



# the REACTer

Official Publication of REACT (Radio Emergency Associated Citizens Teams)



Vol. 18, No. 4

July-August 1984

## Team Leaps from Five to 100 Members Strong

By James D. Howard, Secretary  
Queens County REACT

LITTLE NECK, NY — Queens County REACT Team 4314, formerly known as Little Neck Douglaston Radio Patrol, started out with approximately five members, one of whom was a New York State Certified Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). The patrol has now grown to approximately 100 members, which includes six members who are EMT's and four who are certified in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Advanced First Aid (AFA).

One of the things in our patrol that we are proud of is our Emergency Medical Personnel. Our patrol has responded to over one million calls for assistance and our Emergency Medical Personnel have saved over 200 lives at emergencies on both local streets and highways.

Queens County REACT has a membership that consists of people ranging in age from 14 and older. Those between 14  
(Continued on page 5)

## North Carolina Team Responds to Challenge After Tornado Hits

By Jennifer and Oscar Lampley  
Richmond County REACT Team 3206

HAMLET, NC — On Wednesday, March 28, Richmond County REACT Team went on standby at 5 p.m. because of a tornado watch. About 6:30 p.m., our tornado watch became a warning of possible devastation to come.

By 9 p.m., our REACT disaster Team was setting up a shelter in Scotland County. Members also helped out in Robson and Marlboro Counties.

Besides setting up a shelter, ladies of the Team manned the shelter, offered their secretarial skills, cooked, baby sat and lent a shoulder for those who needed one.

Twenty-five REACT units answered the call for service. Out of the scenes of disaster and anguish of the tornado victims, came the blessing of "unity."

The men used their muscle power, setting to work with chainsaws to clear up  
(Continued on page 3)



HAMLET, NC — Members of Richmond County REACT at work helping clear some of the rubble and debris following recent tornado disaster in the Bennettsville area. Besides providing communications, members cooked for mass feeding, baby sat, assisted in first-aid, and lent a shoulder for those who needed one.

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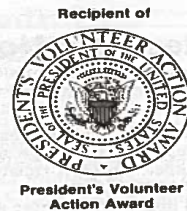
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An Independent Non-Profit Public Service Organization Providing Organized Citizens Two-Way Radio Communications In Local Emergencies

# the REACTer

Official Publication of REACT (Radio Emergency Associated Citizens Teams)



Recipient of President's Volunteer Action Award

Vol. 18, No. 4

July-August 1984

## Gudridge, Indiana Team Top Achievement Awards

Winners of the top awards for Team and individual honors in the achievement awards have been named. They are Metro REACT North of Floyd County (New Albany, IN) and Richard D. Gudridge, a veteran member of St. Cloud (MN) REACT, who is spearheading the effort of the Minnesota State REACT Council to pass legislation which would make deliberate interference on Channel 9 a crime.

For their efforts, the winners each receive \$500 in cash and a trip to the International Convention in Daytona Beach. The contest is underwritten by K-40 Electronics.

In announcing the Metro REACT Team winner, Achievement Award Chairman Greg Anderson pointed to the Team's outstanding record in support of a family in need of help in replacing an outworn and dangerous wood bridge so that one of the family's children — a victim of cerebral palsy could be picked up by bus.

Thanks to the Team's good work, the child who is subject to illness from the slightest exposure, can be picked up right at the door by the bus.

Gudridge, who is currently serving his fifth one year term as Public Chairperson of St. Cloud REACT Team 3791, has performed the exceptional task of telling the REACT story of people helping people on live local radio stations. He has done live interviews ranging from 15 minutes to an hour, which led him to developing "winter driving tips" for use on local radio stations and which were adopted by the MN Team Council for release statewide for use free of charge of all REACT Teams of MN upon request.

In addition, Gudridge has logged during the first quarter of 1983 over 700 hours monitoring Channel 9 on his base.

He has in addition during the second quarter of 1983 reported over 851 hours of monitoring Channel 9 from his home base with a running total as of June 30, 1983 of 1,551 hours. This is true dedication.

## Here's Story of REACT Jrs. As Seen by Colorado Member

The following article was written for the local Sun Newspaper by Nancy LaForest, a member of the Junior Division of Pike's Peak Regional REACT Team C-371 and the REACTer is pleased to reprint it.

By Nancy LaForest  
Pike's Peak Region REACT, Team C-371

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO — Providing a lifesaving link between an accident victim and emergency aid distinguishes members of the junior division of the REACT program from other teenagers.

The Junior Division of Pike's Peak Region REACT includes young people 12 to 18, who are seriously interested in citizens band radio. REACT is a non-profit public service organization which monitors CB emergency Channel 9.

Karen Rose and Jason Dea Bueno, two Junior Division members, joined the organization because of their interest in CB radio. Both said they enjoyed working with people their own age and working with the public.

"I've learned about CB communications and how to work as a Team since I joined," said Dea Bueno. "I would recommend Junior REACT to young people who really enjoy being with a crowd their own age."

Junior Division members monitor the emergency channel and help at activities such as the Pike's Peak Auto Hill Climb and the Jaycees' Haunted House.

REACT also holds "Wake Breaks" — roadside stops with free coffee and donuts to keep travelers alert — and helps with the March of Dimes Walk-a-thon each year.

"We meet a lot of different people from different places when we're at the Wake Breaks," Miss Rose said. "I've met a bunch of people."

In many instances, CB radio has provided a time-saving, lifesaving link between, for example, a remote accident sight and the dispatch of an ambulance.

Most of the Junior Division's members are certified in Advanced First Aid and CPR through the Red Cross. Other

division members plan to earn the certifications. Gerald Dement, Junior Division coordinator and registered Emergency Medical Technician, said, "Having first aid training and experience is really a good thing to have. A few times when we've been the first responders to accidents, we've had firefighters and police officers thank us for helping out."

Fred Forrest, President of the Senior Division of REACT, said he thinks highly of the Junior Division and its members. "I enjoy working with and training the junior members because it's nice to see young people do something worthwhile."

Forrest said, "REACT needs more members to better serve the community. Senior citizens would be a great asset to us as they can monitor the radio while the rest of us are at work or school."

### Delaware County Team Gets Publicity on Awards

FAIRLESS HILLS, PA — An article appearing in the *Bucks County Courier Times* saluted Delaware Valley REACT Team C455 for its annual awards presentation dinner.

Team Vice President John Welcker presented awards for exceptional monitoring to William Kern, Beverly Hoyt and Cal Cope. Cope also received an award for his public relations efforts in behalf of the Team.

Receiving awards for five or more years of dedicated service were: Ruth Dunlap, Randy Dunlap, and John Welcker. Beverly Hoyt was named REACTer of the year, for the second year in a row.



Standing by as Massachusetts Governor Michael S. Dukakis signs proclamation declaring November as National REACT month in Massachusetts is June Higgins, PR officer of Mohawk REACT 3773.

## Interference Problems Aired on Radio by REACT Council Officer

MEMPHIS, TN — Problems created by willful interference of communications on Channel 9 were fully aired in a story which appeared recently in the *Memphis Commercial Appeal*.

The story was based on an interview with Charles Williams, Vice President of the Tennessee State Council of REACT, who said: "Some CBER's have deliberately interfered with emergency calls by tuning in to Channel 9 and turning on a microphone. This totally blocks out any possible communications."

The story went on to relate efforts of the FCC to curb abuses and problems of enforcement.



Williams

## Carolina Team Responds to Plight of Stricken Youngster

WALTERBORO, NC — Colleton County REACT has been busy of late, after having completed a very successful fundraising drive for a 3-year-old Walterboro girl who suffers from osteogenesis imperfecta, a bone disease. The little girl, Debbie Price, was the reason for the drive, which consisted of a Coffee Break on Easter weekend and a raffle for a forty channel CB mobile radio and antenna. In all the Team presented Debbie and her parents with \$1,052 to be used to help with Debbie's doctor bills.

After the money was given to Debbie she was made an honorary member of the Junior REACT Team. The radio and antenna were also presented the same morning.

The first weekend in May, the Team worked the Rice Festival, with one unit participating in the parade and three units working on crowd control. While Colonel Bill Kofron, the Team's President, was assisting on a broken down vehicle, he and the people he was assisting came under sniper fire. Colonel Kofron radioed the S.C. Highway Patrol and patrolmen and the County Sheriff's deputies were on their way. In the attack an 18 wheeler had his windshield blown out. There were a total of three sniping incidents that night with no one hurt.



WALTERBORO, NC — After check presentation for little Debbie Price. Left to right are: Father, Casey Price, Debbie, Col. Bill Kofron, and the mother, Wanda Price. Debbie holds check presented to her parents for treating the disease from which she suffers.

## Notes from Northbrook

by Executive Director Gerald H. Reese

Rumors that CB radio is having a resurgence are verified. At the recent Consumer Electronics Show in Chicago, most of the manufacturers I talked to indicated that their sales volume is up approximately 10 percent over the past year. More important, it is now profitable business!

That is important, because it means that the industry has a renewed interest. Some manufacturers have been experiencing a declining profit margin in the cordless telephone business which they jumped into when CB radio sales dropped. In addition, observations have shown that the most popular radios are those that emphasize the CB Channel 9 application. These include the GE "Help" Radio, Cobra SOS, and similar radios manufactured by other companies.

This trend should mean that REACT has an opportunity to build its membership and original membership base. We have to work at this at all levels . . . from the Team, from the Council, and International.

Let's get back to basics in building membership. The first step is to build a prospect list. At the Team level, this is a list of individuals who might, and could, be REACT members. At the Council and International levels, it means finding groups who would be desirable REACT Teams. When, and if, we get this at the International level, we will be able to make mailings directly to these people and to continue to promote Team affiliation. This should be among the most important projects we undertake in the immediate future. While CB is growing again, don't expect the extent of public awareness and publicity opportunities experienced during the "CB Explosion" of the 70's. New REACT member prospects are out there, but we must be more inventive in locating these people and in attracting them into membership. Your suggestions are invited!

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Contrary to what most people expected, CB delicensing is producing a renewed interest in CB radio enforcement efforts by the Federal Communications Commission's Field Operation Bureau. In many areas, public service representatives of the Commission are being attached to the field office. These individuals are being trained to provide good information about personal radio regulations and to accept complaints and reports regarding sources of interferences on the Citizens Band particularly those involving Emergency Channel 9.

This program will be effective to varying degrees in different locations. First of all, these public service representatives will not be available in every field office, and even



## Nuts & Bolts on 27 megs

By Charlie Harband  
REACT of the Golden Gate  
San Francisco, California

In reading the Forum minutes, sent to me as co-chairman of the Communications Committee, at least two thoughts crossed my normally befuddled mind:

I was standing in the halls at the Las Vegas Convention in 1982, adding my two cents to the volume of yapping and snapping that went on — "Why doesn't the Board do this and why doesn't the Forum do that, and why doesn't the Communications Committee do d'other," when suddenly I found myself Co-chairman of the Communications Committee, with special reference to 27 megs.

I want to state clearly a fact and then ask your help. The fact is that when someone higher than me says that I don't know my "tucks" from a hard rock, they are basically correct. I have no knowledge of what subjects or projects were discussed prior to Las Vegas, and therefore there have been very few discussed since. The help I want is for you and you and you to tell me, before the Daytona Beach Convention, what subjects you would like an ongoing discussion developed on, and what help projects you would like a reorganized Communications Committee to work on. To get an early start on the convention (July 28th) we are leaving San Francisco on June 20th by reverse wagon train. Either bring your suggestions with you and come to the Communications Committee or drop me a note ahead of time (July only at this address): Charlie Harband, REACT Communications Committee, c/o D&R Repair, 6507 Superior Ave., Sarasota, FL, 33581.

There are some very obvious areas of discussion. On these there is no need to suggest, but a great need to comment:

1. Does a set exist that will filter out from channel 6 to 12, and let only 9 come through?
2. Is there a preferred antenna for your home? or for your car?
3. Is there a preferred beam for your home or station?
4. What makes the other fellow's set operate so much more efficiently than yours — antenna location, co-ax, connectors, grounding?
5. Does your Team fight with or co-operate with its neighbors?

In terms of GMRS, as it affects our daily lives, the problem seems to be more economic than electronic. I don't want to be critical of its operation for two reasons: (1) I don't understand it that well, and (2) it is so much clearer and usable than 27 megs when it is present. So . . .

6. GMRS as a monitoring tool.

I have spent considerable time these past months on a two-faced GMRS question. Where can I get a GMRS, equipped with our two channels and our toner for under \$500 delivered, and in a reasonably short span of time?

Steve Raid, of Advanced Videotech (a REACTer advertiser) has agreed to sell me one of his advertised Techtalk palm-size radios within my requirements, with the understanding that I will demo the unit at Golden Gate on June 12th, at the '84 Convention Communications Committee meetings, and the Nor Cal Council meet in San Bruno on August 19. Cost will be \$495 landed, with reasonable warranty. See me at Daytona Beach.

### Getting Ahead or Getting Around?

The other idea that came to mind happened to a friend of mine. In the minutes for the Forum, it was suggested that someone keep a running list of things that members of REACT do in addition to monitoring Channel 9. This list is to be used in seeking funds. My entree could be titled "Getting Ahead."

Lou Stanley, Golden Gate #621, lives in Union City, CA, on the Eastern Banks of San

those offices designated for such people, may not have them for some time.

We suggest that you keep in contact with the engineer in charge of your local FCC field office. Request information, speakers for your meetings (State Council meetings would be ideal) and other means of demonstrating your interest in and desire for cooperation. Inquire as to the availability of a public service officer. Keep REACT Headquarters informed as to your address and be sure to develop a constructive relationship with your local FCC office.

Since CB enforcement efforts have been limited by budget and travel reductions of the last several years, the FCC has used alternative approaches to reduce CB violations. One successful approach has been warning letters to the operator. However, this requires the cooperation of other CB operators to assist the FCC in identifying violators by providing detailed information; such as, names, handles, addresses, or vehicle numbers.

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We received a follow-up to the letter written by Stuart DeLuca and published in the March/April REACTer. This is from Karen Barraga of the Travis County REACT Team in Austin to which Stuart DeLuca belongs.

Karen is a blind REACT member and an active monitor. She asks to determine the interest in an audio cassette version of *The REACTer*.

Some of her questions are:

1. How many REACT members are visually or physically handicapped?
2. How many people who are not REACT members, but are interested in REACT would be interested in receiving these cassettes?
3. How many such persons would be willing to furnish their own cassettes or to reimburse REACT International for the cost?
4. How many other interested persons would simply prefer an audio, rather than printed version of *The REACTer*?

We believe that there is a great resource among persons who have handicaps to contribute to the REACT mission. Many REACTers provide many more hours of service because of their limited capacity for other activities. Monitoring the emergency channel provides them with communications of a useful and purposeful nature. Getting a tap version of *The REACTer* can help to integrate these persons more effectively into the main stream of Team activities.

If your Team has visually or other handicapped people, please inform REACT International of this situation. We believe that through the efforts of Stuart DeLuca, we can get this material recorded. Remember that the blind and physically handicapped are entitled to free mailing privileges of this material.

The Daytona Beach REACT Team has already developed a monitoring training program on cassette and rail for training monitors. We can coordinate this effort to maximize the ability of REACT to serve handicapped persons so that they may serve the public through REACT emergency communications.

### Order Free A/V Kits on Safety Belts and Child Safety Seats

Complete information and materials designed to present a program to REACT Teams and non-REACT organizations is now available at no charge from REACT headquarters.

The kits include scripts and films suitable for making effective presentations to PTA's, service clubs, veterans organizations, driver education classes, scout groups and others. Bringing the important and timely message of how auto safety belts and child safety seats save lives to this audience, gives REACT Teams a productive means of demonstrating our vital role in highway safety and community service.

This year, the kits will be shipped with a supply of handout literature to make the presentation even more effective.



DETROIT, MI — Gerald Reese (right) executive director of REACT International, presents plaque to John G. Agnetto, of the public relations staff of General Motors, for the support the automaker has given REACT over the year dating back to 1969.

Francisco Bay. He has been working along 92, which crosses the bay on the San Mateo Hayward Bridge. As usual, he drove south and turned into westbound 92 on his way work in computer software, in his brand new Caddy, when off to the right shoulder spotted a stopped four door on the shoulder with a young lady sitting in the open door on the traffic side. He pulled in behind her and walked forward to help, only to find potential mother about to be one. "I waited too long — thought I could make it," wailed the mother-to-be, "but it caught up to me . . . it's about to happen . . . right here and now." Panic would be an understatement to describe our Lou, (although married), he is not yet a parent. He immediately rushed back to his car and his CB radio. He would call REACT and they would send an ambulance. He would stay with her and make her comfortable until help arrived. But — panic became desperation when, as he ran, realized that his Caddy was new, and his old CB was still in the trade-in. He looked hopefully up and down highway 92 and waved down the first 18-wheeler he saw. Certainly an 18-wheeler would have CB and would be able to make contact through Channel 17.

He explained the situation only to have the driver of the 18-wheeler rear back horror. His CB was in for repairs, but he would drive to the next gas station, telephone and call in on the new emergency 911 and get help. Just then the lady in waiting offered some additional information. "This is my third child, and when it starts to come, it going to come. Time is running out and so is the baby!!"

Lou must have shifted from desperation to shock since his next move was beyond logic. He handed the truck driver the keys to his brand new Caddy, (something Lou values above his life and maybe even above his wife) saying "Lock your 18-wheeler, take my car. You'll be able to maneuver better. Go for help! I'll stay here with mama!" Lou got the expectant back into the car and stretched out on the back seat, making her as comfortable as possible, even rolling up his coat as a pillow, and ticked off 15 minutes until help might arrive.

But the story had a happy ending. The head of the child, poking its way into the world, and the nose of the fire engine arrived simultaneously. As a medically trained rescue worker took over, Lou left the car to await the truck driver. The truck driver arrived close after and gave Lou back his new caddy. Lou left the Fire Department charge and went to work pondering (pondering Mr. Tracy), "Is this really what REACT does in addition to monitoring Channel 9?"

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## Virginia REACT Helps Kiwanis in Walk for Mankind Event



FAIRFAX, VA — Bill Dear, President of Fairfax Kiwanis Club (right) and Jim MacCue, of Herndon REACT, shake hands after Walk for Mankind, in which REACT coordinated communications. Event was a great success.

VIENNA, VA — On Sunday May 20, Herndon REACT Team C-332 supplied safety communications for the Kiwanis Club of Fairfax "Walk for Mankind" which took place in Fairfax City, VA. Fairfax Kiwanis President Bill Dear requested Herndon REACT supply the communications for the entire event.

Since this was the first time Kiwanis

Club of Fairfax requested our services, we were quite pleased and accepted.

At the end of the day's "Walk for Mankind" event, Dear expressed his appreciation to the Team's REACT coordinator, Jim MacCue for a job well done. Dear also said we could look for a donation from Kiwanis Club within a few months.

## COLUMN NINE

Where the REACTion is Yours

By Charlie Weaver, Unit 140  
Forsythe County REACT 2802 Winston-Salem, NC

WINSTON-SALEM, NC — One of the most frequent comments our members hear is: "I don't ever get an answer on Channel 9 anywhere else." We know there are REACT monitors out there since we hear them on "skip" from all over the country. However, they are getting fewer and fewer. We don't guarantee an answer here either since there are multiple reasons a breaker might not get an answer. But we get our share.

In a recent telephone conversation with a REACTer from a neighboring state, I was dazzled by his report of his REACT Team: 60 members, all uniformed, \$3,000 in the bank, a \$15,000 communications van, seven Coffee Breaks and three recruiting parties during 1983. Then I asked him how many hours and calls his monitors logged during 1983. He said: "Oh, about 2,000 hours and 200 calls." Now, it was my turn to brag. He was speechless after I told him that our average of 20 reporting monitors per month reported 11,001 base station hours and 10,911 calls (initial calls only, subsequent calls on the same incident are not logged) during 1983. "Well, REACTing is a lot more than just listening to 9," he said.

Our 10,911 calls in 1983 represent a 26 percent increase over 1982 and a 69 percent increase over 1981. This increase is due in part to improving atmospheric conditions, but most of it is a result of a program we have started here two years ago this month. Seeing our calls (and interest) steadily decreasing during the 1978-81 period, and the general decrease in CB usage, we tried to involve as many of the area "mobile" CBers as we could.

We started a list we call "Friends and Regular Customers." We began issuing identification members to these non-REACT people and recording their names, addresses and phone numbers. Each monitor keeps an up-to-date list. This list has grown to about 150 names now.

Almost immediately we began to see

results. CBers started seeing and reporting things they had not paid any attention to before and they started directing others to Channel 9 from Channel 19 when they needed help. Lookouts relayed from law enforcement agencies to those mobiles on Channel 19 have resulted in a marked increase in our role in the apprehension of fleeing criminals, hit and run, and drunk drivers. The program has cut false calls almost to zero and since we know who we are talking to, we don't have to ask so many verification questions, thus cutting response time to emergencies.

Our Team may not be taking as many calls as some of the Teams in larger metropolitan areas, but I would guess we are right up near the top in all the country. We may not be very sophisticated in our operation, but we have a number of good monitors interested in monitoring Channel 9. It is our opinion that a REACT Team, whatever its other activities and good works, which does not monitor Channel 9 as fully as possible is not doing its job.

### Texas Team Mourns Member's Passing

SOUTH HOUSTON, TX — Mourning the recent passing of Lavonne Isabell "Prissy" McCord are members of San Jacinto REACT Team 2860. Mrs. McCord was a charter member of the Team and served for many years as officer, director, monitor and dedicated worker. In the words of David H. McCluskey, Team Secretary, "REACT was a way of life for Prissy. She was the Treasurer when the Grim Reaper overtook her, so suddenly and unexpectedly."

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## REACT Provides Crowd Control Radio Contact in Mock Plane Crash

MT. PROSPECT, IL — On Tuesday May 1, members of REACT assisted with a mock plane crash — members from Metro North, Apollo VII, and Northwest Suburban. Members of REACT had varied jobs ranging from being stationed at the Red Cross offices in Mount Prospect, reporting from hospitals on G.M.R.S. and doing crowd control on the scene of the crash.

Team members of Northwest Suburban had two jobs: Barbara Schoondyke and Dorothy Brickey worked the Red Cross offices answering phones. Other members did crowd control at the scene. Included were President John Collins, Linda Collins, Dave O'Connell, Leo Mulatz, Michael Mulatz, and Robert Turen.

The mock disaster started at 7:10 p.m. Upon arriving on the scene there was smoke coming from St. Ansgar's Church in Hanover Park.

The fire departments from Hanover Park, Streamwood, Bartlett, Schaumburg, and Hoffman Estates were there. There were 70 volunteer victims with makeup which looked so real, you didn't know if it was a drill or not.

The American Red Cross Disaster Unit and 20 volunteers from the American Red Cross were sent to the scene along with ambulances from other

Northwest Suburban Communities. Hospitals used were St. Joseph's and Sherman in Elgin, Northwest Community Hospital in Arlington Heights, Humana Hospital in Hoffman Estates, and Alexian Brothers Medical Center in Elk Grove Village. Also communications were done by North Shore Emergency Services through G.M.R.S. Everyone did an outstanding job.

After evacuating the church lobby, paramedics practiced triage, which involves evaluating the extent of the victims' injuries and recording them on tags. Those more seriously injured received top priority for hospital transportation.


### North Carolina Team Responds to Tornado

(Continued from Front Cover)  
debris for linesmen and rescue personnel to get through. They also set up communications, directed traffic and aided in setting up the mobile food supply.

Generally speaking, REACTers were where they were needed most. Some members worked with the Salvation Army, sorting clothes and shoes.



CHICAGO, IL — Barbara L. Schoondyke (left), Wheeling, coordinator for Northwest Suburban REACT Team 3556, presents a plaque bearing both a REACT and an emblem symbolic of the President's Volunteer Action Award to Arlet Adams, staff member of the Chicago-Northern Illinois Chapter, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, in recognition of her special cooperation with the citizens' band radio organization on several MS fund-raising programs. The award was presented at the MS Chapter's annual volunteer awards luncheon May 10 at the Regency Hyatt Hotel, Chicago.



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## California Event Has Popular Appeal

SAN BRUNO, CA — REACT of the Golden Gate Area, Inc., has just completed another of their volunteer motorist assistance programs: Rest Area Safety Coffee Stops. REACT's booth was set up starting at 6:00 a.m. Saturday, May 26 in the Crystal Springs Roadside Rest Area under permit from Cal Trans and members served hot coffee, donuts, punch, and dispensed road information until

9:00 p.m. Monday, May 28. During the break, the Team monitored Channel 9 from this location as well as from its San Bruno mountain station. Approximately 1,117 persons stopped in the REACT booth and approximately 733 cups of coffee were served. Members handed out numerous CHP and California Trucking Association pamphlets concerning road safety.

## Indiana Team is Set for Successful Break

CORYDON, IN — Plans are shifting into high gear as Harrison County REACT Team 3327 prepares for this year's Safety Breaks. The Team purchased two water tanks, and voted to purchase a trailer for the tanks and generators. Repairs on the big trailers will

start soon and we should get the antenna donated to REACT within a week or so. The EMT's at Harrison County Hospital (also members of INCERT) have volunteered to help us on Team Safety Breaks this year. Their medical experience would be invaluable in an emergency, especially in such a remote area as the 97 milemarker on I 64. REACT really appreciates their offer.

## Get Free Safety AV Kits

REACT International still has some audio-visual kits promoting use of Safety Belts and Child Safety Seats. In addition, we have made available a quantity of literature on this subject to go along with the kits so that you will have handout materials when you make your AV presentation to a local group.

The Team's first Flea Market was cut short by bad weather. The turnout was good on Saturday and members have scheduled a Flea Market for the first weekend of each month throughout the summer.

Additional handout materials are available from your State Highway Safety office and through the regional office of the Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. There is no charge for the kits, the literature or the information as to where to obtain this material. REACT International can supply them upon request with shipping costs subsidized by National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

REACT also had a booth at the Health Fair on Saturday April 6, to get local recognition and explain what it does. Members gave out over 200 litterbags and talked to many people explaining how to use Channel 9 in an emergency. We were well pleased with the response. The Team used its newly-purchased projector and the REACT "When Seconds Count" film.

We will be happy to supply this as long as the limited supplies last. Request it now for Labor Day Safety Break use and for your fall schedule of presentations to local groups.

## Jersey Team's Break Starts Summer Season

REACT Teams who have engaged in this program, find that it is an outstanding opportunity to contact leading local public service and service clubs such as Lions, Kiwanis, Rotary, PTA's, schools, Veterans and Senior Citizen's Groups, etc. It includes 16mm films and scripts which can help to familiarize your audience with REACT's highway safety efforts. It also lets them know that they have a viable organization in the community — your local REACT Team.

FLORHAM PARK, NJ — New Jersey County REACT Team 2416 started the summer season off with its Memorial Day Safety Break on Route 287 on Sunday and Monday, May 27-28. Sunday was a perfect day, not too hot, and plenty of sun, but Monday was, as is sometimes the case, a rather blustery and rainy day. However, it did not deter the travelers from stopping in for their coffee. According to the records, the Team served over the two days some 600-700 cups of coffee; 4 gallons of Pepsi; 4 gallons of Orange; tea and hot chocolate plus many cookies and cakes.

For information and/or materials, please write to REACT Headquarters and request the Safety Belts/Child Safety Seat Audio Visual Kits.

The event was well received and REACT had people sign the book from as far away as Alabama, Virginia, New Hampshire and Massachusetts, as well as New Jersey and Pennsylvania.



# REACT SAFETY BREAK REPORT

## Michigan REACT Aims At Making Travel Safer



REMUS, MI — Mecosta County REACT Team C227 had its Fourteenth Annual Coffee Stop Operation — CARE — sponsored by the Michigan State Police at Manchester Park, Paris and Barryton Park, Barryton.

their long weekend through 8:00 p. Monday. Approximately 3,200 cups of coffee and punch and over 2,200 donuts were served.

Over the Memorial Day weekend the event was held rain or shine starting Friday noon when the travelers began

The Team hopes each traveler stopped to refresh themselves at a Coffee Stop enjoyed it and that REACT made their trip a little safer.

## Team Comes to Rescue of Cat in Distress During Coffee Break

KENNER, LA — Members of Jefferson REACT Team 2686 took turns running road patrols in connection with the Team sponsored Labor Day Safety Break to help motorists stranded on the road. Participating were Henry Lawrence, Sr. and Henry Lawrence, Jr., Janet Wilson, John LaValla, Patrick Wiley and Daniel Wiley, all of whom were very helpful. Members even came to the rescue of a beautiful white Persian cat stuck under the hood of a vehicle. A motorist stopped for a rest and her cat got out of the car and under the hood of the vehicle from which members proceeded to free her.

coffee, tea, orange drink, donuts, and cookies, some of which was donated by local merchants.

Over the four-day holiday, the Team served approximately 400 persons free

To show their appreciation for those who helped members, a barbecue was held on November 26, 1983 — in connection with National REACT Month. Present at the affair were Sheriff Ma Lee, of Jefferson Parish and Ma Frank Brewer, Officer F.M. Trowbridge and Officer Mark Bascle of the Louisiana State Police.

Members were proud of proclamation signed by the Mayor of Kenner — E. Broussard, the Mayor of Westlake — Earnest Tassin and the Governor of Louisiana, David Treen.

## Event Proves Winner for W. Virginia Team

HAYS, VA — Dickenson County REACT Team 2974, held its annual Coffee Break Sunday, May 13, 1984 at the Breaks Interstate Park. All who attended the event seemed to enjoy it.

## Paper Praises Ohio Team's Safety Break

BELLEFONTAINE, OH — An article in the *Bellefontaine Examiner* praised Logan County REACT Team 4108 holding a Safety Break at both U.S. and U.S. 33 over the Memorial Day weekend. Some 2,500 motorists and passengers paused at the two locations long enough to stretch and partake of coffee, doughnuts and soft drinks.

The Break provided members a chance to meet new people and to meet those they had talked with on the radio. It was a time for renewing old friendships and starting new ones.

A quilt donated by Priscilla Yates and Belva Thomas, was won by Jim Mullins. Members enjoyed some good country picking, and some good gospel songs too.

A total of 201 people signed our log; however there were others who didn't have a chance to sign in.

The event gave those who attended a chance to take a break and have a nice time before going back to the drawing board again Monday.

## Fresno Break Rates Local Exposure



FRESNO, CA — Shot of Fresno County REACT's Safety Break Booth, which was held May 25-28. The Team received good local exposure. Three TV station camera crews were there and REACT is looking forward to a boost in membership, and planning ahead to the Labor Day weekend for the next Break.

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(See Details on Page 2)

# Missouri REACT Van Equipped to Handle Emergency Communication

ST. PETERS, MO — The Mid-Rivers REACT ARES Team 4455 recently received a donation of a 1980 Chevrolet Cargo Van from the Digital Equipment Corporation. The van will provide volunteer CB and Amateur Radio Mobile Emergency Communications in the field during disasters and public service events in St. Charles County. It will also provide base/mobile monitoring of Emergency Channel 9, rendering emergency radio/telephone relay assistance from CB equipped motorists to law enforcement agencies. Additionally, it will monitor the local ARES Team repeater frequency, 145.49-MHz FM, providing the same from licensed amateur radio operators to law enforcement authorities.

The REACT/ARES Team MEC vehicle has already been equipped by members with citizens band AM/SSB, amateur radio 2 meter, and public service radio equipment. It can provide field communications contact between REACT, ARES, RACES and disaster preparedness authorities during a major disaster. The public service radio equipment provided by civil preparedness allows members to coordinate directly with civil preparedness and law enforcement authorities. The Amateur Radio 2 Meter equipment allows licensed operators to access all law enforcement authorities via the Team's Autopatch/Autodial repeater system, which is linked to local telephone lines. The MEC vehicle is also equipped with a 3 kw generator and flood lights to illuminate large areas and sustain radio operations during major emergencies. Other emergency equipment has been installed and more is anticipated.

Some mobile amateur radio operator Team members can relay emergency communications received on Channel 9 directly to law enforcement authorities via the Amateur Radio 2 Meter Autopatch/Autodial repeater saving valuable time in reporting highway emergencies.

The Team is a non-profit association affiliated with REACT International and the American Radio Relay League

(ARES). ARES and REACT stands for Amateur Radio Emergency Service and Radio Emergency Associated Citizens Teams.

## Florida Paper Praises Local REACT Teams

HERNANDO, FL — In a recent issue of the Hernando Times, two local Teams — Brooksville Area REACT and Central Gulf Coast REACT were toasted for their public service and dedication.

Ed Thomas, President of the Gulf Coast REACT, was quoted as saying: "We started from a group of CB'ers, of which Acy and Audry Holley were charter members." He was a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla at the time and Holley sparked his interest in REACT.

The article went on to describe several of the activities the Team is involved in, including the Optimist Club canoe race and security for a local area clubhouse.

The article went on to quote Joe Wilkerson, President of Brooksville Area REACT as stating: "When you serve the public, you don't need congratulations because there is self-satisfaction whether anyone thanks you or not."



ST. PETERS, MO — At the recent St. Peters Community Hospital Celebration of Life and Health, members of Mid-Rivers REACT/ARES Team No. 4455 display their new Mobile Emergency Communications Van donated to them by the Digital Equipment Corporation. (From left to right) Gier, Doernoff, Rev. Marc Tolle, and Gary Schuchardt, the ARRL ARES Emergency Coordinator for St. Charles County.

## Sheriff Praises REACTer's Involvement

CLINTON, IA — "It is refreshing to see a citizen getting involved, using his own time and equipment for the safety of the general public."

That is what Chief Deputy Dale Tharp of the Clinton County Sheriff's Department said, as he presented Robert Goellnitz, otherwise known as Unit 72, with certificate of appreciation for assisting the Sheriff's Department in apprehending two men for falsely reporting emergencies.

Goellnitz, a member of Quad City REACT 4310, has received more than a dozen certificates and plaques from congressmen, governors, and the FBI.

He says awards aren't necessary. "I really appreciate these awards, but would do it without them. Anything we can do to help law enforcement officers catch violators or to assist people with anything from a doctor to a gallon of gas, we'll do it," he said.

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## Team Grows to 100 Members

(Continued from Front Cover)

and 17 are utilized as dispatchers. Members 18 and older are utilized for patrolling the local streets as well as the highways.

Our patrol works in conjunction with the New York City Police Department, assisting both the local and highway police precincts. The assistance we render is in the areas of Crime Prevention, Highway Emergencies and Local Disasters.

Our patrol also gets involved with such activities as providing traffic control and medical assistance at our local July fireworks celebrations, various holiday parades, providing escort service for senior citizens, members posing as Santa Claus at both senior citizen centers and children's hospitals.

Queens County REACT has run fund-raising drives for the March of Dimes and Muscular Dystrophy along with fund-raising for our own patrol. Our next campaign will be in the form of a raffle where we will be giving out \$50 in prizes. The State of New York has promised us a grant in the amount of \$18,000 to be used for crime prevention.

Members of Queens County REACT use their own cars, equipped with Citizen Band (CB) radios, while on patrol. We are trying to get FM two way radios to help improve our present communication problem.

Queens County REACT covers six police precincts and includes the highways within the precincts, approximately 100 square miles.

Our Team monitors Emergency Channel 9 seven days per week, 24 hours a day.

Queens County REACT's ultimate goal is to get the right help, to the right place, at the right time.





# REACTing

## in emergencies

by R.C. Watts,  
Louisville, Kentucky

*The purpose of this column is to inform members and other readers on possible hazards and disaster/emergency preparations or actions. If you have up-to-date information or "tips" that you think should be included, please forward via REACT International or direct to R.C. Watts, Louisville — Jefferson County Disaster and Emergency Services, Room 113 City Hall, 601 W. Jefferson Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40202.*

Your Team's public image determines its role in most emergencies. If you are little known, it is unlikely that you'll be called out for the real thing. It just might not occur to an Emergency Manager under stress that he (or she) may need some people with radios until late in the game. It's O.K. to call and volunteer your services, but it's so much easier and more effective to be well known and asked for early.

The best way to build a sound-public image is through the news media. If your Team is not getting its share of newspaper, TV, and radio coverage, then something is amiss. Either the Team isn't doing anything newsworthy (doubtful) or good press releases aren't being used. Almost everything is news depending on what's happening that day. Newspapers and broadcasting stations need and want your press releases, so send them out. If you get aced by somebody's flea market today, there'll be space or time to fill tomorrow.

Another way that helps is taking advantage of person to person contact. If your Team is having a Coffee Break, operating a booth or manning a first aid station, *always* have free handout material available and *always* have the Team's name and address on every piece. Fire and police departments usually have literature — on fire and crime prevention, smoke detectors, etc. — and are glad to have help getting it out to the public. Civil defense offices and M.A.D.D. may also supply leaflets. Another good one is "STANDBY, a guide on how to be ready for emergencies," available from The Coleman Company of Wichita, KS. Don't forget to have REACT information available too, and don't run out!

Publicity can get you called for the next emergency, but it can bite you too! *Don't* be a publicity hog. Mention cooperating organizations in your press releases and share the coverage. *Don't* claim to be something you're not or say you're capable of doing something when you can't possibly do it. *Don't* criticize other organizations and *don't* start programs you can't or won't finish. Remember, members and donations go to well known organizations of good repute. So does recognition for being a topnotch emergency Team!

### Earthquakes

In addition to the far Western States, Alaska and Hawaii, major earthquakes may be expected in the New Madrid (MO) fault zone, the Northeastern States, and an area centered on Charleston, SC. Planning and public awareness efforts are underway in most of the states that could be affected by destructive quakes. A seismic risk map, prepared by U.S. Geological Survey, shows the probable areas subject to damage.

Smaller areas might also be subject to volcanic eruption (remember Mount St. Helens). Electric and telephone utilities are almost always disrupted by these seismic or volcanic events. Two-way radios that operate independently of commercial electric power are essential to maintaining communications. That goes for most disasters, but major earthquakes can damage or destroy power generation facilities, distribution networks and communications centers. Restoration could take weeks rather than the few days following most other natural disasters.

Watch for your State's public awareness and get the most up-to-date information on your own area of concern.

### Search Radios

The "Handie-Talkie" CB radio has been the old standby for coordinating search operations. Ideally, law enforcement or civil defense agencies should have extra VHF or UHF "HTs" to pass out to participating units. They almost never do, because of the expense. Having enough GMRS or CB HTs available within a REACT Team is also very expensive.

The VOX operated 49 MHz belt transceivers, with headset and attached mic, are excellent for maintaining contact between search parties and keeping a search line straight. Somebody still has to carry a HT for back-to-the-base or control mobile coordination, but nobody gets lost and adds to the problem when your Team has enough communications capability.

With so many brands now on the market, you can sometimes catch these "on sale" and get several (same frequency) at an affordable price.

### Search Maps

Every Team has street and highway maps or knows their locale well enough that they aren't needed. If your Team is one of those called upon to help with search for lost person operations, good maps *are* needed. The highway maps aren't usually satisfactory and the local authorities may not have anything better, either.

The U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps, 1:24,000 scale, are best for most search operations as they show terrain features — hills, swamps, ponds, etc. Many states sell these maps, at very low cost, through their own geological agency. Write the Survey at 536 National Center, Reston, VA 22082 for some free pamphlets and information on where to buy the maps. You'll be glad you did, when the next search comes up.

### Food Storage

Food storage has been recommended by civil defense agencies for many years and is policy in the LDS (Mormon) Church. Home canning was widespread in rural America and has been making a comeback. Having a supply of food set aside is one way of preparing for emergencies or disasters — being laid off from the job to an earthquake or even nuclear war. The minimums recommended are two to four weeks. Many families store enough for a year or more. Some dehydrated, freeze dried and pouched foods are manufactured specifically for long term storage. Regular canned goods off the supermarket shelf is still the favorite with those who store food. Regardless of what you store, use for normal meals and replace periodically. Don't forget to put a candy or energy bar in your pocket next time you're called out. You might miss supper and that's an emergency!

### Team Awards Program Honors Members for Dedicated Service

BUTTE, MT — At the Annual Awards Dinner of Butte REACT, Team 3679 held February 25, Everett Webb was thanked for his Team service and presented his past president's pin by Mrs. Norma Hill, Team President.

Seven-year membership pins went to Roger and Mary Kohne after it was noted that Kohne has monitored more than 13,000 hours. Norma Hill, Everett Webb, Lynda Hill, Wanda Hill, and Dean James each received five-year pins. Terry and Elizabeth Lonam received three-year pins.

Glenn Austin, a member for only one year, received his 500-hour pin. Terry Lonam received a 250-hour pin and Elizabeth Lonam a 100-hour pin.

Outside the snow fell and the streets were icy but inside things were warm and friendly. Seven guests and every Team member except one attended.



BUTTE, MT — Everett Hill, past president of Butte REACT 3679, is picture of patience as Norma Hill, Team President, pins past president's pin on his shirt. Webb was one of several honored for Team service.

### Official Welcome to the Community



BRADENTON, FL — Now officially a part of the community is REACT of Manatee County Team C-19, who have been accepted for membership in the local Chamber of Commerce. Left to right are Beth Walton, James Clark, Jean Specie, Gene Miller (holding plaque) and Roy Specie, REACT President.

BELTON, TX — The spirit of *LaFaye Durham* lives on in Bell County REACT Team 4047 in spite of the fact that she died on March 19th at 11:15 p.m. She was involved in the Team's activities the entire time that she was a member, even when ill. While in the hospital, she kept up to date by visits and telephone calls from members. When she was housebound, she helped by calling absentees and coordinating coming events.

She was a diligent and efficient treasurer and served in that capacity at the time of her death. She enjoyed attending area Council meetings and looked forward to June when she would be able to attend one in Belton, again. During the

last week of her life she purchased the Pepsi to sell at Saint Patty's Pedal, cut out nearly 40 shamrocks for the workers to wear, and helped Wylie man Sag Stop 1 all day on March 17. Then they went to Austin for dinner to celebrate their wedding anniversary. The Team sent an orange and white spray to the services in Abilene on March 22 and expressed condolences to Wylie, our Sergeant-at-Arms, his son Lee and two daughters, Tricia and Cynthia and seven granddaughters and two grandsons. We miss her!

### Team Builds Esteem In Raft Race

ALOHA, OR — On Sunday May 6, Northwest REACT 2867 assisted in the second annual inflatable raft race on the Clackamas River near Estacada, Oregon. Northwest was assisted by Salem REACT and Emergency Services Unlimited in providing communications and support services. The three organizations worked in cooperation with Oregon River Rats who sponsored the event. The event was a charity fundraising for MEMS rescue, a non-profit community rescue service. Also assisting were Northwest Rafters, Alpine Ambulance and Oregon Guides and Packers.

This was the second year Northwest REACT has provided services for the raft event. Communication services included transmissions from start to finish, emergency call channels, parking control and a channel for judges to report scoring of contest as the rafts went through gate obstacles.

Partly because of good communications with rescue craft, no injuries have occurred the two years the race has been run.

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## Team Trains for Tornado Spotting Assignment

PLYMOUTH, MI — The vast majority of the membership of Plymouth Area REACT attended the Tornado Spotter Class at the Plymouth Township Hall.

The Spotter Class is held annually to help members maintain their proficiency in finding severe weather conditions and tornadoes.

Acting in his official capacity as Deputy Director of Civil Preparedness for Plymouth Township, Charles Van Vleck conducted the course, explaining the weather conditions and cloud formations that produce a tornado. He also explained how the Plymouth Township government warns their citizens with Cable T.V. bulletins and sirens.

The "graduates" of the Spotter class are: Paul Cook, Helen Runge, John Hermann, Randall Knapp, Steve Mettetal, Al Dill, Dick Merrill, Jenny Crawford, Lloyd Crawford, Barbara Neitzel, Cullen Barringer, Bob Nordstrom, Pat, Michael, Teresa O'Hara, Philip and Dave Harkness, and Michael Twymon.

## Utah REACTer Rates Boy Scout Honors For Service Beyond the Call

SALT LAKE CITY, UT — Enid Hollingshead, longtime member of Salt Lake REACT Team C-269, was recently presented the Silver Beaver Award — the highest award that may be conferred by a local Boy Scout Council.

Enid was among a group that included the Governor of Utah, Scott M. Matheson and Elder Rex Pinegar, a general authority in the Church of Jesus Christ of Later Saints (Mormon).

Enid is currently editor of the *Salt Lake REACTer* and Earle is past presi-

## FEMA's Advice: Be Prepared for Bad Weather

WASHINGTON, DC — Be prepared for trouble if you're in an area vulnerable to the flash flood, our worst weather killer, cautions the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Noting that flash floods kill some 200 Americans and cost \$2 billion in an average year, the federal agency today offered the following advice:

- Know the elevation of your property in relation to nearby streams and other waterways, and the area's flood history. Plan where you will go in a flash flood emergency.
- Check your flood insurance coverage. Most homeowners policies do not cover flood damage, but coverage is available through the National Flood Insurance Program. See your local insurance agent.
- When a flash flood watch is issued, weather conditions are favorable for flash flooding. Listen to the latest bulletins on your radio, as well as commercial weathercasts for possible

warnings and reports of flooding. Watch for signs of distant, heavy rainfall, such as thunder and lightning.

- If a flash flood warning is issued, flash flooding is occurring or imminent. Move quickly to safe ground, being especially cautious at night. Do not attempt to cross a flowing stream on foot where the water is above your knees.

- If driving, avoid all flooded areas. Never attempt to drive through water on a road. Water can be deeper than it appears, and water levels can rise very quickly. Floodwaters can also erode roadways, and a missing section of road — even a missing bridge — may not be visible to the driver.

- When traveling in remote areas during and after rainstorms, stay away from natural streambeds, arroyos and other drainage channels. In mountain or hilly areas heavy rainfall, even for short periods, may be followed by flash flooding. Use maps — know where you are and how to get to high ground quickly.

- When camping, keep alert to signs of wet weather and be prepared to move to safety. Never camp on low ground; you don't have to be at the bottom of a hill to be a target for a flash flood. Break camp and move to high ground when a flash flood watch is issued.
- After the watch or warning is cancelled stay tuned for follow-up information. General flooding may continue later in headwater streams and major rivers.

## Ohio REACT Elects Officers

BELLEFONTAINE, OH — Elect President of Logan County REACT Team 4108 was Robert Truesdale. Other officers elected include: Dennis Schwietzer, Vice President; Francis Truesdale, Treasurer; Dancie Brantle Secretary; Dennis Schwietzer, Health Trustee and Giles Gibson, Terry Miilhbach and James Headley, Trustee.

Carl and Mary Prosser have stepped down as the former President and Treasurer and will become active associate members.

## Letters We Like To Get

To the Editor:

On Thursday, February 16, 1984, while vacationing in Florida and traveling on U.S. 4W enroute to Epcot Center, I began experiencing car trouble about 1 1/2 miles from my destination. My wife and sister were in the car with me at the time.

The car began stalling repeatedly and then died out entirely leaving us stranded on the highway.

I called the Orlando number for Amoco towing, from a public telephone in a roadside rest area and was informed that the number was disconnected. They didn't know the new number.

A number of passing vehicles stopped and endeavored to get me started but all to no avail.

After about 1 1/2 hours in broiling sun, a good samaritan whose first name was Jim and who stated he was a REACT volunteer stopped his vehicle and offered to assist me. His car license plate number

was O21EM2 Texas. He stated he would enroute from Houston, Texas Melbourne, Florida where he hoped to obtain a job. This man was unbelievable. He not only pinpointed the problem — defective gas filter, but took the defective part off — drove me to a gas station to obtain a new one and then put the new one on. He must have given up at least two hours of his time, to me, a stranger so cheerfully. Where in today's world do you find such men?

I respectfully request that you endeavor to contact this man and give him my heartfelt thanks and appreciation. He has certainly earned our respect and gratitude and the fine organization that he represents.

Yours truly,

John T. Hanly  
Jamaica, LI

## REACT Replies

Dear Mr. Hanly:

Thank you so much for sending your very informative letter of appreciation regarding your experience in being assisted by a REACT member in Florida.

Because we have so many members in Texas, I doubt if we will be able to determine the individual who helped you, except by publishing the letter in our membership publication, *The Reacter*. I enclose a copy of the Jan/Feb issue for your information. Unless you ask us not to publish this letter, it will appear in our May/June issue.

In the meantime, by carbon copy this letter, I am forwarding the information to Mr. Richard Pratz, President of the Texas State REACT Council. Perhaps he will be able to assist in finding the member who helped you.

When we learn of incidents such as your experience, we become very proud of our REACT volunteers and the outstanding job that they do. Additional information is enclosed and I am forwarding this to the Amoco Motor Club for their information.

Gerald Reese, Executive Director  
REACT International

## REACT Raffle of Side of Beef Benefits Local Children's Ward

LANCASTER, OH — Lancaster-Fairfield County REACT Team C690 recently raffled off a side of beef. The proceeds went to the Lancaster Fairfield Community Hospital Pediatric Ward.

Team officers Jim Erick, Project Chairman, Paul Locke, Vice-President, Ben Canfield, President, presented check to Don Wheeler of Lancaster Hospital and Al Barmash of Burger Chef who drew the ticket and has been a large donor to the Team's Safety Breaks.

Team membership has been down the last couple of years but now stands at 31.

The Team presently hopes to increase membership even more through a membership drive.

Its Trailer Committee has been busy making the trailer more efficient for emergencies and Safety Breaks.

For the Memorial Day weekend, the Team will be helping the March of Dimes with their Walk American Team Walk. REACT will provide security, check points, and cars with mobiles patrolling the course area. Members also will be stationed along U.S. 33 holding the Team Safety Break for the holiday. All in all — a busy weekend ahead for REACT.

## Michigan Cherry Festival Draws REACT Aid



TRAVERSE CITY, MI — Working at Headquarters Grand Traverse REACT Team 4358 at the Frozen Cherry Festival are Elaine Grundel on the phone and Sue Grandstaff at the table.

Dear Editor:

I have enjoyed being a member of REACT for the past two years. I especially look forward to the arrival of each REACTer magazine for new ideas.

I am a member of the Junior Division of Pike's Peak Region REACT Team C-371 in Colorado Springs.

Junior Divisions of REACT are not acknowledged at all, and that disappoints us. We work hard and do a lot for our REACT Teams.

The Junior Division of Pike's Peak Region REACT is small in size but large with energy and enthusiasm. In 1982 we raised over \$200 for our division and close to \$1,300 for Muscular Dystrophy.

Each year we help the Senior Division with such events as: Wake Breaks,

traffic control at local business picnics, MS and MD Walks, escorting at the haunted house, and even running communications for the annual Pike's Peak Hill Climb in July. We even set up a booth at the local Good Health Fair.

Almost all of our Junior Division members are certified by the American Red Cross for Advanced First Aid CPR. Our coordinator is a registered Emergency Medical Technician and advanced First Aid instructor.

So — next time you think of REACT, think of our Junior Divisions too!

REACTively,

Nancy LaForest, Pike's Peak Region REACT Team C-371, Junior Division

## New Officers for Puerto Rico



**SAN PATRICIO PLAZA, PR** — Captured on film are the 1984 Board of Directors of the Puerto Rico REACT Council who will serve through the end of 1984. They are, left to right, Alfred Rodriguez, Northwest Area Coordinator; Froylan Garcia, Northeast Area Coordinator; Ramon Plaza, Public Relations Officer; Joseph A. Sterling, Second Vice President (Operations); Edwin Flores-Rosa, President-Founder; Alfonso Ferrer, First Vice President (Administration); Adolfo Figueras, Secretary; Victor Garcia, Southeast Area Coordinator; Roberto Vazquez, Southwest Area Coordinator. Not shown: Charles Alvarado, Treasurer.

### ★ ★ 1984 FALL CONFERENCE ★ ★

Nebraska Council of REACT Teams, Inc.  
September 21, 22, 23, 1984

★ ★ ★

Host Team: Grand Island REACT Team #2736  
Site: Ramada Inn, Grand Island, Nebraska  
Conference Chairman: Betty Witherwax  
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The weekend will include:

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Child care available on a pre-registered basis.

Arrangements are in negotiation for a possible dinner theater experience.  
And — be sure to come see who GETS OUR PIE!!!

## REACT Battles Storm into Submission

VIENNA, VA — A meteorological rarity, a thunder and lightning storm accompanied by zero visibility, below freezing temperatures, and several inches of snow ripped through the metropolitan area on the evening of Thursday March 8 and raised so much havoc with traffic that it kept many Herndon REACTers busy until the wee hours of Friday morning. And for the Friday a.m. rush hour more units (many simply continuing from the previous evening's mahem) were

geared up for the grid lock which occurred pretty much as expected.

By about 10 a.m. things were pretty well back to sub-normal although the brief storm raised a lot of problems for 18 or so hours.

Once again it's worth mentioning that monitors take off routine information from Channel 9 and adjacent channels for processing by standby units. The system worked well even though Channel 9 was jammed by traffic at times; traffic of the most trivial nature.

## REACT Credo

The following essay by Don Premo, former member of the REACT International Board of Directors, appeared in the April, 1984 issue of National Capital

Helping your neighbor. That's what barn raising is all about and that is why I joined REACT soon after I bought my first CB set. I tried Channel 19 and the other channels in the beginning as others did, I am sure. But talk for talk's sake has never been a big thing with me. Then I found Channel 9 and with it the quiet satisfaction that comes from lending a helping hand to those in need.

I also found REACT. What impressed me from the beginning was the concept of a group of people joining together to share their experiences to the end that the neighbor in need might be better served. I have seen that concept put to use at all levels from monitor to Team to Council to Forum to National and International and have seen it work well. I have also seen the joining being torn apart. Indeed, I have at times been intimately involved

with those doing the tearing. Yet the concept survives. Fortunately for the neighbor in need, there are some among us who work constantly to support the concept in its purest form. You can tell who they are by what they do. They are the ones who help prepare and distribute monitoring and other aids, who monitor long hours, who support special events, who respond when the other Team needs help, who work to heal the misunderstandings that threaten a unified effort, who do the many things both in the limelight and behind the scenes that prompt our neighbors who have received assistance to say "Thanks REACT." I applaud you who are in this group. My best wishes to you and may your efforts be fruitful.

Don Premo (2280)

## Philly Team Rises to Challenge of Accident Disasters

ERDENHEIM, PA — Two recent accidents in the area took a heavy toll in lives and property. Greater Philadelphia Search and Rescue REACT members on the scene responded and assisted the local authorities.

On Friday morning (February 24) an eastbound tractor-trailer crossed the median barrier on the Pennsylvania Turnpike near the junction with the Northeast Extension. The unit then jack-knifed and continued east in the west-bound lanes crushing 5 cars and another striking the trailer of a westbound rig that was jack-knifed into the right guard rail blocking further collisions. The drivers of two cars and the wayward tractor trailer were killed, five were hospitalized.

Harmonville Fire Company under Chief Phipps rapidly removed the victims who were then treated by the Montgomery Hospital ALS ambulance crews with an additional unit from Plymouth Ambulance. Medevac was called but was returned when the ARCO GO-Patrol traffic helicopter, which carries no ALS

gear, scooped-and-scooted with one victim, following a landing on the Turnpike.

Personnel from many area volunteer fire and ambulance units were on the Turnpike at the time of the incident and responded without hesitation. In addition to Irv Lichtenstein, of Search and Rescue, there were several EMT's, fire policemen from Norristown, fire personnel from Fort Washington, heavy construction people from the Turnpike Commission, and other truckers who were on the road at the time.

On Monday, March 4, two multiple vehicle accidents occurred within minutes and yards of each other on south-bound 309 Expressway at the Fort Washington Interchange. Although there were no serious injuries, at least six cars were involved. The blockage of the expressway caused motorists to back down on-ramps and to turn around on the expressway. These hazardous conditions were alleviated by member Bud Siegel who assisted with traffic control until the road was clear.

## Goodbye to a Dear Friend

by Ben L. Horejsl, President  
Davis County REACT Team 3722

LAYTON, UT — Davis County REACT Team 3722 lost a valued member of the Team — Mr. James C. Mellilo, Unit 76, Life Member 167, when he passed away April 27, 1984, leaving behind many friends.

Jim was a very active member of the Team serving on many committees, including Membership, Presidential Ad-

visor and Police Liaison. He was named REACTer of the Year in 1979.

He was a loving and devoted husband and caring father. Jim spent many hours monitoring Channel 9, and gave assistance wherever needed.

Our hearts went out to the family and friends as we said goodbye. His friendship, warmth and wisdom will be missed by everyone. Jim was well known in Davis County. The Team will miss his great dedication and help.

## REACT Commended for Police Support

HAGERSTOWN, MD — Letters advising of the special role of REACT in providing public service communications have been sent to local police departments in the region by Hagerstown REACT Team C-22.

According to the letter, REACT has effectively helped to save lives in a three-state area citing the REACT sponsored Safety Breaks which dropped highway deaths 70 percent in Pennsylvania; 71 percent in Maryland between 1978

and 1982.

The letter also cited the REACT participation in the impaired driver program which: "helps the state police locate and remove intoxicated drivers from the highways so as to make traveling safer."

According to Team Secretary Terry Smith: "We are proud of this progress and hope that this data might get us some much needed publicity in our local news."

## Team Tallies Total Take in Annual Red Cross Raffle



NASHUA, VT — Tallying up preliminary receipts in this year's raffle are members of Nashua REACT.

NASHUA, NH — Nashua REACT conducted its annual raffle on Saturday November 26, at the Nashua Red Cross on Concord Street.

The committee, consisting of Bill and Jan Marsh of Hudson, Sandy Janes of Billerica, Steve Harmon of Nashua and Ernie and Edna Newton of Tyngsboro, put together another successful fund-

raising effort to help defray the operating costs of this all volunteer group.

Lawrence Garland of Nashua won third prize — \$50 worth of meat donated by Thompson's Market. Kay Schaffer of Fremont, NH won a black and white TV and the top prize, consisting of a VCR, went to Kellie DuBois of Hudson.

# REACT News From Far and Near

## Texas Team Rates Salvation Army Support

CORSICANA, TX — Navarro County REACT Team 3051 has a new member on their Team, the Salvation Army of Corsicana. The Salvation Army is now supplying the Team with a meeting room and a radio room to set up their REACT Central.

Last April, Corsicana held its annual Derrick Day Celebration and Navarro County REACT set up their mobile disaster kitchen and sold food and drinks. They also operated their trailer at the Saturday night barn dance. It was very successful and the Team realized some needed funds. They also set up a rest stop on Interstate 45 over the Easter weekend.

## Linda Collins of Northwest REACT Rates Salute

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL — In the award spotlight is Linda Collins. On Friday March 23, Gerald Reese, Executive Director of REACT International, presented Linda Collins of Northwest Suburban REACT Team 3556 with a plaque reading:

"Linda Collins  
Northwest Suburban REACT 3556  
in appreciation of  
Special Volunteer Service  
in behalf of all members of  
REACT International"

This award was given to Linda for volunteer work supporting REACT International Headquarters.

## Team Supports Infant Safety Seat Program

GRAND ISLAND, NE — Grand Island REACT Team 2736 heard of the need for support for an Infant Safety Seat program through a local hospital. After researching the need, \$500 was donated to Lutheran Memorial Hospital to start the program. So impressed was the hospital by the donation, that they gave matching funds and 30 safety seats were purchased to kick off the program. The seats are rented for a nominal fee to parents of new-born and young children. A safety program, including the three short films from REACT, International, is used by the hospital as part of the dismissal procedure.

## Chosen to Lead for 1984



AUBURN, NY — New officers of the Auburn REACT Team 3581 pause to have their photo taken. Left to right are Stanley J. Pasik, Secre-

tary; David Porter, State Delegate; Francis Sherman, Vice President, and Robert J. Blanchard, President.

AUBURN, NY — Object of a nice feature in the local paper was Robert Blanchard, Sr., President of Auburn REACT Team 3881 and members of Auburn REACT. The story described how Blanchard and members of the Team help to make the county safer by

## Team Passes Community Support Test With Honors

JUNCTION CITY, KS — Junction City REACT was involved in several activities to benefit the community. In February, four members took and passed the examination for amateur radio operators. They are Jerry and Helen Bogear and Fred and Martha Schoenborn. At this time, the Team hopes to get the other members involved in the course.

REACT is also attempting to get the Neighborhood Watch program off the ground starting with those blocks where members live.

## Impaired Driver Alert Gets Team's Priority

EAST GREENVILLE, PA — Over the Christmas Holidays members of Upper Perkiomen Valley REACT Team 4580 were heavily involved in an Impaired Driver Alert. Fourteen members reported a total of 34 IDA calls, 32 of which were issued citations. One of the calls involved a medical emergency — in which the driver was driving himself to the hospital and one involved a motorist not used to driving on winter roads. Results: 43 per cent fewer accidents over the holidays.

For the future, members plan to begin an Impaired Driver Alert just before each set of holidays — Easter, July 4, Thanksgiving, etc., even though we will have a special push around the holidays, this IDA will go on year round.

## Story In Paper Praises REACT Service

ALPINE, CA — "Alpine residents who travel on highways and roads may rest more at ease with the knowledge that a group of volunteers with CB radios are on the lookout for travelers whose vehicles are broken down . . ." Thus begins an article in the *Alpine Sun* which goes on to describe REACT and how it works to protect travelers and others in need.

The article went on to describe the activities of Southwestern REACT (San Diego). According to Skip Westray, President, Southern California REACT Council, "It may be a small circulation newspaper, but it was good coverage. Every little bit helps."

## Plaque for REACT Service and Spirit



John Lamar (left) and Wayne Stanley

FREMONT, NE — At its March meeting Dodge County REACT President John LaMar received a wall plaque that was made for the Team by Wayne Stanley, Chairman of the Board. The Team's motto is: "We Can — Together — We Will!"

This motto is incorporated into the design of the plaque. Also on the plaque are a REACT patch, an American Flag, a

Team patch, and a Civil Defense patch. The plaque is in the shape of a REACT International patch.

Dodge County REACT is active in community affairs, weather watches and anti-crime patrols. It recently provided communications for the March of Dimes Walk America and will be working with the local chapter of Kiwanis, on the 4H parade.

## Team Closes Out Year On Upbeat Note

ALLIANCE, OH — 1983 closed out as another successful year for the Alliance REACT Team C-363. Don Riebold, President, reports that besides their routine monitoring duties, members still found time to park 3,500 cars at the Mile Branch Grange Fair August 3-6, man the check points for the Annual American Cancer Bike-a-thon, safely getting 60 bicyclists over the 25-mile course. Included was one man with only one leg.

The Teams closed out the year with their Annual Halloween Bridge Watch for the State Highway Patrol October 28-31, keeping six bridges and overpasses safe for passing traffic.

## Pardon Our Mistake Please

In the March-April *REACTer* in a story entitled, "Team Ends Year on Successful and Upbeat Note," the *REACTer* inadvertently left out the

## Suffolk County Wins With Holiday Safety Breaks

BRIGHTWATERS, NY — Over the long holiday weekends, Suffolk County REACT Team 2371, Inc., in the interest of safety, arranges a Safety Break in the rest areas on the Long Island Expressway between exits 51 & 52 in Suffolk County.

The Safety Break provides weary motorists with the opportunity to rest their eyes, stretch their legs, get out of their vehicles and get some needed free refreshments (such as coffee, tea, cold drinks, cake, rolls, donuts, etc).

Supplies and support are solicited from merchants and private citizens who believe as REACT does that the Safety Break helps to reduce accidents during a holiday period

Team name and number — Lompoc — Vandenberg Team 2592, Lompoc, CA  
We sincerely regret the omission.

## Team Will Long Remember 1983-84 Year

SWEETWATER, TX — The winter of 1983-84 will be remembered by members of Sweetwater REACT. Besides monitoring Channel 9, Team members took a group of handicapped to Dallas twice and the Team President was a participant in the Veteran's Day flag raising.

On November 14, the Team sponsored its Third Annual Law Enforcement Supper. Rookie of the year was David Argumaniz, a Sheriff's deputy of only a few days. Officer of the Year chosen by the officers present was Sweetwater Police Lieutenant James Kelly.

## Team Mourns Passing of Member

VIENNA, VA — George Berey, a veteran member of Herndon REACT Team C-332, 55, passed away on February 28 after battling cancer for more than two years. "Little George" will be greatly missed both by his fellow Herndon REACT monitors and by units of other area Teams. His record of service provided to the motoring public and to this Team is well known. His activities earned him many awards, including a special Distinguished Service Award presented to him by the members of Herndon REACT in 1982. George made a positive contribution to REACT during his many years of association with our cause.

On November 30, one of the Team's greatest backers, Bertha Poinack, passed away at the age of 80. She was a great booster of the Team and could be counted on for her support in more ways than one. She was also the mother of Team Secretary, Betty Fry.

## The Cost of Crime

This information has been extracted from an article by George Sunderland published in Spring 1984 *Ohio Police*.

- Common street swindlers bilk Americans out of \$21 billion annually. Many victims are older citizens.
- White collar crime bites an estimated \$40 billion per year.
- One million cars stolen annually, loss \$4 billion.
- Arson-related — \$5 billion.
- Shoplifting — \$16 billion.
- Medical quackery (fake cures) — \$1 billion.
- From Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare — \$8 billion.
- From federal government (fraudulent practices) — \$25 billion.
- Vandalism — \$2 billion.

This adds up to \$122 billion per year! What's more, it's just the tip of the iceberg. Since it is *that* time of the year, tax fraud is stated to be \$87 plus billion per year.

(From REACT of the Ohio Valley Newsletter — Cincinnati, Ohio)

## Forum President's Letter

by John Tracy

Fellow REACTers,

With the convention near at hand, the 1984 Forum Year is drawing to a close. Therefore, I feel it is only fitting that I take the time to refresh our memories concerning what the Forum is, and what it is not, and briefly recap the Forum accomplishments during the past year. I will do this by addressing each objective in turn and outlining what has been accomplished to further those objectives.

### Objective 1: To provide a Forum for the interchange of ideas and information.

Activity in this area primarily occurs at the annual convention as REACT members from all areas of this country, Canada and overseas have an opportunity to meet and discuss issues and activities of common interest.

The 1983 convention saw a great deal of activity in this area and the generation of new basic membership policy which expanded REACT's horizons. The Forum Executive Committee followed up on this policy change by assisting the Executive Director develop new terminology which was incorporated in the new Team charter application. In addition several task groups are working on methodology which will assist in further implementation of the expanded base. The goal is to halt the membership decline and lead the way towards increased membership in future years.

### Objective 2: To develop guidelines, procedures and other material that would be helpful to member Teams in carrying out their public service roles in their communities.

This year has been particularly productive in this area. Although much of the material was developed in previous years, we were finally able to distribute a significant number of documents designed to help Teams. All Teams received an index which forms the basis for putting together a Team Management Handbook. In addition to five how-to-do-it pamphlets, distribution was made on the New Monitoring Handbook (Forum Mon-1). This was made possible by the outstanding effort and financial contribution of the Indiana State REACT Council who arranged for typesetting and printing of the manual. Other Teams and Councils, too numerous to mention, contributed material which formed the basis for this manual and the pamphlets. This is what the Forum is all about. The contributing of effort, expertise and ideas for the benefit of all Teams.

### Objective 3: To provide coordinated membership advisory input to the REACT International Board of Directors.

Based on input from this field, the Forum Executive Committee made a number of recommendations to the Board of Directors concerning Headquarters Operations, services to member Teams and Councils, and fund-raising. Many of these recommendations were accepted and implemented. Some were not, but for valid reasons.

The Forum Executive committee strongly pressed for the printing and distribution of a Team Directory and emergency contact lists. The first has been printed and distributed and the later is in the final stages of preparation and will be initially distributed at the convention. Obsolete supply material has been distributed to Councils. The activity of the Headquarters staff is now documented and provided to the Board of Directors and Forum Officers. A shopping list of fundable projects has been developed including some worked up by the Forum Executive Committee. The real points are that the membership has a voice, through the Forum, in the management of REACT International, and that we have a Board of Directors that listens.

In addition to forwarding its stated objectives, the Forum has historically served in another key role — coordinating preparation for the annual convention. The convention planning committee helps in preparation of the agenda working closely with the host Team. They also play an important role in insuring that the Forum portion of the convention goes smoothly. This year that committee also prepared a formal written convention planning procedure which will be distributed to all Councils and potential host Team. The convention site selection committee looks several years ahead and recommends future sites to the Board of Directors. The credentials committee and the credential validation subcommittee will be functioning at the convention. All in all an excellent example of the Forum at work; REACT members working together.

This should give you an idea of what the Forum is all about and what has happened this year. I think it is also important to cover, briefly, what the Forum is not. The Forum is not a separate, self serving organization but is an integral part of the REACT structure. I like to think of it as an extension, or an arm, of the Board of Directors that can do the development work that is beyond the limited capabilities of our small Headquarters staff.

The Forum is not the REACT devil's advocate nor the watchdog over headquarters operations. That is the responsibility of the Board of Directors. In the same view the Forum is not where REACT policy is formed. That also is the sole purpose of the Board of Directors. But through the Forum, the membership can have an impact on those areas by providing positive and thoughtful advisory input.

All in all it has been a good year. However, due to the very nature of our volunteer effort, there remains much yet to be accomplished. The development and distribution of Team and Council Management material must be continued and even accelerated. New methodology and techniques for improving membership are a pressing need. Membership growth must be attained for the future of REACT to be secure. I'm confident that the 1985 Forum will continue and expand on past efforts. I urge you all to support and participate so that REACT can continue to play a key role in community service.

REACTively,

John W. Tracy  
President

## Ohio Suggests Uniform Code

Ohio is the first Council to adopt a "suggested uniform code" for all REACT members. The code, presented by Forum Secretary Wes Gould, is a guide for new members and REACTers that would like to know where official REACT and other awarded emblems should be mounted on their uniform to make all members alike.

It is suggested that if a REACTer would like to wear a uniform that a white shirt (short sleeve in the summer and long in the cooler months) would be sufficient with dark blue or black trousers, black socks and black shoes. The REACT Emblem should be over the left pocket, the State Patch over the right pocket just above the name tag. The American

Flag should be a half inch below the shoulder seam on the left shoulder. All other patches that are issued to the Team, i.e.: Red Cross, Civil Defense Communications patch when a member of a Civil Defense Organization, etc. should be worn on the right sleeve starting a half inch below the shoulder seam. Team number and member number can be worn on the collar (cocoas) level to a person facing the member.

Wes suggests that other patches should be worn on a vest or other outer garment that can be taken off if several members are to parade or be together thus making all members alike.



SENECA, SC — Oconee County REACT 4042 hosts Memorial Day Safety Break at I-85 rest area at U.S. 76-28. Shown are: left to right, Mrs. Everett Doughtridge, Jimmy Patrick, Public Relations Officer, Mr. Everett Doughtridge, and Rhett Clayton, President. Over 1,000 people were served by the Oconee County Team to Northbound motorists and Anderson County REACT C491 served the Southbound motorists.

## May Is Busy Month for Maine Team

PRESQUE ISLE, MA — Saturday May 19, in Caribou, Aroostook County REACT 4094 Team members handled traffic control and communications for the annual St. Judes Childrens' Research Hospital Bike-a-thon. Approximately 30 riders participated in the event which was sponsored by the local V.F.W. Post. Team members present were: Louis Bourgoin, Team President, Rick Sherrer, Vice President, Doug Marsden, Treasurer, Guy Woodworth, Sergeant-at-arms, and Kevin Cray, Public Relations Officer, and Matt Marsden, Junior member.

Sunday, May 20, in Limestone, the Sacred Heart Catholic Church was the starting point of a 12:7 mile Bike-a-thon. Aroostook County REACT had two Jr. members in the event, Christie Marsden, Team Mascot and Matt Marsden.

Ten members of the Team provided communications and water breaks for approximately 70 riders. Team members present were: Louis Bourgoin, Rick Sherrer, Doug Marsden, Diane Marsden, Communications Officer, Guy Woodworth, Doug Harris, Anne Brigman, Kevin Cray, Herman King, and Randy Cyr.

Both days were sunny and warm and both events a very big success.

On Monday, May 28, Memorial Day, Aroostook County REACT 4094 was called out to render assistance with communications and traffic control, by the Presque Isle Police Department.

The assist was for the annual Memorial Day Parade. There were numerous beauty queens and Boy Scout troops, Police cruisers, fire engines, stock cars and farm tractors, even a homemade steam driven car.

Aroostook County REACT 4094 responded with 13 members and junior members. The members present were as follows: Louis Bourgoin, Team President Unit 1; Richard Sherrer, Vice President Unit 15; Doug Marsden, Treasurer Unit 76; Diane Marsden, Communications Officer Unit 77; Guy Woodworth, Sergeant-at-arms Unit 78; Anne Brigman, Unit 86; Doug Harris, Unit 8; Guy Terrell, Unit 7; Bev Terrell, Unit 62; Gary Savory, Unit 20; Kevin Cray, Unit 10; Herman King, Unit 35; and Randy Cyr, Unit 2.

Junior members Christine Marsden, 77A and Matt Marsden, 76A were also present.

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