



## Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

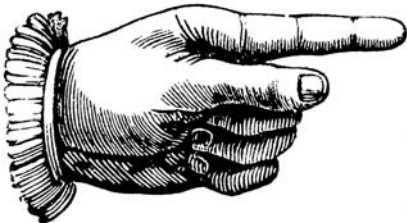
# Short Circuit

1	Timely Information
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3	Member Updates
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6	Membership Form

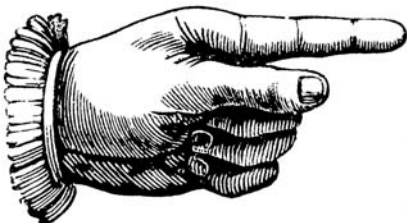
The next **meeting** is at the  
**Simi Senior Center,**  
3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley.  
**Thursday June 11, 2026** at 7:00 PM.

The next **Pizza** Night is at  
**Toppers Pizza,** 2408 Erringer Rd, Simi Valley  
**Thursday June 4, 2026** at 6:00 PM

### At the June meeting, two events!



Dues are due. This is how you fund the editor's favorite club event, the picnic BBQ. It also pays for our insurance, post office mail box, and who knows what else?



Elections. Here is your chance to throw out the current ruling rabble and replace them with new ruling rabble. Care to work for nothing and field complaints, whining, and stupid suggestions?

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The elections are to be held each June for a sentence of 1 year. Of note, we have been missing a Public Information Officer. Here are the official position listings:

### **Duties of Officers:**

Section 1: The **President** shall preside at all meetings of the Club and conduct the same according to the rules adopted. The President shall enforce due observance of this Constitution and the Bylaws; decide all questions of order; sign all documents that are adopted by the Club, and none other; and perform all other customary duties pertaining to the office of President. The President may not serve as Chairman of any Club Committee; however, the President shall be a member ex officio of all Club Committees.

Section 2: The **Vice-President** shall assume all the duties of the President in the absence of the latter. The Vice-President shall also assume such duties as assigned by the President.

Section 3: The **Secretary** shall keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings, keep a roll of members, submit applications for membership, maintain all correspondence, present communications at each meeting, and distribute to the membership such written documents as are appropriate. The Secretary shall keep the Constitution and Bylaws of the Club and have the same available at every meeting. The Secretary shall cause all amendments, changes, and additions to be noted thereon and shall permit the same to be consulted by members upon request. The Secretary shall at the expiration of their term, turn over all items belonging to the Club, to the successor.

Section 4: The **Treasurer** shall receive and receipt for all moneys paid to the club; and shall keep an accurate account of all monies received and expended. The Treasurer shall pay no bills without proper authorization as defined in the Bylaws. At the end of each quarter the Treasurer shall submit an itemized statement of disbursements and receipts. The Treasurer shall at the expiration of their term, turn over everything in their possession, belonging to the Club, to the successor.

Section 5: The Newsletter Editor shall collect articles and prepare the newsletter. Distribution of the newsletter shall be made by email, or other electronic communication, to current paid members. The newsletter may also be posted on the Club's website. The Club newsletter shall be in accordance with the Bylaws. The Newsletter Editor shall at the expiration of their term, turn over everything in their possession, belonging to the Club, to the successor. (Also, sometimes I have to run spell check.)

Section 6: The **Historian** shall maintain a record of Club activities and Club publicity. The Historian shall at the expiration of their term, turn over everything in their possession, belonging to the Club, to the successor.

Section 7: The Publicity Chairperson/**PIO** shall develop relationships with media, (and) handle all news worthy activities of the Club, in the form of press releases. All press releases will be approved by the Executive Board. The Publicity Chairperson will supply a copy of all press

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releases to the President, Secretary, and Historian. The Publicity Chairperson shall attend Board Meetings of this Club. The Publicity Chairperson shall at the expiration of their term, turn over everything in their possession, belonging to the Club, to the successor.

Section 8: The **Membership Chairperson** shall promote and approach nonmembers to extend an invitation to the Club meetings. The Membership Chairperson may form a committee to perform this task. The Membership Chairperson shall understand membership's rights, dues and privileges as stated in the Club's Constitution and Bylaws. The Membership Chairperson shall attend the Board meetings. The Membership Chairperson shall at the expiration of their term, turn over everything in their possession, belonging to the Club, to the successor.

Feel free to boot any of the current office holders, it's not like you are going to cut our pay or deprive us of any of the fabulous side benefits.

# Field Day at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library

Operating Saturday and Sunday, June 27-28

Field day is the once a year event to drag a bunch of equipment out to the field and see how many other stations you can contact. As usual, we are cahoots with Ventura County Amateur Radio Society (VCARS).

Ventura County Amateur Radio Society meets from 19:00 to 21:00 on the 2nd Monday of every month in the community room at East County Sheriff Station 2101 E. Olsen Rd, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360. There will be a meeting for band captains on **June 8 at 7 PM** during the normal VCARS meeting.

Setup of masts and antennas takes place on Friday the 26th, teardown Sunday starting at 11 AM.

Operations start at 11 AM Saturday, and run 24 hours.

Go and stop by the Library for a few hours or the entire day. You can operate, help log, or just watch the operations. A field day is kind of a **must see / must do** for new amateur radio operators. You could always check out some of the other local clubs to see their shenanigans.

You can read up on the rules at <https://www.arrl.org/field-day>.

Don't have a big fancy HF setup? Operate with a handheld radio, preferably from some hilltop or higher elevation. I myself operate from home in between the usual chores and errands. I have **already started** practicing with supplies and materials to make sure I am in the best possible condition for my field day.



Pouring the Black and Tan in layers is to ensure I have a steady hand when working the frequency knob and microphone switch. The burrito is of course carnitas, also known as HAM.

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## A selection of NETS

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Condor Connection</b> (Plays Newslines)	7:00 PM	Frazier Mountain 224.720-1.6 MHz PL156.7
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>County ACS HF net</b>	6:30 PM	Summer 7.242 +/- Winter 3.987 +/-
	<b>ACS Area 1 - Simi</b> Simplex net	6:45 PM	145.510 MHz Simplex
	<b>ACS Area 1 - Simi</b> Repeater net	7:00 PM	Simi Repeater 146.805 -0.6 MHz PL 100.0
	<b>ATN-CA Net</b>	7:30 PM	<a href="https://www.atn-tv.com">https://www.atn-tv.com</a>
	<b>LSB Net</b>	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Channel Islands chapter</b> <b>10-10 International</b>	10:00 AM 6:00 PM	28.34 MHz
	<b>Mesh VOIP Net*</b> Voice / video / data	8:00 PM	2.4/5.8 GHz Mesh
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>LSB Net</b>	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>SSARC SSB HF Net</b>	8:30 AM	7.240 (+ or - QRM/N) 40 meter
	<b>CW-QRP</b>	9:00 AM	7.032 MHz
	<b>Quad Squad net</b>	1:00 PM	21.365 MHz
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>The Newbie net</b>	7:00 PM	Bozo Repeater 147.885 -0.6 MHz PL 127.3
	<b>LSB Net</b>	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
	<b>SSARC 2 Meter Net**</b>	8:30 PM	447.640 UHF repeater - PL is 131.8 Hz

**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 net at 8:30 on 447.640 UHF repeater - PL is 131.8 Hz:**

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

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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).



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

For the Tuesday night nets, our net control will be:

5-May-26 Ron Nelson	K6RIN	
12-May-26 Eric Oberg	KE6MLF	
19-May-26 Bill Woods	AB6BW	
26-May-26 Dante Smith	W6JCQ	
<b>2-Jun-26 FrankValdez</b>	<b>KI6OQ</b>	<b>ORT</b>
9-Jun-26 Lisa Trent	KK6AKR	
16-Jun-26 Ron Nelson	K6RIN	
<b>23-Jun-26 Eric Oberg</b>	<b>KE6MLF</b>	<b>ACS</b>
30-Jun-26 Bill Woods	AB6BW	

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## Member Updates

### “Meshing around” in 2026 by Orv W6BI

It's no secret that I'm a big fan of the AREDN networking software and the network it creates. But there are other digital modes that don't use HF.

Meshtastic, Meshcore and Meshcom are three increasingly popular networking applications. They operate in the 915 MHz band, and are license-free. All three applications can use the same hardware by loading different software images. They only support limited bandwidth, so unlike AREDN are pretty much restricted to texting. They create networks by learning how to get to other nodes. They don't interoperate, however.



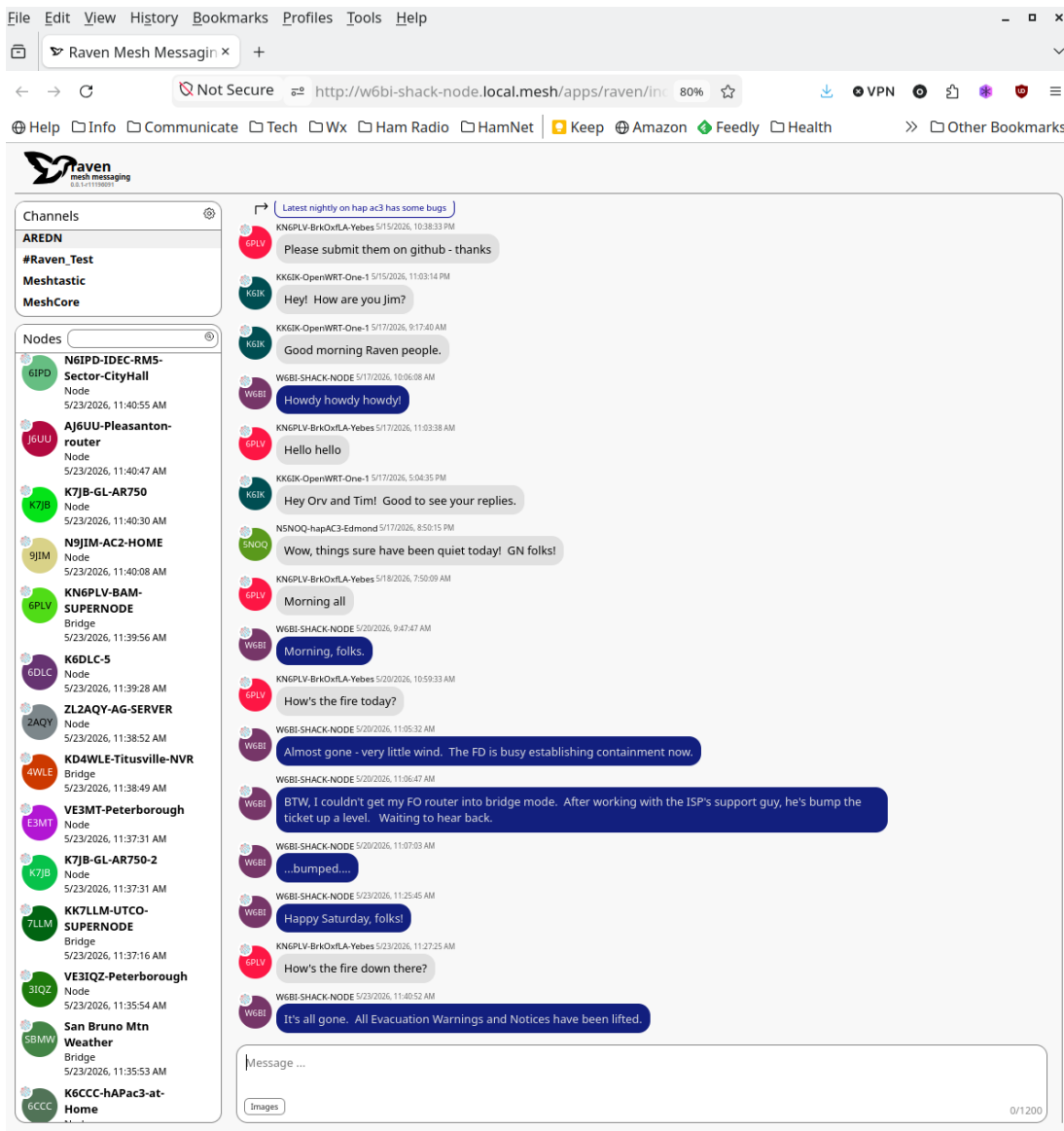
Typical Meshtastic or Meshcore node

Why do I mention them? While AREDN is a great networking protocol, it's just a network; it doesn't come with any applications. Applications like web sites, weather stations and cameras can all be hung off the network itself.

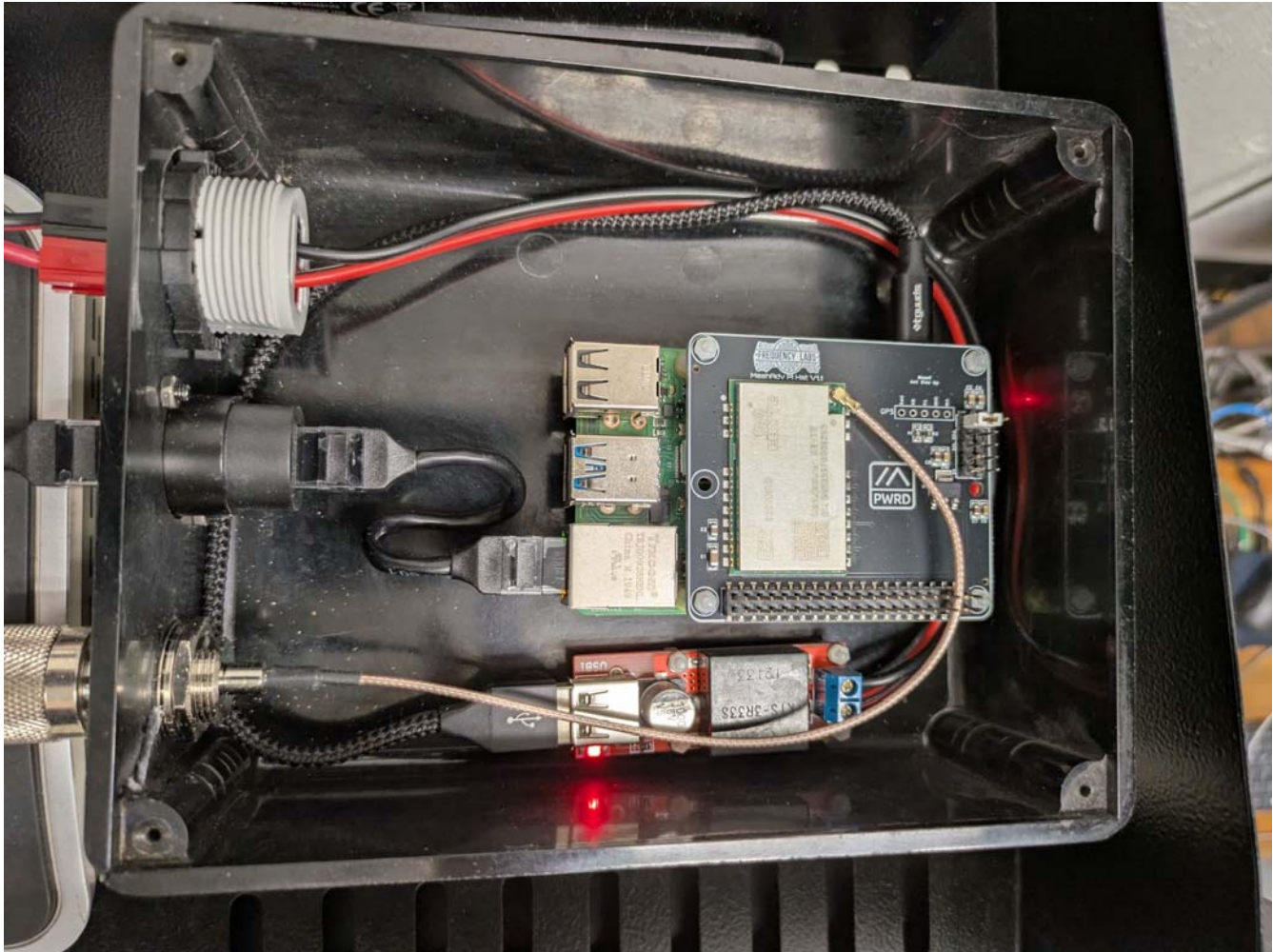
A chat application is a natural for a network like this and for years “Meshchat” has been the go-to chat app for the AREDN network. But it was developed by several hams not involved in AREDN software, and historically has been poorly maintained, leading to aggravated and annoyed users.

While the AREDN team in the past has stayed focused on the network software, they finally bit the bullet and developed a chat application that can run on an AREDN node itself (Meshchat needed an external server, like an RPI).

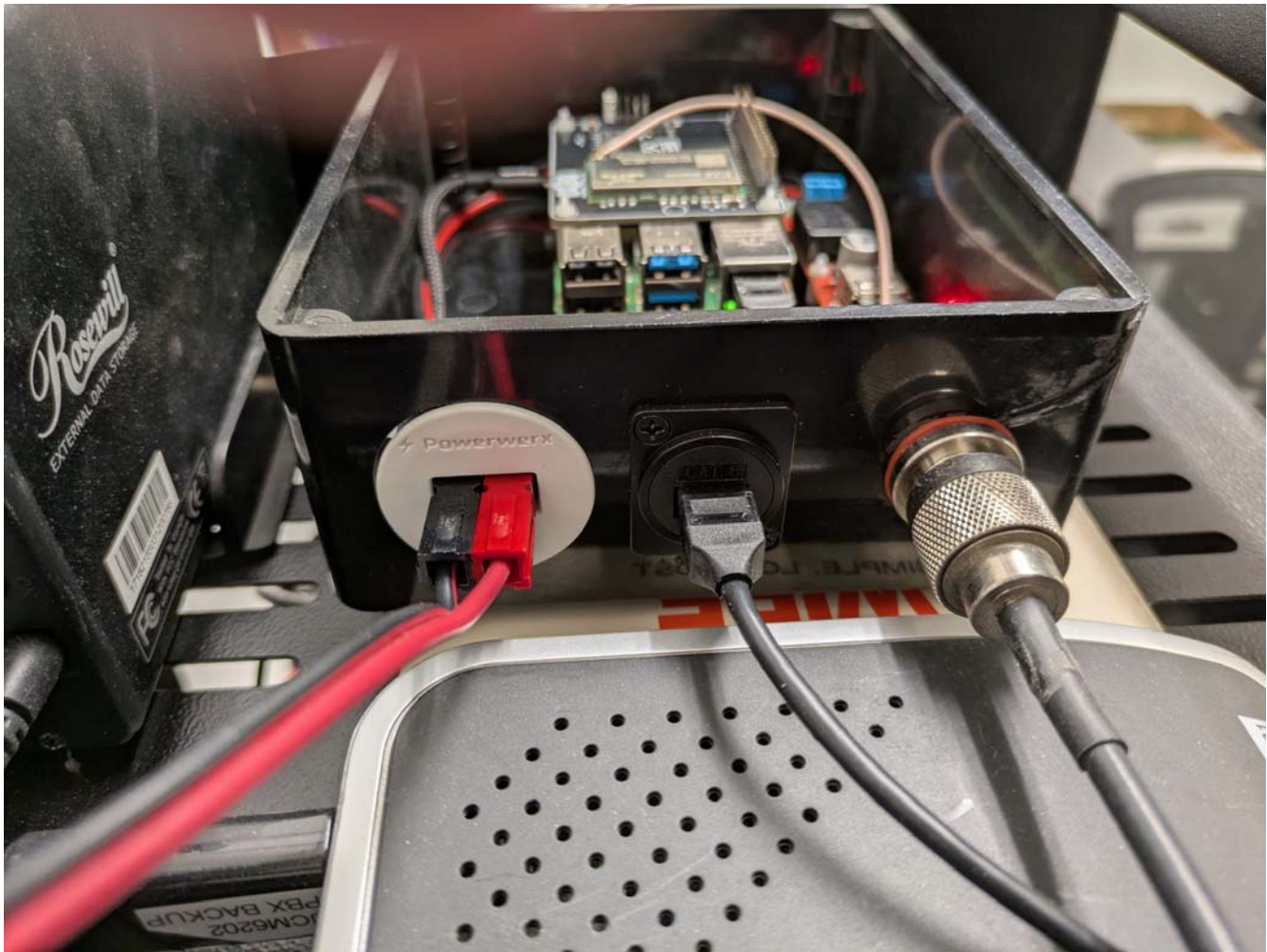
And the lead AREDN developer Tim KN6PLV, being a crack developer of course didn't limit himself to writing a chat client that speaks only AREDN. The app, which he named 'Raven' has capabilities for talking Meshtastic, Meshcore and Meshcom nodes as well. It's browser-based.



Of course I had to try it. In order for the app to talk to a Meshtastic network, an AREDN node needs to be connected to a Meshtastic node. This requires hardware that's a bit more involved than the basic Meshchat node.



Layout of node



Back panel connectors: Power, Ethernet, Antenna

The node uses a MeshAdv Pi Hat\* on top of a Raspberry Pi computer. It could be as basic as a Raspberry Pi Zero. I used an RPI 4 that I had laying around. In order to power the RPI I installed a 12V to USB power converter. The Meshtastic module has a surface mount antenna connector. I bought a "IPX/u.fl" to N adapter cable to get the antenna connected.

\* "Hardware Attached on Top"

It's connected via some LMR400 cable to a 915 MHz omni antenna which I picked up at the Settlers' January swap meet. My son Eric KB6DYJ mounted the antenna on my chimney antenna mast for me. It hears pretty well throughout Simi Valley.



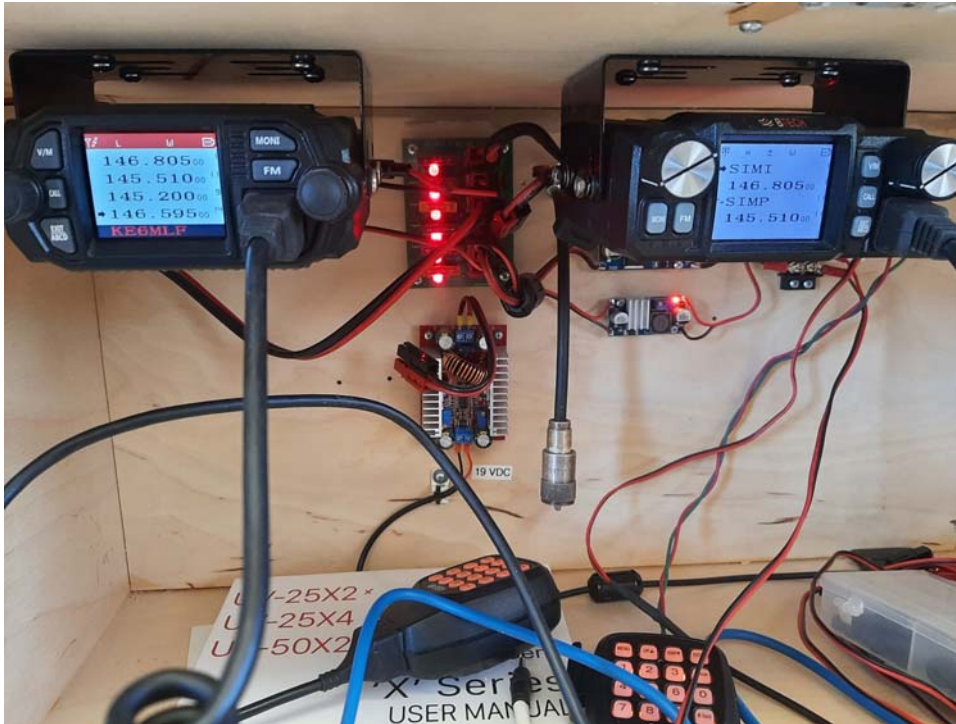
There's a Meshtastic map here: <http://bit.ly/4dHFcbC> and a Meshcore map here: <https://nodakmesh.org/meshcore/map/>

If you're interested in these modes, there's lots of documentation out there on them.

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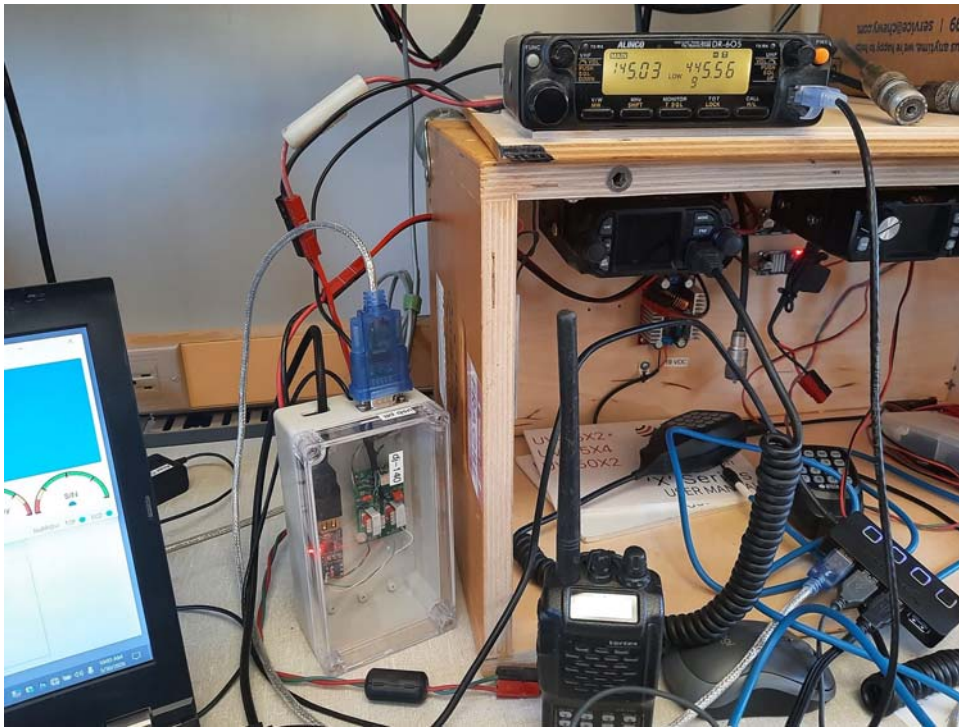
## More Progress by Eric KE6MLF

So I tried for a long time to get the BTECH radios to work on **VaraFM**. Kinda worked, sometimes. Since my Toyota is sidelined, I pulled the Alinco DR-605 dual band radio out of it. I tried it and another Alinco, a DR-140 with my home made sound card interface. Both are over 20 years old and work just fine. Talked with Joe W6JWP, he also had difficulty getting the Btech radios to work. They sound fine on audio, and work on packet, but something ain't quite right on that one digital mode.

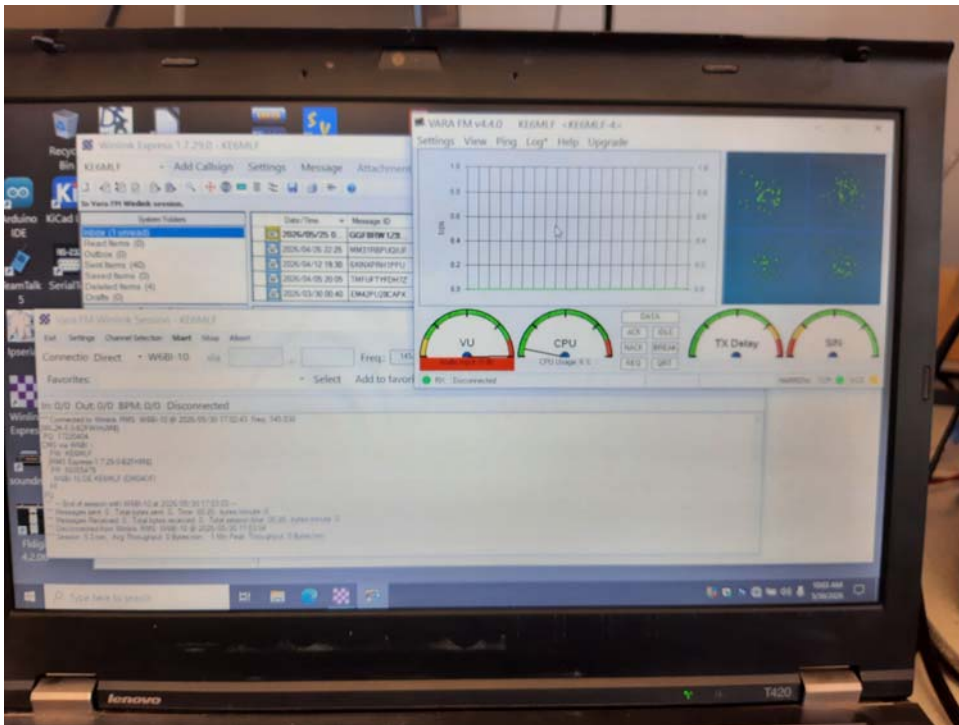


Good for voice or packet.

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Good for anything, voice, packet, VaraFM.



Proof!

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## 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](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

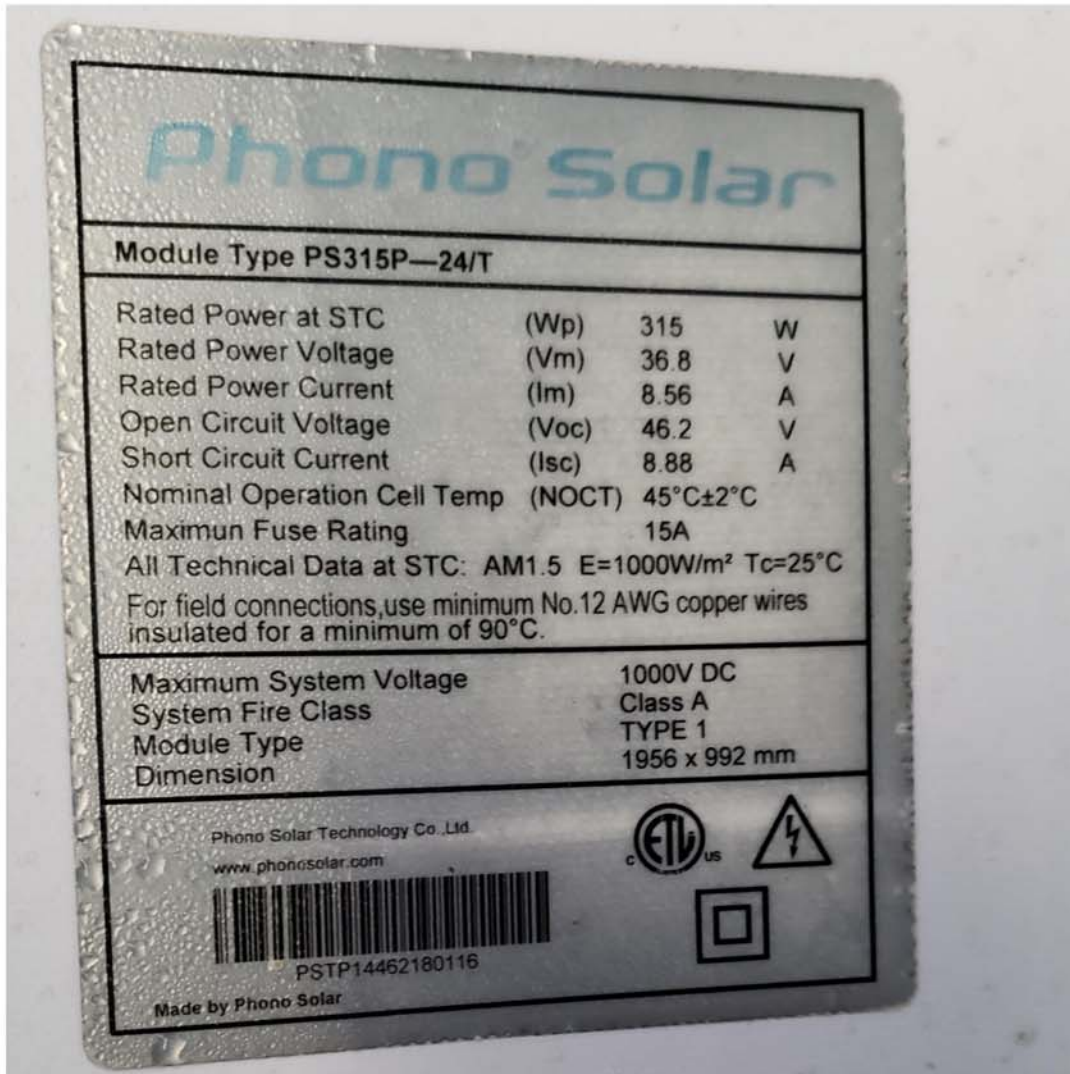
# SSARC Marketplace

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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## From Orv W6BI

For Sale - 315 watt solar panels - \$50 each. Lightly-used prior to being taken out of service. Four available. Funds will be directed towards Simi Valley repeater maintenance



## From Joe W6JWP

Creality CR-6 SE 3D Printer \$150.00 OBO. Lots of tools and spare parts included. More pictures available upon request.



Contact [joe.w6jwp@gmail.com](mailto:joe.w6jwp@gmail.com)

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## From Joe W6JWP

Ender 3 v1 3D FDM Printer

Modified for direct drive.

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

Good basic machine

**Free to a good home.**



Contact [joe.w6jwp@gmail.com](mailto:joe.w6jwp@gmail.com)

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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: \$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)

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

Type of Membership:

New Member  Individual (\$25/yr)

Renewal  Family (\$30/yr)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Day & Month of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL: Yes  No  (Omit year)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Family Members:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Day & Month of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL: Yes  No  (Omit year)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Day & Month of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL: Yes  No  (Omit year)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Day & Month of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL: Yes  No  (Omit year)

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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