



# the REACTer

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1988

Official Publication of REACT International, Inc. (Radio Emergency Associated Communications Teams)



## REACT International

242 Cleveland • Wichita, Kansas 67214

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## In This Issue . . .

- 1987 a Year of React Progress
- Shakespeare Big Stick Membership Drive Winners
- K-40 Third Quarter Award Winners
- Tips on Base Antennas
- Build a Low-cost Base Antenna
- REACT Tax Return Benefits

# OPERATION LIFESAVER NEWS



Photo by Paul Brown

Brownwood REACT #C446 recently kicked off their involvement with Operation Lifesaver by teaming up with their local Jaycees and starting a combined publicity and education campaign.

The Operation Lifesaver railroad crossing is made from plastic pipe, automotive/trailer lights, and the sign is painted.

They intend to use this as an attention-

getter in their campaign. Brownwood, Texas, is a rail town serviced by Santa Fe "Paul Brown" of the *Brownwood Bulletin*.

Pictured above (left to right on the engine): Mike Starett, #C446's 1988 President; James Hallum, Member of #C446. In front (left to right): Wanda Sorbess, Member of #C446; George Bell, Special Agent, Santa Fe Railroad; Albert Moore, Member of #C446.

## REACT Members — HAVE YOU RENEWED?

If not, this will be the last issue of the *REACTer* you will receive. February 29 is the last day for undecided Members to renew without interruption of receiving the *REACTer*. After this date you may miss the March/April issue.

You don't want to miss the next issue. It will contain pages of new products shown at the Winter CES Show.

Additionally, more *Technical Tips* will be included. So don't miss out . . . renew TODAY with your Team and insist they get your renewal into REACT International Headquarters by February 29.

### the REACTer

January/February 1988 Vol. 22 No. 1

The *REACTer* is the official publication of REACT International, Inc.—a non-profit 501(c)(3) public service organization. REACT stands for Radio Emergency Associated Communications Teams. This publication is provided to our dues-paying members (one per household) and other interested parties. It is published six (6) times yearly. Average distribution for 1986 was 13,000 copies with 95% USA and the remainder to Canada, Venezuela, United Kingdom, Australia and U.S. territories. Ronald O. Mayes, General Manager and Editor Offices: REACT International, Inc., 242 Cleveland, Wichita, Kansas 67214 USA (316) 263-2100. Entire contents copyright © 1987. Authorized REACT Councils and Teams may reproduce articles in entirety, giving proper credit. *REACTer* assumes no responsibility for submitted articles, manuscripts, photographs, or drawings; such items cannot be returned. Please allow six weeks for change of address and delivery of first issue.

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## ON THE COVER

REACT was built on monitoring CB radio for emergency calls. Today this is the activity practiced by 99% of our Teams according to our Team survey results.

Pictured is a REACT Member monitoring Channel 9 and taking calls during snowy weather. Equipment pictured includes Cobra 2000 base, scanner, GMRS hand-held, Antenna Specialists "Super Scanner" beam antenna control, pager, clock, local and state maps, monitoring guide, hour log sheet, call report form, and the *REACTer* magazine.

**GUESS WHO THE MONITOR IS . . .** mail the name and Team on a postcard to the *REACTer*, 242 Cleveland, Wichita, Kansas 67214. All correct entries will be included in a drawing for a prize. (Member's Team excluded.) Deadline for entries to be received is March 1.  
**WANTED:** black and white, 5" x 7" pictures of great-looking and functional REACT monitoring set-ups. Give details of equipment shown, your name, Team name and number. Best entries will be featured in the *REACTer*.

# HEADQUARTERS REPORT

## A Year of Progress for REACT International

**Membership Increases** — 1987 ends with 12,670 REACT members as compared to 12,286 for 1986 and 13,107 for 1985. This figure includes about 600 members from our European Team affiliation. Additionally 550 new members were added during the August through October Membership Drive Contest.

**New Teams Chartered for 1987 Zoom to 69** — An increase over 1986 by 40 Teams. In 1985 only 25 teams were chartered. These figures don't include a number of Teams rechartering!

**Financially We Are in the Black** for the second year in a row. This year we did not dip into the membership reserve fund which had been re-established in full amount. This represents a complete turnaround from our previous years' financial problems. It enables us to concentrate more on REACT membership and programs.

**Many REACT Catalog Items Have Been Added or Improved** — Such items include:

- The REACT Video
- Lil REACTers
- Life Membership Decals
- Team Banners
- Magnetic Signs
- 25th Anniversary Belt Buckles
- Garland Pen and Pencil Sets
- Presentation Certificates
- and many more

**New Membership Benefits Were Added** — including discounts at Best Western and Alamo Car Rental Upgrade Certificates. Early Bird prizes were increased from the previous year. A Membership Drive contest was sponsored by Shakespeare E & F Division providing a newly designed Shakespeare "Gold Band — Big Stick" base antenna per state for the Team that increased the most members.

**Teams began receiving a much improved "Team Topics" newsletter, 100% membership renewal certificates and more feedback from REACT International.**

**REACT Publicity Made a Marked Difference** — The 25th Anniversary Convention received its own U.S. Postmark Cancellation. A First!!

**Radio Shack Honored REACT** with a mention in its U.S. and Canadian RS catalogs. The REACT International general manager gave a presentation to FEMA and other interested parties nationwide via a video conference on "Volunteerism" from Washington, D.C. Additionally the FCC, NHTSA and other related agencies began to notice REACT more from our activities on important matters. An example was the mention of REACT specifically in the GMRS Consumer Radio Service Proposal Defeat news/press release.

**National Advertising Has Begun** — In the latter part of 1987 more than 900 inquiries were received about REACT. Many of these have been passed on to Councils and Teams. You can see our advertisements in *Popular Communications* and *CB Voice*. More advertisements will be appearing in 1988.

**Major REACT Projects Started in 1987** Included the "Monitor 9" highway signs (available from REACT International); Operation Lifesaver; a Rail Safety project; and the *Getting help by CB Radio* pamphlet (soon to be available). Additionally we have embarked on a major effort to acquire grants to fund REACT projects and have taken a survey of REACT Team activities in order to learn more about what REACT Teams do and to provide information for a 1988 Team Contact Directory.

All of these events are the result of your enthusiasm and help. Many donations were received as a result of our plea for new office equipment. Here the Pennsylvania REACT Council made a challenge to other Councils resulting in Councils and Teams donating more than \$2,500. About 30 percent of the Teams have responded to the Team Survey providing us valuable insight into the activities of our Teams.

The year 1987 may now be over but we are working hard to make REACT great in '88! Thanks to all the REACT Teams, Councils, and Members who made this possible.

**Early Bird Prizes** were offered for Teams renewing before December 31, 1987.

**Team Officer Bonding Coverage Increased** — Beginning in 1988 our bonding insurance maximum limit increased to \$5,000 from \$2,500. The bonding insurance is to protect the Team from dishonest acts resulting in financial loss or liability. There is a \$100 deductible. This policy coverage is provided to the North American Teams out of the Team insurance fee of \$26 paid into REACT International.

**Team Surveys are Needed** — About 400 Teams have not returned their Team survey. We need your completed survey as soon as possible.

The survey is for us to learn more about what our Teams do. This information is a necessity for REACT International to seek alternative funding (grants and contributions). Additionally, it will be of great help in completing a comprehensive *Team Contact Directory* and in planning new programs and projects to benefit REACT Teams and Members.

Please complete only our survey and return it. We will make this information a permanent part of your Team file and update it each year.

Thanks to more than 300 Teams who have responded. Look for the survey results in *the REACTor* to learn more about what REACT Teams do.

## Ending Statistics for 1987

### 14 Largest REACT Teams in North America

Rank	Members	Team
1	98	C475 — Southwest REACT, San Diego, California
2	86	C622 — Dallas County REACT, Dallas, Texas
3	69	C373 — REACT of the Golden Gate, San Bruno, California
4	65	3006 — Morrow County REACT, Mt. Gilead, Ohio
5	60	C261 — Circle City REACT, Indianapolis, Indiana
6	56	3366 — Ranier REACT, Auburn, Washington
6 } TIE	56	4208 — Sedgwick County REACT, Wichita, Kansas
7	49	3866 — Kettle Morrain REACT, Lannon, Wisconsin
7 } TIE	49	C425 — Tri County REACT, Mercer, Pennsylvania
8	46	2609 — Bay Area Emergency Radio, San Jose, California
8 } TIE	46	2620 — Oklahoma County REACT, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
9	45	C704 — Central Arkansas REACT, N. Little Rock, Arkansas
10	44	C081 — Watten County REACT, Lebanon, Ohio
10 } TIE	44	2974 — Dickenson County REACT, Haysi, Virginia

— The average number of Members per Team is about 16. —

### The Largest European Affiliated Teams

Rank	Members	Team
1	37	5011 — Doncaster REACT, Doncaster, Great Britain, U.K.
2	30	5015 — Huntington REACT, Huntington, England, U.K.



## WARNING DEVICES SAVE ANIMALS' LIVES

More than one million animals are killed each day by cars and trucks. As this number grows, due to increasing vehicle registrations and wildlife populations, vehicular collisions with deer and other animals will continue to cause millions of dollars in damage, personal injury, and death. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that at least 120 people are killed and 10,000 more are injured annually in animal-vehicle crashes. Insurance companies estimate that property damage resulting from such collisions exceeds \$200 million annually.

Animals present a special problem to drivers because of their size and quick movements. They may dart into the roadway when least expected. In attempting to avoid hitting animals, drivers frequently swerve into other cars or fixed objects. Motorists also may become excited and slam on the brakes to avoid animals, which generates rear-end collisions.

How can drivers avoid collisions with animals? Using the eyes effectively is one way. This means anticipating what lies ahead and adjusting driving behavior to reduce the danger before an emergency arises. According to Dr. Francis C. Kenel, staff director of AAA Traffic Safety, there are three visual habits that can help prevent unexpected situations:

- Concentrate on your path of travel;
- Look at least 12-15 seconds ahead; and
- Scan from one side of the roadway to the other.

Small animals such as squirrels, rabbits, raccoons, opossums, and skunks top the list of wildlife most frequently killed by highway traffic. Dogs, cats, birds and farm animals also are common victims. What should you do if a small animal suddenly appears in your path? Panic braking or swerving are often resorted to but not recommended. Such evasive actions upset the balance of the car and could cause loss of control, leading to a collision. In some cases, it may be safer to hit a small animal than to risk hitting another car or rolling over your own vehicle.

Most animal kills occur after dark when animals are hard to detect. In rural areas, periodically flicking your lights from dim to bright and back changes the light intensity and may break the hypnotic effect animals experience with fixed beam lights.

Another proven method of warning animals of your approach is called Sav-A-Life. It consists of two, 2-inch long bullet-shaped instruments that easily mount on the front of your vehicle. When the vehicle attains a speed of 30 mph or more, air rushing through the cylinders creates an ultrasonic signal that can be heard by deer and other animals up to a quarter mile away, but is inaudible to humans and animals riding in your vehicle.

## Council Events

The 1987 Minnesota REACT Council annual meeting was held in Litchfield on October 10. Karen Wendroth presided at the meeting. A workshop on "Hazardous Chemicals" was presented by Phyllis Conklin and Leona Roberts, both of South Minnesota REACT #C143. Leland Johnson, MRTC delegate, gave a report on the International REACT Convention held in Texas. A workshop on winter survival was demonstrated by Wendroth.

The new MRTC Board members are President, Leland Johnson (S. Minnesota Albert Lea #C143); Vice President of Monitoring, Bob Kirscher (Starfire #3179); Secretary, Monica Levy (Zumbro Valley #4637); Treasurer, Beverly Herman (Tri-County #4266); Directors at Large, Jim Wright and Karen Wendroth (both of Ram Rod #3844).

The first CB Convention for the Maryland State Council of REACT Teams, Inc. was held July 11, 1987, at Guilford Elementary School, Columbia, Maryland. Thirteen Teams from Maryland were represented: Federal

City #2515; Hotline REACT #4086; Hagerstown #C022; St. Mary's County #3252; Montgomery County #2388; Anne Arundel County #3781; Baltimore Area #4673; Cascade #2833; Carroll County #3202; Charles County #4656; East Baltimore #C067; Cecil County #4674; and Howard County #3316. Sixty-three people attended. Included in the count were members, guests, speakers, etc.

Liz Bobo, Howard County Executive, congratulated REACT for their time and efforts in helping people on the road, accidents, traffic problems, and doing community services in all areas in the state.

Marty Seltzer, Baltimore City Police, furnished engraving machines for REACTers' equipment, provided reference material to take home, and explained the BEST operation in Baltimore. William Shula of the Department of Natural Resources narrated on their work on land and water, their equipment, law enforcement, hunting laws, boating accidents, drug-related problems, and

Council Events — continued on next page

### CB Thoroughbreds with winning credentials.



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By Order of Quality



## 7,500 LIVES SAVED BY SAFETY BELTS AND CHILD SAFETY SEATS

More than 7,500 people are alive today and tens of thousands of moderate to critical injuries have been avoided as a result of the increase in safety belt and child safety seat use since 1983, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

NHTSA Administrator Diane K. Steed said, "There never has been any question that safety belts and child safety seats are extremely effective. The challenge has been to convince people to use them every trip. The Department of Transportation (DOT) has taken a number of steps to increase the use of safety belts and child safety seats. The messages are finally beginning to hit home. Belt use has jumped nationally from about 11 percent in 1982 to 42 percent today, and child seat use has increased from 23 percent to 76 percent."

Steed said that new state safety belt and child seat use laws and public information campaigns deserve much of the credit for the higher use rates that reduce deaths and serious injuries. All 50 states and the District

### Vehicles Cause Most Kids' Fatal Injuries

A national study of childhood injuries shows that accidents involving motor vehicles are the leading cause of trauma and death to children under 14. The findings, based on the cases of 4,218 children injured since 1982, confirm what most experts believed.

Dr. Max L. Remenosky, head of the National Pediatric Trauma Registry and professor of surgery and pediatrics at the University of South Alabama College of Medicine in Mobile, said about one-third of the children were left with long-term disabilities. Just over 38 percent were injured in accidents involving motor vehicles, including children injured while being passengers, riding bicycles, walking, and riding motorcycles.

About the same percentage of children were injured in falls, most commonly in urban areas from the windows of apartment buildings. But while motor vehicle-related accidents accounted for about 14 percent of all fatal accidents, falls were usually much less serious and accounted for less than 1 percent of fatalities.

While gunshot and stab wounds accounted for only 4 percent of all injuries in the study, they were the second most common cause of fatal injuries—accounting for 9 percent of deaths from injuries.

—Taken from *Chicago Sun Times*  
October 4, 1987

of Columbia now require the use of child safety seats for young passengers, while 30 states and the District thus far have adopted safety belt use laws.

Using data from the agency's Fatal Accident Reporting System (FARS), the National Accident Sampling System (NASS), and other sources, NHTSA estimates that about 6,700 lives were saved by safety belt use from 1983 through the first half of 1987. In addition, 800 children's lives were saved by the use of child safety seats during that time.

The agency also said that 80,000 moderate to critical injuries were prevented by safety belt use and 102,000 injuries (of all levels) to children were prevented by the use of child safety seats during the same period.

A safety measure used in some other countries may be permitted on United States highways in the future.

Daytime running lights are required in Sweden and Finland and are to become mandatory in Canada for all new cars beginning December 1, 1989.

Some states have laws forbidding the use of auto lights during the day, but a voluntary-use regulation under consideration would supersede the state bans. The daytime accident rate in Finland decreased 27 percent when drivers were required to use the lights.

### Team Events / continued

conservation; he suggested that REACT could help with search and rescue operations.

FCC Baltimore was represented by Robert Morose of the Baltimore office, Jim Walker with Enforcement of Laws, and Joyce Lewis with Public Service Complaints. They answered questions on problems in specific areas and explained the staff and their jobs with the FCC. Maryland State Police Personnel, Lt. Randy Holt (NEAR Coordinator) and Cpl. Don Boehm (Headquarters), also participated.

We would like to thank all the members of MSCRT for their part of making this Convention a great success.

Our thanks and appreciation to Howard County for coffee and doughnuts, to Hotline REACT for their van display and refreshments, to Lloyd Lohr (Howard County) for use of the PA system, and to all our speakers for their time and input.

### Safety Belts Could Relieve Children's Fears

Safety belt use could relieve the two worst fears experienced by children 5 to 16 years of age across the United States. According to a poll conducted and released in June 1987 by *USA Today*, 72 percent of the 1,200 children interviewed worry "a lot" about the death of a parent and 68 percent worry "a lot" about being in a car accident. "Safety belts save lives and prevent accidents," said Charles Spilman, president of Traffic Safety Now, Inc. "If children are spending a lot of time worrying that their parents are going to die and that they may be in a car accident, isn't that reason enough to buckle up?"

### Proper Adjustment Important

A buckled safety belt is not enough protection during an accident. Belts must be buckled AND properly adjusted.

During a crash, a person moves forward at the same speed as the car. The shoulder belt keeps the upper body from colliding with the car. And, a tight lap belt holds the driver behind the wheel, helping him control the car.

First, the lap belt must be tight. In many cars, the lap-and-shoulder belt is one continuous strap. The belt slides through a tongue or latch plate at the buckle. Motorists can tighten such a belt by pulling up on the shoulder belt just above the buckle.

In some cars, the end of the buckle between the front seats has a plastic cover that keeps the buckle upright. It allows easy buckling but tends to pull the belt away from the motorist. When the belt is buckled, the plastic cover should follow the contour of the body. If not, the lap belt is too loose.

Many people complained that the early shoulder straps rubbed against the neck or upper body. American automakers designed tension relievers to encourage belt use. They work like a window shade—yank to roll up, pull slowly to lengthen. With this design, the tension reliever slackens the belt every time the motorist leans forward or moves around.

The design makes the person wearing the belt responsible for keeping the belt adjusted tightly, both when buckling and after moving around. It's important to keep the belt tight—accidents always are unexpected.

For best protection, a shoulder belt should have no slack. That is particularly important for short drivers who sit far forward to reach pedals—they can easily collide with the steering wheel during a crash.

While most American cars have tension relievers, new-car buyers will find zero-slack shoulder belts in imported cars. Zero-slack belts always stay tight.

Properly worn safety belts prevent injuries, and help prevent accidents by giving the driver better control. A belt can't be too tight during a crash. Put it on tight, and make sure it stays tight. You're not fully protected unless you do.

—John Fobian, Director  
AAA Automotive Engineering

## SAFETY LEADERS URGED TO DO MORE AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING

The Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), through the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), in December told anti-drunk-driving leaders that the recent reductions in drunk driving "may have given the American people the false impression that the war had been won. It has not."

Diane K. Steed, speaking in Washington, D.C., at the annual awards luncheon of the National Commission Against Drunk Driving, challenged the attendees to intensify their efforts to find solutions to the drunk-driving problem.

"It's time for some old-fashioned soul-searching and a heavy dose of individual responsibility. Are the programs we have in place, the meetings we go to, and the policies we advocate really leading to more progress, or do they just seem to be the politic approach? Outrage about drunk driving must be turned not into meetings to talk about the outrage, but to develop solutions to prevent future outrages."

According to NHTSA, an alcohol-related fatality occurs every 22 minutes in this country, or 66 a day. Hundreds more are injured. Last year, 46,056 people died in traffic crashes and 52 percent of those fatalities involved alcohol. But there is evidence of improvement: between 1982-1986 the proportion of alcohol-related traffic fatalities dropped from 46 percent to 41 percent.

"As much as we don't like to admit it, drunk driving is grudgingly tolerated because our social norms won't quite permit the deaths and injuries it causes to be categorized as other than accidental events. They are not accidents," Steed said.

"We hold certain social beliefs about alcohol in this country, and one is that if you drink you become less responsible for what you do. I like to call it the 'grand excuse,' because taken to the limit individuals under the influence of alcohol would have a blanket excuse for everything," she said.

Steed explained how this excuse typically prevents relatives and friends from intervening to prevent someone from driving drunk. She cited the case of a Virginia woman, the mother of 11, who was killed in 1983 by a man who rammed into her car at 80-100 mph and whose blood alcohol level—.315—was more than three times the legal limit in that state. He also had three prior drunk-driving convictions.

The man served a short prison term for the crash and was to have lost his driver's license for life. He was arrested again recently after causing another crash while drunk. He had obtained a new and valid license because of an administrative error.

"Where were the friends and relatives who knew this man should not be driving? No one apparently cared enough to intervene," Steed said.

"Drunk driving remains the number-one killer on our roads and of our young people between the ages of 5 and 34. But because we are a fair and forgiving people—perhaps too

forgiving at times—drunk drivers are often able to walk away from their crimes so they can drive drunk again," she added.

### NHTSA Study Details High Cost to Public of Motor Vehicle Crashes

Motor vehicle crashes cost Americans more than \$74 billion in 1986, NHTSA reported in November. The crashes caused more than 46,000 deaths, 3.4 million injuries, and 45 million damaged vehicles during the year paid an estimated \$97 each in related insurance costs.

"These staggering dollar figures represent only a portion of the total cost of motor vehicle crashes," said NHTSA Administrator Diane K. Steed. "It is impossible to place a monetary value on the pain, suffering and loss of life."

"Nearly \$60 billion of the economic loss could be saved if crashes, injuries and deaths were reduced. If we can continue to increase safety belt use, enforce posted speed limits, and crack down on drunk driving, we can go a long way toward ending this drain on our financial resources, as well as preventing human tragedies," Steed said.

NHTSA's estimate of the total economic cost of motor vehicle crashes for 1986 by cost category is as follows:

Cost Category	Dollars in Billions	% of Total
Property losses	\$27.37	36.9
Insurance expense	20.86	28.1
Productivity losses	16.38	22.1
Legal and court costs	4.32	5.8
Medical costs	4.12	5.6
Emergency costs	0.70	0.9
Other	0.45	0.6
	<u>\$74.20</u>	<u>100.0</u>

Steed explained that more than 90 percent of the traffic crashes last year involved no personal injury. They accounted for most of the \$27 billion in property damage, which represents the largest portion of the total bill. For those crashes causing injury and death, the losses were \$16.4 billion in economic productivity, \$4.1 billion in medical expense and \$3.8 billion in attorneys' fees and other court costs.

The NHTSA administrator also noted that recent improvements in highway safety have helped to keep the dollar losses from going even higher.

"The fatality rate in this nation is at an all-time low, and we are, perhaps, more safety-conscious than at any time in our history. These estimates show us both the size of the problem that still faces us, and the possible economic rewards of making further improvements in traffic safety," she said.

Additional information may be obtained by requesting a copy of the report, "The Economic Cost to Society of Motor Vehicle Accidents, 1986 Addendum," from the Technical Reference Division, NHTSA NAD-52, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590.

## Team Events



#3522 Punxsutawney Radio Emergency Service, Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, prepares for their busiest day of the year.

To most people, February 2 is just another cold winter day, but to the members of the Team, also known as Punxy REACT, this is the busiest day of the year. Come 3:00 a.m. the dedicated members hook up their camping trailer, head for Gobblers' Knob, the home of the groundhog, and prepare for the onslaught of visitors that make the trek to catch a glimpse of the world-famous weather prognosticator. "Phil," as he is known to his friends, brings in quite a crowd each year, and the members of the Punxy REACT are the official welcoming committee.

They park from 2,000 or more cars between 3:30 and 7:00 a.m. This chore is followed by a quick trip across town to the Country Club to once again park cars for the breakfast that follows the sighting. By 10:00 a.m. that part of the day's activities are complete. But that's not the end of the day.

Most members report to their jobs, but after work comes the jog to the senior high school for the annual banquet. Once again the members are parking cars for the dignitaries and diners. By 8:00 p.m. they are thankful that another Groundhog Day has passed.

For his part Phil has taken a liking to the Team and, by unanimous vote, has become an honorary member of Punxy REACT.

February 2 is not the only time the groundhog is honored. The Team also assists with Groundhog Festival Week the last week of June. There is a 10K run, one of three with which Team assists, and a craft show, where the Team sets up its equipment and answers questions about REACT.

The following week PRES is the official first aid station for the Firemen's Old Home Week celebration, complete with its carnival activities. All the Team's members are trained in first aid and CPR with two members holding the rank of Emergency Medical Technician. Two members have been certified as disaster relief personnel by the American Red Cross. The Team is the communications link for the Emergency Management Agency. The Team works in cooperation with both the state and local police for traffic control during accidents, parades, or any time that

Continued on page 8

## TEAM EVENTS (Continued)

traffic has to be interrupted. The members of 13 fire companies and 3 ambulance services are always glad to see our Team at the site of an accident, fire, or other emergency.

The Team recently signed a letter of cooperation with other Teams from western Pennsylvania through the Pennsylvania Emergency and Communications Council. This is a pact whereby any Team in the pact can call on any other Team during an emergency or when extra hands are needed.

Punxy Phil didn't know what he was getting into when he joined this active group. No one in Punxy REACT hibernated for the winter. Sorry, Phil!!!

#4108 Logan County REACT, Bellefontaine, Ohio, is a small group of 11 adults and 6 juniors. Through this year we have gone through many changes and have accomplished many things. We are very proud of our small group.

We had 2 safety coffee breaks this year; worked at our county fair and festivals; had 2 bingos for our senior citizens; had several bake sales and candy sales. We are getting ready for a membership drive. We're hoping to get some new people interested in our club.

We just had our election of officers. They are: President, Jack J. Rollins Jr.; Vice President, Eugene Borders; Secretary and Treasurer, Alice Scott; Head Trustee, Connie Rollins; Trustees, Lorin Williams and Dick White.

We would appreciate any ideas on how to enlarge our Team or for new activities.

#2690 Twin Emergency Communications, Lafayette, Indiana, worked with INCERT in the Pumpkin Patrol Project during the Halloween weekend on October 30 and 31. We observed the overpasses on Interstate 65 in Tippecanoe County to keep pranksters from dropping objects onto the interstate. We also had a unit on a base station to monitor Channel 9 for emergency calls. We did not receive any reports of people dropping objects onto the highway.

#C161 Allegheny Valley REACT, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, along with #3920 Armstrong County REACT, #2844 North Hills REACT, and #2141 United Valley REACT provided communications for The 1987 Great Ride. The Ride features a day of bicycling for the benefit of Children's Hospital and its Hematology/Oncology Center. On Father's Day the participants rode for pledges. The four Teams were given credit and thanks for once again providing the communications network during the rides.

#2982 Saint Joseph County REACT, Centerville, Michigan, had their Christmas dinner and white elephant gift exchange. There were 13 members for our monthly meeting. We elected new officers for 1988: President, Earl Bowersox; Vice President, Bob Olds; Secretary, Mildred Siman; Treasurer, Lynr. Reed; Sgt. of Arms, Randy Garmire. For the start of 1988 we have 17 members. The year 1987 was a very good year for our Team, including our Labor Day weekend.

#3231 George County REACT, Lucedale, Mississippi, was happy to have the Mayor proclaim November 1987 National REACT Month. We were the subject of two write-ups in our local newspaper. Also we had (and are still getting) announcements on a local radio station. From all of this we gained five new members.

#3153 Colleton County REACT, Walterboro, South Carolina, has been busy this past year. We've worked road runs; monitored; worked accidents, rendering first aid and traffic control. We operated "Operation I-Dent-A-Kid," fingerprinting children. The Team got a "well done" from Colleton County Sheriff's Department for Golden Patrol Halloween; there was not one incident of vandalism in the county Halloween night.

On Saturday, December 19 we lost one of our best supporters, C.H. McMillan, Jr. He was a founding member of our Team and the husband of Major Mildred McMillan, Team Treasurer. Junior was a good man, a good friend, and will be greatly missed by all.

#2166 Roanoke Valley REACT, Roanoke, Virginia, mourns the death of our Vice President. Bert (Bull Dog) Thornton, Life Member 293, passed away on August 16. He had been a member of the Team for more than 10 years. He was Second Vice President in charge of supplies.

Bert was a very special member of our Team because he was bedridden for all the



years he was a Team member. His wonderful wife, Ruby, would get him up and in his wheelchair and take him to meetings and other activities whenever he was up to going.

If you needed equipment, safety break supplies or any other job done, Bert could always be called. He would also do his monitoring of Channel 9 during the late hours of the night, but you could also hear him if there was any emergency that required extra monitoring hours. He had all his radio equipment set up right next to his bed. CVRC presented Bert with REACTer of the Year several years ago. He will be sadly missed by everyone.

## F.M. TWO-WAY RADIO

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## Programmables facing sales, marketing ban

WASHINGTON - Dropping its initial hard-line position, the Federal Communications Commission voted in November to stop future authorization of user programmable two-way mobile radios.

Sales and marketing of the units will be outlawed by spring and fall, respectively, of next year.

The decision is expected to reduce the threat of illegal radio transmissions, causing interference to legitimate users, by restricting programming functions to manufacturers and two-way radio dealers and by tightening equipment design features to curtail tampering by operators.

Under the ruling, users of front-panel portable and synthesized mobile radios will be permitted to enter authorized frequencies set by technicians.

Certain manufactured units are exempted from the new restrictions if their programming capabilities are not normally accessible to end users.

Programmable aircraft mobiles, such as those commonly used in emergency rescue operations, are not subject to the FCC sanctions.

The Commission originally proposed a complete ban on all programmable transmitters operating above 25 MHz, but was persuaded by the Electronics Industry Association and others that such action was unnecessary and represented a threat to technological advances in mobile radio development.

A compromise position, incorporating EIA's recommendations, was subsequently adopted by the agency. (RCR, June 1, 1987, p.1).

The FCC took notice of the issue two years ago after complaints of interference began to surface and stronger warnings about the potential interference problems were voiced by private land mobile user groups.

Initially, low cost, programmable units manufactured by Regency Land Mobile Inc. of Satellite Beach, FL, were targeted by some industry observers as contributors to a growing problem.

It was soon discovered that programmable frequency controls were prevalent throughout the industry and, in fact, represented the state-of-the-art technology being developed.

Distribution and advertising practices were found to be as much of a problem as design in some cases. For example, end users had access to programming literature in stock inventories shipped from equipment manufacturers to dealers and distributors.

Promotional materials at times touted the broad programming capabilities of the radios

and invited prospective buyers to communicate with nearly everyone.

However, it was pointed out that front-panel programmable radios offered users in rural areas of the country the ability to meet agricultural, public safety and other communications needs with one mobile unit of modest price.

Manufacturers, based in Japan and the Pacific Rim, in turn, were able to keep the cost down by producing inexpensive radios with variable programming capabilities.

Following the FCC-proposed halt to all manufacturing and sales of user programmable radios in January 1986, one Midwest distributor of the product suggested the issue was made political by Washington, D.C., lobbying forces attempting to protect economic interests of large manufacturers, such as Motorola Inc., E.F. Johnson Co., and General Electric Co.

The distributor said the advent of the inexpensive programmable radios represented a commercial threat to two-way radio dealers, traditional servicing agents for customers and posed a similar dilemma for the oligopoly of large U.S. equipment manufacturers.

## Proprietor of CB store convicted for selling modified radios

On October 22, 1987, U.S. Magistrate Barry Ted Moskowitz sentenced Roger S. Williams, proprietor of the San Diego retail CB store "Mud Shack" to seven months imprisonment for selling Citizens Band (CB) radios that were modified to operate on unauthorized radio frequencies. The seven months' sentence was suspended except for 10 days. In addition, Mr. Williams was placed on probation for two years (with conditions), issued a \$1,000 fine and must devote 80 hours to community service. The sentence resulted from a July 16, 1987, arrest of Mr. Williams for selling and offering to sell illegal CB linear amplifiers and modified CB radios. An illegal CB linear amplifier and several modified CB radios were seized at the time of the arrest.

Judge Moskowitz handed down this sentence stating that Mr. Williams had been warned of the penalties for noncompliance of FCC regulations on three separate occasions. FCC imposed a \$2,000 civil fine against Mr. Williams in 1986. He continued to sell unlawful CB equipment even while negotiating the settlement of the fine. The judge further stated that if one of Mr. Williams' modified radios had been used to cause deliberate interference to a safety radio service (fire or police), Mr. Williams could have been incarcerated for a longer term. Judge Moskowitz cited a case where a San Diego radio operator was sentenced to five years' imprisonment for transmitting a false distress signal on a marine safety frequency. In addition, he

stated that he hoped that this sentence would send a message to other violators of FCC regulations.

The 18-month investigation was conducted under the direction of San Diego United States Attorney, Peter K. Nunez and Assistant U.S. Attorney D. Thomas Ferraro.

Operation of CB linear amplifiers and other unlawful CB devices cause harmful interference to home electronic entertainment equipment and other users of the radio frequency spectrum such as fire departments and FAA control towers. The manufacture, marketing or use of these devices is prohibited by the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and by FCC regulations. Maximum penalties include fines of up to \$100,000 and imprisonment for up to one year for each offense.

For further information contact June Butler, Public Service Specialist, FCC San Diego, at (619) 557-5478.

## REACT PAYBACK

United Valley REACT for years has had a problem with a certain individual who deliberately interfered with us in taking calls on Channel 9.

His language and intimidations were the foulest that anyone can imagine. He did the same on all channels and even gave the Ham's the same trouble. He was later arrested for harassing his ex-girlfriend and her family. In so doing he turned in a fake fire call via one of our members and when the police found this out they wanted to prosecute with two REACTers as witnesses. He was found guilty and charged a minimum penalty.

One afternoon at 3:36 p.m., I heard a weak call on Channel 9. "Break Channel 9 . . . (pause) . . . Break Channel zero nine."

Being on the first floor, I hurried to the cellar where my CB is to answer the call. "Breaker on nine, you have Unit #2 United Valley REACT. May I help you?" No answer, and after a few seconds' pause I repeated myself.

"Y-Y-Yes, I wonder if you could do me a VERY LARGE FAVOR?" I replied, "I'll do my best, sir. What is your problem?"

He then proceeded to tell me that he was stuck on a powerline trail off Route 60, and would I call a number in a nearby town, tell the woman who answered his problem and ask her to call his boss and tell him that he was still at the dentist's and would be late for work.

By this time I thought I recognized the voice. I verified the phone number with him and asked his name which he said was "Chuck."

I called the number he gave and asked the woman who answered if she knew a Chuck. She stammered around and wondered why I

Continued on page 23

My column in the November/December issue concerned the basic hookup for a mobile "rig," so here're some thoughts for a base setup.

Obviously, the antenna is again the important component with the coax ranking a very close second. The antenna and coax must again be matched for that 50 ohm resistance that the radio must see. There are many antennas available to the consumer today. Your choice depends on your wallet, and the physical characteristics of your mounting point.

Antennas are categorized as either directional or "omni-directional." A ground plane is an example of an omni-directional antenna . . . all the radio waves are transmitted in equal distances in all directions. A "beam" is directional and concentrates the radio waves in one specified direction. Figures 1-3 are examples of ground planes, and figures 4 and 5 are types of beams.

Both types have their good and bad points. A ground plane will receive and transmit in all directions, a little like a huge bowl inverted over the antenna. The problem is that a marginal signal will remain marginal. There is simply no way to make it stronger.

Ground planes normally take up less physical space on a rooftop, and are much less susceptible to winds.

Beams, on the other hand, can be turned by a small electric rotor to make that marginal signal much stronger, and the ensuing transmission will be very strong. I really don't want to get into the front-to-back ratios or a discussion of the beta match for fear of boring someone. Let it suffice that a directional is just as the name implies . . . able to send and receive in one primary direction, with only marginal capability at the sides. Beams can take up a large amount of roof space, and, unless they are guyed very securely, can be bent, or ripped down by high winds.

Another consideration when choosing an antenna is the "gain." Without going into a long technical discussion, the amount of gain makes a radio perform as if it had a much higher power output. Since we are legally limited to 4 watts, this gain feature makes all the difference in the world. A 9-decibel (db) gain antenna will make a radio transmit like it had 32 watts. Note that we're not actually increasing the power . . . simply using the radio and antenna to *effectively* increase the power.

The other part of the CB rig is the coax . . . the black line running between the radio and antenna. Much of the concern is with the amount of "line loss" in the coax . . . the amount of signal lost between the radio and the antenna. This is called "attenuation" and is somewhat the opposite of "gain." (Remember, I'm not going to get too technical.)

Ever wonder why the RG-58U coax is used in mobiles, but not in a base? The line loss for the RG-58U is 2.4 db per 100 feet of coax. In a 17-foot length of coax, that's forgivable, as it amounts to less than 0.5 db loss. Imagine a 100-foot coax run to a 0 db gain antenna! The

effective power would be approximately 9 watts and the loss for the connectors (1#PL259) hasn't been figured. The loss for the RG-58U is less than one db per 100 feet of coax, and there are other types of coax within the industry with even less line loss.

It's paying attention to details like this that make your radio talk like you were on top of the highest mountain in the U.S. Channel 9 . . . skip . . . or just plain shootin' the bull . . . you want the best in equipment at the lowest possible price. Coax is relatively inexpensive, and is an excellent investment when matched with the antenna you choose. Don't, for Pete's sake, skimp and try to save money by using poor quality, worn, or weathered coax. You may save the wallet but the results will disappoint you.

**CHECK YOUR COAX AND THE CONNECTORS.**



FIGURE 3  
GROUND PLANE



FIGURE 1  
GROUND PLANE

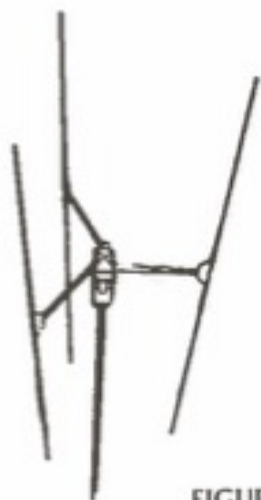


FIGURE 4  
BEAM



FIGURE 2  
GROUND PLANE

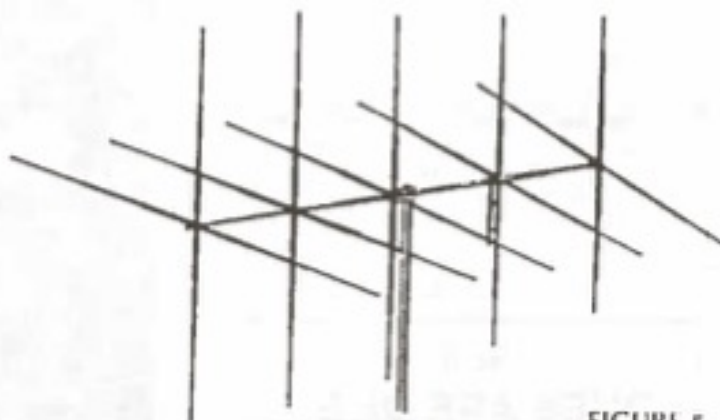


FIGURE 5  
BEAM

# THE "J-POLE": A LOW-COST, EFFECTIVE EMERGENCY ANTENNA

By Lee Besing

On a late Sunday afternoon in November 1987, with severe thunderstorm conditions in the immediate area, Guadalupe County REACT Team #3622's member, Lee Besing (Unit 675), developed 5:1 SWR readings on his only CB base antenna. Upon disconnecting the equipment, Lee notified the other REACT monitors (by landline) of his problem, and then called another friend, Gary Lebo (WD5JVU), who is an active amateur radio operator.

Gary didn't have an extra antenna, but told Lee that he would think about it, and to expect a call when he found a solution. Lee was looking at about a 7- to 10-day delay in removing his base antenna for inspection and repairs due to lack of time during the week.

Later that night, about 9 p.m., Gary called. He suggested that Lee drop by his house to pick up some supplies. Upon doing so, they both returned to Lee's house and rounded up some other materials. The result was a strange-looking contraption called a "J-Pole" antenna, and described below.

Basically, the "J-Pole" consisted of two sections—a  $\frac{1}{2}$ -wave vertical radiator, and a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -wave matching section. This design does not require ground radials, and operates independent of any ground, removing the requirement to ground it. It is claimed that the "J-Pole" boasts 3-5db gain, but it was never stated whether that was measured against a dipole or isotropic. It features vertical polarization, and radiates in an omni directional pattern.

In this case, due to a shortage of suitable copper wire, they used a 9' section off an old CB beam antenna for the  $\frac{1}{4}$ -wave matching section, and about 18' of #14 braided bare copper wire for the  $\frac{1}{2}$ -wave radiator. They were separated and attached on the bottom

with a 6" section of  $\frac{1}{2}$ " copper ground strap. The  $\frac{1}{2}$ -wave wire was supported with the 2 x 4s fastened together to meet the 18' length. A wooden 2 x 8 base was mounted on ground to support the 18' 2 x 4s and the 9' mast. (See Photo) The coax was attached, with the center conductor attached to the vertical radiator and the ground braid was attached to the 9' mast using a hose clamp, with both connections about 12" from the base. The SWR is adjusted by moving the two coax leads up or down for fine tuning, and by trimming or adding the ends of the vertical radiator for large adjustments.

**CAUTION:** Don't solder the coax connections until you have finalized the installation and are sure that the SWRs are where you want them. Other structures in the vicinity of the antenna can affect the final SWR readings. Subtractions or additions to the lengths should only be made to the  $\frac{1}{2}$ -wave vertical radiator, not the  $\frac{1}{4}$ -wave matching section. Trial and error showed the  $\frac{1}{4}$ -wave adjustments to be ineffective in reducing SWRs and in fact increased them. Remember to tape up all exposed coax connections to prevent moisture getting into the coax.

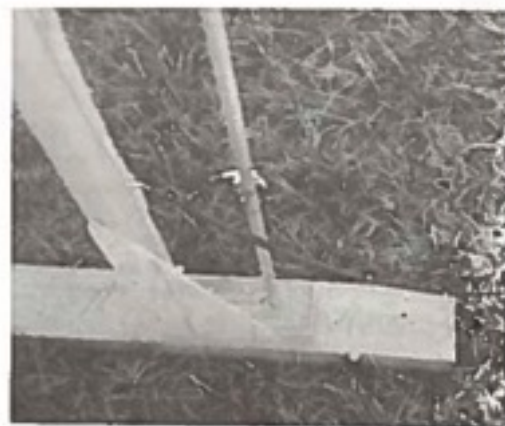
Considering that neither Lee nor Gary had ever attempted a project of this type before, it took a couple of hours to build and solder all connections. The wire was stapled to the supporting 2 x 4. After completing the first stage, it was leaned up against the house near the existing antenna. Due to foresight when the existing antenna was first installed, there was an inline coax line splice under the eave of the house. This made it easy to disconnect the old antenna and connect the new.

After spending more than an hour trying to match the antenna SWRs, they cheated by using an amateur transmatch to bring the SWR down from 2:1 to 1.4:1. Using SSB, they contacted several other bases 10 miles away. When it got to be midnight, they postponed further work until the next evening.

On Monday evening, in about one hour, they were able to bring the SWRs down to an unaided 1.2:1 on all 40 channels. The 9' aluminum mast didn't match with the copper braid (due to the larger diameter of the aluminum tubing), so additional copper braid was added on to the other side to compensate. This resulted in making it look like something Dennis the Menace had built.

Using the scientific method, called "rule of thumb," they added about 6' more of copper braid (making 24' total) and the SWRs finally cooperated. Taking it back down one last time, they soldered all connections that had been added and applied generous solder to the top section to make it stiffer in the wind. Unfortunately, this extra solder raised the SWRs back up to 1.5:1. Using the same scientific measurements, they then snipped off about 6" from the top and tried again, with the 1.2:1 (or better) result.

This antenna was staked out in Lee's backyard using rope and tent stakes, like a flag pole at a Boy Scout Campout. Building this antenna became a challenge just to see if it could be done. They utilized amateur radio know-how, carpentry skills, Boy Scout knot



Antenna Base Mount

skills (to stake it up in 15-20 mph winds), and a lot of luck.

It proves the ham radio operators' contentions that almost anything can be used for an antenna with proper matching procedures. Unit 675 was only off the air for a few hours instead of the 7-10 days needed for the old antenna to be repaired. The total time spent was 4-5 hours to make it. With a little imagination, and doing it while your neighborhood electronic store was open, the time could be shorter, and the end result better looking.

Even though the antenna was mounted on the ground, with a maximum height of 24', and surrounded by two-story houses, the "J-Pole" was able to come very close in performance when compared to Lee's Avanti Sigma  $\frac{3}{8}$ -antenna that had failed. Every REACT monitor in Lee's normal range was contacted, with a 1-2 S-units reduction in signal strength, and a corresponding reduction in receive signal strength. Considering this antenna was approximately 30' lower than the other, this would indicate very favorable performance under the conditions.

This design of antenna has proved to be omni directional, but the closer to the building it is, the less it received from that side. It would lend itself well to applications requiring low visibility due to deed restrictions, or cost problems. PVC pipe, painted a neutral color could support the vertical radiator, etc., or the antenna could be mounted on the side of a two-story house. Just imagine putting this antenna on three sides of your house, with a coax switch, and then telling the other guy to wait while "you turn your house around."

To calculate length of the vertical  $\frac{1}{2}$ -wave radiator, simply divide 492 by the frequency (in MHz). For example: Channel 9 is 27.065 MHz, so the  $\frac{1}{2}$ -wave would be  $492/27.065$ , which is 18.17', or 18'2". The  $\frac{1}{4}$ -wave would be 9'1" in length.

As a case in point, this proves the value of REACT's planned affiliation with amateur radio operators as discussed at the 1987 REACT International Convention held in San Antonio.

Persons wishing to discuss this antenna may contact Lee in the evenings at (512) 656-7657 in San Antonio, Texas.



# GMRS . . . Rx

By Judy Simpson  
Communications Task Group

## Radio Adventures:

In a huge metropolitan area such as Chicago, it is difficult for Channel 9 monitors to effectively provide coverage for emergency calls. The usual problems . . . skip, bleedover, work, etc. are magnified. Some of our local REACTers, because of their work, are able to use business band frequencies, along with CB Channel 9 and GMRS.

A classic example of this coordination was a call on Channel 19 concerning a multi-vehicle accident involving several injuries. The call was picked up by a "Jeff," a non-REACTer and co-worker with a local REACT member.

Jeff contacted the REACT mobile via business band with the details of the accident. The information was passed on by our REACTer via GMRS to a base unit who called the police by telephone. Jeff and the REACTer were nearly 120 miles apart; the REACT mobile and the base were 40 miles apart; and the base and the police station were 50 miles apart. The police and Jeff were within blocks of each other.

Why, you may ask, did the business band base not call in the accident themselves? Chicago has 240 suburbs and nearly 275 different police jurisdictions. It's simply easier and faster to contact a REACT base that will have the telephone numbers nearby and is familiar with the police procedures.

Don't get me wrong . . . the base will call in an emergency, but our local REACTers try not to insist that they break their concentration too often. There are times when REACT needs the resources of that base. Incidentally, the total elapsed time from the original call to the radio dispatch of the police car was two minutes. That's not bad, considering that there were four different frequencies and four people involved.

## More Radio Adventures

A local REACTer and GMRS user, while mobile, heard a Channel 9 call concerning an accident with injury. The streets were unfamiliar and the REACTer could not contact the Cber to question him further. Using an atlas, the local REACTer found the area involved . . . about 30 miles west of Las Vegas. The REACTer contacted the local police department on Channel 9 and asked if they had heard the call. The department, which has a very poor CB rig and is notorious for NOT monitoring, had heard nothing, and refused to take further action on a CB call.

The enterprising REACTer contacted a base in the area via GMRS, and the information was relayed to the Nevada State Patrol. The NSP already had some of the information, but were glad to get confirmation, as their report was very garbled.

The point here? When transmitting an emergency call, be sure to include the city and state . . . a local REACTer might not hear you, but someone hundreds of miles away

could be taking the call.

While skip is very common in CB, it also has a counterpoint in GMRS. A phenomenon called "ducting" is responsible for some strange conversations. The owner of a Chicago repeater was using GMRS at about 1 a.m. in the suburbs of Chicago. He cleared the frequency and was somewhat startled to hear a familiar voice say "Where are you, and why are you near my house?" Turned out that the familiar voice was sitting in his living room . . . near Detroit.

## Don't fake calls for help—even in fun!

One of the "traditions" of the annual convention is an unofficial Friday night post-convention dinner for those who stay a couple of extra days.

In San Antonio a party of about 50 went to the Tower of the Americas. Obviously, GMRS radios and earphones were evident everywhere. One of the waitresses looked around and asked, "Where are you from . . . Never mind. I don't think I want to know."

As an exotic drink was served, smoking and bubbling from the dry ice in the bottom, one of our fearless leaders called out, on direct, "Help. Help! My coke's on fire."

A voice came back immediately, "You are 650 feet above the ground . . . that means you are on a 650-foot antenna. Your help call maybe was heard for 50 miles." OOPS!!

The REACTer (and this columnist) would like to publicize your Radio Adventures. Please submit your material to Judy Simpson, GMRS RX c/o REACT, International.

## DEADLINES

JANUARY 31: Renewal registration deadline.

FEBRUARY 1: Deadline for March/April issue of REACTer.

FEBRUARY 1-29: Penalty of \$10 for late Team renewal.

FEBRUARY 29: Last day for "undecided" members to renew. Board Field Director nomination due. Council expense reimbursement submissions due.

MARCH 1-31: Penalty of \$20 for late Team renewal. Teams not renewed for 1988 dropped from records.

APRIL 1: 1990 Convention bid (West) due. Deadline for May/June issue of REACTer.

1988

DUES ARE DUE

## SCANNING WORLD-BAND RADIO

By R.C. Watts

*Are you bored while monitoring Channel 9 and there're no calls for assistance?*

*No action on the scanner either, so you might turn everything off and watch TV?*

Well, consider adding a World-Band radio (150 kHz to 30,000 kHz) to your equipment inventory.

*U.S. News & World Report* (November 16, 1987) says sales of these radios are up 25 to 35 percent in the past year. Good Philips-Magnavox and Sangezn portables are under \$200. Sony portables cost a little more and prices go up to \$1,000 or more.

You can hear long-, medium-, and short-wave broadcasters, coast guard rescues, hurricane hunter aircraft, time signals, weather forecasts, marine radio telephone, various military services, the high-frequency ham bands and so many other things it's difficult to list them all.

The people who listen to these signals have many reasons for doing so. Personally, I like to keep up with what's happening in the world, since our domestic news media fails to give good coverage. In addition, I've collected QSL cards and letters from stations in many countries.

World-Band monitoring is another facet of the radio hobby and may fit into your "shack" alongside your CB and scanner.

I'm not advocating that you turn off the CB in favor of just listening either. But to fill in the wee hours when Channel 9 is inactive or scanner traffic is just routine, try World-Band until the next emergency breaks. A lot of folks like it and maybe you will too!

EDITOR'S NOTE: More information about scanning can be found in *Popular Communications* magazine. (See advertisement in this issue.) *Pop Com* incorporated the SCAN organization and includes a lot of information about the scanning scene.

For those of you who are interested in submitting photos to go with your news: we love to get them—others like to see them. However, a few steps need to be followed.

- Do NOT paper clip, staple, or write on your photos. These leave marks that ruin the photo's chances of being printed.

- The ideal picture for us to work with is a black and white shot of REACT in action—not a group of people posed for the camera.

- "Staged" pictures are fine: *the REACTer* cover shots are staged, but they still show action.

- The picture needs to be one of contrasts, not dark gray against shadows. In the printing process anything other than a sharp, clear photo loses its details.

But DO send them in. We will try to work them.

# IT'S TAX TIME AGAIN! . . . A REACT BENEFIT

## Schedule A—Itemized Deductions

(Schedule B is on back)

▶ Attach to Form 1040. ▶ See instructions for Schedules A and B (Form 1040).

OMB No. 1545-0074

1987

Attachment  
Sequence No. 07

Your social security number

Contributions You Made  (See instructions on page 23)	14a	Cash contributions (If you gave \$3,000 or more to any one organization, report those contributions on line 14b.)	14a	
	b	Cash contributions totaling \$3,000 or more to any one organization. (Show to whom you gave and how much you gave.) ▶	14b	
	15	Other than cash. (You must attach Form 8283 if over \$500.)	15	
	16	Carryover from prior year	16	
	17	Add the amounts on lines 14a through 16. Enter the total here. Total contributions ▶	17	

While you are gathering up all your receipts and looking over all your records to get every deduction, don't forget REACT.

REACT is a 501(c)(3) organization and the IRS will recognize certain personal expenses you had with REACT activities.

While short-form users (1040-A) will be limited, the 1040 long-form users should review all their REACT costs and determine what they can deduct to save in taxes.

The Federal Tax Form Schedule A for 1987 and some instructions are shown to give you an idea of what you may consider in deductions.

### IRS Instructions for Lines 14a through 17

#### Contributions You Made

You may deduct what you actually gave to organizations that are religious, charitable, educational, scientific, or literary in purpose.

Examples of these organizations are:

REACT

### Contributions you MAY Deduct

Contributions may be in cash (keep canceled checks, receipts, or other reliable written records showing the name of the organization and the date and amount given), property, or out-of-pocket expenses you paid to do volunteer work for the kinds of organizations described above. If you drove to and from the volunteer work, you may take 12 cents a mile or the actual cost of gas and oil. Add parking and tolls to the amount you claim under either method. (But don't deduct any amounts that were repaid to you.)

Limit on the amount you may deduct. Get Publication 526, *Charitable Contributions*, to figure the amount of your deduction if any of the following applies:

- your deductible charitable travel expenses include meals,
- your cash contributions or contributions of ordinary income property are more than 30% of Form 1040, line 31.

### You MAY NOT Deduct As Contributions

- Beginning in 1987, travel expenses (including meals and lodging) while away from home unless there was no significant element of personal pleasure, recreation, or vacation in the travel.
- Dues, fees, or bills paid to country clubs, lodges, fraternal orders, or similar groups.
- The value of your time or services.

Some tax deduction considerations as permitted above:

• Your car/vehicle mileage (at 12¢ per mile) to and from REACT Team Meetings:

- Team events.
- Central monitoring base.
- Convention(s), etc.
- Cost of maintaining, repairing and purchase of your REACT radio gear and paraphernalia (when used primarily for REACT).
- Cash donations to your Team, Council and REACT International.
- Expenses to attend the state or International REACT convention (mileage, hotel, registration, etc.). Because they do not have a significant element of personal pleasure or entertainment, we hold those to teach, plan and interact. Fun is possible but not as a sole purpose.

Review Publication 526 for more details or ask your tax adviser.

Remember REACT doesn't always cost, it pays benefits. Our 501(c)(3) status is just one of these benefits.

## FCC News / Continued

### National Public-safety Plan Approved

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has given the go-ahead to a regionally structured, national public-safety communications plan.

The plan will utilize new 800 MHz frequencies and spectrum efficient technologies and will incorporate a 25-kHz channeling scheme and a mode for linking the regional systems together.

The agency's ruling represents the most ambitious effort yet by federal, state and local government agencies to establish comprehensive guidelines for present and future public-safety communications systems around the country, a public-safety program beset in the past with piecemeal regulation and insufficient communications compatibility.

The six-megahertz (821-824 MHz and 866-869 MHz) block that the FCC allocated last year will serve as the backbone for one- and two-way land mobile operations under the national plan.

The plan, under a 1982 congressional directive, was devised by a government-industry, technical advisory committee chartered by the FCC a year ago and chaired by Joseph Nasser of the Volusia County, Florida, sheriff's department and immediate past president of the Associated Public-Safety Officers.

"Of course, we're very pleased that the action has taken place and we can be on our way," said Robert Tall, APCO director from the association's New Smyrna Beach, Florida, headquarters.

Tall said organization of regional planning committees is the next task confronting APCO, while noting that New York and Los Angeles were close to completing work in projects for their own areas. The trade group will oversee most public-safety frequency coordination in the national plan as part of broader responsibilities mandated by the FCC.

Overall, there are 48 regions throughout the United States mapped out by the commission from which individually tailored public-safety systems will be developed and open to public comment, the FCC said. The full text of the ruling is expected by year's end or

in early January.

The national plan calls for five channels designated on a nationwide basis for mutual-aid capabilities among federal, state and local public-safety agencies that would be available in emergency and disaster situations.

The commission said priority will be given for 800-MHz channel assignments "having a greater role in protecting life and property." Also, the agency said the 25-kHz channeling plan was chosen over a proposal for smaller (12.5 kHz) bandwidths because the wider frequency spread was said to be better adapted to sophisticated digital encryption and digital data communications systems commonly used in public-safety vehicles.

The FCC chairman said the need for coordinated public-safety communications in medical, police and fire emergencies and disasters, such as the Air Florida airplane crash here several years ago, require joint efforts from a myriad of governmental agencies.

The Federal Highway Administration, a branch of Transportation, had been represented on the National Public Safety Planning Advisory Committee, which developed the national plan, according to Commissioner Mimi Dawson's office.

# Publicizing REACT

By Bob Riechel and Ron McCracken



ning for the 1989 International Convention. They ran a copy of the special REACT stamp cancellation that was available in San Antonio.

Bell County REACT published the complete Financial Report for the just completed International Convention. Would you have guessed a budget of more than \$22,000?

Harrison County REACT Team 3327, RR #3 Box 252H, Corydon, IN 47112 has run a program for their children. They included in their paper an 11" x 17" REACT coloring contest entry blank. It showed REACT type communication set ups for age groups 3 to 5; 6 to 8; and 9 to 12. The coloring contest, celebrating REACT's 25th year, was sent throughout Harrison County in their Monday Shopper newspaper. That meant more than 10,000 copies were distributed.

Received info from ASTM 1916 Race St., Philadelphia, PA 19103 (215) 299-5400 of an upcoming organizational meeting to establish a proposed new ASTM Standards Development Activity on search and rescue. The meeting will be held March 4, 5, 1988, at the Adams Mark Hotel located at 4th and Chestnut Streets, in St. Louis, MO (314) 241-7400. ASTM, a not-for-profit corporation organized in 1898, is a management system for the development of voluntary consensus standards for materials, products, systems and services. It provides a legal, administrative and publications forum within which producers, users, ultimate consumers and those representing the general interest (representatives of government and academia) can meet on a common ground to write standards that best meet the needs of all concerned.

Areas to be discussed include: Equipment and Uses; Organization and Management; Personnel Training and Education; Search Operations and Techniques, Rescue Operations and Techniques; and Terminology.

There was a meeting held July 31, 1987, as starters attended by representatives of such organizations as numerous S & R organizations, USCG, ASSN of National Park Rangers and numerous fire departments. If you desire further information, contact the address above. No fee schedule was enclosed.

Maybe at least one of the local St. Louis or Missouri REACT Teams can send a Rep and report to REACT International on the meeting. REACT is already engaged in communications, communications in times of disasters, and does some communications work with various search and rescue agencies. This should offer a meaningful entry for the possible consideration of our input into further police and procedural developments.

Getting back a little to publicizing REACT and a very basic way at that . . .

During training one hears over and over again "When you key up, you are REACT not Tom, Sue or . . . so act accordingly and be proud." When you are proud of what you are doing, it shows in your voice and after all that is what the motoring public knows—"The Voice of REACT."

Recently during a training session of a prospective new member, when there was no emergency traffic to interfere, the following comment was heard from a caller recognized as a regular reporter of highway problems, "I do not know who that lady is, but she handles the calls professionally." Is not monitoring just another way to publicize REACT?

The following is a summary of an article seen recently in a business magazine, run under the publisher's signature with the title "Why You Must Advertise." The examples have been changed to relate to REACT.

When business is bad, the first cuts usually come from the advertising budget. Possibly the reverse should be undertaken. When a REACT team finds itself in on hard times, think of finding a way to increase publicizing your team. Teams that continue to advertise/publicize their team day in and day out will come out much better off than the team who only occasionally publicizes their team.

There are so many aspects of the public that need to be reached that no one type of advertisement will reach everyone so by constantly publicizing your team and by changing the methods ever so often, you should hope to constantly be in the minds of some of your local community.

By changing your methods one month you may reach the doctors and the next the school kids and in the next possibly the homemakers. REACT benefits from all segments of the community. No ad or public relations message can be developed that will meaningfully reach each and every group in your community.

Just look at the print or TV ads for a specific item. The ad says one thing on TV, a different on radio and still a different in print. The idea is that the name of the item is constantly being put before the community.

Consider that each of your team members is a salesman for your REACT team and one of his duties is to sell the name of REACT nationwide and to additionally sell the name of your local team. Put your salesmen to work every day in everything they do, but more specifically when your team is involved in a local community activity. This is where you should be able to really hit your community with the big stuff.

When you set up a command post for a walk, you usually set up very close to where the sponsors set up registration, close to where the parents bring their children to sign in, where the local community leaders come to be involved or see who else is involved. You might say you have the community coming to you.

Why not advertise/publicize REACT by having a small table with your handouts available and more importantly a capable spokesman to answer those questions that will be asked. Or, is your team only interested in the radio communications aspect of

Paul Oby of St. Paul, MN, forwarded handouts that they were involved in helping distribute in shopping centers. The pamphlets were: *Know How To Say "NO" To Drugs*; *Know Enough To Say "NO" To Drugs*; *Know About Marijuana*. These were printed by donation from Rapid Printing and the local shopping center. These had the REACT team stamp and are just another way to publicize REACT in your local home town. Paul can be contacted at: 245 S. Snelling Ave #10, St. Paul, MN, 55105-2046.

Noticed the new look of the Northwest REACT's paper? Box 5274 Aloha OR 97006. They are now using Pagesetter Desktop Publishing software on an AMIGA 500 computer. What systems or support items do others use in publishing their papers?

The New Jersey Council *Radio Waves From the Garden State* Nov./Dec. '87 issue, modified the 25-year-old ad insert from International for use in their paper. Just another means of getting the word out. They probably submitted it to local news media also. They published the full text of the Rules and Information for the REACT Achievement Awards in hopes of getting more submissions and getting more personal recognition for REACTers overall.

Break 9 . . . The Texas State REACT Council Paper in Aug./Sep. '87 had one of the more detailed reports of the International Convention this writer has seen. The editorial on page 16 reads in part, "I also receive copies of newsletters from around the state that were not entered into the competition. I can see the time, effort, and work that goes into each of them. It is easy to see that the editors are proud of their teams and that pride stands out."

"There [are] several teams in Texas that have newsletters and they do just what they are supposed to do. They get needed info to the team members. They give info about one team to another, to councils, to the news media, to supporters and to civic leaders about what the team is doing or what they plan to do."

"These newsletters show the time, effort and hard work that makes them successful, I feel that they should have been entered in the competition this year. I feel that at least one of the teams and maybe more, would have placed. They just failed to try."

International has the order blanks for ordering men's ties with the REACT logo. Another way to publicize REACT.

The Wisconsin REACTer is already plan-

(Continued on page 14)

## Publicizing REACT continued . . .

the event and could care less if any questions get answered.

If you put on an activity with its only task being to get the word out about REACT and your local team, how many community leaders and interested citizens do you think would attend?

Whenever you have the capability of using an associated captive audience that someone else has taken the effort to put together, use it. Remember, everything you as a REACT member do is really publicizing REACT. Make the most of all occasions.

We got a call a week or so ago from Phil Treglia, 76 W. Fairview Ave., Valley Stream, NY 11580, asking how he could reach editors of the various papers to inquire into their subscription rates, etc.

Phil is with team CO47 in New York and would appreciate subscription info to his above address.

Robert M. Riechel  
Publicizing REACT Column  
P O Box 563  
San Bruno, CA 94066-0563

## PUBLICIZING REACT

By Ron McCracken

Radio Shack, long a friend of REACT in the U.S., has now lent its support to Canadian REACT Teams.

The Canadian 1988 Radio Shack catalog describes the REACT monitoring program on its contents page. As customers refer to that page, it is likely they will notice the REACT information.

The familiar REACT logo also appears, on several pages throughout the CB radio section of the catalog. Thanks to Radio Shack's interest in safety, thousands of Canadians will become aware of REACT as they consider a CB purchase.

"Radio Shack's gesture will benefit every REACT Team across Canada," commented Canadian REACT Director Ron McCracken. "It represents major publicity for REACT on a national scale.

"Less obvious, but extremely important, it is one indication of corporate confidence in Canada's volunteer REACT program. That will raise Team morale, increase public acceptance of REACT, and inspire similar support for REACT from other sectors."

Greater awareness of REACT by the public should benefit travelers and also encourage the formation of new Teams in Canada. That will, in turn, benefit travelers more.

"REACT Canada is deeply honored by the Radio Shack tribute," McCracken stated. "We trust that it will be mutually beneficial."

## Governments

Is your Team/Council cashing in on publicity from government? Your highway or tourist department likely has newsletters that are widely distributed. So do your state/

provincial police.

Inquire about their including your articles on REACT and its benefits to travelers. They may even send a crew to cover your REACT meeting with a photo-story.

Invite a police speaker for that occasion to show readers the valuable link between your organizations for their safety.

## Papers

Publicize your Team meetings, safety breaks, mall displays, speaking engagements, etc. in the free "Community Events" listing your paper(s) offer(s).

## Cable TV Too

Take advantage of the same PR opportunity your cable TV "Bulletin Board" provides. Get your REACT name and message into thousands of living rooms. Change the message regularly to keep it fresh and interesting.

## Operation Lifesaver

Issue a news release about your Team's new involvement in this important rail safety

program. Play fair. Send a copy of your release to every paper, radio and TV station in your monitoring area. Include your name and phone number so they can contact you for more details.

## Safety Freebies

Operation Lifesaver offers your Team a variety of items to use in its rail safety program. Check them out. Request a supply of those you can use. They are excellent.

Be sure to stamp or label the material with your Team info before you distribute it at safety breaks, etc. Get the maximum PR benefit for your Team as you benefit the public and Operation Lifesaver.

## Hot Tip?

Do you have a hot PR tip? Share what has worked for your Team. This is your PR column. Send us your contributions. Send us your questions.

## Council Events

The Pennsylvania Council of REACT bestowed an award from the American Radio Relay League of Newington, Connecticut.

This award was presented for our maintaining 100% membership in the ARRL for the calendar year of 1987. PECC and PCRT

are proud of the recognition received from the ARRL for maintaining the 100% participative membership in the league.

With more than 300 affiliated associations, only 30 have been recipients of this year's award.



## The American Radio Relay League

PRESENTS  
THIS CERTIFICATE  
OF ACHIEVEMENT TO  
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100% ARRL CLUB

PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL AMATEUR CLUB

in recognition of outstanding performance  
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above the minimum requirements established  
by the ARRL Board of Directors.

1987

Date

Lee Hayford, AH2W  
Manager, Club Services Department

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Foreign—one year \$22.00, two years \$43.00, three years \$64.00. Foreign Air Mail—one year \$75.00, two years \$149.00, three years \$223.00.





## NOVEMBER NATIONAL REACT MONTH

Announcing the Third-quarter K-40 Award Winners! The Awards and Recognition Task Group had 6 individuals and 3 Teams to consider for the Third-quarter 1987 awards. The Task Group had to select one individual and one Team as winners. Each winner receives a plaque and \$100 from K-40 Electronics.

### INDIVIDUAL WINNER

The individual winner, Edward Howell, is a member of Rainier REACT Radio Watch #3366 and lives in Sumner, Washington. He has monitored 5,447 hours, attended 23 out of 24 Team meetings, and 2 out of 2 Council meetings in the last 12 months.

Edward has worked 4 out of 4 Safety Breaks, 2 out of 2 parade projects and 3 out of 3 community charity fund-raising projects. He is the Team's Executive Secretary and the editor of the newsletter. Edward is 69 years young.

### INDIVIDUAL RUNNERS-UP

May Andes Decatur, Illinois	Azella E. Tingler Roanoke, Virginia
Dewey Watkins III Washington, D.C.	Kenneth T. Mezger Washington, D.C.

### TEAM WINNER

The Team award goes to San Angelo REACT Association #3387 of San Angelo, Texas. Twenty-two Team members out of 30 registered attended Team meetings. San Angelo REACT is a busy Team. For example, in April 1987 they worked three events for a total of 111.5 man hours, all on the same day. In May they were busier yet: the members worked a total of 483 man hours on special projects ranging from the Memorial Safety Break to a fund-raising concert; they also assisted the police department during severe flooding. June, their busiest month, saw Team members putting in 1030.5 hours by conservative estimates. One project was the Fiesta del Concho, a week-long event. During part of the Fiesta the Team works 24 hours a day.

### TEAM RUNNERS-UP

Vandburgh County REACT Evansville, Indiana	Lancaster County REACT Team #C130 Lancaster, PA
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K-40 Quarterly Award Winners receive \$100 plus a nice plaque. All are automatically eligible for the Annual Award of the \$500 Super K-40 Trophy and paid expenses to the convention. To enter the K-40 Contest you must use the entry form provided periodically to your Team through the *Team Topics* or contact REACT Headquarters.



Kansas REACT Council President John Blaker witnesses Kansas Governor Mike Hayden signing proclamation.

November, for REACTers at least, is more than turkey, snow, and getting ready for Christmas. It is REACT MONTH. It is a time to "announce" REACT to the world.

REACT Teams work hard to get this done. One result of all their work is proclamations from all levels of government. Below is listed some of the Teams who have shared the results of their hard work with Headquarters.

- #2620 Oklahoma County REACT, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, received a proclamation from Oklahoma City. The Team was also featured in an article appearing in a local newspaper, *The Daily Oklahoman*.
- Oklahoma State REACT Council from the state of Oklahoma.
- #3722 Davis County REACT, Layton, Utah, from the city of Layton.
- Utah State Council of REACT from the state of Utah.
- #4637 Zumbro Valley, Dodge Center, Minnesota, from the cities of Owatonna, Kasson, and Mantorville. The Team was also the focus of a newspaper article about REACT.
- #C733 Lincoln Railsplitter REACT, Lincoln, Illinois, from the city of Lincoln.
- #4685 Butler County REACT, Butler, Pennsylvania, from the city of Butler. The Team was the subject of an article in their local newspaper, *The Butler Eagle*.
- #C-22 Hagerstown REACT, #2833 Cascade REACT, and #4086 Hotline REACT

(Maryland) from Washington County, Maryland.

- #2974 Dickenson County REACT, Haysi, Virginia, from the town of Clintwood.
- #4651 Hamilton-Mercer REACT, Hamilton Square, New Jersey, from the township of Hamilton.
- #C375 Wabash Valley REACT, Terre Haute, Indiana, from the city of Terre Haute.
- George County REACT, Lucedale, Mississippi, from the city of Lucedale.
- #4208 Sedgwick County REACT, Wichita, Kansas, from the city of Wichita and Sedgwick County.



President Wilbur Goldhammer and Squad Leader Donald Dooley receive proclamation from Mayor Peter Andreas for Team #C733 Lincoln Railsplitter REACT.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT REACT INSURANCE

Gentlemen:

I am looking for information at this time.

Is there an age limit for members as they are not covered by the insurance of members 70 years and over?

Does the Team liability insurance carried by the Team, which they (Team) pay with membership, cover the older members?

If 70 years plus members want to be active members why can't they be covered by all insurance. I am a member of the Douglas Pets Team of Potsdam.

Hope you can answer my inquiries.

Sincerely,

Earl K. Belfinger  
Norfolk, NY

Our liability bonding insurances do not have age limits so all paid members are covered regardless of their age.

The optional accidental death and dismemberment and disability insurance has an age limit for its coverage amounts. Those 62 or older have a reduced amount paid under the policy. This pertains more to the death and disability benefit.

Ron Mayes  
General Manager

### More Insurance Information

#### Liability Insurance Coverage

**QUESTION:** If I (REACT Member) am driving my vehicle and stop to help a motorist with car trouble does the liability coverage protect me? After all I am helping as a REACT Member, right?

**ANSWER:** According to REACT's general liability policy, operation of motor vehicles is excluded from coverage.

The policy states: "We won't protect against claims for harm that results from use, maintenance, repair, loading or unloading of an automobile that any insured (REACT Member) owns or operates or is rented to or loaned to any insured (REACT Member)."

**CASE EXAMPLE:** A REACT Member stopped his car behind a disabled vehicle on the roadway, turned on the car's flasher lights, and went to the disabled car to offer help.

All occupants were moved to the side of the road and soon thereafter a third vehicle struck the REACTer's vehicle from behind. The third vehicle's driver later sued the REACTer Member for damages. A claim was made to REACT insurance which declined coverage.

**POSSIBLE SOLUTION:** REACT Members can carry personal vehicle liability insurance coverage which would cover them in the above example case. Many states also require such insurance.

**QUESTION:** Can REACT Members or Teams have a copy of the original liability policy.

**ANSWER:** Because of the extreme complexity and bulk (100 or more pages) of the original policy, it is not available to Teams. Albert H. Wohlers has prepared a short version of the policy which is available to Teams of REACT International.

Additionally, we copied this short version in the REACTer (March/April '86 issue) for your benefit.

Specific questions about policy coverages can be answered by Albert H. Wohlers 1-800-323-2106. This is also the same number to call for certificates of insurance needed for REACT event coverages.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Because of recent changes in insurance regulations and state laws affecting our policy, there will be changes made in our original policy for 1988. The basic coverage will remain the same. However, we will be forwarding new information to Teams and will note the changes in the REACTer by May, we hope.

## LETTERS WE LIKE TO GET

Dear Mr. Mayes:

On behalf of Area 22 Texas Special Olympics, I am writing to express my thanks and appreciation to the hard work and generosity of Brazoria County REACT 2988, Unit 35. Without this fine group of volunteers, our last several tournaments would have been far less than perfect.

Mr. Tom Houston and Mr. Allan Tyler, together, have recruited and organized for Special Olympic events a number of REACT members who work tirelessly to manage traffic flow, people flow and communication between venues. Every REACT volunteer is friendly, helpful and genuinely interested in the success of the tournament. That is an Area Director's dream come true.

Thank you for providing us with such fine individuals. We in Special Olympics, and especially in Area 22, salute REACT as some of our finest volunteers.

Sincerely,

Linda J. Loepfel  
Area 22 Director  
Special Olympics Texas

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**Have a question about REACT?  
Have a letter you would like to share?  
Write the REACTer,  
242 Cleveland, Wichita, Kansas 67214.**

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#C373 REACT of the Golden Gate, San Bruno, California, display their Team banner for the first time. Their booth at the Street Fair was a big success.

#4525 Kankakee Valley REACT, Knox, Indiana, has been a Team of 5 members for the last 4 years. President of our Team, Tom Singleton, has devoted a great deal of time, effort as well as personal expenses to better the REACT objectives. In the past 4 years he has done more than the fair share of one member. Sure all members take part in whatever is done, but Tom goes beyond that. He alone has spent several hours painting and

constructing signs to put up on the highways, so that motorists would know that we are here. Tom is in the farming industry, and as you may know, has very little time to spare, but he always manages time to help.

We are not able to engage in many activities, but once a year we do manage to hold a fund raiser for the group. The fair runs for one week. Tom is there the entire time. He had donated corn and other materials to this project.

If it weren't for Tom Singleton, I personally do not think that our county would have a REACT team at all. Tom deserves a lot of credit in all that he has done for our group and for REACT.

#C022 Hagerstown REACT, Hagerstown, MD, was mentioned in 2 newspapers, *Hagerstown Morning Herald* and *Hagerstown Daily Mail*. These papers have a readership of more than 150,000 people. The article that appeared on the first page of the local news section of our 2 papers featured member John Spessard. After a "Good Samaritan" answered John's call for help on a CB, he decided he wanted to get involved in a community service that would help others. Eleven years ago he joined our Team. Today he is one of our 5 coordinators.

**1988**

**DUES ARE DUE**

## Want to host REACT International Convention in 1990?

Roanoke, VA, in '88, Wisconsin in '89; and in 1990 the REACT International Convention could be in your town—if your town is west of the Rocky Mountains!

Talk it over with your members who have attended a REACT International Convention. Teams and/or Councils can host the convention. All it takes is manpower, determination, hard work, organization, a good location—and a desire to meet and enjoy people from all over who have interests similar to yours with whom you can share, learn and make lasting friendships.

The Convention Site Selection Task Group looks forward to receiving your requests for Convention Bid Forms. The deadline for submitting completed bids is April 1, 1988.

### Contact:

Barbara Chuyen, Chairman  
Convention Site Selection Task  
Group  
P.O. Box 928  
Ormond Beach, Florida 32074  
Phone: (904) 673-1000

WRITE THE REACTER AND LET US KNOW WHAT YOU LIKE,  
WOULD LIKE TO SEE, YOUR FAVORITE COLUMN, WHAT YOU  
DON'T LIKE, YOUR LEAST FAVORITE, ETC.  
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

## REACTer Reader Service Card

Mail to: REACT Intl., 242 Cleveland, Wichita, KS 67214

Please send me information about the following items:  
(circle all that apply)

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18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

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COUNTRY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

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Use for Product Information  
(See Pages 16, 17 & 18)

WINTER

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Midsize	\$32	\$139 <sup>95</sup>	\$26	\$99 <sup>95</sup>
Standard	\$34	\$159 <sup>95</sup>	\$28	\$119 <sup>95</sup>
Luxury	\$35	\$199 <sup>95</sup>	\$32	\$159 <sup>95</sup>

Rate shown does not include tax, license, fuel, service charges of \$11.95 for 10 tank refills, up to \$4 for lost services charge, credit card/visa fee, extra vehicle fee (up to \$5 daily or less) and \$5 daily or less, tax, airport, license, insurance, waiver and optional additional equipment. Association Members receive a \$1,000 deduction against 1 additional charge. We reserve the right to change or alter our rates for individualized rates and other charges may apply. Standard rental restrictions apply. Restrictions will apply during peak periods. Please refer to charge schedule for details. All rates and other restrictions subject to higher rates may apply. Rates subject to change with 30 days notice. Rates quoted per day. Other details, restrictions apply. Rates valid through June 30, 1988.



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## LONG DISTANCE REACT AID . . . 2,500 Miles Away!

"Emergency . . . any station . . . problem . . . couple holding each other up . . . mile marker 185 . . ."

Saturday, December 12, 4:45 p.m. EST, a REACT Lake Simcoe 4270 monitor hears this broken call on CB Emergency Channel 9. The lady's voice is loud and clear, but intermittent. The monitor moves to the radio, hoping the caller will repeat her message.

"Break Channel 9. Any law enforcement agency . . . I-84 . . . turquoise car . . . rest area . . ." Sure enough she did it, and this time the Ontario REACTer—2,600 miles away—heard more of the vital details so necessary to rendering aid.

" . . . Hermiston . . . O S P . . . California plates . . . westbound rest area . . ." This lady knew her emergency CB procedure. Perhaps she had visited a REACT Safety Break or heard a REACT speaker somewhere. Perhaps someone had given her a CLIP card or REACT litter bag at some time.

Even though she did know how to use her CB to best advantage in an emergency, and the REACTer could now go to work assist her, she could not hear any replies.

The *National Geographic Atlas* listed only one Hermiston in the U.S. fortunately. It was in Oregon, thus the "O. S. P." reference in her call.

Next, the *Gousha Road Atlas* confirmed that Hermiston is on I-84. This excellent atlas showed exit numbers, and even the rest area at mile 185 westbound.

Now to the telephone directory. It gave the area code for Oregon as 503. The 503 Information Operator found an O.S.P. office right in Hermiston and provided the number.

A long distance operator completed the COLLECT call to Hermiston O.S.P. The officer hesitated to accept the call, but quickly agreed when told it was an emergency.

O.S.P. were unaware of the incident although ten to 15 minutes had elapsed since the first CB call—ample time for other closer

monitors to alert them.

Did no one else hear the call? Did others hear, but ignore it? Did others hear, but not know what to do?

Does your Team train its members to act on any call, regardless of distance, when they hear adequate details? Police will appreciate your "long distance" help and gain new respect for REACT in the process. Such calls are easy to handle and offer tremendous satisfaction to the REACTer involved.

The public relations value to your Team of such a call is also very great. It catches media interest since it is unusual. Be sure to include it in a Team news release.

Perhaps you could make it the subject of a special news release. Stress the safety value of CB radio when used correctly.

Contrast your "long distance" success with your Team's many local "lost" calls. Your Team does tally "lost" calls, doesn't it? They also can bring you considerable publicity from their shock value to the media.

REACT Lake Simcoe doesn't know the outcome of its Oregon call. The caller possibly requested an ambulance so the situation may have been quite serious. Hopefully, it had a happy ending, thanks to fast action by REACT . . . from 2,500 miles away.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**FEBRUARY 16-18:** The 27th Annual State Emergency Management Conference, sponsored by the Texas Division of Emergency Management, at the Austin La Mansion Hotel.

**MARCH 4-5:** ASTM organizational meeting on Search and Rescue at the Adams Mark Hotel in St. Louis, MO (314/241-7400). This meeting concerns a proposed new ASTM voluntary standards development activity on Search and Rescue. The following general areas have been identified as needing standards development: Equipment and Uses, Organization and Management, Personnel Training and Education, Search Operations and Techniques, Rescue Operations and Techniques, and Terminology. For more information contact Wendy Dyer at (215) 299-5526.

**MARCH 5:** Texas State REACT Council meeting, hosted by Bell County, at the Ponderosa Inn, S. 31st Street & Loop 360, Temple at 10:00 a.m. For more information contact Jerry Jennison (915) 942-0632.


**MARCH 20:** New Jersey Council of REACT Teams meeting at Hamilton Township, hosted by Hamilton-Mercer.

**APRIL 10:** Kansas State REACT Council meeting at the Western Sizzlin in Salina, KS.

**APRIL 20-22:** National Land Mobile Expo, sponsored by *Communications* magazine. Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, NV. For information call Kathy Kriner at (303) 220-0660.

**MAY 15:** New Jersey Council of REACT Teams meeting at Maywood, hosted by North Jersey.

Citizens Radio Service News



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FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
CIRCLE NO. 2 ON CARD



## Midland CB Announces Limited Edition Gold Power Max

KANSAS CITY, MO — Midland International has introduced a limited edition Gold Power Max CB radio as part of its celebration of the 30th anniversary of Citizens Band radio.

The professional class 40-channel CB transceiver, model 77-250G, has 24 KT gold-covered knobs and special gold lettering and accents on both the radio and the microphone. The limited edition also features new high-intensity amber readouts and an all black, high-tech face.

In addition to its special features, the Gold Power Max offers the industry's most advanced CB technology. An all new transmitter with high level modulation provides outstanding talk power. A tuned dual gate Mos Fet RF amplifier improves signal to noise ratio for excellent sensitivity. A highly selective dual conversion superheterodyne receiver with crystal and ceramic filtering offers superb adjacent channel rejection.

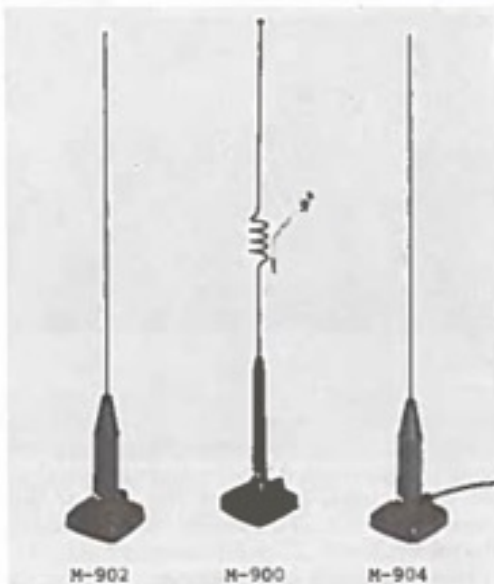
The unit also features ETR frequency control for pinpoint channel accuracy; switchable ANL to eliminate reception background noise; a switchable Dynamic Noise Filter to cut high level engine noise; seven-stage, multi-colored S/R/M/Modulation/SWR electronic metering; variable microphone gain control; variable RF gain control; an SWR calibration system to monitor antenna performance; instant Channel 9 and 19 memory access; and a slide-in, slide-out mounting system with 30° vertical and horizontal adjustment capability.

The special Gold Power Max is a limited edition for 1988. Suggested retail price is \$279.95.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CIRCLE NO. 4 ON CARD.

## Team Events

#C480 Summit County REACT, Akron, Ohio, mourns the death of our friend and long-time member, Vernon "Dutch" Dague. Dutch worked closely with Frank Travis, one of the founders of our Team. He was Operations Officer for many years and was elected President for 3 years in the late '70s. After retirement as a tire builder he spent all his time on REACT projects, maintaining equipment and vehicles, and in meetings to help promote REACT. Dutch was 80 years young.



## "New Breed" of Mobile CB Antennas

CLEVELAND, OHIO — Concurrent with the 30th anniversary of CB (Citizens Band) two-way radio, a new line of high-performance, high-style CB antennas called "Black Stallions," including two models that look for all the world like cellular phone antennas, is being offered by The Antenna Specialists Co.

Model M-900 features the company's Quick Grip™ professional trunk lip-mounting hardware that requires no hole drilling and totally conceals the cable.

Additional Black Stallion models include an "On-Glass"™ version (Model M-906) resembling the most popular cellular antenna; a Quick-Grip trunk mount featuring a conventional CB whip configuration (Model M-902); and a similar conventional model, M-904, featuring a powerful magnet mount base. In line with current automotive trends, all stainless steel parts including whips have a black DURA-COAT™ finish to create the new "Black Stallion" contemporary appearance.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CIRCLE NO. 5 ON CARD.



Member James Maccue (communications officer) gives prospective new Member his card and phone number while Team President John Christensen lends support.

asked, so I told her who I was and why I was calling. She replied, "That's Greg not Chuck. He was supposed to be back here by now."

I realized it was the trouble-maker, Greg. So I was now in a tizzy... do I leave him stuck or do I carry on... several things came to mind... I argued with myself debating what to do.

I called for Chuck, and Greg's voice came back to me saying, "Y-Yes. I shoulda told you to tell [her] to have her husband bring me the two come-alongs and come out Route 60 toward Hopewell and they would meet me along the highway."

"Now's my chance," I thought. "Greg, I know who you are and I don't know whether I should be doing YOU this 'huge favor.'" (pause) "Yeah, I know I gave you guys a bad time for a long time," the voice came back, "but I haven't bothered you lately."

I replied, "Yes, you sure did. And we have noticed that you have been good for a couple of months. You know, Greg, we are all volunteers and we try to help people who need help, just like YOU need it now. We don't want or need anybody doing what you have done in the past."

"Yeah, I know now and I'm sorry," he replied.

I told him Okay and to stand by and I would call her back. Having done so, I called Greg back to inform him that the man was on the way.

He said, "Thanks a lot. Really I'm sorry. Thanks a lot."

Very emphatically and proudly I told him "Okay, Greg, this is KER 6302 United Valley REACT Unit #2 clear, standing by."

This happened in March of 1985 and to this day we have not been bothered by him.

United Valley REACT Inc.  
Team 2141  
Beaver County, Pennsylvania

## Team Events

#C332 Herndon REACT, Herndon, Virginia, participated in the annual Fairfax Fall Festival on October 10. The annual affair usually attracts artists, craftsmen, and vendors from Maryland, District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and the County of Fairfax, Virginia. We were invited to set up a REACT "Publicity Booth."

We put together and manned a booth with REACT brochures and free gifts of REACT litter bags to all who stopped by our display. We exhibited photographs showing Herndon REACT's work and accomplishments. It was an excellent way of bringing REACT to the public as well as recruiting new members to our organization. Through our efforts we were fortunate to talk to some new prospective members. It was an enjoyable 8 hours talking with the public. It has been estimated that this year a record crowd of 75,000 attended the festival.

# — 1988 CONVENTION IS ONLY 7 MONTHS AWAY —

That's right! It's not too early to start talking about the 1988 REACT International Convention to be hosted by the Commonwealth of Virginia REACT Council, Inc.

This is the best opportunity for new REACT members to attend a convention. For those members who have not attended a convention, be assured that, after you attend one convention, you will want to keep on going every year. Besides the fabulous accommodations that are available each year, attendees will find out how REACT International operates, talk to the members of the Board of Directors, talk to other REACT members from across the continent and, best of all, make new friends.

Wisconsin REACT Council, the 1989 Convention host, has appropriately adopted "Family Reunion" as their Convention theme. It is so true, because we are all members of one big family.

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The registration for the Convention (post-marked by May 15, 1988) is \$60. This includes your "ditty bag," a Convention photo and Banquet tickets. The Life Membership Dinner, bus trip, etc. are extra.

## HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

The Hotel Roanoke is a 4-star hotel, located in the Roanoke Valley and has been a landmark in Roanoke since 1882.

The hotel rooms are \$49 per night for a double, with an additional \$7.50 per person (i.e., \$64 for 4 people.) Suites are available for larger parties, which can be affordable if done right.

There are RV campsites nearby, and less



expensive hotels/motels, too. However, it is best to stay at the hotel so that it will be convenient if you need to get something from your room, change clothes, and be close to all of the action. Also, the more rooms that we can occupy, the lower the cost of the convention (i.e., Hospitality Room, Board Room, etc.)

Hotel Roanoke reservations:

1-703-343-6992

1-800-336-9684 USA

1-800-542-5898 (in Virginia)

## GETTING THERE

Roanoke is accessible via car, plane, or bus. Due to its proximity, many of the REACT members who are planning to drive to the convention will be able to view the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains, Allegheny Mountains, Shenandoah National Park, and the George Washington National Park and Forest.

For those who want to get the best view and take a little longer to get to Roanoke—travel the Blue Ridge Parkway. But . . . plan on it taking extra time.

## TOURS AVAILABLE

CVRC has arranged for a particularly special tour for convention attendees. The tour has limited seating available. It will tour to Natural Bridge (one of the Seven Wonders of the World); University of Virginia Campus at Charlottesville; and Monticello—home of Thomas Jefferson.

The cost of \$48 includes all admission fees, lunch, dinner, and the scenic ride. Other pre-convention and post-convention activities are being planned.

The Virginia REACT Council is making a good attempt at making this the best Convention ever, so don't miss it!

Plan to attend so you can see what is really meant by Southern Hospitality.



## CONVENTION SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

### Sunday, July 17

Registration — Noon-4:30 p.m.

Pre-Convention Activities — All Day

Exhibits — Open 1-4:30 p.m.

Hospitality — Open 7 a.m.-1 a.m. daily

### Monday, July 18

Registration — 9-11:30 a.m.

Opening Session — 1:30 p.m.

Group Picture — 3:30 p.m.

Task Group Meetings — 4:15 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

Life Membership Dinner — 6 p.m.

Exhibits Open — 9 a.m.-11 a.m.;  
3:30 p.m.-9 p.m.

### Tuesday, July 19

General Session — 8:30 a.m.

Task Group Meetings — 10:15 a.m.-  
11:15 a.m.

Group Tour — 11:30 a.m.

Exhibits Open — 1-6 p.m.

### Wednesday, July 20

General Session — 8:30 a.m.

Round Robins — 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Workshops — 2-5 p.m.

Exhibits — 1-6 p.m.

### Thursday, July 21

Workshops — 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Exhibits — 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Open Board Meeting — 1:30 p.m.

Cocktail Party — 7:00 p.m.

Banquet — 8:00 p.m.

Entertainment Follows

### Friday, July 22

Convention Review — 9:30 a.m.

Post Convention Activities — All Day

Complete and send in this registration form today!

## SHORT FORM

### 1988 REACT International Convention

Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke, Virginia

July 18-21

PLEASE PRINT — One person per form.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle Initial

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Team # \_\_\_\_\_ Life Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Early Registration (until May 15) \$60.00

Late Registration \$75.00

Life Member Dinner \$15.00

Total Enclosed \$

Make check payable to 1988 International REACT Convention Fund.

Mail to: P.O. Box 3085, Roanoke, Virginia 24015

(A more detailed information form will be provided to you for completion.)

**MORE DETAILS WILL BE FOLLOWING  
IN FUTURE ISSUES OF THE REACTOR.**

## REACT COOPERATION WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES IS IMPORTANT

In less than a minute after phoning 911, the scanner came to rest on Raleigh 5, the county channel. "Raleigh 5 to Knightdale PD, be advised a 10/55, 64 Highway, inbound, last seen 4 miles east of Neuse River, white top, brown late model Lincoln. North Carolina Boy Tom Adam 5534. Authority Wake County REACT."

I cannot stress enough the importance of good public relations between your Team and your county's emergency communications personnel. When Raleigh's 911 gets a call from a Wake County REACT unit, there is no wasted time between the call and the dispatch. Each 911 board operator has a copy of our Team's roster, with unit numbers, names, and phone numbers, as well as a county map marked with the exact location of each Wake County unit. The same information is also provided to the state communications centers and to each law enforcement agency in the county.

A lot of time and effort was involved in establishing a professional rapport with law enforcement agencies and county communications personnel. But, when a two- or three-minute delay may make the difference between life and death, the words "Thank you REACT, we will dispatch immediately," makes the effort well worth it.

According to Raymond D. Whitehurst, Jr., shift supervisor for the North Carolina State Warning Point and Troop C Highway Patrol Communications, REACT is just mentioned in communications school.

It is the responsibility of each individual REACT Team to establish its value to the community's law enforcement and emergency personnel.

In larger cities communications are a bit more sophisticated than in smaller towns. Starting at the top with your county officials is not always the best way to get known and respected by the people you will be dealing with on a daily basis. Talk to the board operators at 911, talk to the EMTs, the beat cop, the sheriff's deputies, the trooper on the highway, as well as the chief of police, sheriff and director of emergency communications.

Most emergency and law enforcement groups will be happy to have you speak at a gathering of their personnel. Especially, if you can provide them with specific facts and information on how your Team can be of value to them and the community in general.

Don't expect your county's law enforcement and emergency personnel to know any more about your team than what you tell them and show them you can do.

Ray Wilkinson  
Wake County REACT  
Knightdale, NC

#2515 Federal City REACT, Washington, D.C., announced that on November 14 Richard "Scotty" McDew, Team President, was voted Sgt. at Arms of the Maryland State Council of REACT Teams during their Council meeting. Mr. McDew's appointment becomes effective January 1, 1988.



Pictured (left to right): Charlie Pearce, Wake County REACT 415; North Carolina Trooper D.A. Bass; and Paul Smith, Wake County REACT 404.

#C332 Herndon REACT, Vienna, Virginia, received an invitation for the Team's officers to meet Judith Garcia, a finalist in NASA's Teacher in Space Program. Attending the social were members of the Vienna Town Council, Fairfax County supervisors and local business men and women from the surrounding areas. Judith Garcia was Grand Marshal for the parade.

The Vienna Chamber of Commerce requested our Team to provide safety emergency radio communications for the 41st Annual Halloween Parade scheduled for October 28.

Fifteen members of the Team covered the entire parade route for the two hours with a fixed base station at the Vienna Town Hall Police Station. The communications van was set up as net control at the half way point of the parade. The Vienna Chamber was pleased with the entire operation and requested our services for their 1988 Halloween Parade.



The Greater Vienna Chamber of Commerce holds its 41st Annual Parade with a special social event prior to the parade. Pictured (left to right): James MacCue, Herndon REACT communications officer; John Webster, Herndon REACT secretary; Sara DeArmitt, parade chairperson; Judith Garcia, Teacher-in-Space finalist; and John Christensen, president of Herndon REACT C332 Inc.

We also held our elections at our December 12 Team meeting. All officers were re-elected to office for 1988. They are: President, Richard "Scotty" McDew; Vice President, Dewey Watkins III; Secretary, James M. Henderson; and Treasurer, Walter A. Jackson Jr.



Bill Nolan of #C109 Prince William REACT brews coffee for motorists at the Team's Labor Day Safety Break.

#C109 Prince William REACT, Woodbridge, Virginia, served about 4,300 motorists at their Labor Day weekend Safety Break. There were a few motorists who stated, "I look forward to stopping in each year to say 'Hello.' We'll see you again next year."

Motorists have been "seeing" the Team every Memorial Day and Labor Day weekend for 15 years at the same location. Beginning in 1972 the owner of Montclair Texaco Service Station in Dumfries, Virginia, has provided the site, water, and electricity for the Team's Safety Breaks.

Among the motorists was a local reporter who ran an article and photo in the *Potomac News* newspaper.

#3206 Richmonds County REACT, Hamlet, North Carolina, found when all else fails, there is GMRS. On Friday, June 5 at 11:15 a.m. the telephone for Berdell Christie was being replaced. She asked Teammate Jocelyn Goodwin, Team President, to stand by with her on the GMRS while her phone was being stalled.

The reason for the help is that Mrs. Christie is totally blind. Her husband, Frank, was at work. Frank is also totally blind and works as a cab dispatcher.

Jocelyn's voice on the GMRS gave Mrs. Christie a comfortable feeling. Mrs. Christie is our monitoring chairperson; Frank is her assistant.

## Team Events



Spectators view the Simi Valley Days Parade while Teddy Brake (Unit 37) of #C729 Simi Valley, California, REACT provides communication coverage at the intersection of Los Angeles Avenue and Third Street.

Photo courtesy of Al Shack

#C729 Simi Valley REACT, Simi Valley, California, provided coverage for the Simi Valley Days parade. Mickey Mouse was the Grand Marshal who arrived from Disneyland for the event on Saturday, September 26. "We the People" was this year's parade theme.

#C010 Honolulu REACT, Honolulu, Hawaii, is congratulating member Barry Moeller. On August 24 at 1400 hours, while on duty, Barry heard a faint cry for help on Channel 9. While trying to get back to the caller, he had to keep moving his beam antenna until he could finally get a contact with the caller. Barry then got the caller to calm down and speak slower.

The call was from a small 15' Boston Whaler outboard with 5 males aboard. The motor had died, and they were drifting away from the island of Oahu toward the Pacific.

He asked them to describe what they could see around them; they were about a mile from a fish aggregation buoy. He asked them to paddle to the buoy and tie up; he also asked for the buoy number or designation. With that Barry knew they were 20 miles out to sea and off Oahu.

Barry called Coast Guard Search and Rescue, giving them all the information. It took the CG launch 2½ hours to reach the boat and 3 hours to get it and its passengers back to shore.

The only safety gear on board was the CB radio. There were no life vests, oars, flares, or extra water.

Two weeks later Barry again picked up a call for help from a small boat 5 miles off famous Waikiki Beach—motor dead and woman scared. In his search for more information he learned a large tanker was anchored about 2-3 miles north of her. Barry went to Channel 23, our local fishing channel, and found a fishing boat to go to her rescue. Barry also informed CG in case something

went wrong with the rescue. All went well; the small boat was towed to shore.

Barry gets about 10-15 calls a month like this. He also handles about 50-60 traffic emergencies a month. He monitors every day from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m.

People like this make it all happen. Keep up the good work, Barry.

#C322 Allen County REACT Lima, OH, was featured in an article with photo in our local paper. Our Team was presented a special achievement award by Lt. Karl Saddler, commander of the Lima post of the Ohio Highway Patrol. Lt. Saddler referred to us as "our eyes and ears."

With this award we became the first Ohio REACT group to receive a Special Achievement award from William Denihan, director of the Ohio Department of Highway Safety, for furthering highway safety. In the past we have twice received certificates of commendation, the only non-law enforcement agency in Ohio to be so honored.

#4643 Maricopa County REACT, Peralta, Arizona, and REACT in general were the subjects of a newspaper write-up. A picture of Larry Biddle, a founding member, accompanied the article in the *Glendale Star*.

#4626 Totem REACT, Kent, Washington, recently put an article in our local Multiple Sclerosis Society paper. We thought this would be a good way to reach potential members.

#2001 Gateway Area REACT, St. Louis, Missouri, has received, in the last couple of years, some very urgent calls concerning objects being thrown off overpasses. Usually it is rocks or other heavy materials. These can and do break the truck and car windows, causing extensive personal injury as well as vehicle damage.

On July 17, Bluford Smith, Life Member 259, received such a call: a driver, in the Illinois area just east of St. Louis, received glass cuts severe enough that one of his eyes may be lost. A few months ago a trucker's wife lost her life when glass cut her jugular vein.

When the first call comes in, we do go on Channel 19 and advise of the problem but that is not always enough. Mr. Smith was advised on the 17th that at least one responsible party had been caught. Not all instances have that ending.

In some areas we are finding that police response is slow at best; the problem areas generally have short-handed police forces, making it next to impossible to get someone into the area quickly enough to catch the culprit. Unless the police have CB radios, we still have response-time problems. It's very difficult to ask a REACTer to cover a high crime area. We are trying to figure out what, if anything, can be done to safeguard the motorist. If someone else has already found one, let us know.

Team President Sue Mayernik received a letter and certificate of appreciation from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.

On June 24, 1987, I received a call from my Teammate, Bill Marshall. He had picked up a call from Northern Ontario, Canada, about a forest fire. Due to skip conditions he was unable to make contact.

As soon as I turned my radio on, I had a clear copy on a gentleman advising that he needed someone to call the Ministry of Natural Resources and report a fire around the Armstrong area. I took the chance that my radio signal would get back to him so I identified. He acknowledged my signal and repeated the message. I asked for a more detailed location; he replied Armstrong, Obonga Lake area. I assured him I would get him help as soon as possible. I did hear him advise another gentleman that he had contacted a REACT base and that he knew help would be on the way.

With the commitment made I proceeded to solicit help, as I had in the past, through an AT&T operator. When I explained who I was and what the situation was, the operator was able to get me through to the Ministry of Natural Resources in Armstrong in short order. The people at the Ministry were fantastic and started action right away. The only time they faltered was when they asked for my name and address. They were just a bit, to say the least, surprised at the distance the message had been received. Around the first of July I received a letter from the Ministry, thanking me for the fast action in reporting the fire and how it no doubt prevented very extensive destruction of the forest area.



## FEMA Announces Videoconference schedule

WASHINGTON — The Emergency Education Network (EENET), the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) satellite-distributed videoconferencing network for state and local government fire service and emergency management personnel, will broadcast 15 training conferences during 1988.

EENET's first broadcast is scheduled the first week in March. Co-produced with The United Way, the program is designed to provide training to field managers who operate the national Emergency Food and Shelter Program.

Videoconferences during the year include 11 covering a wide range of subject from hazardous materials and arson investigation to radio logical emergency preparedness and civil defense programs. Additionally, EENET will broadcast two video journals for fire and emergency management trainers, showcasing various regional and local demonstration projects, as well as a two-day hazardous materials awareness training course co-produced with the Commonwealth of Virginia.

EENET broadcasts will use Spacenet I, Transponder 4 (120° West) for all activities during the year. The videoconferences are in the public domain and, therefore, EENET encourages continued rebroadcast through local cable television networks in addition to the 7,000 local receiver sites at state and local government offices and facilities.

For more information on the following schedule or individual videoconference programs, contact the EENET Office, National Emergency Training Center, Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727, telephone (301) 447-1225.

## Major Disaster Declared in Texas

On November 20, President Reagan declared a major disaster existed in Texas and

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REACT No. 508920

## 1988 EENET SCHEDULE

MONTH	EVENT/TELE-	TITLE
March 2	Conference	Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program: A Partnership That Works
March 30	Conference	Arson Investigation: A Practical Approach
April 13	Conference	Legal Aspects in Emergency Management
April 26-27	Course	Introduction to Hazardous Materials in Cooperation with the State of Virginia (2-day Awareness Training)
May 11	Conference	Organizational Development
May 25	Conference	Health Concerns in Chemical Emergencies
June 8	Cast	Emergency Management and Fire Service Training Video Journal
June 22	Conference	Partnership Against Fire
July 14	Conference	National Sesame Street Fire Program
August 3	Conference	Advanced REP Planning Issues
August 31	Conference	Flood Insurance Program
September 28	Conference	Executive Fire Officer of the 1990s

ordered federal aid for victims of the severe storms and deadly tornadoes that struck the eastern and central parts of the state on November 15.

Fifteen deaths and nearly 200 injuries were attributed to the storms which swept through 27 counties and caused varying degrees of damage to more than 1,500 homes, according to state officials.

FEMA, which will coordinate federal recovery operations, designated Anderson and Cherokee counties eligible for this aid following the declaration.

According to FEMA and state damage survey teams, more than 600 homes and numerous businesses were damaged or destroyed

in the designated counties, where three deaths and more than half of the reported injuries occurred.

## Major Disaster Declared in Puerto Rico

On December 17, President Reagan declared that a major disaster existed in Puerto Rico which was struck by severe storms and torrential rains that began on November 24.

FEMA designated 22 municipalities for aid and will provide temporary housing for those whose homes are uninhabitable, grants for individuals and families, low-interest loans to cover uninsured property and business losses, and other programs to help return the stricken area to pre-disaster condition.

Five deaths and 50 injuries were attributed to the storms which damaged or destroyed more than 4,000 homes, according to federal and Commonwealth officials who surveyed the area prior to the declaration.

## Disaster Aid Ordered for Arkansas Tornado Victims

On December 17, President Reagan declared that a major disaster existed in Arkansas from the deadly tornado that struck the West Memphis area on December 14.

Six deaths and more than 100 injuries were attributed to the storm that slashed through 15 blocks of the community, destroyed at least 120 homes and caused varying degrees of damage to more than 400 other dwellings, according to federal and state damage survey teams.

FEMA, which will coordinate the federal recovery operation, designated Crittenden County eligible for this assistance following the declaration.

If you  
 don't need  
 a CB this great,  
 we've got  
 six other models  
 only slightly  
 less terrific.

You're looking at the Cobra 29 Plus. The top of our line. Or anybody else's, for that matter. And no wonder. Electronic tuning with soft-touch controls. LED signal-strength meter and channel display. Pushbutton noise blanker control. Instant pushbutton access to channels 9 and 19. There's even a panel brightness button and an antenna-trouble warning light.

And all these features and performance are wrapped in chrome and black styling so sleek, from Paris, Texas to Rome, New York, the Cobra 29 Plus is definitely what the well-dressed car (or truck) will be wearing this season.

There are six other models in our new Plus series. They may not have all the features of the 29 Plus, but no matter which one you choose, they'll have something no other CB can offer: The Cobra name. And that's a plus you can't afford to be without. To find the dealer nearest you, call 1-800-COBRA 22.

  
 DYNASCAN CORPORATION

