



# the REACTer

Official Publication of REACT (Radio Emergency Associated Citizens Teams)



Vol. 19, No. 6

Nov.-Dec. 1985

## Teams Vie for Early Bird Prizes

As we go to press there are 49 prizes donated for the annual Early Bird Promotion.

Every Team will receive one "chance" for these prizes for every member registered for 1986 prior to January 1, 1986, in REACT's Annual Early Bird promotion.

Be sure that your Team registration package has been received. The mailing was made so that all Teams should have their material before REACTer press time.

Among the outstanding prizes to be received are: Cobra's Model 29LTD CB Radio (see the ad on the back cover of the REACTer), and Mobile Trunk Mount Antenna. Also included is General Electric's "Superbase CB Base Station" with all the things one would look

for in a top-of-the-line base station with programmable timer, electronic digital clock, SSB, dual antenna jacks, dual meters, etc. Midland offers their Ready-Rescue II portable CB radio with cigarette lighter power or battery operation and their Midland Port-A-Pack 40 channel mobile/portable CB radio. Both ideal for field operations. K-40 Electronics offers two complete K-40 CB radio systems, including compact mobile unit and K-40 antenna. Baggy's Radio is providing 39 4-foot white tunable tip antennas. Shakespeare is offering their Big-Stick base antenna. Antenna Specialists offers their Model MR-440 magnet mount antenna.

It is expected that a large number of additional prizes will be made available before January 1st.

## REACT Members Aid Fire Victims

WHEELING, IL — On Tuesday morning, September 3, 1985 at 5:30 a.m. fire swept through an 18-unit apartment complex in Wheeling and left 152 people homeless.

It took firefighters from 11 suburbs almost nine hours to put out the blaze. Chief Michael Haeger of the Wheeling Police Department said evidence indicates the fire was started after someone ignited an unknown accelerant — such as gasoline, kerosene or charcoal lighter fluid — that had been poured on material in the basement. Wheeling Fire Chief Bernhardt Koeppen stated the fire was not a big one, but because of the type of construction, the fire crept up through the walls and ceilings and hampered firefighting.

One fireman was slightly injured when he was struck in the head by a

*(continued on page 5)*

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### REACT International

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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. 19, No. 6

Nov.-Dec. 1985

## In the Eye of the Hurricane

### St. Petersburg Team Goes Into Action As Hurricane Elena Hits the Florida Coast

by Albert Moccia, Jr.  
Lower Pinellas REACT Team C-610

It's Wednesday, August 28 and Hurricane Elena, one of the largest natural disasters, is heading right smack in your direction. What do you do, how do you REACT? The following account, which was submitted by Al Moccia, of Lower Pinellas REACT, Team C-610 (St. Petersburg, FL) gives a graphic and gripping description of how a few brave members REACTed to the challenge.

ST. PETERSBURG, FL — On Wednesday, August 28, I placed Lower Pinellas REACT on standby alert.

On Thursday, August 29, 1300 hours, I informed the Squad Leaders to tell the Team to stand down.

On 1500 hours, I put the Team on alert for a possible hurricane.

On Friday, August 30, at 2245 hours, there was no doubt the storm was moving our way. Shortly after, the Voluntary Evacuation was issued.

At 0100 hours on Saturday, August 31, the order for evacuation was given, at which time we opened the EOC at the Red Cross, St. Petersburg Police Department, and dispatched various personnel to nursing homes to stay with them from the time they evacuated through their stay at their designated shelter area, and then back to the facility, if usable.

As soon as our operator arrived at the Red Cross, she checked all radio, CB and FM, to the various facilities, then started to call-down to 55 nursing homes, to verify those that were evacuating and to where they were evacuating. We did evacuate 17 nursing homes and one hospital in South County, and two nursing homes in North County. During the early morning hours, two additional radio operators were sent to the Red Cross and one to the Police Department.

It would have been impossible to have chosen any worse conditions for evacuating anyone, no less the elderly. At 1 a.m., it was high winds, rain, and then waiting. Most of the facilities were evacuated by about 7 a.m. One problem that arose was that at several facilities, when arriving at their designated shelter, some 0300 hours, we found the shelter filled by civilians. Arrangements were immediately made for other sheltering. Another problem was that at one facility, arriving at their shelter, we were informed they would only take some of the people.

One unimportant item that became major, was that many people had my phone number. We suddenly realized that our home had become a mini-EOC center, and on top of this, the transformer pole on our corner went down on a building and consequently, we spent the next 5 1/2 hours operating "in the dark." During that time, until we finally closed our operation on September 2, we estimated that we had handled over 750 phone calls and between 200 and 300 calls on the GMRS (FM radio), and about 100 CB calls. In the course of this time, I also had to make eleven trips to various shelters and nursing facilities — several of them, up to three times. Considering driving is hazardous under normal conditions,

where most street lights had blown away, it became unreal.

Our personnel at the Red Cross, which was our main emergency operations center, did a fantastic job. One of the problems that they ran into, however, was that it took about twelve hours to get operational phone installed. Even so, they handled hundreds of calls.

We, like the amateur radio operators, reached a point where we totally lost count of how many radio messages we handled on FM radio. Estimate: 1,100-1,200 calls.

For those who say that CB radio is dead, our people handled 322 calls on CB. The calls between shelters and operations center were too numerous in the confusion to log by number. Our personnel at the St. Petersburg Police Department EOC not only had to man our FM radio and handle some 600-700 messages, and about 30 CB calls, and an unlimited number of phone calls, but they also wound up handling some five or six other radios for people who either could not stay or did not show. We will never know the number of calls handled there.

A number of nursing homes, when they learned that they could return to their facilities, in the late evening hours, elected to stay over so they could return in daytime as their patients were already bedded. A number of times during this emergency we checked our backup communications directly into the Clearwater EOC by FM radio. We had a minimum of five separate methods of communication if needed. At no time during the storm, during the evacuation or the return, did we lose FM communications. We did not use CB communications which some

facilities did have the capability for.

Another figure, or I should say two other figures, that would be impossible to estimate, are the unlimited hours of no-sleep and the few hours of sleep that our very dedicated members gave. 19 members were involved in this operation. It would be impossible for me to commend them enough for the job they did. We have been informed by other governmental agencies that we pulled off one of the biggest medical evacuations in history, without loss of life. We were informed there were three deaths due to heart attacks, that were attributed to the hurricane. However, there were none at any of the nursing facilities.

From my own personal observations, having visited so many facilities during the storm, I wish to commend the administrators, nursing staffs, and the many people it takes to maintain a normal facility, who continued so well under adverse conditions. Also, I commend numerous bus drivers who did more than just drive a bus and gave their help during the evacuation, to all these people in need.

A problem that could have become very serious and fortunately didn't, was the fact that I released operators to nursing homes without receiving a call from the facility stating they were going to evacuate. What did occur because of not receiving calls, was that we were not able to send operators to facilities that at the last minute changed where they were evacuating to without notifying anyone, which left us, after many hours of calling and hunting, with two facilities unaccounted for on our board until a couple of days later.

## Board of Directors Acts to Implement Expansion of REACT

In order to emphasize the broadening of REACT's potential membership base, the Board of Directors has authorized the change to be highlighted through the explanation of "REACT" as "Radio Emergency Associated Communications Team."

This is a change from "Citizen Teams" to "Communications Teams." While the legal name is REACT International, Inc., explanation has been used in a considerable amount of literature and that will be changed as new printings are undertaken.

As observed in 1983 when the expansion move was initiated, it is simply a recognition that REACT Teams do more than monitor CB Emergency Channel 9. There is a continuously growing interest in activity in the General Mobile Radio Service (UHF FM). Additional REACT Teams are also involved in amateur radio activities. Furthermore, there is still a possibility that new communications facilities will open to REACT Teams in the future, and REACT wishes to be ready.

All public service volunteer communications Teams are invited to seek REACT membership under these new guidelines.

## Balloon Competition Is Challenge for Michigan REACT



BATTLE CREEK, MI — Set to go into action outside mobile commandpost at the 7th World Hot Air Balloon Competition are members of the Battle Creek REACT Team 2975. Left to right are: Ken Hopkins, Marlen E. Norrod, and Larry Weekley.

BATTLE CREEK, MI — Battle Creek REACT Team 2975 took part in the 7th World Hot Air Balloon Competition which was held in Battle Creek July 13-21. The Team's mobile command post was set up to inform the public of traffic conditions and events in conjunction with Calhoun County Emergency Services and the Sheriff's Department. Altogether the Team handled well over 1,500 calls and helped in locating numerous lost children and parents during the event.

Besides monitoring Channel 9, the Team volunteers annually to assist the community with radio communications for Special Olympics, the World's Longest Breakfast Table, Raft Race and missing person searches. It mans the Operation Care wake break on Memorial Weekend, the Fourth of July and Labor Day Weekend.

The Team also maintains an active relationship with Emergency Services and participates in the county wide disaster drills.



PHILADELPHIA, PA — Eastern Pennsylvania REACT Team C-655, the oldest incorporated REACT Team in this area, was kept more than busy in service in several special events. June 15 and 16 the Team assisted in a water ski tournament in Olympia Lake, NJ which was held as a benefit for a friend who later died of cancer.

June 22-23 the Team conducted its annual Port Indian water ski tournament and on July 20-21, REACT provided communications for the Port Indian power boat Regatta.

PHILADELPHIA, PA — Nerve-center for one of the water ski tournaments at which members of Eastern Pennsylvania REACT Team C-655 were asked to handle communications last summer.

On August 17 the Team was scheduled to assist at a one day water ski tournament at Black Rock on the Schuylkill River, and to close the summer season by providing security and communications for the Jerry Lewis Telethon at the Philadelphia Civic Center.



## Notes from Northbrook

by Executive Director Gerald H. Reese

What does restructuring of the REACT Board of Directors mean to local REACT Teams? The International Board of Directors is now directly involved in the planning, coordination of input from the field, determining policy and giving direction to the headquarters staff to implement programs and policies. Of course, this has always been the Board's responsibility, but the REACT Forum had been delegated the tasks related to program development. Now, the Forum structure has been absorbed into the total body of REACT with the Board assuming its true responsibility.

Under the present structure, what were known as "Forum Committees and Task Groups" are now simply "REACT International Committees and Task Groups."

This is designed to result in a more effective program driven by priorities that are related to the needs of Teams and members to assist them in accomplishing the public-service missions of REACT.

In order for this to work, it is necessary that REACT Teams and Councils provide constructive input to the Board of Directors, either directly to individual Directors, or through communications to headquarters. You must make your needs known in a clear and understandable manner. This will go directly from headquarters, through the Board, to the appropriate Committees and Task Groups for consideration and implementation. It will all be coordinated through an approved long-range plan which is now being developed by the Board of Directors.

Your Board of Directors is conscientious, highly-qualified, and dedicated to making REACT a truly effective public service organization. Every Board member is working to provide the membership with all the tools necessary to be professionally qualified volunteers. However, as Treasurer Greg Seemuth has indicated in his financial review in this publication, REACT still has a problem of being able to afford all of the services and programs needed. Greg is a professional accountant who is in close physical proximity to our headquarters office, and is providing us with excellent support.

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The best solution to many of our problems is to increase REACT membership. What is the most efficient method of recruiting members? It really isn't much that headquarters staff or the Board of Directors can do. If we look at what was the key to obtaining the members we now have, it is the *invitation* of an active member to a friend, associate or relative to join. The most effective way to build membership is to have *you* — the members — ask others to join.

This means that you should not only work to build your own Team membership, but that you look at neighboring communities where REACT Teams should be formed and, working with your Council, helping to organize new Teams in those communities. It may be that the neighboring Team would be part of your Team initially, and would then grow enough to spin off on their own. Let us know if you are interested, and we will send you one or more information packages with Team applications for recruiting purposes.

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The annual membership renewal drive is on! Your Team has an opportunity to win a valuable "Early Bird" prize by registering your members before January 1st. We are now assembling the prizes and we have over 50 prizes already promised by leading communications equipment manufacturers and more coming in every day. Your Team gets one chance for every member registered prior to January 1st.

Start building a prospect list for new members of your Team. Ask every member to submit at least one name for this purpose. Get them on your mailing list and send them an invitation to a meeting, year-end social event or whatever activity you have. It may even be desirable to ask them to assist you at some special event. Teach each individual to understand what your Team does, meet other members, and let each person know you are interested in *them* and that you would like to have them as a member. A Team Officer, or Membership Chairman should personally ask each individual to join.

Give each individual prospect *special* attention. Point out a specific way they can help your Team and ask them to join to help. If a person feels they really are important to your Team, they will be more likely to join.

### A Team Prepared to Serve the Community



ST. JOSEPH, MI — St. Joseph County REACT Team 2982 was represented by all members of the Team in the Mich Week parade which was held May 18 in Battle Creek. Ray Belcher and Chris Good, of REACT Team 2975, also participated.

In addition, the Team reports that its Memorial Day Coffee Break held on 1-94 for Eastbound traffic was a big success. New officers for the next two years

are Earl Bowersox, President; Mike Bowersox, Vice President; Rosalee Bowersox, Secretary; Eileen Mostrom, Treasurer and Mike Haffey, Sergeant at Arms.

### Corona-Norco Team Assists at Balloon & Wine Festival

CORONA, CA — The Corona-Norco REACT Team enjoyed fun in the sun at Rancho California on May 18-19. They were assisted by Santiago Communications Team at the Balloon and Wine Festival sponsored by the local Chamber of Commerce. The Teams assisted with communications, traffic, and crowd control. One of the really satisfying jobs was to keep the spectators away from the balloons as they ascended simultaneously . . . yes, all 49 of them!

The view was spectacular! The objective of the balloonists was to navigate their balloons in an attempt to remove a key from the top of one of three telephone-type poles which were set up in the middle of a field. Possession of a key would permit the winner to drive home in a new motor home, car, or truck. In addition, on the tops of the poles were envelopes representing \$5,000, \$10,000, and \$15,000. Unfortunately, none of the balloonists were successful.

The wine tasting was sponsored by the many vintners in the Temecula area. A country faire included many booths featuring arts and crafts, games and lots of food.

On Saturday evening we were treated to a barbecue featuring spare ribs and country beans, and plenty of ice cold beer. Entertainment was provided by cloggers and country western singers and an exhibition of gymnastics. It couldn't have been better!

In addition, this was the scene for the start of a seven hundred mile bicycle race. It encompassed seven laps of a 100-mile course which went through Temecula, Rancho California, Hemet, Mountain Center, Anza, and Aguanga. The race was won by Rob Templin from San Diego. His elapsed time was 44 hours, 25 minutes, and 55 seconds. This was a qualifying race for the Race Across America which will be held shortly.

### Augusta REACT is Alive and Well

AUGUSTA, GA — From August 30 through September 2, 1985, the Augusta REACT Emergency Team, also known as the Augusta REACT Dive and Rescue Team, held its Labor Day Safety Break at the Georgia Welcome Center at 1-20 West.

This was the 12th year this group of energetic volunteers spent their Labor Day holiday helping others. Earlier the Team had held a Safety Break over the Memorial Day weekend.

Free coffee and refreshments were offered to holiday travelers in hopes of cutting down on holiday accidents. Said publicity director, Jeanne Stewart, "It's a fact that a brief stop to stretch, relax and enjoy friendly conversation, is a sure way to wake up weary drivers on a long holiday trip." She also said, "The grateful thanks from the nice folks we meet at each safety break is payment enough."

Over 500 were served at this worthwhile event.

### Tri-County REACT Inc. Sponsors 15th Year Safety Break

MERCER, PA — Approximately 16,250 people took advantage of the July 4, 1985 Safety Break sponsored by the Tri-County REACT Team C-425 at Rest Area 15 on I-79 North near Mercer, PA.

Travelers from the United States, as well as 17 other countries, enjoyed 240 dozen donuts and 250 pounds of cookies and other refreshments served by the members of Tri-County REACT Team C-425.

According to the State Police and the travelers, REACT was a very welcome sight for thousands of weary people. We at Tri-County REACT Inc. were glad that we were there to HELP!

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# NEW 1½ WAVE

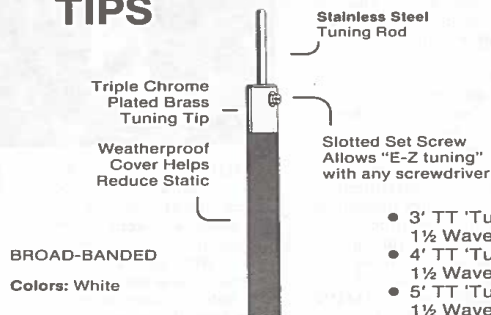


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## A View From the Board

From Rick Munton, Field Director

As you can read in this issue as in the past issues of the REACTer, many changes are coming about within REACT. Your Board of Directors is fully involved with the day to day operations of your organization. We have made decisions, and will continue to do so, that will strengthen this organization and hopefully slow the decline in membership. Every member of this Board has only one direction in mind and that is for REACT to continue.

As Greg Seemuth has pointed out, REACT's financial picture isn't very rosy. We aren't going to paint pictures that just aren't true; we intend to give you honest and complete information on every facet of operations. We need your help and support. We need to know if your members aren't receiving their copies of the REACTer and whether or not the membership cards are correct and received in a timely manner. We are attempting to control cost and increase income at every level but your cooperation and support for your organization is greatly needed.

We need to hear from you. Your input is all we have to go on, in those areas which specifically affect you the REACT member. I urge you to carefully read the financial statement prepared by Greg and understand it completely. It reflects the true picture of this organization. Much time and effort is going into making this organization financially sound, where we won't be in the red come the end of the year and that we will continue.

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### Treasurer's Comments by Greg Seemuth, Treasurer—REACT International, Inc.

I would like to take this opportunity to provide some general comments on the financial condition of REACT International, based upon my first two months as Treasurer. For those not present at the Convention, I will start with a short background.

- I hold a Bachelor's degree in accounting.
- I currently work for a major insurance company in the Payroll Accounting Dept.
- I previously worked for the U.S. Government as a credit union examiner.

With my accounting background, I hope to be an asset to the Board of Directors as the Treasurer, and to you, the membership.

At the request of Chris White, Board Chairman, I have prepared the following comments on the current and projected financial position of REACT International, Inc. This is not a complete analysis. I am in the process of examining and organizing the data in a more meaningful financial format. All comments presented are mine and not necessarily that of the Board.

The financial information for 1985 is as follows:

	As of Aug. 31	Projected Sept.-Dec.	Projected Dec. 31
Income	\$138,034.63	\$ 15,000.00	\$153,034.63
Expense	128,553.81	39,000.00	167,553.81
Net Profit or Loss	\$ 9,480.82	\$(24,000.00)	\$(14,519.18)

Some comments are required to explain the above figures. Income from dues must be considered complete at this time and represents a decrease of \$9,000.00 from what was budgeted. The income from the sale of REACT ID materials is currently showing a profit of \$62.00, however, it was projected at \$8,000.00. At this time the Finance Committee has requested a complete review of our inventory, suspended further purchases, and are reevaluating the price list; all of which should help resolve any further loss in the sale of REACT ID materials. The projected income figures are for general income items that were in the budget. This does not include any projected income from the Allen C. Hill Magic shows, and the government contract which may result in a total additional income of between \$8,000.00 and \$12,000.00.

Expenses are in line with the budget for this year, with the exception of certain areas. One area is the expenses of the Board of Directors which is running 60% over budget. This increase was due to problems for which the Board expended more travel funds, telephone expenses, and other expenses to resolve. The liability insurance, which was projected at a cost of \$6,000.00, actually cost \$8,100.00, which is uncontrollable since insurance companies control these prices. For the remainder of 1985, no unexpected expenses are foreseen, and will be in line with the budget. Action is being taken to control expenses and insure no new expenses are created.

I am aware that all issues of expenses and/or income have not been addressed, but I feel those not addressed are in line and under control. All Board members receive a detailed financial report each month for review.

Currently, a proposed 1986 budget has been prepared and is in review by the Finance Committee. We have established the budget with a projected membership loss of 11 1/2% based on prior historical data. Total income projected is approximately 13% under the 1985 budget. At this time, no income projection has been made for the fund raiser that Rick Munton's Task Group is developing. Expenses are projected at only a 2.6% increase over the 1985 budget. All the budgeted expenses are computed at a level to maintain services to the membership at the current level.

In order to improve our financial position, your help is needed in the following ways:

1. Securing new membership or developing new Teams.
2. Maintaining your current membership, which will also help maintain strong Teams.
3. Promoting any fund raiser developed by the Fund Raising Task Group.

We, the Board, will be doing the following:

1. Reviewing our operations at headquarters to ascertain any area that can be reduced in regards to expenses.
2. Working with the various Task Groups to develop programs to do the following:
  - Retain membership
  - Secure new membership
  - Secure other income sources
3. Reviewing current income sources other than membership dues to insure that proper income is being generated. Taking steps to insure that in the future we will achieve the desired income.

As you can see, this is not something that just I can do, the Board can do, or the membership can do; but something that only all of us pulling together can do.

In future issues, I will present periodic financial reports showing income and expenses and make comments concerning our current or projected position.

The 1986 budget will be printed in its entirety as soon as it has Board approval.

## Meet the Board... Gregory Seemuth

Greg Seemuth is bullish about REACT! Greg is the newest at-large member of the International Board. He was elected just before the 1985 International Convention and was elected to the office of Treasurer at the July Board meeting. Greg feels that even though membership has slipped in recent years, the potential has not begun to be tapped.

Greg, a financial analyst for Allstate Insurance in Northbrook, is convinced that there are thousands of men and women "out there" who would be good candidates for REACT membership if they only knew about the "good work we do."

He cites his own case as an example. He has, since 1972, had his car equipped with a CB radio, yet until just prior to being named to the Board, he had never heard of REACT.

"It just involves a more concentrated PR effort to make sure that every base is touched so that people will know more about the organization and its goals."

"That way, they will be in touch with us to learn more about REACT and to sign up, rather than us having to go out to contact them," he said.

One thing which he cited as an example of the kind of activity which would pay off quickly for REACT would be to tie in with the Trip Tik kits which the American Automobile Association offers to the motoring public through its local affiliated motor clubs.

"They distribute thousands upon thousands of travel kits every summer to motorists, and in the kit we could have material on the use of CB and what to do about calling for help on Channel 9 if you should have an emergency or need assistance of any kind."

There is also need to put the organization on a more firm financial footing, but that problem is being solved through greater supervision of all costs and steps to find additional sources of revenue on the outside. As Treasurer, Greg is directly involved in this process. Being located near headquarters in Northbrook, he has the opportunity to work closely with headquarters on financial matters.

Greg lives in Carpentersville, a suburban area northwest of Chicago, with his wife Barbara and their twin daughters — Yasmin and Kelley, 14. His wife, Barbara, works with children with learning disabilities as a teacher's aide for the local school district.



He is quite proud of his daughters, both of whom are excellent swimmers and honor students at their school (they are in the eighth grade of middle school) and are members of the school's Beta (honor society) Club. Greg has become active in competitive swimming and serves as a meet official being certified through testing to function as a starter, the third level of certification by the Illinois Division of U.S. Swimming.

After graduating from Tiffin University of Ohio, where he majored in accounting, Greg served for a few months as a field examiner for the National Credit Union Administration, a federal agency.

From 1968 to 1972 he worked in the Intelligence Division of SAC for a year and in the Finance Department of the U.S. Air Force for three years.

Upon his return to civilian life, he rejoined the National Credit Union Administration, but left shortly afterwards because of the long hours and the inability to spend enough time with his family.

Since 1972 he has been with Allstate, serving in the Comptroller's Division in a number of capacities. As a financial analyst he is responsible for supervision of one staff accountant and assisting in other areas on projects that affect agents or employees and insuring that all programs or changes are correct and implemented properly.

While admitting his knowledge of REACT is limited, Greg is applying his accounting and systems background toward assuring that REACT continues on a sound financial and economic basis.

## Command Performance for Herndon REACT at Coast Guard Change of Command

VIENNA, VA — On August 23, 1985, the United States Coast Guard Cutter Capstan Officer in charge requested the honor of Herndon REACT's presence at the Change of Command ceremony of BMC Wayne A. Stacey (OIC of the Coast Guard Cutter Capstan) to BMC Jerry L. Cartmill, the new officer in charge of the Capstan, held at the Capital Yacht Club in Washington, D.C.

The Change of Command ceremony is a time-honored tradition which formally restates to the officers, men and women of the command that the continuity of the authority of command will be maintained. It is a formal ritual conducted before the assembled company of the command. The Change of Command of a Naval ship is unique in that it is a transfer of total responsibility, authority, and accountability from one individual to another.

Herndon REACT members present for the ceremony were Allen B. Hanger Jr., President; Robert L. Guest, Vice President; Clifford Mauck, Property Custodian; and Bob Baird, Public Relations Officer. Robert Guest, Guest Speaker for Herndon REACT, spoke briefly about a recent rescue in which the Capstan and Herndon REACT



VIENNA, VA — Robert Guest, Vice President, Herndon REACT Team C-332, represented REACT as a guest speaker at the Change of Command ceremony for BMC Wayne A. Stacey, OIC of the Coast Guard Cutter Capstan.

worked together to save a man's life in an incident in which a boat was sinking in the Potomac River. Robert Guest praised BMC Wayne A. Stacey for his quick response to the scene and for the professional manner he and his crew handled the rescue operations.

The President of Herndon REACT, Allen Hanger Jr., presented BMC Wayne Stacey with a special recognition certificate of behalf of REACT International and Herndon REACT.





## Nuts & Bolts on 27 megs

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

For those of you who might envy the trips we take, travel has some nuts and bolts TOO, and they are not all smooth or comforting or even enjoyable. We were just rolling out of bed to catch a TWA flight to Boston, on our way to Israel, when the phone rang. My old friend at TWA was alerting me — "You can go back to bed — Hurricane Gloria has preempted you — all flights to the Northeast have been cancelled today. If you flew out this morning, you and Gloria would arrive at Boston about the same time. I have already taken steps to get you on tomorrow's flight." So, I suddenly had an extra day in San Francisco with nothing to do except all the things I had not gotten done the day before — like writing this bi-monthly note to you (actually hunt and pecked out in Boston). One thing I did accomplish was to run around and loan my GMRS base to Dick Pate, our 121 and "top home monitor" at Golden Gate, and my portable to Fran Schumacher, our 120 and Director of Associate members. GMRS is catching and by the time I get home (after two months) both of them will be taking steps to get one of their own.

I am not taking any radio, 27 or 462, with me to Israel. The last time I did, two years ago, the police tracked me down and warned me to "knock it off." Security is so tight that any "spurious signal is suspect." (I like that phrase.)

Paul Johnson, of Glenwood, IL, sent me some notes. One was an ad from the CB VOICE, published in Oregon, and pointed toward that great mass of CBers who don't bother with rules. I have approached the editor to see if he will accept an article or story that points out the problems created for the REACT monitor by some of the current CB practices. If he agrees, I will team up with Bob Riechel, of Public Relations, to follow through.

At the Chicago Convention, Bob Leef of Anaheim, CA, presented info on an inexpensive repeater set up employing a high speed tape recorder replayer that was voice activated. You talk — the tape recorder picks you up. You stop talking, and the tape recorder reverses and then plays back almost immediately, and with

added power. The presentation at Chicago seemed to cover 462 but eliminates 27 megs. Leigh Bartlow follows with some additional thinking on the subject:

"Secondly, we have done some thinking about the SAR (Simplex Audio Repeater) that Bob Leef presented in the Communications Task Group meeting in Chicago. Perhaps it has occurred to you, and also to others, that this unit could be used to repeat CB9 audio, thus allowing central monitoring by stations, not at the central monitoring station (or by Teams who do not have central monitoring). Further, consider the possibility of each monitor having one, with any other monitor being able to selectively (by PL of course) choose which remote transceiver to operate through on CB9. This scheme could permit reduction of RF gain setting and harder squelch settings at each location, resulting in less bleedover, etc., with a net gain in coverage with fewer monitors. Even one to four units in good locations could provide substantial benefits. The units would not necessarily need to retransmit on channel 9, nor would they all need to retransmit on the same alternate channel. If retransmitting on a different frequency, the receiver and transmitter could be separate units, with the receiver being of the "high-tech" variety. We have also considered retransmission on GMRS for special circumstances.

"This idea has some of the same features as the Detroit system of the 1970s, where remote receivers were linked by phone lines to the well-located central monitoring station. You might find some of these SAR thoughts suitable for your Nuts and Bolts column when you run out of stuff from the convention.

"Lastly, I'd like to mention our progress here in Huntsville in association with the community watch program. 18 of the 40 odd watches in town are presently on GMRS. A city-sponsored (yes, that means tax money) repeater has been installed on the city tower by yours truly, and enjoys the good coverage (1000 feet above average terrain) and emergency power backup that exists there, along with a very secure installation and no utility bill. Installation was completed on August 15.

"This 15 watt 725 machine is PL accessed (on the REACT tone of course), and is available for transient motorist use. Incidentally, each individual watch will be on a separate tone, using a remotely controllable tone panel with up to 38 tones. Huntsville REACT and the community watches have reciprocal 675/725 agreements. A 725 central monitoring station under police department supervision is in the works. Obviously such a station could also monitor 675. This system extends our Teams' capability to serve the community through communications and gives REACT increased visibility in the minds of concerned citizens of Huntsville."

Reply to Leigh Bartlow, 2107 Shades Crest Road, Huntsville, AL 35801

HX1000

HX2000

HX750

HX650

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LINCOLN, IL — Members of REACT Team C-733, Lincoln Railsplitters, spent two nights and a day patrolling and also guarding crossings for a large parade held here last summer. Shown are REACT's Harold Swinford and his wife marking the parade route.

### Kansas REACT Council's First Convention a Big Success

WICHITA, KS — Over 40 people attended our First State Convention, including guests from Nebraska and Oklahoma! Over \$200 was netted for the Council! Our speakers and seminars were great and down to basics. Of the state's 130 or so REACTers, 30 registered for the Convention. That's about one in four members participating. NOT BAD!

Friday Night — Early arrivals had the benefit of our hospitality suite.

Saturday — We stayed on TIME with our program and enjoyed LOTS OF training. \$500-\$600 worth of door prizes were given out to lucky ticket holders. \$108 was raised in the pie auction. Ron, #107, got it! But the thrower Roy, #262, also got it! The food and service was GREAT. Dave Williams of Allan C. Hill Corp. showed us how to make \$500 or more each year on their program.

Etta Songer of the FCC brought us up to date on the Personal Radio Service (CB radio) and penalties for Rule violations.

NEW Council hats were made available and lots of other materials.

The only problems or grumbles heard were the same old things from our '83 International Convention: "The elevators weren't working!" Next year it's gonna have to be all floor level.

Our hats off to the Rodeway Inn for a job well done! *Ron Mayes, Unit 107*



**REACT Members Aid Fire Victims**

(Continued from cover)

falling beam; he was treated and released at a nearby hospital. No one else was injured and all residents fled to safety.

REACT members from Northwest Suburban 3556, Metro North 4515, and Apollo VII 4534 joined together with officials of the Wheeling Police, American Red Cross, and Northwest Community Services to set up a shelter at the Community Presbyterian Church in Wheeling.

John Collins, President of Northwest Suburban estimates that REACT members put in over 250 volunteer man-hours. Collins states that REACT members did a wide variety of jobs from setting up communications, to security and going to area restaurants to get food for the victims. After learning that most of the victims lost everything Linda Collins (Northwest Suburban) and Nancy Haddon (Apollo VII) started a massive food and clothing drive for the victims. The effort of these two members brought an estimate of \$2500.00 in donations of food, clothing and furniture for the victims.

Editor's Note: John Collins, President of Northwest Suburban REACT, is a newspaper driver for the Chicago Sun-Times, who was seriously stabbed in an incident while trying to help out two visitors who were being assaulted by thugs — see July-August REACTer.

**Public Relations Task Group Report**

The purpose of the Public Relations Task Group, under Board Member Ron McCracken, is "to develop and disseminate to Teams, as economically as possible, material for Public or Organizational information."

This Task Group has forwarded to International the following: a revised REACT brochure, camera ready 25th Anniversary logo, revised cover letter for November as REACT Month, revised FACT SHEET about REACT, revised suggested EDITORIAL for November as REACT month, revised suggested PROCLAMATION for November as REACT month, revised suggested 30-second Public Service Announcement, and revised suggested 60-second Public Service Announcement.

This Task Group is finalizing REACT's proposed SPECIAL POSTMARK which is being applied for through the U.S. Post Office Department in San Antonio, Texas for use during the month of July, 1987 during the REACT 25th International Convention as well as finalizing our proposed request for a special stamp and first day cover presentation in Chicago, Illinois in November 1987 in conjunction with November REACT Month. If you have any sketches for either the postmark or the stamp or detailed information on who to contact and how, forward it to the committee.

If you have suggestions as to the kind of articles which should be made available to your Team and containing the 25th logo, let us know that also.

What could your Team or Council use in the way of Public Relations documents from International? What does your Team or Council have in the way of Public Relations documents that work for your Team or Council? Send these to the committee so we can share them.

P. R. Task Group Leader - Robert M. Riechel  
60 Crestline Avenue  
Daly City, CA 94105-3806

**Jersey Teams in Parley to REACTivate Council**

LAURENCE HARBOR, NJ — The President's Action Committee of New Jersey REACT Teams was formed last January to determine the future of REACT in New Jersey. At a January 13, 1985 meeting, it was unanimously decided to reactivate the New Jersey State REACT Council with some changes in operation from the previous Council. All Teams in New Jersey were advised of the January meeting results and of a February 24 meeting at which officers would be elected and a direction for 1985 would be determined. At the February meeting, the name "New Jersey Council of REACT Teams" was adopted, and the Council adopted the "Policy Guidelines and By-laws for REACT Councils" for use until a tailored set could be drafted. It was also decided to alternate meeting locations around the state to show an interest in developing REACT in all areas.

Jerry Reese was consulted during the planning and start-up stages of the new Council, and he was kept advised of all progress.

**Waterloo Regional Team's Quick Response Helps Save a Life**

WATERLOO, ON — As members of Waterloo Regional REACT were sitting down to enjoy a quiet evening at 8:30 p.m. Sunday, June 2, members became aware of a life-threatening situation.

The Waterloo Regional Police had responded to a report from a landowner of a vehicle driven into his bush and smashed against a tree. In it they found a 34 year-old woman's purse and identification, but no driver.

Upon investigation, they discovered that the woman was very depressed and had strong suicidal tendencies. They called in the Emergency Response Team to begin a sweep search. However, with darkness closing in, they were short of manpower.

One phone call later, members of Waterloo Regional REACT were on their way. Within 20 minutes, eight members were on location and the second sweep began before darkness would totally envelop the bush.

Shortly afterwards, the searchers found the woman lying under a tree, still conscious, but with both wrists slit, awaiting death.

REACT members assisted the police officers in carrying her out through the marsh, with one member wrapping his REACT jacket around her for warmth. Shortly afterwards, the ambulance arrived to take her to much needed hospital attention. As the staff sergeant in charge commented when thanking us prior to driving off, "Tonight we saved a life!" In fact, she would not have survived until the morning.

It was only a few weeks prior to this incident that Waterloo Regional REACT was a guest at the Waterloo Regional Police Awards Night, at which the Team received a Citizen Citation for its "unselfish and outstanding service to the Waterloo Regional Police Force and the community." It was presented to Team President Bill Riddell by James Gray, Chairman of the Regional Municipality of Waterloo.

A few weeks after the search, the Team received a deeply appreciated letter of thanks from Harold Basse, Chief of the Waterloo Regional Police Force. Once again the Team had REACTed positively in a situation WHERE SECONDS COUNTED!

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# REACTing in emergencies

by R.C. Watts,  
Louisville, Kentucky

## Radiological Training

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has deployed the NEW Fundamentals Course for Radiological Monitors (FCRM) of 16 hours. FCRM should be available via your local civil defense office. Your Team will want to take it if you have an arrangement to provide volunteer radiological monitoring. The old course was strictly nuclear war. This new one has been revised to include response to peacetime accidents.

The radiological monitoring home study course was phased out as being no longer needed and replaced by FCRM. Apparently, it was much more popular than FEMA realized. It's now being revised to include the full range of radiological emergencies. Watch for it in 1986!

## Wildfires

Florida, the Western states and West Canada were hard hit by forest, brush and rangeland fires during 1985. Large acreages were burned, buildings destroyed and lives lost. Losses were in the millions and wildlife suffered horribly. That's just in 1985. Vast areas of Australia were devastated a few years ago. A huge forest fire at Peshtigo, Wisconsin, October 8-9, 1871, killed 800 people. Ironically, the Great Chicago Fire occurred at the same time, killing 250-300.

Some wildfires are caused by lightning but many are started by carelessness with a cigarette or open fire. Unfortunately, a few are set by arsonists. You can do your part by being careful. You can also encourage other CBers to use their radio for quickly reporting smoke and fire they might see while driving through rural areas. Suspicious persons or unusual activities in wild areas during times of high fire hazard should be reported as soon as possible.

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## Illinois Team Goes to Bat for Jerry's Kids

QUINCY, IL — Adams County REACT Juniors, Tina McCarthy and Ruth White collected \$206.76 for M.D.A. (Jerry's Kids). The funds consisted of donations made by the public while the two 13 year-old girls stood outside a discount store in their hometown of Quincy, Illinois over the weekend of September 23-24. They presented the money on TV during the Labor Day Telethon.

## Puerto Rico Team Works To Help Hundreds Left Homeless by Flooding

AMASCO, PR — Members of Bonaire REACT Amasco Team 4452 worked with the American Red Cross, Civil Defense and the police to assist hundreds of families who had been left homeless by heavy flooding last May. Estimated damages in the emergency, according to Civil Defense authorities, amounted to more than \$5 million. Several local routes were wiped out and property damage was extensive in Central Igualdad.



EUNICE, LA — Eugene "Bear Hug" Credeur, Acadia REACT Team 4593, is shown at Team's base station. Bear Hug has spent many hours monitoring Channel 9. During the recent Hurricane Danny, he manned his base for 14 hours straight and arranged for residents to take shelter, where necessary, in a nearby church.

## Aircraft Crashes

REACTer articles indicate that members and Teams quite frequently have to report or respond to aircraft crashes. If you witness a crash, you naturally call the police or sheriff. Another call should go to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) at a civilian airport or Base Operations at a military airfield if either is nearby. The priority is to rescue any injured crew or passengers, but others respond to safeguard the site and investigate the cause of the crash. In addition, cargo aircraft may carry hazardous materials and military aircraft may be armed with explosive ordnance or be ferrying nuclear weapons.

If you're already on the scene, render all the assistance you can. Otherwise, don't go to a crash unless asked to do so or your Team has a pre-planned response role with a law enforcement agency, Red Cross or Civil Defense. Too many people sometimes create problems or bystanders may be endangered by the cargo involved. That goes for a lot of other accidents too!

## MacDonald's Honored For Service to REACT International



George and Jacki MacDonald, members of Kettle Moraine REACT Team, of Pewaukee, Wisconsin, were honored at the recent REACT International Convention held in Chicago.

By action of the Board of Directors of REACT International, Inc., the MacDonalds are the first recipients of the Eugene Goebel Award. Gerald H. Reese, REACT's Executive Director (left), is presenting the award to Jacki and George in the above photo.

This Award is considered the highest level of recognition available to REACT members. Established in memory of Eugene Goebel, who served as a volunteer Director for REACT for many years, the inscription states:

"In recognition of their general con-

tribution of time, professional talent and equipment to provide computer services at REACT International conventions, technical support and consultation for more effective implementation of the headquarters computer services.

"This dedicated volunteer service has benefited all REACT members and is therefore worthy of the highest commendation, by action of the REACT International Board of Directors."

George MacDonald is a Systems Analyst for the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company in Milwaukee. Jacki MacDonald is an Analyst-Programmer for Duetz Allis Credit Corp. of Milwaukee.

## Two-Term Maryland Team President Dies

by Stephen S. Feit, Acting Secretary  
Howard County REACT Team 3316

ELKRIDGE, MD — Raymond J. Schneider, President of Howard County REACT (Team 3316) died on July 5, 1985 following a brief illness. At the time of his death, Ray was serving his second term as Team president. He was 67.

To say that Ray was a unique individual would be a gross understatement. His fellow Team members knew him as a conscientious advocate of REACT and its commitment to public service. In addition to being an active CBER and two-term leader of his Team, Ray held an amateur radio license and was a member of the local amateur radio club.

To his many friends on the CB channels, Ray was known as Sparky. On channel nine he was all business as Howard County REACT Unit 9. However, in the real world, Ray had a more impressive title: Rear Admiral Raymond J. Schneider, U.S. Navy, Retired. Ray began his Navy career at The U.S. Naval Academy. He graduated in 1940, ninth in the class. Ray also held a masters degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. At the time of his retirement, in 1975, he was commanding officer of the U.S. Navy Electronic Systems Command (NAVELEX).

Admiral Schneider is survived by his wife Margaret (Howard County REACT Unit 8), ten children and 29 grandchildren.

## Salt Lake Team Again Responds to Call for Communications Aid

SALT LAKE CITY — Salt Lake REACT was again asked to assist in the Annual Days of 47 Parade in Salt Lake City on July 24. This is a parade that commemorates the entering of the Mormon pioneers into the Salt Lake Valley in 1847.

The parade was of two and a half hour duration and covered a route of two miles, from the Brigham Young Monument to Liberty Park. REACT had a unit at each street intersection to monitor the parade and to give any aid that might be needed.

Preceding the parade, the Annual Deseret News 26 Mile Marathon was run. The runners came down Emigration Canyon and terminated at Liberty Park. Volunteers from REACT monitored the route and gave aid to many who were in distress. Especially appreciated were the efforts of REACTer Eugene Reiners whose leadership made this another success event for REACT 269.

## New York Team Joins Crime Protest

LITTLE NECK, NY — Rightly proud as one of many community groups wishing to go on record as being opposed to rising crime were members of Queens County REACT Team 4315. REACT members, who normally patrol the streets at night and respond to emergency calls broadcast on Channel 9, took part in a motorcade as their means of protesting rising crime in the area.



# COLUMN NINE

Where the REACTion is Yours

## How Can We Help?

One of the questions often asked by new or prospective REACTers is that of just what extra activities the local Team provides, other than the friendly gatherings for picnics, etc., that are the hallmark of cooperative teams.

If you are in a primarily rural area, your Team is invaluable; it may be the only virtually free source for search and rescue missions, etc., and may be associated with, or part of, the local sheriff's unit. But how about the largely-urban Teams located in close proximity to funded search and rescue groups, paramedic squads and large police departments? How can your REACT Team effectively become a part of community service under those we-don't-need-you conditions? First, exhibiting good CB emergency manners and procedures is critical to eliminating that "good buddy" and sometimes foul-mouthed CB pater. The authorities must be convinced that you are a breed apart from the pater, and a solid relationship with the local police is an absolute must to destroy that bad CB image. The Team must be policed within itself to totally eliminate poor calls to police, ambulance-chasers and pseudo-police within it.

Next, establish good relations with the area Red Cross, attend their meetings, offer REACT assistance for such mundane efforts as parking control for blood drawings, associated publicity to tie REACT into these efforts. Seek to establish a liaison with Red Cross, Civil Defense, police, sheriff, etc., by culling their ranks for prospective REACT members. You may be surprised at the number of people within these agencies that boast a CB in their cars or homes, but who have associated it with Channel 9 work and who use it to monitor Channel 19 only.

Have your Team leaders check the papers for upcoming events where a crowd may gather but not require the expenditure of off-duty police officers for control, or where such expenditure is wanted but not affordable: Senior Citizens meetings, recreational activities such as football games, prom night at the local high school, walkathons, etc. School officials in particular are anxious to get all the help they can get on a voluntary basis for parking, crossing guards, etc. during a sporting event.

Is there a parade coming up, and would a block-by-block stationing of police along its route bankrupt the city? See the Mayor, offer REACTers to help, save money and put a budgetary feather in the Mayor's cap at the same time. Is there an upcoming Air Show at the airport? How much money could the promoters save by using REACTers for park and crowd control instead of police? How much lower might their insurance rates for a Team of roving walkie-talkie-equipped eyes and ears within the crowd?

If you have a local large park in the area, suggest to the city that REACT might offer volunteers to quietly stroll around it in regular shifts during the weekend. Cancer crusades like races, triathelons need people stationed at strategic points and dangerous intersections. Contact your local Cancer Society office to offer help. Halloween bridge patrols, if not already in existence, in your area, can easily be started. Count the number of bridges that may be launch points for missiles, multiply by overtime police salaries: result will be that the police will welcome you with kisses. Is there a Neighborhood Watch group in your area, and might the addition of walking patrols help? Find out. Remember that the beauty of CB radio is not the distance reachable via the radio, but just the opposite; the convenience of short-range communications within a confined area. And the sheer number of people who can be listening to get aid when it is needed.

In serving your community, you may be competing with the RACES or AREC amateur radio groups who wish to help, too, but remember that 2-meter ham radios are limited only to those who won them and are licensed to operate them. The general public is excluded from monitoring only by virtue of the frequencies used, and the hams are also limited by having to "meet" on a specified frequency... they cannot go off-channel and break in on the nearest conversation to get help, because there may be no such conversation going on. Their biggest asset is the range of their equipment: yours is the availability of numbers of listeners to relay.

Our local Team for year participated in floodwatch, wherein a REACTer was stationed at major floodmarkers on the Mohawk River to monitor the rise and fall of the river as it wandered through the city while low-lying homes awaited evacuation orders. Most public service agencies simply cannot afford the manpower needed to sit all night watching a river! To get involved in such activities, offer your help to the local Civil Defense leaders. How about using your emergency radio skills as a communications liaison? Backup for the local police, auxiliary police, paramedics, ambulance volunteer corps to man their base radio? Send our flyers to all the Senior Citizens, Boy Scouts, Red Cross agencies and offer a free seminar and lecture on CB radio emergency communications.

Almost any agency likes free and interesting speakers for their groups. Don't forget the Kiwanis, the Jaycees, etc. in that list. So even though your Team may be in a largely urban area and not needed for search and rescue, etc., there is still plenty for you to do. And each and every small act of service will beget another act of service. Some of the Teams are hard-pressed to offer the prospective member much more than a sit-at-home-by-the-radio boredom effort, and Team memberships suffer due to it. Your new prospective member wants to do more than sit at home. Give him the opportunity to do more, and he will respond.

Chuck Benson, Publicity Officer  
Schenectady County REACT Team 3030  
Schenectady, NY 12303

## REACT Teams Assist Shriners

FERGUSON, MO — On Sunday, August 11, 1985, Beltline REACT of Illinois and Bellefontaine REACT of Ferguson, MO, assisted the Shriners Moolah Air Patrol with their annual Air Show held in Bethalto, Illinois.

The two Teams worked well together on handling communications between the Air Show officials and also on the parking lots, traffic and crowd control. The weather cooperated and the show went well.

## Too Many REACTers?

Are you receiving duplicate copies of the REACTer? Some REACT members have reported receiving extra copies. If this is true, please send us the label section from the front page and indicate that this is a duplicate. We will then correct our mailing list. Thank you for helping us to reduce REACT's costs.

## REACT Helps Out in Florida Forest Fires

On May 17, 1985 fire broke out all over a two-county area in Northern Florida. The account that follows is based on a report which was submitted by Barbara and Ron Chuyen, of Daytona Beach REACT/CARES, on the extent of REACT's participation in the blaze:

DAYTONA BEACH, FL — At 9:50 p.m. Daytona Beach REACT/CARES central base at Daytona Beach Police Department was activated by Volusia County Civil Defense authorities. Eighteen members, their families and support personnel responded together with a U.S.T. van, two buses, (one with wheel chair lift) and drivers.

In the course of the night REACT members monitored both CB and UHF frequencies at civil defense headquarters to receive and transmit accurate fire information to civil defense authorities and to the general public via CB and public radio and fires spread rapidly and jumped to new areas. In addition motorists were notified which highways were closed by fire or smoke and what alternate routes were available.

Arrangements were made with restaurants by REACT/CARES for donations of food and coffee for CB and communications workers and were delivered by REACT members.

At 11 p.m. U.S.T. buses with REACT members aboard were sent to the Emergency Operations Center in the New Smyrna Beach fire area for evacuation standby. REACT units remained on CB Channel 9 and 19 continuously during the night to pass on motoring information due to heavy smoke and fire on highways.

Daytona Beach REACT/CARES, West Volusia REACT, and Halifax Area REACT were notified that the Damage Assessment Team was being activated early Saturday morning, May 18. 22 Daytona Beach REACT/CARES members responded and were joined by three West Volusia REACT members and civilian support personnel over the three days of active duty for damage assessment of the fire areas which stretched out over three days due to reflaring of fires and inability to enter areas still burning.

In addition to Damage Assessment, one Daytona Beach REACT member who is an RN opened and manned the Tomoka Elementary School Evacuation shelter. Other members participated in food distribution including that to fire fighters and forestry workers.

A total of 25 REACT volunteers served 434 hours of active duty in addition to radio monitoring time. We were joined by approximately 17 civilian volunteers.



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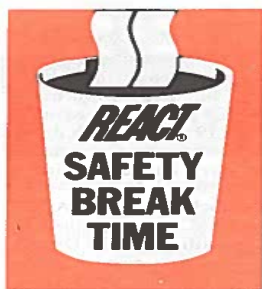
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## REACT SAFETY BREAK REPORT

### REACT Promotes Safety Break

ALBERT LEA, MN — Southern Minnesota Albert Lea REACT, Inc. offered a Safety Break for nearly 8,500 travelers over the Fourth of July holiday.

The group served free refreshments to approximately 8,326 people who stopped at the Minnesota Information Center on I-35 south of Albert Lea during an 80-hour period to encourage motorists to stop and rest for safety's sake.

Motorists from 43 states plus the District of Columbia, as well as four provinces of Canada and nine foreign countries, were served.

Coffee was donated by the City of Albert Lea and area merchants and service clubs donated other refreshments. Members of REACT served refreshments from 10:30 a.m. Thursday to 6:00 p.m. Sunday.

QUINCY, IL — Adams County REACT held their annual Safety Break over the Labor Day Weekend at the Junction of Illinois Highways 24 and 96.

Although this is a rural area, with only two-lane highways serving it, Adams County REACT has had success with their Break every year. This year, they served approximately 200 travelers, with visitors from as far away as Oxford, England and Houston, Texas. They have been visited, in previous years by travelers from Australia, Poland, Niger, West Africa, California, and Florida.

The Team has decided to attempt a second Safety Break next year, holding an additional one over Memorial Day Weekend.

To the Editor:

Regarding the Cadillac, Michigan REACT Team, it has been years since we traveled on a holiday, but on Labor Day of this year we went to Douglas, Michigan to see my mother-in-law.

On the way home, just before dark, we lost a bolt out of our alternator. We were lucky to be near the Rest Station. Your REACT Team was there and it was nice to get some refreshments, but most of all it was nice to have nice caring people to talk to. One of the Team just happened to have a box of miscellaneous nuts and bolts in his trunk and they found just what we needed to fix our car and get us home.

The thought of spending the night in the rest area was not making me feel too good. And at 8 p.m. Labor Day evening, I am sure we would not have found a repair person who would have come to the rest area and we could not have driven on without lights.

This is the first I have even heard of the REACT Teams and I just wanted to let you know they were appreciated.

Sincerely,

Donna Mosher  
Traverse City, Michigan

HAVERHILL, MA — On Labor Day, Monday September 2, The New Rescue 8, Inc., REACT Team 4508 held its sixth annual Highway Awake Break. The Team set up at the Northbound Rest Area Rte. 495 in Haverhill and the Southbound Rest Area Rte 495 in Merrimack. Between 8 am and 5 pm a total of 114 dozen donuts, 28 pounds of coffee, and 5 gallons of juice syrup was used up. The Team considered the day a very successful one.



CEDAR RAPIDS, IA — "That looks good," says traveler Ed Willits as Gene Akers, of Hawkeye REACT Team 3038, hands him a cup of

orange drink. The two were snapped at Team sponsored Safety Break held over the Memorial Day weekend.

## Community Service Committee Report

by Edward W.N. (Ned) Smith, Member REACT International Board of Directors and Director, Community Service Committee

### Coordination Guidelines Being Distributed

REACT Forum Pamphlet COM-2, *The REACT/Amateur Coordination Guidelines*, proposed by the REACT Forum in July 1984, has been distributed to all REACT Teams with the September Team mailing.

The purpose of the Guidelines is to suggest to Teams and Councils a structure and approach for developing a good working relationship between REACT Teams and Councils and Amateur Radio Operators at the local and state levels.

As stated in the Guidelines, it will take time to build strong working relationships with the Amateur Radio community. However, it has been proven that these relationships can be built and, when done so, are very valuable to both radio organizations and the public at large.

Point (9) of the Guidelines suggests that a "piece of traffic" should be initiated in all cases of amateur/REACT interaction. It is recommended that this message be sent as a "book of 4" (which means the same message gets sent to four different people) to the following:

- The ARRL's Section Emergency Coordinator for the area.
- The ARRL's Section Manager for the area.
- The President of the REACT Council for the area.
- The REACT Communications Task Group Leader.

The purpose of this is twofold: first, to practice the process of passing REACT initiated messages through the ARRL's National Traffic System ("NTS") and, second, to help educate amateurs along the traffic route that there are many cases where REACT and amateur groups work together.

With the restructuring of the national level of REACT the position of Forum Communications Task Group Leader no longer exists as in the past. Therefore, the Community Services Committee of REACT International suggests that you send a copy of the piece of traffic to the Sub-Committee Group Leader for this area:

Fred Breiding/KAONTE  
211 Hereford Avenue  
Ferguson, MO 63135  
(314) 524-0834

### REACT/Amateur Activity Reports Solicited

The Community Services Committee is developing a questionnaire to study the current levels of cooperation and working relationships between REACT Teams and Amateur Radio groups, as well as to determine how many REACT Team members are also licensed radio amateurs.

If you are a licensed radio amateur, or your REACT Team works with local amateurs, you are requested to write to Fred Breiding/KAONTE (at the above address) with reports on your amateur activities. Special interests include numbers of amateurs in the Team, what types of cooperation exist, what use habits are followed, what equipment is used, and any use of computers and/or pocket radio.



### NORTHWEST REACT Team 2867 Supports Jerry Lewis' Kids

ALOHA, OR — Presenting a check for \$1,007.68, on behalf of Unit #1 Walt Kummer, to Jerry Lewis Telethon Hostess, Dana Garret, left to right are President Louis Brechley, Unit #1 Walt Kummer, and Edward William Johnston, Team Treasurer. Telethon was held at the Western-Benson Hotel, Portland, Oregon, Sept. 2, 1985. Donation was from contributions of two Safety Breaks out of nine that NORTHWEST REACT held this summer at the Baldock Rest Area, Wilsonville, Oregon. We served over 27,954 people.

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## SO. CAL. TEAMS GIVE TRAFFIC INFO: RECEIVE FREE REACT PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANAHEIM, CA — Since early this year many Teams in the Southern California REACT Council have been providing details on freeway conditions in the Los Angeles area to L.A. Network. This is a traffic information gathering organization which provides reports to about a dozen AM and FM broadcast stations in metropolitan Los Angeles. They have been supplied with a GMRS radio by which similarly equipped REACT members can contact them to report various freeway situations.

L.A. Network was particularly appreciative of REACT members ability to provide details not normally heard by listening to scanners, such as extent of traffic backup, and verifying current status of previously reported incidents. Those members without GMRS are able to call by telephone, and a plan is currently being worked on to allow access for REACT amateurs.

A thirty second PSA tape promoting REACT membership was made by famous television weatherman and unique personality Dr. George Fischbeck of KABC-TV. This is run by L.A. Network on several Los Angeles radio stations in return for the information that REACT supplies. People are invited to call a special number (714) 533-INFO where details on REACT are given and referral is made to an appropriate local Team. Results of the arrangements have been mutually beneficial.

## REACTivated Council Has Full Schedule in New Jersey

LAURENCE HARBOR, NJ — The newly reorganized New Jersey Council of REACT Teams has been successful in promoting REACT by contacting former REACT Teams and members and by encouraging Teams to exchange ideas and work together. For example, during the 1985 Memorial Day Safety Break, Mcguire Alert REACT Team 2797 was assisted by Garden State REACT Team C-242 with their loan of a camper and some members for the 72-hour period.

Somerset County REACT Team 4259 was assisted by their Memorial Day Safety Break by members from the Old Bridge P.A.C.E.R.S. REACT Team 4601.

During the same weekend, Citizens REACT of South Jersey held a Safety Break near Vineland, NJ. They were visited by members of Mcguire Alert REACT Team and Old Bridge P.A.C.E.R.S. REACT.

On June 23, 1985, Mcguire Alert REACT Team sponsored a Search and Rescue Session at the New Lisbon Developmental Center in New Lisbon, NJ.

Dave Barnard, a member of Mcguire Alert REACT Team and employee of the New Lisbon Developmental Center, conducted a classroom seminar and followed with some field exercises. A winter session is planned, focusing more on the field exercise portion of Search and Rescue. Members from five Teams were present.

Other REACT Team interaction has been displayed through attendance at Council meetings and Teams asking other Team's members to participate in meetings and events.

The New Jersey Council of REACT Teams is successful because we have leadership that cares about REACT and other REACT Teams and maintains communications with other Teams. The enthusiasm is spreading to other Team members in the state.

## REACT Team Blooms in California Desert

TWENTY-NINE PALMS, CA — Morongo Basin REACT rated a nice story in the local newspaper, *The Desert Trail*. The Team was saluted for its community service projects, especially its Wake Break program. The Team's area covers from Morongo Valley to the Colorado River (100 miles), and is bordered by Joshua Tree National Monument on the South and Landers to Amboy on the North. This is the high desert area of Southern California. The population is widely scattered.

Our safety breaks are held 25 miles east of the last town, 29 Palms, on a very desolate section of SR 62. Says Team Public Relations Chairperson Shelley Houston, "This area is frequently traveled by people from the Los Angeles-Orange County area en route to the Colorado River.

"We had to clear a section of desert to make a pullout (permits were secured through BLM). We had to use generators for electricity and have our water hauled in as there are no services available in the area.

"The most used items at our safety break are the portable porta-johns that we get donated and have hauled out to our location. We start from scratch and through diligence and a good deal of hard work, we have turned a desolate section of highway into a safe stop for tired travelers over a long weekend."

## "Thank You's" Given for Help to REACT Team

BLOOMINGTON, MN — Gopher State REACT and the motoring public were grateful to donors (of food and supplies for the Memorial and Labor Day weekends) for their part in making the coffee breaks a great success.

The Minnesota Departments of Transportation and Public Safety were most helpful in providing rest areas, as well as coffee break signs and coffee cups — and we thank them.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Prepared by Rick Munton, REACT International Board of Directors and Director of Awards and Development Committees

### Awards Committee Report

REACT International, Inc. has offered an Awards Program sponsored by K-40 Antennas for the past several years to you the membership. Unfortunately, very few Teams have participated in this program, which not only recognizes the invaluable work performed by REACT Councils, Teams and their members, but provides cash awards which I am sure you can all use. It also offers the opportunity for a REACT member to attend the annual REACT Convention and have a major portion of their expenses paid for by K-40.

I urge every Team to participate in this program and submit their nominations for those members who work so very hard for your communities. A new nomination form is being sent within your 1986 REACT renewal papers. Please complete this with the required information and return it to Mr. Lee White, Task Group Chairman, 4643 W. 162nd Street, Lawndale, CA 90260.

### Development Committee Report

As was stated in your last issue of the REACTer, the Development Committee is charged with developing fundraising programs for REACT International and its Teams. Materials sold through REACT Headquarters fall under our responsibility. Thus, we are analyzing the materials sold as well as seeking new products and materials for you. We would like to hear from you on the type of products that are not now offered by REACT which you would be interested in as well as your opinions on those already offered. These comments should be directed toward Jim Bear, Task Group Chairman, P.O. Box 126, Lancaster, PA 17603.

Our committee is also developing a how-to-manual for Teams who wish to seek contributions from foundations for specific grants. We anticipate that this manual should be completed and ready for the Board of Director's approval before its meeting in February, 1986. This manual, as well as those already completed by the FORUM, would either have to wait for the available funds to provide it to you the membership or could be sold through REACT Headquarters as any other supply item. Your input on this type of proposal is also appreciated. We are also looking for some other members for this committee which is solely comprised of Jim Bear and myself. For those wishing to contribute, please write to either Jim or myself.

### News From the Fourth of July

DRAYTON PLAINS, MI — Over the Fourth of July weekend, Oakland County REACT Team C238 once again extended ourselves to work and make a success of the Coffee Break. We worked for five days and enjoyed it. Many of our members (and members to be) joined in and we served our public — and they appreciated it. If you don't think so, watch people's faces while working the Labor Day Coffee Break. You'll see a "Thank You" written on almost every-

one's face whether we give them coffee or orange drink or just a smile.

If you weren't a part of the last Break, be sure to schedule yourself to work over Labor Day.

Those who worked included Jim and Linda Dickerson, Shannon and Heather Dickerson, Al Hamilton, Lynda Morgan, Carl Moodt, Tom and Tina Moyle, Corey and Rick Olsen, Keith and Sandy Osinski, Whayman Reed, Tim Rochon, Dale Schelske, Janie Schultz, John Suarez, Matt Veen, Losi Vitale and mother, and Mel Wright.

### Delta 191 Individual DCR Members Help at Crash; Team Placed on Standby by Authorities

DALLAS, TX — When Delta Flight 191 crashed into the northern part of Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport on 1805 hours, Friday, August 2, a half-dozen DCR members were projected into an operation which no one can really prepare for. The gruesome statistics of this crash were well reported, so this story is about the DCR members who lent a hand.

DCR Vice President Bob Hitch (2/14) and Treasurer Chuck Thompson (4/44) learned of the crash at about 1845 hours, and being unable to reach President Terry Allen (1/23) by telephone, immediately called the Dallas Office of Emergency Preparedness and the Dallas Fire Department and offered to assist if needed. Both organizations were appreciative of the offer, but indicated that sufficient assistance was already either on hand or enroute.

In addition, Chuck called Training Officer Dale Bidy (103) and asked him to report to REACT Central. At Central, he monitored both Channel 9 and the GMRS system, and handled traffic over the Red Cross frequency.

By this time, radio reports over Dallas RACES (146.88 MHz) and GMRS indicated that, with the limited number of survivors there were already too many volunteers on the scene, and additional volunteers were requested to stay away.

Some DCR members, however, were involved. Terry was homeward bound over State Highway 114, not far from the crash site, when it happened. When he got to the scene, he pulled onto the main D-FW central access roadway and assisted a police officer operate a roadblock at North Airfield Drive and International Parkway. Later, he went to the crash site and helped with recovery.

Gene Cootes (151), Bert Martin

(105), James Cummings (167), and Joe Ackerman (158) all reported to duty with the Dallas Red Cross Disaster Services Team, where Bert is Assistant County Leader and Gene is an assistant Sector Leader. All worked at the temporary morgue, mostly operating the Red Cross service vehicles. For the next several weeks, both Joe and Gene worked in the Red Cross effort to assist family members who were flown to Dallas by Delta Airlines.

Sean Leonard (169) reported to the site as a member of the North Texas Search and Rescue Team, and assisted with body recovery. Steve Ross (7/173), who lives not far from the crash site, also reported to D-FW, but was turned away at the roadblock where Terry was working, and got away before Terry spotted him (to let him in).

Ellen Allen (10/155) was called by Terry shortly after the crash, and she went from home in Euless, just west of the Airport, to the crash site. She initially helped with recovery, and then was recruited by Dallas County Medical Examiner Dr. Charles Petty to assist the ME's office with identification. Ellen has done graduate-level work in forensic medicine, including study at Parkland and the Medical Examiner's office, and was qualified to help the ME in the difficult identification process. She worked 31 hours on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday afternoon. After helping to sort personal effects, she was put to work administering the identification process, helping to insure that all processing steps were done with each victim.

Although DCR was not needed at this first-ever aircraft disaster at D/FW, we are proud of those individuals who, in other capacities, lent a hand.



## REACT Monitor Saves Heart Attack Victim

The following report was submitted by Don Bessler, President, Gateway Area REACT, and we are proud to print it because it tells so clearly how REACT performs life-saving work at a moment's notice.

ST. LOUIS — We monitor Channel 9 to help in any way we can. Often we report accident calls to the authorities or direct a driver who has a seriously-ill person in the car to the nearest medical help. We then wonder if our actions helped save a life. Generally, we never know the outcome of a call, but on April 1 Bluford Smith, Gateway Area REACT Unit 6, knew he had saved a man's life.

Bluford Smith monitors the emergency Channel 9 late at night from his room in the Veterans Hospital Nursing Home. At 2:30 a.m. Bluford took a call from Lucy Tucker that her husband had just had a heart attack and had stopped breathing. Lucy was on Illinois Highway 3 just south of Decatur. Bluford talked Lucy through the steps of CPR as she performed on her husband laying outside the car on the ground. As Lucy was getting her husband on the ground, Bluford notified the Highway Patrol of the situation in order to get help on the way. Before the paramedics and police arrived on the scene, Lucy came back to the radio and said "He's breathing — he's breathing." When the paramedics and police arrived, Mr. Tucker was resting comfortably against a tree. The paramedics took him to the hospital and now he is



home — thanks to Bluford Smith, Gateway Area REACT Unit 6 for being there when needed.

The following letter was sent to Gateway Area REACT about the above incident.

*"My sister Lucy Tucker has asked me to write this for her to thank 'Smitty' for helping to save her husband's life. Smitty, Unit 6, took her to Channel 6 and kept telling my sister what to do and how to do it. He also called the Highway Patrol. He kept encouraging her to stay calm and continue the CPR. By the time the Highway Patrol arrived on the scene, her husband was sitting and breathing on his own. Thanks to Smitty Unit 6, my sister's husband is alive today. Enclosed is some money for a plaque for Smitty to show our thanks and appreciation."*

Mrs. Viola Youngblood  
(Sister of Lucy Tucker)

*Chasanow sentenced him to three years in the Division of Corrections and suspended all but time served. The defendant served 123 days in the County Detention Center. The defendant was also placed on a period of two years of supervised probation. As a result of his conviction for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol he will in all likelihood lose his privilege to drive a motor vehicle on the highway of Maryland.*

*Without your diligent efforts in notifying the police of the defendant's reckless driving on February 16, 1985, the defendant might very well have escaped the arm of justice. We need more people like you to aid us in removing individuals like Mr. Strong from our streets and highways.*

*I know I speak for Officer Chaney and Officer Speakes of the Prince George's County Police Department in thanking you for your valued assistance in this case. My only regret is that I did not have the opportunity of meeting the both of you and thanking you in person.*

*Thanking you again for your help in this case, I remain,  
Very Truly Yours,  
A.T. (Tom) Krehely, Jr.  
Assistant State's Attorney  
Upper Marlboro, MD*

BOGALUSA, LA — Labor Day, normally a holiday for most of us, turned out to be anything but that for members of Washington Parish REACT as they turned out en masse to help out in the emergency as Hurricane Elena struck the Louisiana Coast. According to Team Public Information Officer David Fuller, the nine members of the Team went on alert the Sunday preceding the storm and went on standby. Monitoring throughout the storm and for several days afterwards, members provided communications between three area shelters and the Red Cross. No one was injured during the crisis although the damage mounted into the millions as power lines and trees were downed and windows were smashed like confetti. For five days, power was out and the Team went on emergency battery power. Throughout the emergency, Team members performed with professional courtesy and service, in typical REACT fashion.

## Herndon REACT Cruises Potomac with U.S. Coast Guard

VIENNA, VA — On June 29, 1985 Herndon REACT Team members were invited guests of BMC Wayne A. Stacey, skipper of the United States Coast Guard Cutter *Capstan* for a cruise up the Potomac River. Members of Herndon REACT who attended were, Cliff Reuter, A.E. Brooker, Rick Rohmann, Linda Rohmann, Barbara Rohmann, Bob Guest, Lee Williams, Sarah Leach, Jim Maccue, Howard Wilder, John Webster, Yvonne Trout, Evelyn and Bob Baird.

Chief Stacey and his crew took us up the Potomac River just a short distance from Mt. Vernon, Virginia. The ride lasted approximately two hours and 15 minutes and during that time, Chief Stacey briefed members on the ship's overall operation from the pilot house, while others were scattered fore and aft viewing and enjoying the beautiful scenery. Those who were brave took turns at the helm.

One of the highlights was the spotting of an osprey bird nest top of a buoy with two of its offspring. The skipper brought the ship close to the buoy for those who were eager to take close up pictures. Still another highlight, Chief Stacey made contact with a small aircraft by radio and requested he pass over the ship, allowing us another chance to take pictures. The pilot of the aircraft agreed and made two passes over the ship. On our return trip to base, Chief Stacey noticed a small boat tied to a buoy with two occupants aboard. Thinking they might need help, we immediately headed in their direction. Chief Stacy handed the wheel to none other than our own Unit 27 while he headed starboard with a bull horn. Unit 27 manipulated the ship like he knew what he was doing while the Chief read the riot act to the young couple tied to the buoy and not in distress. The boat was cut loose immediately by the occupant and was on his way.

Our nautical ride was now coming to an end as we headed back to our home port. From favorable comments received from our members, one had the impression that a good time was had by all.

## 80 Celebrate with Golden Gate At Annual "Associates Day" Picnic

by Julian L. Kaufman, Public Relations REACT of the Golden Gate

SAN BRUNO, CA — On August 11, 1985, Golden Gate REACT held its annual Associate's Day and Picnic at Coyote Point Park.

Approximately 80 happy people converged on the group picnic area under beautiful, blue skies and a warm sun to eat some delicious food prepared by Board Member Bob Anderson and his able crew.

President Robert Riechel was the M.C. for the day. Under his able hand all the prizes were distributed and recorded, all were made welcome, and coordination of the day's events went smoothly.

Fran Schumacher, our Associate Director, worked long and hard in planning the games and events which culminated in such a fun day. Free bingo was offered with interesting prizes for the winners. This was by far the most popular event the Team has sponsored. Youngsters from SAFE RIDES, sponsored by the Exploring Division of the Boy Scouts of America and the San Mateo County DUI Project, ran away with the water filled balloon toss.

SAFE RIDES Director JoAnne Sanzeri, presented awards to a number of REACT members who have donated their time, money and efforts to support the group.

Our annual fund raising was done through the sale of raffle tickets. Isadore Betz, our Sgt.-At-Arms, was ticket coordinator. Rose Gagliardo, wife of Vincent Gagliardo, current board member and Past President, with 56 books sold, was the seller of the most books. Prizes included \$500 bond or a microwave oven, \$100 cash, \$50 cash, a radio donated by Radio Shack and other merchandise.

A special guest was past Public Relations Officer of the San Francisco Division of the California Highway Patrol, Fred Bowe. We were most grateful to him for boosting REACT by participating in the sale of raffle books.

## The Tate Family

Do you know how many members of the TATE family belong to your Team?

There is old man DIC TATE who wants to run everything while Uncle RO TATE tries to change everything.

Their sister AGI TATE stirs up plenty of trouble with help from her sister IRRI TATE.

Whenever a new project is suggested, HESI TATE and his wife VEGI TATE want to wait until next year.

Then there is IMI TATE who wants the group to be like all others.


DEVAS TATE provides the voice of doom, while POTEN TATE wants to be a big shot.

But not all members of the family are bad. Brother FACILI TATE is quite helpful and a delightful, happy member is Miss FELICI TATE.

Cousins COGI TATE and MEDI TATE always think things over and lend a helpful, steady hand.

Of course, there is the black sheep of the family, AMPU TATE who has completely cut himself off from the rest of the family.

From "Break 9," Texas State REACT Council

**REMEMBER**  
  
**DUES are DUE**

## Correction of the \$25,000 Accident Insurance Policy

The following language is to be noted by insured REACT members.

The hazards against which insurance is granted under this policy are:

All those to which the Insured may be exposed while on the duty of, or participating in an organized event, activity, or special emergency, under the direction or sponsorship of the Policyholder (REACT International) or its local Member Team, including travel to and from such events or activities.

This policy has an anniversary date of May 1st and is available at \$5.00 per individual member. Complete information will be provided to all members in a timely manner, or write REACT International.

## REACT Calendar of Events

November 1985	
2	Texas State Council Meeting—Odessa
8-10	Indiana State Convention
9	Central W. Texas Area II Council Meeting
9	E. Texas Area Council Meeting
16	S. Texas Area Council Meeting
16	Texas Area V Council Meeting
16	Texas Panhandle Area Council
December 1985	
2	REACTer Deadline—Jan.-Feb. 1986 Issue
	July 1986
21-24	1986 REACT International Convention, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

## To The Editor:

Enclosed is a copy of a Letter of Appreciation received by Jerry Nowlin, a Team member, from the Office of the Prince George's County States Attorney. The letter is in regard to his assistance in apprehending an intoxicated driver resulting in the driver's ultimate conviction.

Jerry Nowlin is a new member of our Team and our Team's first "mobile" REACT member. At his own expense, primarily during severe weather conditions (snow, ice storms, flooding conditions, etc.) he patrols our community areas and highways in his four-wheel drive vehicle, assisting stranded motorists and flares, calling for assistance if the motorist does not have a CB radio, and obtaining desperately needed services for motorists when local authorities cannot immediately respond. He has been credited for saving at least one entire family from almost certain severe illness, when their car stalled during sub-zero temperatures in icy conditions last winter (the police had a substantial backlog of calls). Jerry kept them warm in his car until the police arrived.

The Maryland State React Council has encouraged its Teams to be especially diligent for drunk driver reports on Channel 9 and has organized inter-Team cooperation in rendering assistance on these types of calls. The Maryland State Police, represented by First Lieutenant Raymond Cotton, an honorary MSRC member, attends each of our Council meetings, exchanges information and offers police cooperation and coordination to MSRC in our mutual effort to rid the roads of drunk drivers. These efforts have produced significant results as well as recognition of REACT in the State of Maryland.

Yours in REACT,  
Edwin J. Lasner, President  
Anne Arundel County REACT  
Severn, MD

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Nowlin:

The defendant in the above-referenced case pled guilty to Possession of Marijuana with intent to Distribute (a felony) and Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol on June 19, 1985 in the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland. The Honorable Judge



## The FCC and You

By Flora Stewart, Public Service Representative, Federal Communications Commission  
Presented at 1985 REACT International Convention

The Public Service Program of the Field Operations Bureau was created to provide the public, and all spectrum users with information about FCC's policies and regulations, and to respond to complaints and inquiries.

That program is staffed by Public Service Specialists who provide solutions to problems by:

1. Meeting public demand for information to assist in resolving interference complaints.
  2. Assisting the public in understanding interference problems and Commission Rules, Notices of Inquiry and other Commission actions.
  3. Providing feedback information from the public to the Commission.
- In addition to responding to interference complaints, the Public Service Specialists maintain contact with congressional offices, industry representatives, local government and local citizen groups. Public contacts may involve media appearances, speeches, interviews, participation in specialized workshops or panels.

As a result of these contacts, information is fed back to the Commission for consideration as public needs and trends indicate that policies or procedures need changing.

It was in 1974, when the Federal Communications Commission was issuing about 30,000 CB licenses a month, that the Public Service Program was created. That program has grown until today there are from one to three Public Service Specialists in each of the Commission's District offices.

The program started out concentrating on citizens band complaints and inquiries. FCC Rules were not understood. People with TVI always thought that the nearest radio operator was at fault. On the other hand, many radio operators thought that a license gave them the right to transmit without any consideration to the environment in which they were operating.

In situations such as this, the first task was to establish communication between the subject and the complainant.

In a typical case, the public's first point of contact is with the Public Service Specialist in the Field Office. At this time the caller is informed about the procedure to be followed in resolving the interference problem. Details of the interference complaint are diagnosed to determine if the cause could be attributed to citizens band transmissions. In addition, the complainant is told about the part that an adequate antenna and a high-pass filter plays in receiving an interference free signal. If the source of the interference appears to be a CB station, a letter is sent to the radio operator informing him of the complaint outlining a mandatory testing procedure which will afford him an opportunity to demonstrate interference free television reception in his own home, to the complainant. This demonstration is an acceptable demonstration of the fact that licensee is not blanket reception, emitting spurious signals or excessive harmonics.

Each party to the complaint is provided with an informative handbook which outlines their responsibilities. The radio operator is provided with technical instructions to check his radio transmissions and self help remedies for filtering are suggested for both parties.

This procedure has proved to resolve the normal case. One gauge of its effectiveness is the decrease in the number of CB complaints. Statistics show that since 1980 the number of complaints have decreased steadily.

While communication and understanding can help those responsible persons who are willing to cooperate, it cannot erase the interference problem. Citizens Band transmissions still are a major cause of television interference reported to the Commission. Most of these cases involve the illegal use of amplifiers, resulting in over-power operation or out of band operations.

Since the CB rules were changed, many radio operators believed that the Commission did away with CB rules. This is not so. The only rules that have been deleted are those requiring individual station licenses, requiring identification and requiring that a CB operator must be 18 years old. All other rules are in full force and in effect.

Use of a power amplifier or modified equipment voids operating authority and this causes the station to be considered unlicensed.

In the Commission's latest bulletin on CB licenses, the question is asked: "Is the FCC abandoning the CB Radio Service?" The answer is, "No." The FCC will continue to assess fines of up to \$2,000 against violators as the primary method of enforcing CB rules. Cease and desist orders may be issued and enforced. Out of band or over power violations will now be automatically treated as direct violations of the Communications Act, which could result in fines or criminal prosecution."

The Commission will provide the radio operator every opportunity to respond to a complaint and present his response to an allegation of rule violation. However, should there be lack of cooperation and a refusal to follow outlined procedures, the Commission will begin a forfeiture procedure which could, if carried to the extreme, end in the Department of Justice.

You are invited to contact the District Office in your area should you need information or assistance.

The only way your needs can be met is if you let us know what they are. When you call you must be prepared to present the Commission representative with documented evidence.

In other services effective enforcement of interference has been achieved when all information is funneled into a central license who is responsible for verifying the information for completeness before contacting the Commission.

## REACTing

### in emergencies

by R.C. Watts,  
Louisville, Kentucky

#### CATV

A color TV set in or near the radio shack is useful to keep an eye on the weather. Connected to Cable TV, it becomes a real weather watch tool. In the vicinity of National Weather Service forecast offices with weather radar, some local cable systems carry the radar picture. That allows direct viewing of squall lines, thunderstorm cells, etc., by subscribers. The computerized color system shows intensity and location of storms, for one's own information as well as for alerting others. The radar picture is usually on 24 hours a day rather than the brief views shown on a local TV station's news broadcast. Only 18 minutes a day, at the most, is devoted to weather information on TV broadcasting stations.

THE WEATHER CHANNEL is another 24-hour service carried by many cable



NEW YORK CITY — Part of the throng of 20,000 bikers who swamped lower Manhattan, the starting point for the World's Largest Bike Riding event. Richmond County REACT 3335, Staten Island, NY; Central Nassau County REACT C-47, Westbury, L.I., NY; Brooklyn Gateway REACT 4567, Brooklyn, NY; Edison Raritan Bay Area REACT 2587, Woodbridge, NJ; Suffolk County REACT 2371, Brentwood, L.I., NY; Queens County REACT 4315, NY; Bayshore REACT 4583, NJ; and Monmouth County REACT 3732, Long Branch, NJ; all participated. A total of 119 volunteers with 45 vehicles covering from Brooklyn into Staten Island worked the event beginning at 8:00 a.m. and ending at 8:00 p.m.

This poem was written by Dickie George, President, Texas Area V REACT Council, for its first Annual Amateur Talent Show in Belton, Texas, and won the grand prize.

## REACT Volunteers

by Dickie George

"Break Channel 9" is a seldom heard cry,  
But when it is spoken, we need to be nigh.  
There's a call for help from someone out there,  
Stranded, or hurt, or somehow needing care.

REACT Volunteers are those standing by  
To help the people who made the cry.  
If it's to relay a message or call for assistance,  
We need to be there and be consistent.

To some, CB radios are used for fun.  
But, to a REACTer, it's number one.  
We take our volunteering seriously,  
And send help to motorists immediately.

Many hours are spent by a quiet radio,  
But when we're needed, we're ready to go.  
Helping others is what it's all about,  
And loving REACT is without a doubt.

Besides monitoring CB Channel "9,"  
We offer our services all the time.  
We hold Safety Breaks for travelers afar,  
Help with walk-a-thons, rodeos, and more.

Our community is important to us, yes, indeed.  
As we help others anyway we can, you see.  
REACT is very important to all who know  
About our group, and we want to show

That REACT is a special group of folk,  
Who give of their time to help, no joke.  
When we give directions or save a life,  
The rewards are greater, and so is our life.

So, to all you REACTers who share in this,  
You are appreciated — in giving this gift.  
We share a common bond known by few,  
REACT is working together — me and you.

systems across the U.S.A. It features on-camera meteorologists, forecasts, travel weather, access to all 113 weather radars and even some overseas weather information. All National Weather Service advisories, watches and warnings are aired. Via WEATHER STAR® receivers at each cable system, local weather conditions, forecasts and warnings are addressed directly to local subscribers. THE WEATHER CHANNEL is relayed by the RCA Satcom III R satellite so reception is possible on your own TVRO "satellite dish."

Many local cable systems provide a warning override allowing a local government to preempt audio on all channels at any time to issue warnings, not necessarily weather related, to the public. Some local governments also have access to both audio and video for emergency broadcasts. That's not all! Anyone, REACT Teams included, may use CATV "community bulletin boards" and public access channels for announcements, PR programs, etc. Check it out!



## Cobra 29LTD . . . still the King of the Road . . .

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