



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

# **Short Circuit**

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

The next **meeting** is at the  
**Simi Senior Center**,  
3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley.

**Thursday October 8, 2026** at 7:00 PM.

The next **Pizza** Night is at  
**Toppers Pizza**, 2408 Erringer Rd, Simi Valley  
**Thursday October 1, 2026 at 6:00 PM**

**Many** things happening in the near future:

Oct 3 uExpo at CSU Channel Islands

Oct 10 Fall picnic at Wood Ranch

Oct 16-18 Pacificon in San Ramon

Oct 24 Simi Valley Street Fair at Town Center

October 2026

## uExpo is October 3 at CSU Channel Islands, Central Mall

<https://www.theborednet.net/index.php/2026/06/22/2026-microexpo-is-on/>

\$6 to park for all day - snacks are available in the food court.

The Third Annual Bored Net  $\mu$ Expo is on **Saturday, October 3** this year, in the same place on the campus of Cal State University Channel Islands in Camarillo, California from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

The Settlers are going to display portable emergency gear, or "Go Boxes". Other clubs may do fox hunting, antenna building, or just have lots of projects.

**Bring your go box or portable radio setup**, and get on the air.

The ARRL Santa Barbara section meeting will be held right in the hall next to the open quad.



First year, I sat at the Mesh station, 2nd year with my Go Box station, but this year I heard there is going to be a satellite presentation in the meeting hall. I'm going, and more than willing to abandon all of you staying outside.

October 2026

## Fall picnic

**October 10 at Wood Ranch**, Simi Valley from 9:00 AM to 12.

Rancho Madera Community Park, located on North Wood Ranch Parkway

Lunch of some form will be provided. If you would like to bring something, that would work too. We always have way too much food.

Bring your portable radios, get on the air. Bring a chair to the park and just have some outdoor time.

Alternatively, you can do like our club President, Brian:



October 2026

## Pacificon

October 16-18 San Ramon\

<https://www.pacificon.org/>

At some point in your radio life, you need to attend one of the conventions. Talks, vendors, all the major manufacturers, and a swap meet sure to provide tons of stuff. Several of our members attend, some (Orv) give presentations.



October 2026

## Simi Valley Street Fair

**October 24** - in Simi Town Center Way

The Settlers usually put up a **booth**, with lots of public walking past and asking questions. Once or twice, we have put up a club booth, AND an ACS / ARES location.

You could bring a radio and try to make contacts, but it is usually quite noisy and busy. At least stop by, or even bring a chair, sit, and chat.



October 2026

## A selection of NETS

|                  |                                                    |                     |                                                             |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>Condor Connection</b><br>(Plays Newsline)       | 7:00 PM             | Frazier Mountain 224.720-1.6 MHz PL156.7                    |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>County ACS</b> HF net                           | 6:30 PM             | Summer 7.242 +/-    Winter 3.987 +/-                        |
|                  | <b>ACS Area 1 - Simi</b><br>Simplex net            | 6:45 PM             | 145.510 MHz Simplex                                         |
|                  | <b>ACS Area 1 - Simi</b><br>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 10-10 International</b> | 10:00 AM<br>6:00 PM | 28.34 MHz                                                   |
|                  | <b>Mesh VOIP Net*</b><br>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/>

|       |              |
|-------|--------------|
| Oct 4 | Matt N3AR    |
| 11    | Ron K6RIN    |
| 18    | Kerwyn N6YHX |
| 25    | Matt KN6SEC  |
| Nov 1 | Brian KM6MIN |
| 8     | Kevin KD6UTC |
| 15    | Matt N3AR    |
| 22    | Ron K6RIN    |
| 29    | Kerwyn N6YHX |

October 2026

## 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 on 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.

|                        |        |        |
|------------------------|--------|--------|
| 6-Oct-26 Ron Nelson    | K6RIN  | ORT    |
| 13-Oct-26 Eric Oberg   | KE6MLF | County |
| 20-Oct-26 Lisa Trent   | KK6AKR |        |
| 27-Oct-26 Bill Woods   | AB6BW  |        |
| 3-Nov-26 Dante Smith   | W6JCQ  |        |
| 10-Nov-26 Frank Valdez | KI6OQ  |        |
| 17-Nov-26 Lisa Trent   | KK6AKR |        |
| 24-Nov-26 Ron Nelson   | K6RIN  |        |

October 2026

## Member Updates

### SimiNorth - Then And Now by Orv W6BI

I found some old photos of the SimiNorth radio site, taken in the early 90s. I thought it would be interesting to compare the site with the way it looks now. (Back then it was just "the repeater site" because it was almost the only repeater accessible from Simi Valley).



The old site was established in late 1988. The cabinet was donated by Dick W6AFF. His company built equipment that required waterproof outdoor enclosures, and this particular one was surplus.

In the above photo, you can see that there's a telephone pole behind the cabinet. That was placed there several decades earlier and held a VHF antenna for a paging transmitter used by Simi Valley Hospital. The overhead phone line allowed the hospital operators to activate the paging transmitter.

By the late 80s, it had been abandoned so we took it over, and placed the cabinet at the base of the pole.

October 2026

We put a VHF Stationmaster antenna on top of the pole for the 2 meter repeater, and it worked very well - it had good coverage deep into the San Fernando Valley. But we had no room for more antennas.

Originally the pole had no crossarms. I had befriended an old ham who was a retired telco guy who did a lot of pole work. He had the crossarms surplus (I didn't ask why!), and volunteered to put them up on our pole. When he was installing them, he pointed out a date band on the base of the tower. It was new in 1957, so whoever installed the pole in the first place used a surplus pole.

We put up a commercial-grade antenna for 220 MHz on the cross arms (the large antenna) and also a small 220 antenna for out of band control (required by the regulations back then, and probably still required.)

In the second photo, you can see the complement of gear in the cabinet. All of this gear was built by Art WB6CWJ (SK). He was a retired DWP radio tech and he was a master craftsman. He even built his own enclosures!



From bottom to top:

A black wooden box holding two 80 amp-hour lead-acid batteries. They required watering at least twice a year.

A grilled enclosure, holding the power supply, a surplus IBM mainframe power supply that Art converted. (Still in use by my son Eric KB6DYJ!)

To the left and right, and to the rear of the power supply you can see the cavities for the 2 meter repeater (six of them).

Above the power supply is a cabinet. On the bottom is a rack of modules: fuse panel, indicator lights, local control, 2 meter exciter, 2 meter amplifier (20 watts), the 2 meter receiver, and repeater controller. The controller was homebrew, based on an 8085 CPU and wirewrapped (!) by Rick, (formerly N6ZT). The controller was later replaced with an Link Communications RLC-1.

The top half of the rack swung out, and held modules for "remotes"; they were originally intended for use in a Kenwood TS741, and would allow you to use the 2 meter repeater and simultaneously let you transmit and receiver on 220 or UHF channels.

Above that rack was the Spectrum Communications 220 repeater, with its cavities to the left of it, and its amplifier sitting on top of it.

It all worked surprisingly well, and carried a lot of emergency traffic after the '94 Northridge quake.

Unsurprisingly the old gear has been completely replaced by now. Ignore the old guy in the photo, but here's what we have there now:



It was discovered around 2008 that the telephone pole was rotted out internally. So it was removed and replaced with 20 feet of tower bolted to the side of the rack, which you can see in the more recent photo.

In the old rack, bottom to top:

560 AH (!) LFP battery.

Above the battery you can see the charge controller for the solar panels and the AC charger for the battery.

Above that, there are three repeaters:

Simi Valley UHF

DARN UHF

And the DARN link repeater, pointing at Rasnow Peak.

Above them is the repeater controller, an ARCOM RC210

Above the white shelf are the parts of the AREDN microwave gear that aren't up on the tower:

The enclosure holds two Raspberry Pi computers:

The site computer, monitoring various items, and hosting a site web page.

October 2026

The telemetry computer for monitoring the power system.

To the right of that is the Netonix network switch that ties all of it together.

To the right of the old cabinet is the second cabinet, installed early this year. To the right of THAT is the solar panel array, also installed this year. On a bright day it can supply close to 1,000 watts of power. On a quiet day, the whole site uses 66 watts :-). So you can see we have plenty of surplus power!

For now the second cabinet contains only the 220 repeater and its cavities. Power, coax and control cables for it go to the repeater controller via the conduits between the cabinets.



Hope you enjoyed the tour!

73, Orv W6BI

October 2026

From Joe W6JWP

A couple of pictures from the Channel Island ARC at the STEM exhibit, Camarillo Air Show.



October 2026

## HT Battery Cases by Eric KE6MLF

I have a collection of hand held transceivers. Some are over 20 years old. The original batteries are long dead, a replacement is dead, and the current one does not last as long as it should. I could spend a bunch of money on new batteries, OR, do what George KN6LA did and make up an 8 cell AA battery case. The cases are on Amazon for like \$6-9. The proper barrel connector, and you can put the flat battery case in your pocket.



October 2026

I am a big fan of AA cells, you can pick them up fresh at many places. I have 6 cell and 9 cell packs. The six cells give 9 volts, the nine cells give 13.5 volts for higher power transmissions.

The only problem is that pesky barrel connector. How to really find the right size? Next time you buy an HT radio, get several of the "DC power cable" that matches your radio.

Here is my 1994 Alinco with 6 and 9 cell AA cases, AND the original equipment manufacturers DC power cable. Cable fits nice and tight, no dropouts when it wiggles in my pocket or on the bicycle.



October 2026

## 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-ac.s.groups.io/g/main/messages

vc-ac.s.groups.io/g/area-1/messages

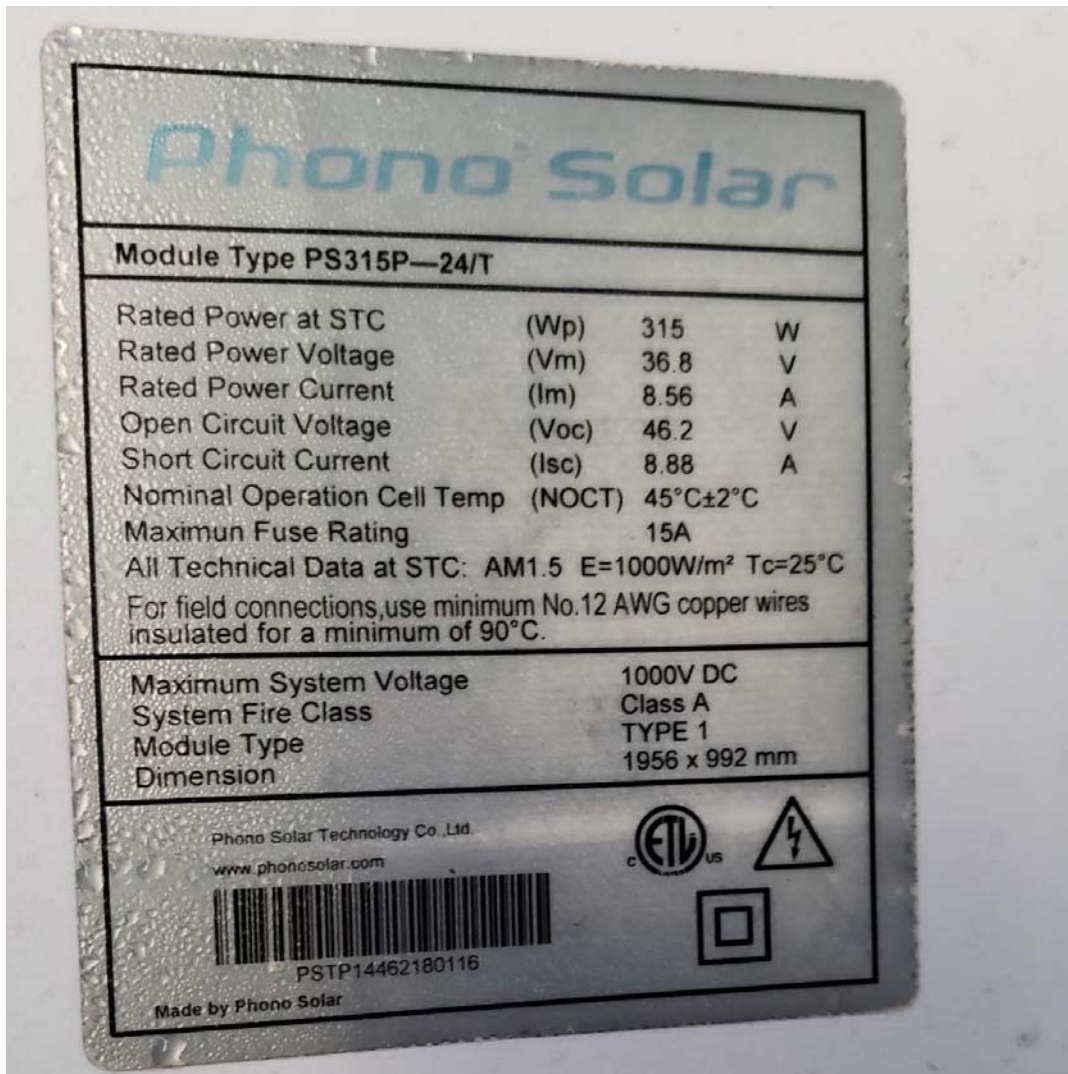
## SSARC Marketplace

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.

.....

### 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)

October 2026

## **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)

October 2026

## 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: \$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](mailto:gnb.2112@yahoo.com)

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

| Simi Settlers' Leadership   |                 |        |                |                          |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------|----------------|--------------------------|
| <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      |
| Committee Chairpersons      |                 |        |                |                          |
| <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>Historian</b>            | VACANT          |        |                |                          |
| <b>Net Coordinator</b>      | Brian Hernandez | KM6MIN | (805) 813-7595 | km6min_bh@yahoo.com      |
| Elmers and Members at Large |                 |        |                |                          |
| <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      |
|                             |                 |        |                |                          |

October 2026

# Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, Ca 93062-2125 --- (www.simisettlers.org)

## Membership Application



### Type of Application:

New Member ☐ ☐  
Renewal ☐ ☐

### Type of Membership:

Individual (\$25/yr) ☐ ☐  
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: \_\_\_\_\_

October 2026