but I forgot to look, is it 2 sections or 3?

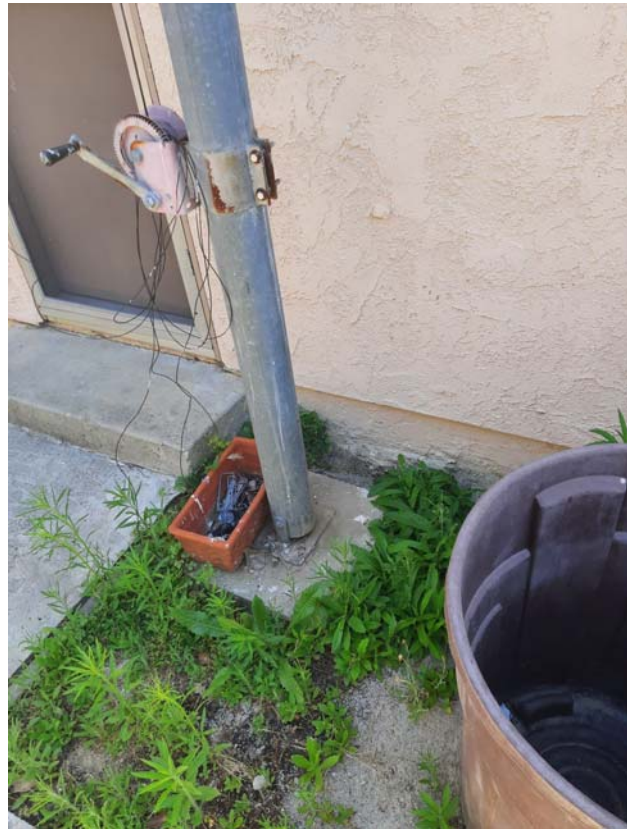
Both items are going to get posted on theborednet.net by the end of the week. Just a few people to get the tubular down, but a dozen to get the tower down and out. Ask Donnie KJ6TTN about pouring a tower pad.

Both items are in really good shape. Contact Eric KE6MLF if interested and then start collecting (big and strong) friends.



July 2025

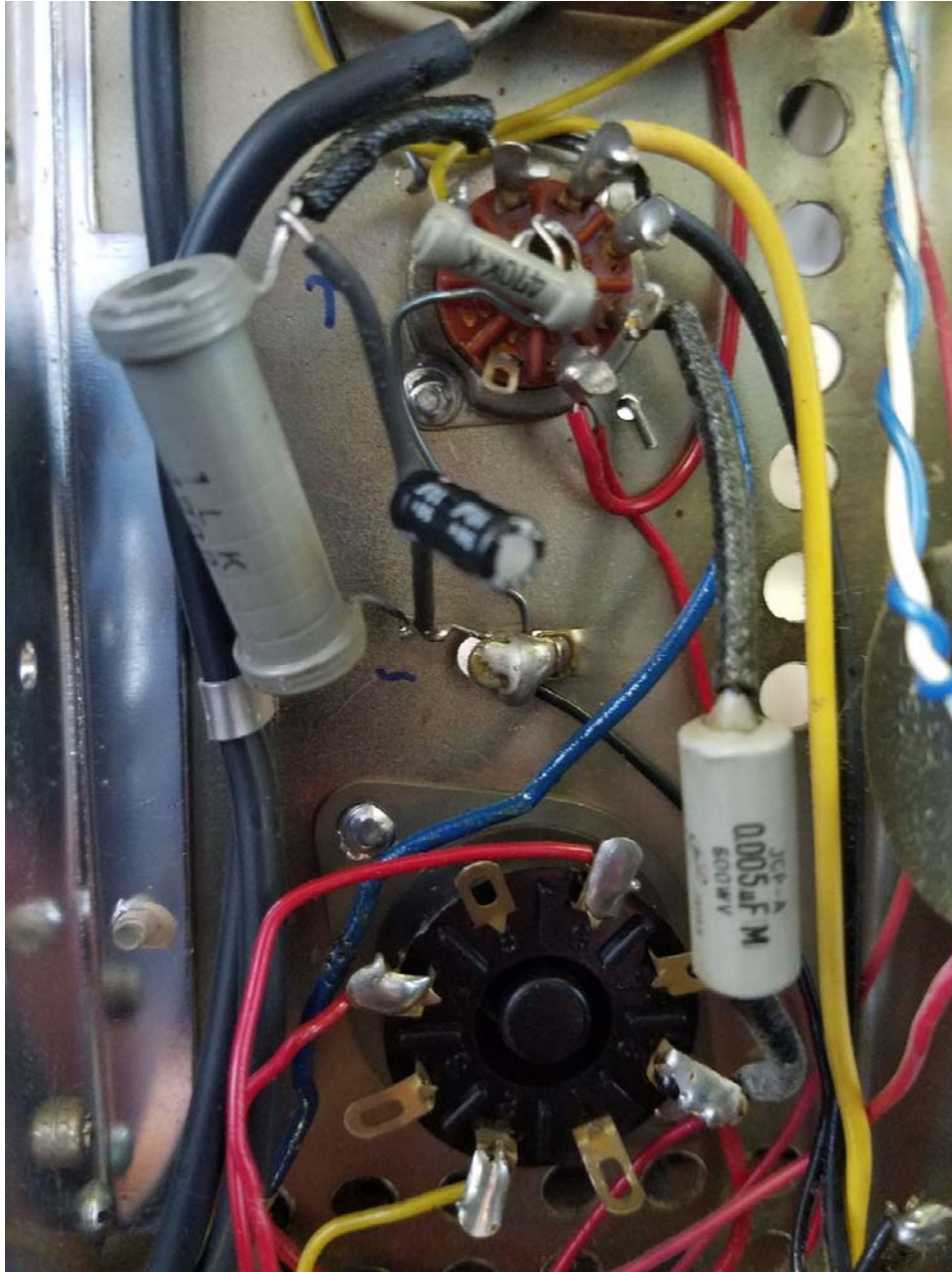
Here are the tower details, and winch from the tubular. The scattered bits of wire are from a wire dipole, also available.



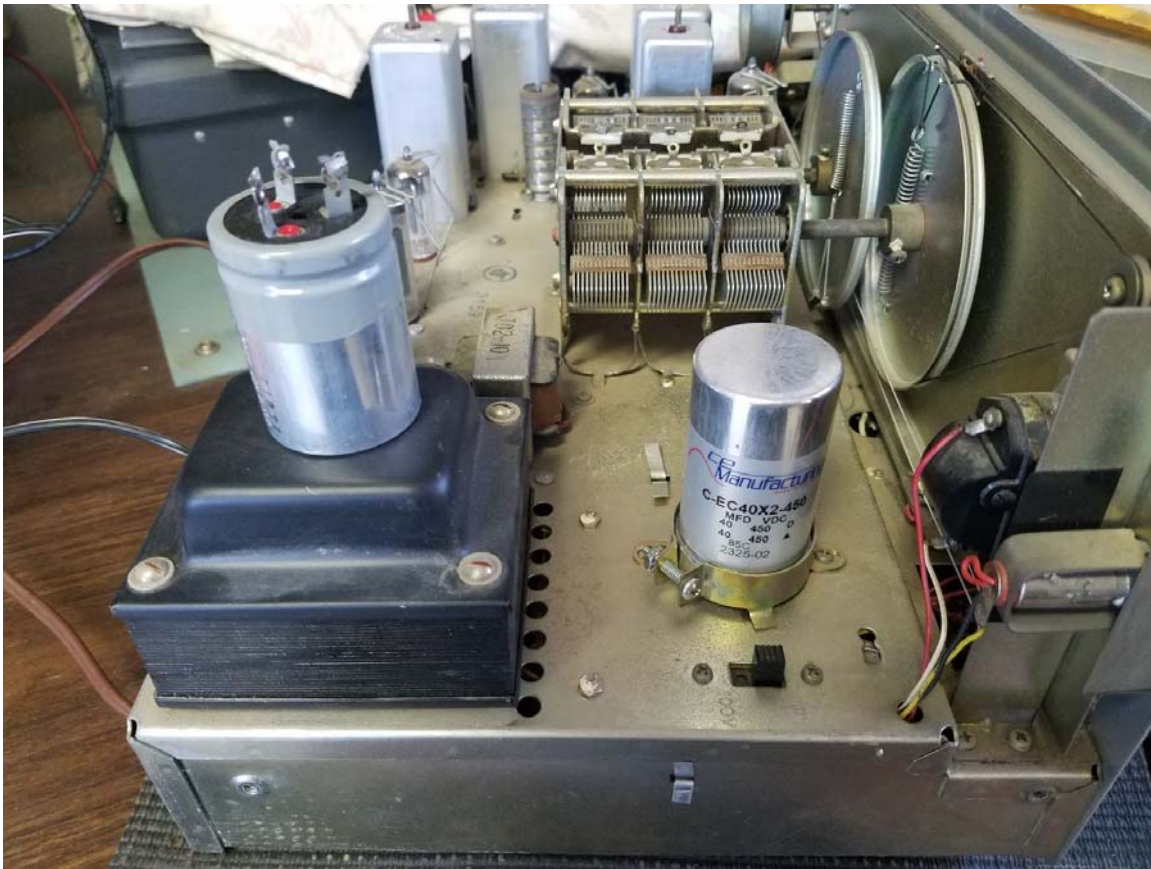
Shortwave Receiver Hum by Eric KE6MLF

Patrick WB6USZ, gave us this Lafayette HA-230 a few years ago, I snapped it up to keep it alive. It recently developed a hum in the audio, but two new capacitors fixed it right up. It is back to sounding just fine.

Here is the new cap for the audio amplifier (the tiny black cylinder with white markings). It is $\frac{1}{4}$ the size of the original cap, even with the same voltage and capacitance. Note the blue + and - in blue ink on the chassis. Would not want to clean up the mess if I got it in backwards.



Here is the new multi-section cap for the power supply, mounted in the original clamp. The old dead cap is sitting upside down on top of the black transformer.



Electrolytic capacitors have a finite life, (like 10,000 hours?) and can break down over time. They can leak electrolyte, or short out, giving the circuitry upstream a hard time. Most vital is the transformer that provides all the voltages for the tubes. Once you blow this up, the radio is most likely cooked and done. Old equipment = check / change the electrolytic caps.

After Patrick saw the **last** newsletter, he sent me this:

“ I got 95% or 96% on the FCC written amateur radio exam that I took in 1966 in downtown LA at the FCC office. I took a summer job in 1965 as a handyman at a company to earn money, at \$1.35/hour, to pay for the radio before my graduation from UCLA in Math in June 1966. I can remember going into the Lafayette store on Vanowen, east of DeSoto in Woodland Hills to buy it. I was hoping that the clerk, probably the store owner, would talk to me about how good the radio was but he was only interested in taking my \$110 or so for the radio and external speaker. It was a big expense for me at that time.

73, Pat / WB6USZ”

Patrick, I thank you for your hard work and brilliant purchase. Does that make it 59 years old? Here it is, back on the shelf and working with clean audio:



Patrick, you owe me a QSL card to keep with the radio.

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VCARS Meeting Location forwarded from Vern W6NCT

The "Ventura County Amateur Radio Society" (VCARS) Meeting for June (6/9/2025) will be held from 19:00 to 21:00 in the "community room" at **East County Sheriff Station (ECSS)**, located at 2101 E. Olsen Rd, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360. **Beginning with this meeting, monthly VCARS meetings will be held on the SECOND MONDAY of every month** (at least through the end of 2025).

For those NOT familiar with the ECSS, the Community Room is in the south-west corner of the building (i.e., slightly to the left (west) of the main entrance). **DON'T TRY TO ACCESS IT THROUGH THE MAIN LOBBY.** The Community Room's main entrance is from the **OUTSIDE**, through the semi-enclosed picnic area (just to the left (west) of the main entrance). Look for the dedicated glass doors, from the semi-enclosed picnic area. Be aware that **PARKING RESTRICTIONS APPLY** at this facility (see attached "ECSS (Community Rm. and parking*)" files for marked-up overhead images showing location of Community Room entrance and valid parking).

The Sheriff's station is right after Wood Ranch as you leave the west end of Simi Valley.

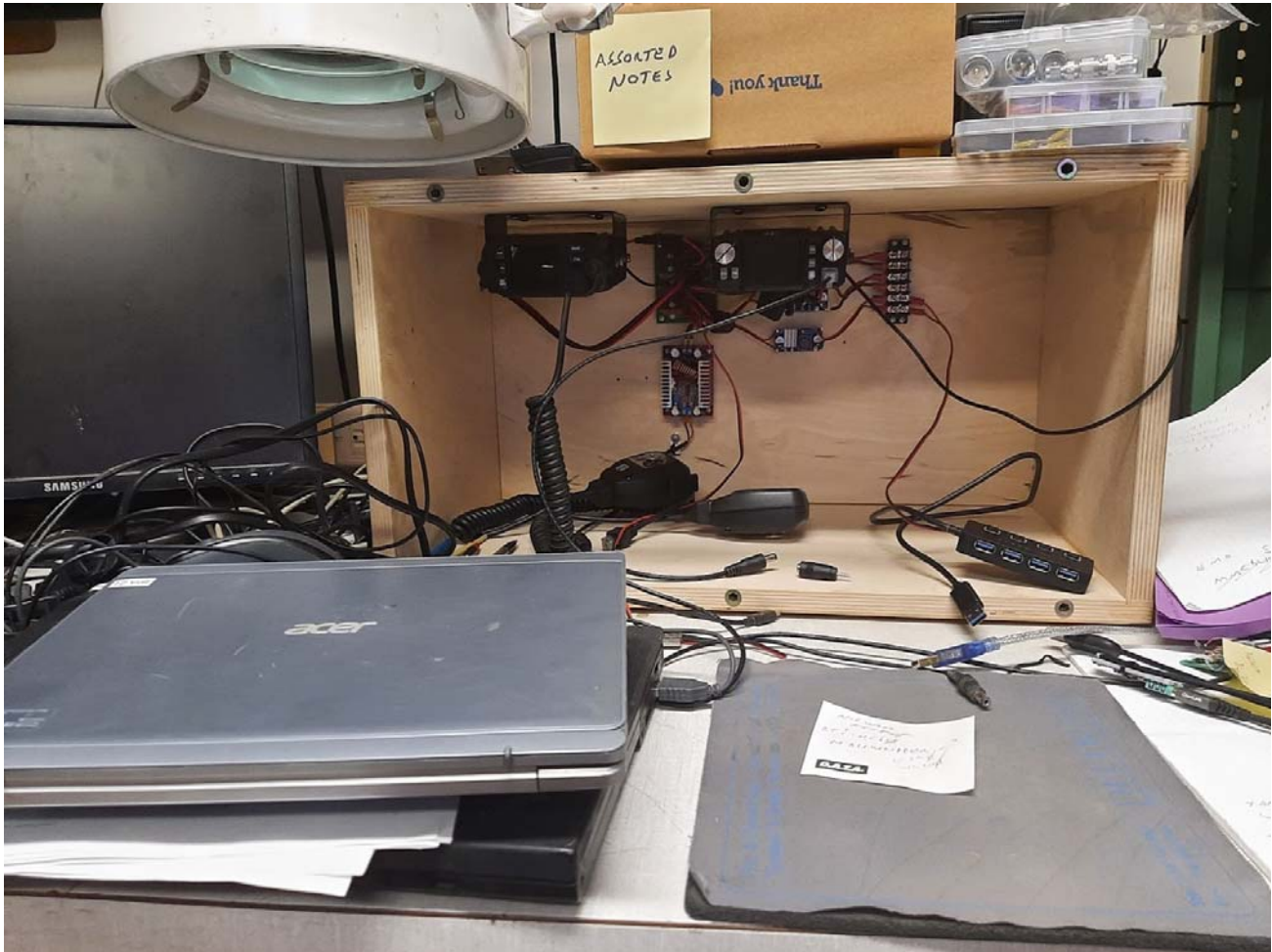
The **Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club** also meets at the station. The third Thursday of the month is for CVARC at 7:30 PM.

July 2025

Some Connectors are Icky by Eric KE6MLF

So continuing work on my portable station. I got radios, computers, USB hubs, a TNC...

Here is the box with two B-Tech radios, the USB hub and various power routing bits. Intended to have one VHF / UHF radio for voice, and a second radio for digital operations such as packet, Vara FM, or FLDIGI.



July 2025

Tried to use these barrel adapters for coaxial connectors on the USB hub. Got a bunch of different sizes that all fit a generic cable. **NOPE**, not reliable. One wiggle and the power **blinks**. Power Pole good. USB good. Microphone RJ plug good. **Barrel power connector bad.**



The **solution** is to crack things open and solder wires directly on. The USB hub in the lower right **HAD** a coax connector. Squeezed the black plastic case and it popped open. Unsoldered the stupid barrel connector and put in the red and black wire leading up to the terminal block. Go ahead and wiggle stuff, it is going to stay powered. The black box in the middle is an old computer speaker on a 2 foot lead. I can leave it inside the box, or locate it on top for better sound.

No solution **yet** for the tiny laptop computer barrel connector.



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 - **Create your profile here!**

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

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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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)

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 Orv W6BI

(orv.beach@gmail.com)

Signalink USB - interface between radio and computer for digital modes - \$75



From Joe W6JWP

MFJ 259 Antenna Analyzer 1.8 to 170MHz \$100.00 OBO.

Good working unit with extras.





Contact joe.w6jwp@gmail.com

July 2025

Anycubic Mega Pro 3D FDM Printer w/Laser Engraving

Upgraded flexible magnetic steel bed.

The power supply and extruder fans make noise when first turned on but it goes away after about 30 seconds.

Includes glass bed, tools, spare extruder and nozzles, laser head and protective glasses.

\$75.00 or best offer.



July 2025



Contact joe.w6jwp@gmail.com

July 2025

Ender 3 v1 3D FDM Printer

Modified for direct drive.

Upgraded flexible magnetic steel bed. Includes a spare textured steel bed.

Good basic machine

\$75.00 or best offer.



Contact joe.w6jwp@gmail.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	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Vice President	Matt Kaufman	N3AR	(818) 425-0920	matt.d.kaufman@gmail.com
Secretary	Ron Nelson	K6RIN	(805) 797-6315	rnelson759@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(661) 361-5955	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Committee Chairpersons				
Webmaster	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(661) 361-5955	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Newsletter	Eric Oberg	KE6MLF	(805) 791-0745	ericoberg1@gmail.com
Membership	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745	kj6lxj@gmail.com
PIO	VACANT			
Raffle Prizes	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(805) 433-4513	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Youth Coordinator	VACANT			
Historian	Mike Tweedy	KV6I	(805) 231-9683	mtweedy@roadrunner.com
Net Coordinator	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Food Services	VACANT			
Room Coordinator	VACANT			
Elmers and Members at Large				
Past-President	Bill Woods	AB6BW	(818) 694-9019	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

July 2025

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, Ca 93062-2125 --- (www.simisetters.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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