



the REACTer

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

March/April 1990



Maggie Momenee of Battle Creek REACT Inc., #2975, Battle Creek, Michigan, is reacting to an emergency call in their new office, recently opened on the 18th floor of the Comerica Bank Building. To better the community in emergency and other needs, they have set up a 24 hour monitoring service in the Comerica office. The Comerica Bank Building is right in the Center of downtown Battle Creek, over looking the whole city in order to serve Battle creek much better.

REACT International, Inc.

242 Cleveland
Wichita, Kansas 67214

(TIMELY MATERIAL — DO NOT DELAY!)

4252
CORONA-NORCO REACT
PO BOX 395
CORONA CA 91718

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Wichita, KS
Permit No. 1456

In This Issue...

- State Tax Trends for Nonprofits
- Important REACT Board of Director Announcements
- REACT Response To FCC P.E.L.T.S. Issue
- Lots Of New Radio Products



OPTIMUS

**A GREAT NEW NAME IN QUALITY
STATE-OF-THE-ART AUTOSOUND**

DYNAMITE STEREO, HIGH POWER, ATTRACTIVE PRICE

Radio Shack's exclusive new Optimus equipment offers you super sound, easy operation and great styling—backed by world class engineering and quality control. Top of the new line, the AM/FM stereo cassette shown, has auto-reverse, Dolby® B noise reduction and a powerful 30-watt amplifier. The tuner is digital-electronic with convenient up/down "seek" function. It stores up to 30 stations manually or completely automatically with

the touch of a button. You also get an extra-large LCD time and tuning display, cassette auto-search, front/rear speaker fader,



line in/out for connecting an out-board equalizer or power amplifier, even a front-panel CD jack. A super value at only \$259.95

DISCOVER THE BEST-BACKED BRAND IN AMERICA

Radio Shack stands behind every Optimus component with customer service and support at 7000 locations nationwide. See the all-new Optimus autosound and home stereo components at the Radio Shack near you.

FREE 184-Page Catalog! Write to:
Radio Shack, Dept. 067-05,
300 One Tandy Center,
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Price applies at participating Radio Shack stores and dealers
*TM Dolby Laboratories Licensing Corp.

OPTIMUS Exclusively at
Radio Shack®
The Technology Store™

A DIVISION OF TANDY CORPORATION

Table of Contents

ARTICLES

Best Western Increases Support	8
Board Members Report To REACT Members	3
FCC Proposes New Codeless Class Of Amateur Operators	6
How Can You Possibly Miss REACT ..	23
REACT Response To FCC P.E.L.T.S. Issue	23
May Is REACT Month For 1990	9
State Tax Trends for Nonprofits - An Overview	15
The Nineties REACTing In A New Decade	17
1990 REACT International Convention	11
Volunteers	6

REGULAR FEATURES

Calendar of Events	21
Deadlines	24
Donations To International	20
FCC News	20
FEMA News	19
GMRS - Rx	7
Headquarters Report	4
Life Membership Corner	24
New Product Announcements	12
New Teams Chartered	7
Publicizing REACT	8
REACT Amateur Radio News	10
Seatbelt Safety	18
Team Events	throughout
World Band Radio	7

ADVERTISERS

Antenna Specialists ... Inside Back Cover	
Cobra Dynascan	Back Cover
Popular Communications	26
Radio Shack	Inside Front Cover

the REACTer

March/April 1990
Vol. 24 No. 2

REACTer subscriptions are available at \$11.00 per year in U.S.A.

(Canada - \$14.00 U.S. Dollars)

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 1988 was 12,400 copies with 95% USA and the remainder to Canada, Venezuela, United Kingdom, Australia and U.S. territories. Ronald O. Mayes, General Manager and Editor; Assistant Editor, Deanne Earwood. Offices: REACT International, Inc., 242 Cleveland, Wichita, Kansas 67214 USA (316)263-2100. Entire contents copyright 1990. 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.

BOARD MEMBERS REPORT TO REACT MEMBERS

We have intentionally delayed publication of this issue of the REACTer to permit inclusion of an important article by Jim Bear and Ned Smith. This subject is extremely important to all of the members of REACT and we suggest you study it with close attention.

A summary of Happenings from the February, 1990 Board of Directors Meetings.

1) Attendance: James Bear, presiding; Robert Stone, Vice President; Edward Smith, Secretary; Gregory Seemuth, Treasurer; David Ferrell, Stuart Meyer, Richard Munton and Richard Pratz.

2) Dues period: It was proposed that the dues period be changed from the calendar year to a October through September period. The proposal will be presented to the 1990 Convention.

3) 501(c)(3): It was voted that all U.S. REACT Teams must either a) maintain their own recognition as being non-profit and charitable, or b) certify that they qualify under the REACT blanket exemption (see Action Items list).

4) Charter removed: A REACT Team Charter in New Jersey was rescinded.

5) S. California Council membership request: A request from the Southern California Council to accept Las Vegas United REACT as a member was approved with the following understandings:

a) Such authorization will cease upon the formation of a Nevada Council.

b) There will be no council reimbursement for the Las Vegas United REACT Team members.

6) Affiliate dues: It was voted to place the Affiliate Program participants on a rolling calendar renewal schedule at a dues rate of \$18 per year.

7) Convention Airline: Delta Airlines was selected as the "Official Convention Airline" for the 1990 and 1991 conventions. The Convention program schedule was discussed.

8) Resignation of General Manager: The Board accepted the resignation of Ronald Mayes, General Manager, effective May 15, 1990.

9) Cellular Telephone Study: The Board approved a study, to be headed by Norman Kaplan, to determine what, if any means are provided for emergency contact on the various cellular radio systems across the country.

10) Election of Board members by region: Southwestern REACT proposed election of Board members by region. The proposal was referred to the Membership Committee for review and reporting at the 1990 Convention.

11) Three proposals: Douglas Beard offered three proposals:

License fees: a) Petition Congress to allocate licensing fees from the Amateur Radio Service to service administration and enforcement. Mr. Meyer reported that the current proposal before Congress exempts the Amateur Radio Service from the license fee proposal.

International Agreements: b) Initiate efforts to attain international agreements protecting CB Channel 9 for emergency use

only. Mr. Meyer reported that the radio frequency spectrum in which the 40 CB Channels are located are, by international agreement unguarded, and thus not subject to individual agreements.

Use of the word "official" c) Strike the word "official" from the term "Official Member REACT" on all organization PR materials. The President directed the office staff to make such as materials come up for reprinting.

12) Logos for business stationary: Francis Kelly proposed that various size logos be created including the phrase "We Support" between the microphone and "REACT" for use on business letterhead. The proposal was referred to the PR Task Group for consideration and reporting at the 1990 REACT Convention.

13) Topics for the REACTer: Edward Smith proposed that "issue" or "theme" topics be selected for each edition of the REACTer. This proposal was adopted.

14) Annual Report/Fund Raising proposal: Edward Smith proposed an Annual Report for REACT and an Annual Fund Raising program. This proposal was adopted.

The following additional topics were addressed:

15) REACT ARC: A request for a response from the REACT Amateur Radio Club was referred to Mr. Smith.

16) England Council: The formation of a council in England was recognized.

17) Affiliate complaint: A complaint from a REACT Affiliate was referred to Mr. Pratz and the Texas Council.

18) Advance notice of convention issues: Circle City REACT called on the Board to give advance notice of issues to be considered by delegates at REACT Conventions. Mr. Bear referred the remarks to the Membership Committee for consideration in convention planning.

19) Minutes of last meetings: The minutes of the July meetings were approved as distributed.

20) Dropped member mailing: It was voted to implement a mailing to dropped Team members from 1988 and 1989.

21) Bobby Sherman PSA: It was voted to make one copy of the Bobby Sherman PSA Video available to each Council upon request.

22) Team Directory Update: It was voted to develop an update to the current Team Directory.

23) NVOAD donation: It was voted to donate a \$100 donation to National Voluntary Organizations Active in disaster (NVOAD).

24) Election of at-large directors: Messrs. Ferrell, Meyer, Seemuth and Stone were re-elected as at-large directors. Mr. McCracken was re-elected as "international director."

25) Council election complaint: A complaint regarding a state council's recent election was determined to be moot.

26) Future of REACT Program: Discussions were held regarding the future of REACT.

continued on page 4

BOARD MEMBERS REPORT TO REACT MEMBERS *(continued from page 3)*

Action item list resulting from the February, 1990 Board of Directors Meetings.

Item #	Due	Party Responsible	Description
1	7/90	Convention	Review proposal to change membership period from calendar year to October through September.
2	7/90	Membership Committee	Review proposal to base council reimbursement on Teams participating in the individual council.
3	7/90	Membership Committee	Review issue of council voting at conventions.
4	Ongoing	Seemuth	Develop a series of REACTer articles regarding Team asset management.
5	8/90	Bear	Draft a certification form for use with Team renewals regarding compliance with IRS regulations for review at the 1990 Convention.
6	6/90	Membership Committee	Review actuarial scheme used to manage the Life Member Fund to assure long term stability.
7	6/90	Membership Committee	Review issue of Team/Council officers withholding records and/or funds.
8	4/01/90	Munton	Notify State Council of Proper Voting procedures for elections.
9	Immediate	Office Staff	Deny charter renewal of Edison-Raritan Bay Area REACT if renewal is submitted.
10	4/01/90	Pratz	Notify Southern California Council of option to accept Las Vegas United REACT as a member.
11	6/90	Stone	Draft policy text regarding carrying of firearms at REACT functions.
12	4/15/90	Office Staff	Place Affiliate program on a rolling schedule.
13	4/15/90	Smith	Report to individuals and Teams outcome of papers submitted to the February 1990 Board of Directors Meeting.
14	Ongoing	Office Staff	Strike the work "Official" from "Official Member REACT" term as PR materials come up for reprinting.
15	6/90	PR Task Group	Review proposal by Francis Kelly regarding "We Support REACT" logo.
16	4/15/90	Smith	Contact Timothy Mauch regarding the REACT ARC.
17	4/15/90	Munton	Notify England Council regarding council recognition.
18	4/15/90	Pratz	Contact REACT Affiliate in Texas regarding complaint.
19	4/01/90	McCracken	Draft announcement for the REACTer regarding copies of PSA for councils.
20	6/15/90	Ferrell	Contact NABER regarding long distance telephone service fund raising program.
21	5/01/90	Office Staff	Develop Team Directory update.
22	4/01/90	Office Staff	Send \$100 donation to NVOAD.
23	4/15/90	Munton	Discuss current Life Member grievance procedure with Life members.
24	4/15/90	Munton	Contact Puerto Rico Council and Teams regarding complaint received.
25	4/15/90	Pratz	Contact ex-REACT Team for additional information on its charter re-application request.

TO: The REACT Board of Directors
FROM: E.W.N. Smith
RE: The resignation of Mr. Mayes

Ron Mayes, General Manager has submitted his resignation to the REACT International Board of Directors, to pursue personal interests. To allow the Board to find a suitable person to fulfill the position of Office Manager at the Association's Headquarters in Wichita, Kansas, Mr. Mayes has agreed to remain in his current position, or on a consulting basis, as mutually agreed to.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Deadline: June 15, 1990

REACT President, James Bear has again issued a "Call for Papers" to all REACT Teams, Councils and Team members. Papers may be submitted on topics of interest to the REACT Community.

Papers submitted by the June 15, 1990 deadline will be assembled by the Secretary and distributed to the members of the REACT International, Inc., Board of Directors at its July, 1990 meetings. Following these meetings the Secretary will provide a summary of these papers, along with a report of disposition, to the REACT membership.

Anyone wishing to submit a paper for consideration by the Board are invited to forward the submission to:

Edward W.N. Smith
 Field Director and Secretary
 REACT International, Inc.
 105 East Germantown Pike
 Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

Respectfully Submitted,

Edward W.N. Smith
 Field Director and Secretary

REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS LISTING

James Bear,
 President & Chairman
 2504 Valley Drive
 Lancaster, PA 17603
 HP 717/872-4303
 BP 717/898-0161 ext. 2153

W. Robert Stone,
 Vice President
 45 Skyview Lane
 Eureka Springs, AR 72632
 HP 501/253-9031
 BP 612/473-1680

Edward W.N. Smith,
 Secretary
 105 E. Germantown Pike
 Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
 HP 215/825-5528
 BP 215/625-1405

Gregory J. Seemuth, CPP,
 Treasurer
 Allstate Insurance Co.
 Allstate Plaza North
 Tube Station COA
 Northbrook, IL 60062
 HP 708/428-8106
 BP 708/402-6479

David D. Ferrell
 1225 Maine Street #2
 Quincy, IL 62301
 HP 217/223-0746
 BP 217/223-3225

Ronald W. McCracken
 32 The Queensway
 North Keswick, ON Canada
 L4P 1E3
 HP 416/476-5556

Stuart Moyer
 2417 Newton Street
 Vienna, VA 22181
 HP 703/281-3806

Rick Munton
 6723 Stillmeadow Drive
 Charlotte, NC 28226
 HP 704/846-2632
 BP 704/378-3763

Richard Pratz
 Rt. 7, Box 7296
 Belton, TX 76513 9106
 HP 817/939-8404
 BP 817/287-9071

HEADQUARTERS REPORT

The March/April REACTer is late because of several factors that were not anticipated. First our preparation for the Winter Board Meeting combined with a surge of late renewals left us little time to work on the issue. After the Board meeting the Board Chairman requested we hold the issue up for the Board's special announcement. Then our Assistant Editor Sandy resigned. Finally our typesetter could not handle our magazine due to a loss of staff themselves. Murphy's Law really worked against us as you can see from the above.

I am pleased to report that with the hiring of an experienced editor, Deanne Earwood and the location of a new typesetter, we expect to be on time with all future issues. You can look for the May/June edition in mid May.

What REACT International has done for you from January 1 to March 1, 1990.

- Received 976 pamphlet requests and 524 pop com requests for a total of 1,500.
- Mailed/answered 1,612 total inquires.
- Staff processed 145 orders for REACT Teams and members.
- Chartered 10 new REACT Teams and added one new country to REACTS coverage.
- Registered forty new affiliates.
- Handled Team renewals, Winter Board Meeting, interviewed for new staff and attended Winter Consumer Electronics Show.

April "Team Topics" will be received about the same time you receive this issue of the REACTer. It will contain the May REACT Month materials, new REACT Supply price list, '90 Convention information and forms, and other information for your Team.

State REACT Councils: received a special REACT promotion package in late March containing past issues of the REACTer and our new brochure "An Invitation To Join REACT". They will receive in mid April, the REACT television/cable public service announcement with Bobby Sherman. The 3/4" professional master video tape is intended for use by the Council to help promote REACT membership throughout their state and can be loaned to Teams for use on local stations. This proposal by Ron Mayes, General Manager, was accepted by the Board at the '90 Winter Board Meeting. Councils and Teams can arrange for the master video to be copied by local TV stations and cable companies for the stations use. This way the master can be returned and used over and over again. Some stations may also be able to

February 1990

Board of Directors
REACT International, Inc.

RE: Statement of Resignation

With the decision of the Board of Directors to change the management structure and eliminate the need for my position, I hereby tender my resignation.

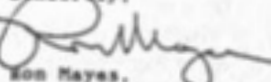
For more than three years I have served this organization from my current position in the best way I knew how. During this time I have enjoyed many experiences and accomplishments. However, REACT International is at a critical junction point where leadership needs to be motivated by concern for the whole membership and not just the whims of a few. I urge you to go back to the basics and perfect them as much as possible before you leap out at various other fads and niches that are hardly within REACT's original mission.

I will remain in my current position until May 15, 1990 or until I find suitable employer who could set an earlier date of departure. If such occurs I would remain available on a consultant basis until the above date.

It is my desire to assist the transition to the new management structure and avoid interruption of present membership services. This assistance would be dependent upon the availability of new staff.

Over the years I have come to know many REACT members and leaders of the future for REACT. Many are my friends and will always be remembered. I am thankful to have served in my position as General Manager. However, this resignation is not as though I am leaving, but rather making the transition back to my status as a REACT Life Member #162 and active Team, Council participant. I look forward to seeing many of my friends again at a future convention or event.

Sincerely,



Ron Mayes,
General Manager
REACT International, Inc.

add a state or local contact tag line on their video copy to appear along with REACT International's contact information.

New REACT wear jackets are in popular demand. In less than a year over half of our original inventory of REACT wear jackets have been sold. Over 1,200 new REACT hats were also sold. Unfortunately, we were unable to project the demand for the larger REACT jacket sizes. Even though we doubled the quantity of these sizes over the national average "we have run out of XXL and XXXL jackets in both styles". As soon as we decrease our inventory in the other sizes all sizes will be made available again. Remember, these are custom made jackets and REACT International must have several hundred made at a time.

We will keep you informed about the availability of all REACT wear items in future issues of the REACTer.

Staff changes: As some of you read the Boards special announcement you can begin to rationalize that the only consistency in life is change.

Sandy Van Doren has left to pursue her professional writing career, Patty Davis has returned to her huge home

garden and the part-time office assistants are changing as usual. As you read further you will find that I have decided to leave my paid staff position as REACT Internationals' General Manager, in light of the Board's decision to change REACT's management structure.

However, the Board and I are making every effort to keep REACT Headquarters functioning smoothly, as you read about our new Office Manager, Deanne Earwood. You will find she is a very capable individual with membership association experience. I am training her along with a new secretary to handle the daily needs of the Headquarters office.

Introducing our new Office Manager Deanne Earwood who brings to REACT International a history experience of over 14 years working with membership association type organizations. Deanne also brings to REACT Headquarters over 9 years experience in magazine publishing as well as public relation experience. Her past history shows her dedication to the association's she has served and we might add, she is excited and enthusiastic on learning the in's and out's of REACT International and its' membership.

FCC PROPOSES NEW CODELESS CLASS OF AMATEUR OPERATORS

FCC proposes new codeless class of amateur operator license (PR Docket 90-55). The Commission is proposing to amend its rules by establishing a codeless class of amateur operator license to be called the Communicator Class. The Communicator Class would be incorporated into a simplified licensing structure containing four ascending steps: 1) Communicator, 2) General, 3) Advanced, and 4) Amateur Extra Classes. Current Technician and Novice Class operator licenses would be grandfathered indefinitely, with no new licenses issued for those license classes but existing licenses could be modified or renewed.

The codeless operator class license would satisfy three major objectives. The first objective is to offer an entry level license for all persons who find telegraphy a barrier to pursuing the purposes of the amateur service. The second objective is to design a codeless license that can easily be implemented into the current licensing process. The third objective is to avoid any negative effect upon current licensees, the volunteer examiners who administer amateur examinations, or the Commission's workload.

The amateur service exists for the purpose of self-training, inter-communications and investigations to be carried out by duly authorized persons interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim, and without financial gain. Individuals seeking a license to operate an amateur station must prove that they can send correctly by hand and receive correctly by ear, text in Morse code signals. Although this requirement may be waived for an operator of an amateur station transmitting only on frequencies above 30 MHz, each of the five classes of operator licenses issued by the Commission requires the applicant to pass an examination in the international Morse code.

The Communicator Class operator license would not require knowledge of Morse code telegraphy messages. Privileges for the Communicator Class would include all emission types. The Communicator Class license would replace two existing beginner operator classes and would simplify the amateur operator license structure.

The Commission would require applicants for the Communicator Class license to pass a 60 question written examination. The new question pool

would be comprised of the questions from the two pools currently used in the Novice and Technician license examinations as well as the addition of new questions.

The proposed transmitter power for the Communicator Class would be 200 watts peak envelope power and the licensee's station would be eligible for a Group D call sign. Stations with Communicator Class control operators would not be permitted to transmit on the 2 and 8 meter VHF bands and the HF bands. The Commission is requesting a comments on the effect of excluding Communicator Class licensees from the two VHF bands. Comments are also requested on the desirability of including the opportunity for Communicator Class licensees to experience on-the-air telegraphy operation on the HF bands. Additionally, a Communicator Class licensee who passes or receives credit for a telegraphy examination would be authorized the privileges of the technician Class.

The Commission is requesting comments on all aspects of this proposal. Action by the Commission February 8, 1990, by Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FCC 90-55).

Note: The deadline for filing comments is August 6, 1990.

Team Events

#1582 Louisville Metro REACT, Louisville, Kentucky, two members John French and Rachel Freels responded to central monitoring Station One at noon on February 12, 1990 in anticipation of an impending emergency. In Louisville and Jefferson County, Kentucky a flash flood warning had been issued. Numerous streets and roads were closed by high water during the afternoon.

That evening the emergency arrived. Continual rain, high water and the failure of Bighorn Lake Dam flooded several subdivisions, closed more roads and flooded a trailer park. The Fairdale Volunteer Fire Department, aided by Jefferson County Police and others, began evacuating while the Red Cross opened a shelter.

Communication problems worsened when fire station phones were swamped by incoming calls and there were not enough fire frequency two way radios to go around. Quite a few fire fighters had their own CBs, so Station One became their relay. By passing information monitored on a scanner to fire fighters in the field via CB and making land line calls for the Fire Department, emergency communications were maintained. It was a round about way of doing things, but it worked!

Rachel, John and Metro REACT members at other locations handled over 100 incident calls during the emergency. The rain finally stopped and Station One

closed at 3:00 a.m.

C525, 5 Watt's Citizen Band Club, Concord, New Hampshire, has a small club of about 13 members. During the year they stay active by doing parades, bike and road races, the fall foliage festival for two days, triathlon, first night celebration, folk festival and a hunger walk. During the winter they spend a lot of time helping highway bound motorists.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are like yachts. No matter where they are, they arouse your curiosity. Who are they? Where do they come from? Why are they here?

They could stay moored where it's safe and still justify their being, but they choose to cut through the rough waters, ride out storms and take chances.

They have style. They're fiercely independent. If you have to ask how much they cost, you can't afford them.

Volunteers and yachts have a lot more in common these days. They're both a part of an aristocratic era that is disappearing from the American scene. They're both a luxury in a world that has become very practical.

Day by day, the number of volunteers decreases in this country as more and more of them equate their worth in terms of dollars and cents.

Three years ago, I did a column on volunteers in an effort to point out that they don't contribute to our civilization. They

ARE civilization - at least the only part worth talking about.

They are the only human beings on the face of this earth who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfishness, caring, patience, need and just plain loving one another. Their very presence transcends politics, religion, ethnic background, marital status, sexism, even smokers vs. non-smokers.

Maybe, like the yacht, the volunteer was a luxury. And luxuries are too often taken for granted.

One has to wonder. Did we, as a nation, remember to say to the volunteers, "Thank you for our symphony hall. Thank you for the six dialysis machines. Thank you for sitting up with a 16-year old who overdosed and begged to die. Thank you for the hot chocolate at the scout meeting. Thanks for reading to the blind. Thanks for using your station wagon to transport a group of strangers to a ballgame. Thanks for knocking on doors in the rain. Thanks for hugging the winners of the Special Olympics. Thanks for pushing the wheelchair into the sun. Thanks for being."

Did the press stand behind them when they needed a boost? Did the professionals make it a point to tell them they did a good job? Did the recipients of their time and talent ever express their gratitude?

It frightens me, somehow, to imagine what the world will be like without them.

(Source: Erma Bombeck, Wichita Eagle-Beacon, April 11, 1979)



WORLD BAND RADIO

By R.C. Watts

One of the most interesting happenings of late has been the high sunspot count in cycle 22 of the 11 year sunspot cycle. The solar activity is of concern to CBers, Hams and listeners because it has a great impact on long distance high frequency propagation or skip. For those who wish to keep up with the activity, you can hear the Geophysical Alert Broadcast on WWV (2,5,5,10,15 or 20 MHz) at :18 past the hour or WWVH (same frequencies, except not on 20 MHz) at :45 past. The information can also be had by phone: 303/497-3235.

To understand and use the information, you need one or both of these free booklets: "The Solar Guide", by David A. Rosenthal, from Radio Nederland, P.O. Box 222, 1200 JG Hilversum, The Netherlands and "User's Guide to the Geophysical Alert Broadcast", from Space Environment Service Center, 325 Broadway, Boulder, Co. 80303 U.S.A.

Some of the best listening on shortwave has been coming out of Eastern Europe and the U.S.S.R. Radio Polonia is hard to hear, but Radio Berlin International, Radio Sofia, Radio Prague, Radio Budapest and Radio Bucharest are all easy to tune in. Of course, Radio Moscow can be heard very well every evening. The changes in programming and new reporting from all these stations is astounding. Radio Tirana, Albania, has stayed the same as I write this, but we'll see how long that can last!

All those stations are generous with QSL cards. Radio Moscow is especially friendly. The U.S.S.R. has many, many transmitter sites in use and will usually enter the side on the card if you ask them to. We do our part for friendly international relations when we let them know we listen to them!

**SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS,
THEY SUPPORT
REACT!**

GMRS...Rx

Antennas And Your Technician

by Bill Simpson

A Couple of issues back, I promised an article on antennas...and how to help your technician. Maybe we'll even interject a couple of do's and don'ts that will apply to GMRS and CB alike.

As we exit the winter season—even for you guys south of the Mason-Dixon, it's a good idea to check the coax on the base(s). Look for breaks or kinks and check the resistance with a VOM. Remember, at this time you don't really care what the numerical value is...you simply want a connection between the two ends of both the center conductor and the braid, respectively and an "open" between the center conductor and the braid, at each end.

Use the Wattmeter (GMRS) or SWR meter (CB) to measure the ratio between the forward and reflected power. Believe the meter! It's a dumb instrument that can only measure. If you see a really weird reading, accept it and go find and correct the problem.

Check the PL259 connector to the antennas for corrosion and/or evidence of moisture. Regardless of the water-tight seal you so carefully installed last year, you can bet the fact that SOME moisture got inside. The problem now becomes how far did the moisture go? After you've correct that problem, either by installing a new coax, or by trimming off ALL the bad coax, think about installing the new coax, arrange the run so that the splice is out of the weather. Please use a legitimate splice, using PL259s and double male connectors. DON'T...DO NOT...REFRAIN FROM...STOP...hooking the two pieces of center lead together, taping it, laying the braid over it and taping the whole works. That, very simply,

pushes the standing wave ratio so high that it may not even read on the meter. Eventually, you can count on repairing or replacing the radio, since the final amplifier will "fry".

Just a couple of points to make concerning portables: First the BNC and SMA type connectors have a small center pin that have the tendency to snap, leaving the pin in the radio. Carefully, remove the antenna and check the center pin...just as carefully, replace the antenna. Clean any corrosion dirt and dust from around the antenna.

Mobile antennas...CB and GMRS...Trunk lip mounts tend to rust at the set screws. Remove the antenna, clean the rust off both the mount and the car, change the set screws if necessary. If there is a lot of rust, throw the whole works away, including the coax, and replace with new.

Some people use spring loads at the base of the antenna, which may have a conductor down the center. This conductor will rust, causing inconsistent SWRs. As the car moves, the antenna moves back and forth, making and breaking the connection at the center. In fact, both rusted set screws and rusted springs will allow the antenna to flex away from the vehicle, causing the SWR reading to bounce all over the scale. But, as you check it, with the car stationary, it seems fine. Even roof and truck mounts, drilled through the metal will allow moisture to seep into the coax. Check as with trunk lip mounts. Remember to check, clean and replace washers and o-rings.

Last, but not least, check to see that you have a copy of your license and part 95 in your car. The FCC requires you to have each in your possession at all times.

NEW TEAMS CHARTERED

- | | | | |
|------|---|------|---|
| 4768 | Central Valley REACT
Fresno, California
1-19-90 | 4775 | Madison County REACT
Berke, Kentucky
2-22-90 |
| 4769 | Piramides REACT De Catano
Cantano, Puerto Rico
1-25-90 | 4776 | Silver Wings REACT
Pensacola, Florida
2-23-90 |
| 4770 | Marquette County REACT
Montello, Wisconsin
2-09-90 | | |
| 4771 | Caldwell County REACT
Lenoir, North Carolina
2-09-90 | | |
| 4772 | Clermont County REACT
Goshen, Ohio
2-09-90 | | |
| 4773 | Emergency Assistance REACT
Wareham, Massachusetts
2-22-90 | | |
| 4774 | West Du Page REACT
Wheaton, Illinois
2-22-90 | | |

NEW REACT AFFILIATED COUNTRIES

- | | |
|------|--|
| 5200 | Dominican REACT
Dominican Republic, West Indies
7-23 89 |
| 5300 | "Aguilas REACT de Emergenica
Canal-9-AC"
Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico
1-26-90 |

UNITED KINGDOM ADDS ANOTHER TEAM

- | | |
|------|--|
| 5036 | Harlow & District REACT
Essex, England, UK
1-19-90 |
|------|--|



Publicizing REACT

by Ron McCracken

REACT MONTH

It's nearly here! Are you ready? How's your PR I.Q.? Here's a checklist:

- Police
- Insurance Agencies
- Travel Info Centers
- Radio Stores
- Marinas
- Gas Stations
- RV Parks
- Laundromats
- Truck Stops
- Food Stores

"Getting Help by CB Radio" pamphlets should be available to the public at these locations and more. Make contact now to arrange it. Order leaflets now to ensure you have them ready. Issue a news release listing the participating businesses and agencies from which the leaflet will be available.

Now is also the time to book space at malls, etc., for your Safety Information Displays and to plan other REACT Month events, including Safety Breaks. Include these events in your news release. Enjoy!

CELLULAR CBers

Contact cellular phone firms in your area. Would they like to equip some, or all, of your Team members' vehicles with complimentary phones? A magnetic sign reading "Cellular phone courtesy of..." may be part of the deal, of course.

It will be good PR for the firm and enable your Team to offer the public added service. Think of other such mutually beneficial links your Team can pursue, too.

RV PARKS

Has your TEAM provided RV parks in your area with a stock of "Getting Help by CB Radio"? Do you check regularly with them to offer a new supply when needed? Do they have your business card to contact you for a new supply or to get answers to questions their visitors may have? Plan now. Summer will be here fast. Order soon to have the quantities you need on hand.

THINK BOATS

Boating will soon resume for the summer. For some Teams, the boating season never stops.

Supply USCG Auxiliary units with "Getting Help by CB Radio". Do likewise for marinas in your monitoring area.

BOAT SHOWS

When a large marina is hosting a boat show, arrange to hold a REACT safety information display on site. Do it in cooperation with the USCGA if you can. Be sure USCGA knows of the show. If they can't come, request a variety of their safety leaflets to offer at your booth. Your "booth" can be as simple as a picnic table, remember.

365-DAY PR

A tip o' the PR hat to Suffolk County REACT (NY). This Team issued a desk calendar imprinted with greetings from their Team. It will sit on emergency services personnel's desks all year, reminding them of REACT whenever they consult it. Super ideal Source of the calendar (and other good PR items) is: Miles Kimball Co., Oshkosh, WI. Write for a catalog.

**PLAN NOW TO
ATTEND
1990 REACT
International
Convention
Spokane, Washington
July 23-26th**

BEST WESTERN INCREASES SUPPORT

by Ron McCracken

REACT Teams will benefit from even more exposure in the new 1990 "Best Western Travel Guide and Road Atlas". Best Western has retained the two large REACT safety messages its 1989 edition carried. Beyond that, it has added some in a smaller format. The varied sizes may actually be more effective in catching the reader's eye.

Visit your nearest Best Western location. Get a copy of the free "Travel Guide" to show to your Team at its next meeting. Teams using the new CB road sign will benefit particularly from its inclusion in the safety messages.

REACT International has expressed its appreciation for this corporate support to Best Western headquarters. Your Team may also wish to let your local Best Western manager know how grateful it is for this help.

We can't say "Thank You" too often to all who assist us in whatever ways.

Team Events

#4517 Champaign County React Team, Ohio, honored Team President Wes Gould with "REACTOR OF THE DECADE" award as well as a life membership in REACT International at their annual Award Dinner held recently. Having formed the team in 1980, Wes won an International award in 1982. The team won an International award in 1988, and the Treasurer won an individual award in 1989.

Ohio DOT has updated the rest stop they use for "breaks" 3 times a year with new lighting and rest rooms. A mobile building is used for breaks and as a headquarters communication center at the Annual County Fair.

The team is using GMRS and has 19 mobile and portable units and has recently installed their own repeater.

#4552 Reel React, Inc., Long Island, New York, recently celebrated their 7th birthday on February 4th, 1990.


#C161 Allegheny Valley React, Inc., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, has a busy year planned already. On the schedule for April 29th, is the March of Dimes Walk America's, as well as the County Air Show held from August 25th through August 26th, 1990.



Emergency?

Broadcast details over and over
(WHO ★ WHERE *exactly* ★ WHAT)
without regard for a reply.

REACT International, Inc.,
242 Cleveland, Wichita, KS 67214-U.S.A.
(316)263-2100

 **National Safety Council**

MAY IS REACT MONTH FOR 1990

Your Team can increase the public's awareness of your REACT volunteer efforts in the community by following the examples contained in the package mailed to your team recently.

Increasing the public's awareness can lead to good things for your Team. These include: greater respect for your emergency CB Channel 9 and GMRS monitoring efforts, increased donations for Team events, membership inquiries, and above all, recognition for your contributions to the community.

The month of May was chosen to be REACT Month by the delegates of the 1988 International Convention. They chose May because it is the start of summer travel which means increased activities for many REACT Teams. Thus, many more people in your community will be made aware of your Team's volunteer public service efforts through REACT month and then will see your Team in action over the summer. The first major summer holiday, Memorial Day Weekend, is in REACT Month to emphasize this point.

To increase awareness about REACT, specifically your Team, in your community we suggest you prepare and implement the following media attention getters. These are provided by the REACT International Task Group on Public Relations, headed by Ron McCracken, Director, and Bob Reichel, Task Group leader.

- Press release(s) detailing your Team's recognition of May as REACT Month, proclamation(s) received, and Memorial Day activities; Separate releases may be created; but be sure to mention the previous press release or subsequent releases. Send these to print/newspaper, radio and television media. For more information about press releases refer to the Public Relations Kit from REACT International or the REACTer, article(s) on "Publicizing REACT".
- Proclamation(s) are great for getting the attention and support from your community leaders. Use the sample letter and proclamation from your package.
- Public Service Announcements (PSA) Radio: The sample radio PSA script enclosed with your package can be shortened or lengthened, and personalized to your Team. Send this to the radio station along with your press release and cover letter requesting one of the stations better known personalities or D.J.'s to make the PSA for their exclusive use. This way the listening audience will recognize the voice and give more attention (and credibility) to your spot. Another hint is

continued on page 10

RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

(approximately 45 seconds)

A CB radio in your car or boat is an ideal Communications link to assistance in the case of Accidents, Requests for Road Directions, or Encounters with an Impaired Driver.

_____ REACT Team, affiliated with REACT
(insert your Team name)
International, monitors CB EMERGENCY Channel 9 for calls requesting assistance.

REACT Teams also provide Communications assistance for various local service projects. Learn how you can participate with these dedicated REACT Volunteers.

CALL

_____ REACT at _____ for
(insert your Team name) (insert your phone #)
information without any obligation or send a self addressed stamped envelope to

_____ at _____
(insert your Team name) (insert your Team address)

Repeat contact information for 60 seconds

TO REQUEST "MAY IS REACT MONTH" PROCLAMATION FOR YOUR TEAM

_____ REACT has
(insert your Team name)
been serving _____ for _____ years.

(insert your city/county(s))
Chartered by REACT International we are recognized as a non-profit, volunteer public service organization. We are pleased to supply you with the following information for your consideration in proclaiming MAY 1990 as International REACT Month in _____.)

Our REACT volunteers: (insert your city or location)

(A) Monitor CB EMERGENCY Channel 9: _____ has
(insert your Team name)
monitored _____ hours while handling _____ calls in 1989; (between
(insert date) and (insert date) .)

(B) Assist this community by providing Communications and workers for: (List some examples of your event(s) here.)

(C) Cooperates with & receives training from such agencies as: (List some of the agencies here.)

(D) Operate SAFETY/COFFEE Breaks over (list holiday) weekends where we provide FREE refreshments to allow motorists to pause & refresh.

Enclosed is some additional information about our Team. You may contact our officer

(insert name)
At _____ or one of our other officers (list).

(insert name)
Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

(signatures of your President, P.R. Officer or other officer)

(Retype with your Teams information included)

Night Signals

On December 29th, 1989, the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) announced the availability of a new publication *Night Signals* by Cynthia Wall, KA71TT.

The story features Kim, a Salem teenage Amateur Radio operator, who has a chance "on the air" romantic meeting with Marc, an Oregon State University student hiking in the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness Area. They make plans to talk the next night, but she doesn't hear him. The reason: Marc has broken his leg and his power supply gear in a fall down an embankment. The next day, he is caught in a spring snow storm, and hypothermia threatens to take his life. It is Marc's ingenuity with radio gear and Kim's determination plus the help of Marlon County Search and Rescue agencies and the Oregon National Guard which ultimately lead to his rescue. This publication is available from ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111, USA, for \$5.00 plus \$2.50 shipping and handling (\$3.50 UPS). The ISBN number is 0-87259-258-8.

ARRL Awards First Grant for HF Packet Radio Research

The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) made its first technology grant of more than \$1,000 to a team of investigators headed by Stephen Hall, WM6P, of Simi Valley, California, for research in diversity reception of high-frequency (HF) packet radio signals. The objectives of this work are to investigate the benefits of diversity reception for HF packet radio, design practical diversity antenna systems, modem characteristics, and receiver design for diversity.

Co-investigators in the team are Andy Demartini, KC2FF, of Clearwater, Florida, Wally Linstruth, WA6JPR, of Santa Barbara, California, Bill Lake, WB6R1J,

also of Santa Barbara, Herb Duncan, WE7L, of Sierra Vista, Arizona, and Peter LaCount, WBUXD, also of Sierra Vista.

Funds provided under this grant are for purchase of equipment, electronic parts and other out-of-pocket expenses in connection with this research. The team members donate their volunteer labor and much of their own equipment in carrying out this work.

AM SAT Launch Yields Six OSCARS

On Sunday, January 21 at 0135 UTC, the next generation of OSCAR satellites were launched. Uosats D & E and the four Microsats (Pacsat, Webersat, LUsat and

DOVE) began their journey into space from Kourou, French Guiana.

The AMSAT Launch Information Network Service (ALINS) covered the launch and the events surrounding it. Alins was heard around the world with rebroadcasts by W1AW, WA3NAN, W5RRR and a host of other HF and VHF stations on virtually all amateur bands.

The rocket reached orbit velocity of 7 kilometers/second just before 16 minutes into the flight as it passed east of Bermuda. At 20 minutes, 4 seconds, Uosats D and E were deployed becoming OSCAR 14 and 15. One minute later the four Microsats were successfully deployed, becoming OSCAR 16-19 respectively.

MAY IS REACT MONTH FOR 1990 *continued from page 9*

to make a Team officer/spokesperson available for a on-the-air interview for the station.

- Public Service Announcements (PSA) Television - Local stations and cable systems: Contact the station and let them know your Team can provide a 30 second PSA on REACT done by Bobby Sherman (see the REACT catalog). The station can add your Team name and contact number with their by line generation equipment to the PSA while its running, or you can order it personalized from REACT Headquarters.

Here is an idea: In your press releases and other media provide the public a free REACT pamphlet, "Getting Help by CB Radio", to interested persons who send the Team a self-addressed, stamped #10 envelope. The pamphlets are available from REACT International. Stamp your Team name on the front and/or inside. Also include information about your Team and membership opportunities. Be sure total piece weight is one ounce or less. This idea benefits your Team in several ways: Pamphlet educates recipient on how to

make a call on CB 9; your Team is promoted directly to interested person(s); you may get a new member.

Bob Reichel writes...

"Have you ever noticed some teams get a lot of publicity? Would your Team like to?"

"There is a member in your Team who either has connections with the media or would be a colorful new-source for a reporter; either has an advantage. If the Public Relations Task Group provides a media kit of information which tells you what to say and you have someone to act as your spokesman, you're halfway there."

"Press Releases, Public Service Announcement scripts, etc., may be terribly creative, witty, or profound, BUT the media has to be persuaded to read it AND act upon them. TV and radio stations are inundated with requests for free air time. Even though REACT is important, stations, due to manpower or priorities, can NOT cover everybody's everything. They consider most everything REACT does as "Human Interest" - NOT hard news. Requests for consideration of your PSA or Proclaiming MAY as REACT Month must be made well in advance."



Herndon REACT Team honors its members with REACT Awards, from left to right, Lee Williams - Special Recognition Award for 2,352 monitoring hours, Mike Reese - Silver Medallion Award for monitoring 5,014 hours, Rick Rohmann - received the Teams highest award, The William O. Rohmann Award. Al Hanger - received the Special Recognition Award for dedicated service. Not present for picture: Bob Baird - Special Recognition Award for dedicated service, Sarah Leach - Special Recognition Award for monitoring 2,352 hours. Photo by: Bob Baird, Herndon REACT.

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND 1990 REACT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

DELTA AIRLINES IS REACT'S CONVENTION CHOICE

Save 40% off coach (USA), 35% off coach (Canada) or 5% off the lowest Super Saver fare available by flying Delta Airlines to the Spokane, WA REACT Convention.

To obtain the above discounts call Delta at 1-800/221-1212 and ask for special meetings network, please refer to REACT file # E26010. Restrictions do apply.

Note: make your flight reservations as early as possible. The 'Goodwill Games' are going on during the same dates and airlines are getting booked up.

HELLO, FELLOW REACTORS

The winner of the early registration contest was Mary Cooper - Allentown, New Jersey. Congratulations on the free night lodging at Cavanaugh's Inn at the park.

We of Spokane County REACT are working diligently on the 1990 convention. To start off the list we have decided to do an "Area-dine" party, please bring something to eat or drink from your area: i.e., Hood River, apples; Wisconsin, cheese; Georgia, peaches.

There is a change to the prices of the registration, early registration is only \$55.00 and must be postmarked by May 15th, and late registration is \$70.00. Please indicate on your registration form if you are a single party and would like to share a room.

Update on the July 22nd, Silverwood trip, we were just informed that the trip we have planned has been changed, due to remodeling. Because of this remodeling; the adding of 11 new rides, including the corescrew roller coaster from Knotts Berry Farm, a log flume, an antique carousel, plus 8 other quality rides; we will not be able to go to the air museum or to offer lunch with the trip, the cost of this trip to the newly developed Victorian style mining town of Silverwood will be \$20.50 per person. This price includes transportation, tour guide, admission, train ride plus 10 ride coupons.

Babysitting will be provided, free of charge, during all business sessions, and at a nominal fee at other times. Fun things have been planned for the kids to do.

We would encourage you to bring any recording equipment to record all sessions.

We are accepting bids for a photographer to take pictures of the convention.

Any team who would like to exhibit please contact Spokane County REACT for a form.

If you have any awards to be given out please contact Jan Kinsella at 509/244-9434, so proper time can be scheduled.

For the placard contest the following rules have been set up:
Size: 10" x 24" Team name 1 1/2" letters, Team number 2" high. Team name and number by themselves on one side, and artwork on the other side.

Spokane maps will be sent with registration packets.

Also, if you desire to attend religious services, let us know and we will provide information and possible transportation to desired chapel.



1990 REACT International Convention

Cavanaugh's Inn
Spokane, Washington

July 23-27, 1990

Hosted by Spokane County REACT #2904

INFORMATION REQUEST FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

Number of Registration Forms Needed: _____

MAIL TO: REACT 1990 Convention
Spokane County REACT
P.O. Box 9162
Garland Station
Spokane, WA 99209

REGISTRATION: \$55.00 through May 15;
\$80.00 after May 15

NOTICE!!!

ADDRESS CHANGES!!!

New Jersey Council of
REACT Teams
P.O. Box 9898
Trenton, NJ 08650

Bergen-Passaic REACT #4738
P.O. Box 681
Garfield, NJ 07026-0681

ADDRESS CORRECTION!!!

Commonwealth of Virginia
REACT Council
10403 Hunt Country Lane
Vienna, VA 22182

REACT 1990 Convention
Spokane County REACT
P.O. Box 9162
Garland Station
Spokane, WA 99209



MFJ Enterprises, Inc., announces the release of new Miniature Speaker/Microphones with regular or "L" shaped connectors for Kenwood, ICOM, Yeasu and other handheld radios. FAX 601/323-6551 or order toll free at 800/647-1800.



Ameritron announces the release of the new AL-82 full legal power linear amplifier with 2 3-500Z transmitting tubes for Amateur Radio Licensees.

The Ameritron AL-82 is a full legal output power linear amplifier using two 3-500Z transmitting tubes.

Competing amplifiers using two 3-500Z tubes can not deliver full legal power on all modes because they do not use heavy enough power transformers to drive the 3-500Z tubes to optimum output. The AL-82 corrects this problem and still keeps the price at a reasonable \$1995.00 retail.

The AL-82 features dual illuminated meters. The Grid Current meter gives a constant reading of grid current, the most reliable indicator of overall amplifier performance. The multi-meter displays plate voltage, plate current, peak R.F. output power and drive power/ALC.

An 1800 watt continuous commercial service rated hypersil transformer is standard along with heavy duty rectifiers in a full wave bridge supply with computer grade capacitors.

Notice To Readers

The REACTer will now provide our readers the manufacturers contact information for the new products announced. The Reader ServiceCard service will no longer be available.

Readers may now directly contact the manufacturers to learn more about the products shown.

This will shorten response time by eliminating our middle man handling of your inquiry and provide you an opportunity to learn about other products and services offered by the manufacturer(s).

Two bias settings allow either RTTY and CW operation at 1500 watts of continuous output at nearly 70% plate efficiency or low distortion 1500 watt PEP SSB, SSTV, or AM output.

Silver plated tank components provide high efficiency operation above 20 meters. The Pi-L tank circuit permits full impedance matching over the entire 160 meter band. The tuning capacitors and bandswitch have a 35% safety factor to virtually eliminate tank circuit component failure, even under adverse operating conditions.

The cooling system keeps the components and 3-500Z tubes safely below the manufacturer's ratings, even while operating continuously at 1500 watts output with a steady carrier. The filament supply has inrush current limiting to insure maximum tube life.

Complete shielding and by-passing helps prevent TVI and RFI at the high power levels developed in the AL-82.

The AL-82 covers 160, 80, 40, 20 and 15 Meters and gives 80% rated output on 12 and 17 Meters.

For more information write Ameritron, 921 Louisville Rd., Starkville, MS 39759, or call Ameritron at 601/323-9715 or FAX 601/323-6551.



New 7-Watt 40-Channel Portable CB From Midland, Kansas City, MO, has introduced a new 40-channel portable

CB, Model 75-777, offering 7 Watts of power and many other features found on mobiles. For example, the 75-777 has a bar-type LED meter for measuring signal strength or power output. The CB's instant Channel 9 memory provides immediate access to emergency communications, and its ETR electronic tuning ensure pinpoint channel selection. The bright green LED channel readout offers high visibility, plus the rotary and squelch controls allow maximum reception capability. In addition, Midland's 75-777 has a flexible antenna, LED Off switch, battery-low indicator, and a choice of high or low power to save battery strength. This radio can be powered by either its snap-on battery pack, or by a vehicle battery, using an optional cigarette lighter power cord.

For complete information contact, Midland International Corporation, Consumer Communications Division, 1690 N. Topping, Kansas City, MO 64120.



New 1990 MFJ Amateur Radio/Shortwave Listening Accessories Catalog...FREE!!! Simply write or call for your copy.

This brand new 16 page catalog includes the world's leading line of Antenna Tuners, Portable Transmitting Antenna, SWR/Wattmeters, Coax Switches, Dummy Loads, Clocks, Keyers, Memory Keyers, Antenna Bridge, RX Noise Bridge, Multiple DC Power Outlet, RFI Free Choke Kit, Artificial RF Ground, Handheld Accessories (Speaker/Mics, Antennas, SWR/Wattmeters and more), SWL Accessories (Tuners, Indoor and Outdoor Active Antennas, Preamplifiers and more), Phone Patch, Books, Ham Software for IBM, Macintosh and Commodore compatible computers, Packet Radio units, Multi-more Data Controller, "Picture Perfect" Video Digitizer and more.

For your copy call toll free at 800/647-1800; FAX 601/323-6551.

New Products



Five-Channel, "Hands-Free" 49MHz Walkie-Talkie, New From Midland, Kansas City, MO, without using their hands, walkie-talkie operators can transmit and receive messages on up to five different channels with Model 75-108, a new 49MHz two-way radio from Midland International. The 75-108 has a voice-activated circuit (VOX) built into its boom-style headset, making simple, "hands-free" operation possible. The headset is lightweight and contains an earphone, condenser-type microphone and built-in whip antenna. The 75-108 also has a VOX bypass switch for manual operation, and a microphone sensitivity control PTT jack which allows operation from a separate, remote system. Its five-channel capability offers greater opportunity to find an unoccupied channel in crowded areas. Pinpoint channel tuning is ensured by the unit's ETR frequency control. In addition, Midland's 75-108 has a dual conversion receiver for crisp, clear sound and a battery-low indicator to visually warn of the need for battery replacement. The 75-108 is ergonomically designed, providing a snug fit for the operator. It provides a belt loop clip for easy mounting and carrying.

For more information contact, Midland International Corporation, Consumer Communications Division, 1690 N. Topping, Kansas City, MO 64120.

Shure Expands Its DTMF Mic Line, Evanston, IL, Shure Brothers Incorporated has announced the introduction of the 885TT Microphone, the second DTMF microphone Shure has developed for its unique ModuLink System 1.

The 885TT is a handheld, manual dial DTMF microphone for use with all two-way vehic-

ular radios with telephone interconnect installations. The uniqueness of the 885TT lies in the fact that it is designed to

be the first reliable, easy-to-use DTMF mic that is moderately priced.

According to Martin Karp, Shure's Market Specialist, Communications Products, "The 885TT is really in a class by itself. There are well-built, feature-packed DTMF mics on the market, such as our own 890TT, and there are low-priced DTMF mics. But the 885TT is the first DTMF mic that is both reliable and easily affordable. It's going to set new standards for value and performance."

The 885TT features rugged Shure construction including Armo-Dur casing and a patented Million-Cycle Plus Leak Switch, for years of trouble-free use. It includes positive tactile-feel keys, and illuminated keypad to assure easy and accurate number entry, and Shure's exclusive Top-Talk Sound Channels-to optimize audio clarity. It also has externally adjustable audio and DTMF levels for easier installation, as well as tailored frequency response for optimum intelligibility.

The 885TT is designed to take advantage of Shure's innovative ModuLink System 1, the industry's first microphone system featuring modular cordsets that plug quickly into over 40 of the most popular radio transceivers without any hard wiring. The cordset system was developed to speed installation and eliminate the need for a new microphone when only the cord needs replacing.

Shure's 890TT is the first DTMF microphone in the ModuLink System 1 cordsets and mics—are available through all authorized Shure Communication Products Distributors. The User Net Price is \$165.00.

Shure has been manufacturing high quality audio products, microphones, teleconferencing systems and related electronic circuitry components for 65 years.

For more information on this or other Shure products, contact Shure's Customer Services Department, 222 Hartrey Ave., Evanston, IL 60202-3696, phone 800/257-4873.



Weather Max, A new VHF Weather

Monitor Radio Offered By Midland, Kansas City, MO, Weather Max, a VHF weather monitor radio delivering up-to-the-minute weather information 24 hours per day from over 390 locations has been introduced by Midland International. The radio, Model 74-102, features a high-performance chassis, and an Alert Monitor system that automatically receives special warning tones sent by N.O.A.A. stations notifying users of dangerous weather conditions. Three alerting modes are available; siren, voice or visual. It also has a weather command button that changes Weather Max from the alert mode to full-time monitoring. Its large, top-firing speaker provides maximum audio. The telescopic antenna folds for easy transport and provides reception range of up to 50 miles. The external antenna jack permits use of an optional extended-range home antenna or mobile antenna. A UL-approved AC power supply adapter is also available (Model 74-102W).



Midland introduces Their Latest CB Value, A 40-Channel CB with VHF Weather Monitor And Mic-ro-Tune, Kansas City, MO, has unveiled a new CB for the value-minded: Model 77-116, a combination 40-channel CB and VHF weather monitor, with Mic-ro-tune II tuning. The 77-116 offers many advanced CB features, such as full ETR electronic frequency control for pinpoint channel selection, Instant Emergency Channel 9 access and a noise limiter switch to reduce or eliminate background noises. The weather monitor is built-in, and receives most N.O.A.A. VHF weather channels for 24-hour weather reports. Mic-ro-tune II is a convenience and safety feature, allowing channel changing either remotely from the microphone, or from the front of the set. Controls are also on the unit. In addition, the 77-116 has a green, high-intensity LED channel readout system for easy viewing, an S/Rf meter that displays incoming signal strength and power output, and a double-layered RF output heat sink for long transistor life. For easy installation and in/out flexibility, the 77-116 features a quick-disconnect bracket and CD cord.

For complete information on Midland's 77-116, contact Midland International Corporation, Consumer Communications Division, 1690 N. Topping, K. C., MO 64120.

New Products



MFJ Enterprises, Inc., announces the release of the MFJ-1281 Easy-DX™ Log/Terminal Program/PacketCluster™ interface of new IBM compatible software for only...\$39.95.

One reviewer of the beta version of MFJ-1281 Easy-DX (trademark) called it "the single indispensable program for any DXer with a computer." (Peter Smith N4ZR, Digital Digest, July/Aug., 1989, page 12).

Why? Because the new MFJ-1281 Easy-DX program is a unique tool that instantly organizes all your DXCC activity, plus you get a packet terminal program and a PacketCluster (trademark, Pavilion Software) interface so you'll get the very latest DX information.

You can enter any call and it tells you at a glance whether you need that country on the band, the mode or both. It also tells you if you've worked the station before. Plus it gives you a list of contacts with the country, including bands, modes and QSLs received—so you can get the station to QSY to the band you need him on.

When you enter a call or prefix it tells you the country, azimuth to the (or a) major city and the sunrise/sunset times at that QTH.

You can import contest logs from the

popular CT logging program so you can easily bring your contest QSOs into your DXCC log. It even keeps up with your QSL activity.

Packet radio users get a built-in terminal program. MFJ Easy-DX will monitor the PacketCluster DX spotting network, and send "DX" in Morse Code if a country you need on the band, mode or both is reported on the network. You don't even have to be at your computer—so long as you're within earshot of the speaker.

You get two packet screens. One is a receive only screen that can be displayed along with Easy-DX so you can monitor any packet channel while you log your SSB and CS contacts into MFJ Easy-DX. The other screen is a send and receive packet terminal program that is built into MFJ Easy-DX.

MFJ Easy-DX also prints QSL labels, keeps up with our outstanding QSLs, prints you a summary of DXCC activity by band and mode, prints out daily log sheets, lets you update your log as QSLs are received and more.

DXCC is within your grasp. Let JFJ's Incredible new MFJ Easy-DX help. MFJ-1281 comes on two 5-1/4" floppy disks. It requires a 100% IBM compatible computer with at least 512K of RAM. A hard disk is strongly recommended.

For more information please write, MFJ Enterprises, Inc., P.O. Box 494, Mississippi State, MS 39762.

Midland Introduces A 40-Channel Mobile Especially Suited To Off-Road Use, Kansas City, MO. Has introduced an advanced 40-channel CB especially suitable for RVs and off-road vehicles exposed to weather and high ambient noise levels. The new CB, model 77-118, has a large, front-panel, waterproof mylar

speaker for protection from the elements and maximum audio under high noise conditions. Plus, three N.O.A.A. VHF weather channels for 24-hour reports, and Mic-ro-tune II, permitting remote channel changing for operator safety. Advanced components include full ETR electronic frequency control, featuring a microprocessor chip PLL system that locks the receiver and transmitter on frequency, for pinpoint channel selection. And a noise limiter switch to reduce or eliminate background noises. In addition, the 77-118 has a green, high-intensity LED channel readout system for easy visibility, a memory-hold circuit that retains last channel used, instant Emergency Channel 9 access and a four-stage electronic S/R/F meter system that displays incoming signal strength and output power. To reduce chance of power transistor failure, the 77-118 is equipped with a double-layered heat sink. And easy installation and in/out flexibility are provided by a quick-disconnect bracket and DC cord.

For more information contact, Midland International Corporation, Consumer Communications Division, 1690 N. Topping, Kansas City, MO 64120.



Nine Bell County REACT #4047 members were present on May 20, 1989 when they hosted a meeting of Texas REACT Area V Council, Inc., in Temple. Pictured with Council President Frank Graves, seated right, and Council Secretary Keren Pratz, seated left, are six of those members: from left to right they are, Wayne Hempsted - LM 398, new member Chuck Button, Wally Smith - LM 372, Richard DeFrehn, Team President Frank Jenkins - LM 347 and Charter member Kenneth Farris - LM 373.

All fifty states guarantee property tax exemption to nonprofits engaged in religious, educational and charitable work. Such organizations generally also can receive tax-deductible contributions, are exempt from state corporate income and business profits taxes, and often are exempt from sale and use taxes.

REACT International, Inc., is a registered not for profit corporation. We are a 501(c)(3) federal exempt organization, incorporated in Illinois, and registered in Kansas as a nonprofit charitable and educational organization. Most REACT Teams qualify as a nonprofit charitable and educational organization.

Property Tax Exemptions

Property tax exemption has been the principal focus of controversy between nonprofits and state and local governments over the nature of activities meriting tax exemption. The regularity with which questions arise about property tax exemption reflects a number of factors, not the least of which is the valuable nature of the exemption. Nonprofits, particularly those which require substantial landholdings in order to perform their exempt function, receive a considerable benefit from having that property free from taxes.

At the same time, many local governments, which are heavily dependent on the property tax for revenue, see their financial base as being eroded by tax exemptions. This is particularly true where there are high concentrations of nonprofits and where nonprofits serve substantial numbers of individuals who are not residents of the taxing jurisdiction as in the case of hospitals service a wide metropolitan area.

A growing concern, which has led to action in some jurisdictions, is that nonprofits are perceived to be in competition with taxpaying providers of similar services. Pressure from a for-profit competitor may lead a local assessor to reconsider property tax exemption for a nonprofit.

The property tax is the traditional means by which localities, municipalities, counties, school districts and similar local jurisdictions, raise revenue. Accordingly, most challenges to the exempt status of charitable property originate in a decision of a local tax assessor to reclassify a particular piece of property as taxable. Those decisions then become the subject of administrative appeals and appeals to the state's court.

State legislatures become involved in property tax issues when consideration is given to altering the state's exemption statutes. The legislatures of Kansas and Illinois, for example, recently amended their nonprofit exemption statutes in response to court decisions denying tax exemption to various charitable institutions. Other state

legislatures, including Pennsylvania and Colorado, have considered, but so far rejected, legislation narrowing the scope of tax exemption.

Most observers believe that state and local challenges to nonprofit tax exemption will continue to grow. The ever-increasing need for new sources of revenue, combined with pressure from some business groups which believe that nonprofits compete with them unfairly, will ensure continued attention by state and local governments to the issue of which nonprofit activities should receive the benefit of tax exemption.

General Requirements For Tax Exemption

All states impose two basic organizational requirements for nonprofit property tax exemption. First, the organization claiming the exemption must be nonprofit—that is, none of its income can be used to benefit private individuals except as reasonable compensation for services rendered. Second, the organization's assets must be dedicated irrevocably to furthering the organization's exempt purposes.

There also is general agreement on two operational requirements for tax exemption. The first of these is that the organization must serve a purpose that the state, through its constitution or legislature, has declared to be deserving of tax exemption. All states recognize religious and charitable purposes as tax exempt and most also treat educational purposes as a separate category. Some states have separate exemption categories for a variety of other purposes including scientific and literary endeavors, libraries, humanitarian services and the provision of health care.

The second operational requirement is that the organization's benefits must be broadly available, not restricted to members of a self-selected group (religious organizations, however, generally may restrict service to their members). Fraternal benefit groups, for example, ordinarily will not qualify for exempt status as charitable organizations, although in some states they may receive some of the benefits of exemption as a separate category of nonprofits.

Beyond these areas of basic agreement, there are significant differences in how the states treat property tax exemption. Following is a brief discussion of some of the more common issues involving property tax exemption.

Definition of Charity

The most troublesome issue presented by challenges to charitable tax exemption is the definition of charity.

Misunderstandings often arise because the legal definition of charity is broader

than the commonly accepted meaning of service to the poor. The legal definition is often expressed as including relief of poverty, advancement of religion, advancement of education and other purposes generally beneficial to the community. *REACT Aligns itself with the latter statement.*

With most states recognizing the advancement of education and of religion as separate exempt purposes, and given that the relief of poverty is universally acknowledged as a valid charitable purpose, the focus of debate is on defining those uses of property which merit tax exemption because they benefit the community. Complicating the definitional question is the fact that serving the entire community generally means that many of those served can afford to pay some or all of the cost of providing the service. It also means that profit-seeking organizations may spring up to provide similar services to that portion of the community that can afford to pay for them.

Some states try to solve the definitional problem by adding to their general charitable exemption detailed lists of property to be considered exempt. Virginia's legislature, to cite the most extreme example, has granted tax exemption to property belonging to nearly 300 individual organizations.

Other states leave the task of defining what is a charitable use of property to the courts, which, in turn, have devised a number of tests to assist them. Not all states use all tests, and even in states that do, the absence of a single factor generally will not lead to the loss of tax exempt status.

The first group of tests focuses on the nature of the organization's activities. Do they benefit the community as a whole? Do they relieve a government burden? Are recipients of services poor disadvantaged, ill, young, old, or otherwise in need of assistance? *REACT's activities generally benefit the community and relieve the government burden by helping in emergencies.*

The second group focuses on how the activity is funded. Are services free? If fees are imposed, are they based on the costs of the service or on ability to pay for it? Does the organization receive at least a portion of its support from charitable contributions? Are activities carried on to make a profit or in the manner of a commercial enterprise? Does the group's operating income (*exclusive of donations*) regularly exceed expenses?

States differ substantially on the emphasis put on the various factors. More subtly, courts may vary the emphasis on the various factors

depending on the organization's primary activity. Thus, a decision that a largely fee-supported nursing home is a charitable use will not necessarily predict that the same state court will reach a similar result in a case involving a largely fee-supported recreational facility. Subjective judicial evaluation of the value of a particular community service plays a role in deciding whether a particular use will be tax exempt.

However, there is general consensus among the states on several important and frequently misunderstood points: No state prohibits organizations from charging fees for service. Nor does any state restrict service solely to the poor, although a few state courts, notably those of Pennsylvania and Kansas, recently have articulated tests for charitable tax exemption which come close to this restriction. Most states will consider whether an activity helps reduce a government burden, but few require evidence of direct reduction in governmental expenditures.

Definition of Education

Most states employ a fairly broad definition of education, extending this exemption category not just to colleges and other educational institutions marked by instruction in a classroom setting, but also to institutions that educate the public generally. Museums and other arts institutions, libraries and similar organizations qualify as educational in many states. *REACT generally educates the public on the proper use of their CB and other radio's, especially on how to get help, through our literature and team activities.*

However, some states restrict the education category to institutions with established curricula and a regular body of teachers. In these states other educational institutions must qualify as charitable to obtain property tax exemption.

A few states, notably Pennsylvania, do not have a separate exemption for educational purposes. Consequently, educational institutions must qualify as charitable in order to be exempt from property tax in those states. This has led the Pennsylvania courts to examine educational institutions' financial assistance policies in determining whether schools and colleges qualify for property tax exemption.

Ancillary Uses

Even where it is clear that the primary use of an organization's property furthers a charitable, educational or religious purpose, questions still arise about the extent of the exemption to be accorded.

A frequently litigated issue is whether property used to support an institution's

primary activities also should be free from tax. At issue are facilities which are provided primarily for the convenience of those served by the institution, their visitors, and the institutions' staff such as gift shops, cafeterias, parking facilities, staff residences, bookstores and other ancillary services. Staff residences meet a mixed reception in the courts. Courts commonly hold that a residence must be necessary to the operation of the organization to qualify for exemption. Thus, an apartment for a caretaker may be exempted on the ground that it serves the institution's interest to have someone in residence at all times, while housing for a college's faculty generally is denied exemption on the grounds that it is not necessary to the operation of an educational institution.

Parking facilities also are a frequent target, with some states viewing them as essential to the performance of an exempt function, while others denying exemption. Dining facilities also are exempt in some states for some purposes, but not for others, with the question often turning on the extent to which the facility is open to the general public. Thus a college dining hall generally is exempt, as is a museum cafeteria designed primarily to serve museum patrons. A YMCA cafeteria serving the general public on a regular basis likely will be taxed, however.

An important issue in resolving ancillary use cases is the extent to which the organization seeking tax exemption can support a claim that the facility directly furthers the organization's exempt purpose and is not provided merely for convenience. Thus, a university may argue that its bookstore directly furthers its educational purpose and a museum may make a similar claim for its gift shop.

Exclusive Use

A few states require that property be used exclusively for an exempt purpose to merit tax exemption. Any nonexempt use in such states, no matter how small, will destroy the exemption and cause the entire parcel to be taxed. A Salvation Army community center in rural Kansas recently underwent a challenge to its exemption because it allowed Weight Watchers, a for-profit corporation, to conduct its weight-loss program on the premises. Few states are this harsh, however.

Most states require that property be used primarily for an exempt purpose. Where the primary use is exempt, a few states simply disregard infrequent or small nonexempt uses. However, a growing number of states, faced with both exempt and non-exempt uses of property, allocate the property tax due based on the portion of the property used for non-exempt purposes.

The methodology and bases for apportioning a property tax remain controversial. A common method is based on the amount of floor space occupied by the non-exempt activity. California, however, recently enacted legislation apportioning property tax for certain college bookstores based on the amount of unrelated business income earned by the store and adopted the Internal Revenue Code's definition of unrelated business income.

Sales and Use Tax

Exemption from a state's corporate income tax does not necessarily qualify an institution for exemption from the state's sales and use taxes. Sales tax exemptions can be of two kinds: an exemption from the requirement that an organization collect taxes on sales that it makes and an exemption from the requirement that it pay a sales or use tax on its purchases.

The increasing importance of sales taxes as a financing mechanism is leading many states to expand their sales taxes to various services. This expansion increases the potential liability of exempt organizations for sales taxes since many of them rely on fees for services for a portion of their revenue. The controversial Florida sales tax on services, subsequently repealed by the legislature, carried a lengthy list of exceptions for identified services provided by nonprofit organizations.

Sales tax exemptions generally are legislated with a substantial degree of particularity. This leads to relatively frequent minor adjustments in coverage. New Jersey, for example, just clarified the sales and use tax exemption for materials and supplies purchased to construct, improve or rehabilitate subsidized housing. Meanwhile, California has amended its sales tax regulations to clarify that the exemption for hospitals, institutions and similar facilities applies to residences providing room and board for a flat monthly fee to individuals over the age of 62. *Illinois exempts REACT from charging or paying sales tax on its nonprofit use items. However, Kansas does not.*

Corporate Income Tax

There has been relatively little litigation over nonprofits' exemption from state corporate income or business franchise taxes. Many states have integrated their income tax structure with that of the federal government so that an organization exempt from the federal corporate income tax will be exempt automatically from the state's tax as well. Even those states that do not accord automatic exemption generally follow the federal government's categories in

continued on page 17

Change is nothing new to REACTers. It may well be the most constant factor in our work.

Talk to some of the most senior REACT Teams, those whose Team numbers begin C-000. They coped, and prospered, when there was no "official" Emergency Channel 9. They created it long before FCC or DOC ever considered it. They made it work to benefit travelers long before the first police force ever considered monitoring it. REACT Teams led the way.

REACT Teams survived the introduction of dues, and their gradual increase to today's levels. They endured the CB "fad" of the mid-70's, no small feat in itself.

It is a tribute to the dedication and determination of REACT's "C" Teams that such a large percentage of them continue to serve their communities into a third decade. We can learn from them, and we must, as we face the challenges of this new decade in REACT.

DIVERSIFY needs to be our watch-word. You are familiar with the term from business reports in the media. Auto supply stores now sell garden supplies. Drug stores sell groceries. Grocery stores sell hardware. Hardware stores sell auto supplies. They are diversifying to meet current consumer demand. REACT must too.

It isn't hard. Many Teams are already doing it, have done so for years. Those Teams are prospering, and yours can too.

Channel 9 has been REACT's stock and trade since its founding in 1962. That will continue to be true in this new decade. Keep monitoring REACT volunteers will help countless people and save many lives in the future, just as in the past three decades.

Diversifying means adding new services to your basic line. Note that all the stores above added services. None dropped the original service or product upon which it had built its reputation and success.

"Public Service through Communication" is the REACT motto. Your Team's expertise, gained through monitoring CB Emergency Channel 9, equips it to provide "public service" in a variety of additional ways.

Emphasize in TEAM news releases, in contacts with other community organizations, in other ways, that your REACT Team wishes to provide radio communications for various community events. Don't wait to be asked. Ask them.

Outline accurately and honestly what your Team can do (and can't) to help. Be careful not to jeopardize your reputation by promising more than the Team can deliver.

Handle any assignments your Team accepts with the same professionalism that has built your Team's reputation on Channel 9. Within your Team, ask members to treat the event involved as a "mock disaster".

Operate with all the precision, discipline and proficiency required in a real disaster. This makes each "public service" assignment also a training exercise to sharpen your radio skills for disaster preparedness.

One activity can thus serve two or more purposes for your Team. It can yield funds for your Team's treasury. Often, a sponsoring group will donate to your Team for the communication you provide.

Diversify also by strengthening your disaster communication's role. It is another form of "public service" to build.

Contact your FEMA or emergency planning officer quarterly, in person, in Team uniform. Do likewise with your Red

Cross, Salvation Army and VOAD contacts. Participate in mock disaster exercises. Have your Team out in strength, and in uniform. You must be identifiable both to co-workers in these organizations and to the public.

How "diversified" is your Team now? Which role can your Team concentrate on building this year?

NEXT ISSUE: "Why It Matters"

The REACTer is available on audio cassette tape for the blind. Certain conditions and costs are involved. For more information please contact:

**Kathleen Coynes
Recording
for the Blind, Inc.
404 W. 30th Street
Austin TX 78705
(512) 477-9390**

STATE TAX TRENDS FOR NONPROFITS - AN OVERVIEW

continued from page 16

allowing exemption from the state corporate income tax. Most states, but not all, also follow the federal government in imposing a tax on unrelated business income.

Payments in Lieu of Taxes

Nonprofits, particularly those with large landholdings or which need various forms of local approval for expansion, sometimes negotiate voluntary payments with the local jurisdiction in which their property is located. From time to time, state legislatures consider legislation mandating or permitting such payments. On occasion, legislation is introduced to require the state government to make a compensating payment to local governments adversely affected by property tax exemptions.

Conclusion

With fifty state court systems

interpreting fifty different legislative schemes, important issues affecting nonprofit tax exemption receive a regular and vigorous airing. The diversity of the system also means that different states will reach different results on similar facts. Moreover, the subjective nature of some of the decisions, particularly the assessment of what constitutes a community benefit, often means that results may differ within states depending on the perceived value of the particular institution. *REACT Teams must become more alert as to what their particular state's laws are and what proposals will affect them. Do your homework and you should not be adversely affected.*

Want More Information?

Readers interested in a detailed discussion of state tax issues affecting

nonprofit organizations or a summary of law in their state, may purchase copies of "Unfair Competition? The Challenge to Charitable Tax Exemption" by W. Harrison Wellford and Janne G. Gallagher. In addition to a comprehensive state-by-state analysis of the law governing charitable property tax exemption, "Unfair Competition?" also spells out allegations of unfair competition, traces the historic and legal rationales for nonprofit tax exemption and analyzes federal law and regulations governing the income-producing activities of nonprofits. Copies are available from the National Assembly, 1319 F St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004 for \$21.95 each plus \$1.50 postage (\$17.95 for National Assembly members). Call 202/347-2080 for more information.

Source: [Winter 1990 edition of "INDEPENDENT SECTOR"]

SEAT BELT SAFETY

New Incentives To Curb Drunk Driving Now Available for Qualifying States

Secretary of Transportation Samuel K. Skinner, has announced a new incentive grant program designed to stimulate greater state efforts against drunk drivers. The program will be administered by the Department's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

"Real success in the fight against drunk drivers calls for action at the state and local levels. These grants will help to get strong, tough laws implemented across the board," Skinner said.

Qualifying states will share \$4 million this fiscal year, according to Jerry Ralph Curry, NHTSA Administrator. A state can receive new anti-drunk driving funds of up to 85 percent of its regular fiscal year 1989 federal highway safety fund apportionment. Congress authorized the program in the Anti-Drug Abuse act of 1988.

"Drunk driving remains the nation's most serious highway safety problem," Curry said, "I encourage states to take advantage of this additional federal funding to mount even more aggressive efforts to get drunk drivers off the road."

States will be eligible for a 20 percent basic grant if they provide for expedited administrative suspension of offenders' driver's licenses and maintain a comprehensive, self-sustaining anti-drinking driver program that includes aggressive enforcement, prosecution, sentencing, education and public information activities. The basic grant may be hiked to 30 percent if the state can complete the license suspension within 15 days of the arrest.

Curry said that supplemental funds may be awarded to states that meet other criteria in addition to basic grant requirements. A 10 percent bonus can be obtained for each of the following, when a state:

1. Prohibits both the consumption of alcohol and possession of an open alcohol container in the passenger compartment of a vehicle. This can be boosted to 25 percent where there are rigorous enforcement and meaningful penalties.
2. Requires a blood alcohol concentration test when a police officer has probable cause to believe that a driver involved in a fatal or serious injury crash has committed an alcohol-related offense.
3. Maintains an effective program to prevent drivers under age 21 from obtaining alcoholic beverages, including a requirement to provide an easily distinguishable driver's

license for this age group.

4. Provides a program to cancel vehicle registration and recall vehicle license plates of drivers convicted more than once of an alcohol-related offense, or for driving while a license is suspended or revoked for an alcohol-related offense.

Information on applying for grants may be obtained from Lewis Buchanan, Office of Alcohol and State Programs, NHTS-21, NHTSA, 400 Seventh Street SW, Washington, DC 20590.

NHTSA Advises Caution In Use Of Certain Strolee Child Safety Seats

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) warned owners to be cautious in using certain child safety seats made by the Strolee Company of California, which is no longer in business.

NHTSA said that the Strolee GT-3000 convertible child seat, manufactured and distributed in 1987 and 1988, did not meet Federal testing requirements when used in the rearward-facing (infant) position. The seat back angle greatly exceeded the maximum during dynamic testing. When used in the forward-facing (toddler) position, the seat passed.

NHTSA recommends that owners not use GT-3000 seat in the rearward-facing (infant) position, even though it appeared that the seat would still protect an infant occupant from ejection. The agency estimates that there were approximately 12,000 of these seats sold to the public.

In a separate problem, the agency has received reports that some Strolee Model 609 and 610 seats developed cracks in the plastic shell in actual use. NHTSA has tested several of these seats in 30 mph crash simulations to see if the cracks posed a risk to child safety. The tests produced limited additional cracking but the structural integrity of the seats was not compromised. The cracks could, however, cut or pinch the child.

NHTSA recommends that parents examine their Strolee Model 609 and 610 seats carefully and replace them with another child safety seat if any shell cracking is evident. The Strolee Company is no longer in business, and therefore cannot provide replacement units.

The safety agency emphasized that child safety seats in general are extremely safe and effective. Their use is required in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.



Proposed Improvements In School Bus and Pedestrian Safety

The NHTSA has begun two more rulemaking proceedings to improve school bus safety, particularly for school children while boarding and leaving the bus. The safety agency plans to require stop-signal arms on new school buses, and has also begun work to upgrade its school mirror standard.

NHTSA Administrator Jerry Ralph Curry, has said the nation's school bus fleet has already compiled an excellent safety record, but stated that more can be done to improve transportation safety for school children. "Each year, some 35-40 young lives are lost when struck by a school bus or other passing vehicle, and may be only 5 or 6 years old," he said. "In addition, several hundred children are injured each year in such incidents."

Curry said that new vehicle standards for stop signals and mirrors on the bus could help to prevent those incidents, along with training for school bus drivers and passengers, and greater awareness on the part of other motorists. "We're taking action here, because the safety risk is greater outside the bus than inside," he added.

The two regulatory notices issued by NHTSA are:

1. A notice of proposed rulemaking to require all new school buses to be equipped with a stop-signal arm, which would swing out from the left side of the bus whenever the bus entrance door is opened. The signal arm would feature the familiar red-and-white "stop" sign, and should help to remind passing motorists to stop while the bus is loading or unloading student passengers. Over 30 states already require some type of signal arm. The new NHTSA rule would standardize the equipment and apply in all states.

2. An advance notice of proposed rulemaking to require additional or improved convex cross-view mirrors on new school buses, to provide the bus driver with better visibility in front of and along the sides of the vehicle. Mirrors are

continued on page 20

Flooding Insurance Rates Seen Holding Steady In 1991

There will be no rate increase for flood insurance in fiscal year 1991, the third year in a row that the rates have remained stable.

Harold T. Duryee, head of the government's Federal Insurance Administration (FIA), said the decision to hold rates the same for coverage under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) was based on results of a recently completed actuarial rate study.

The study shows the NFIP can remain self-supporting in an historic average loss year through fiscal year 1991 without premium increases. FIA is part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Flood insurance rates were last increased at the end of fiscal year 1988.

Even after a rash of disasters in fiscal year 1989, when 26 states and territories had Presidentially declared disasters due to flood damage, no flood insurance rate increases were sought for fiscal year 1989 or 1990.

Hurricane Hugo alone generated over 17,000 claims which are estimated to cost the NFIP fund over \$300 million to close the largest single catastrophe in the history of the NFIP. The total amount of flood claims paid in fiscal year 1989 was \$513 million.

The NFIP was created by Congress in 1968 to address the need for financial protection against flood losses through an insurance mechanism rather than through taxpayer-funded disaster assistance. The premium rates established at that time remained in effect for over a decade of significant inflation.

In 1983, FIA established a goal to make the NFIP self-supporting in an historical average loss year to reduce the financial burden of the NFIP on the general taxpayer and to place more of the expense with those who benefit, the policyholders. To achieve this, a series of rate increases was initiated, and the average premium for flood insurance grew from \$74 to the current \$280.

Duryee said the increase in the averages reflects both the rate increases and the growth in the average amount of coverage purchases. Prior to the initiation of the rate increases, the average coverage was \$45,000 per policy. Now, it is over \$80,000.

Duryee added one caveat to his announcement on NFIP rate stability. "If the Congress instructs the Federal Insurance Administration to carry out new projects under the NFIP, then, barring appropriations to cover the costs of the projects or coverage, FIA again will have to consider raising premium rates for flood insurance."

Flood coverage is available in those

communities which have joined the NFIP by agreeing to adopt and enforce flood plain management ordinances designed to reduce future flood losses. There are over 18,000 communities throughout the country participating in the NFIP, and there are over 2.2 million policy holders protected by more than \$180 billion in coverage. For 1989, the total earned premium collected by the NFIP was \$548 million.

In the years between 1978 and 1988, the NFIP has paid out over \$2.6 billion to settle nearly 400,000 claims for flood damage.

Medigovich To Head FEMA Office In San Francisco

William M. Medigovich, director of the California Office of Emergency Services, has been named director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) regional office in San Francisco.

Announcement of Medigovich's appointment, effective March 11, was made by FEMA's Acting Director Robert H. Morris. Medigovich replaces Robert L. Vickerkski, who served as regional director since 1981.

In his new post, Medigovich will manage FEMA's activities in Arizona, California, Nevada, Hawaii, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, American Samoa and the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands.

Prior to his appointment, Medigovich headed the Office of Emergency Services (OES) for the State of California since 1983. In that capacity, he was responsible for statewide emergency planning and disaster response and recovery operations.

From 1980 to 1983, Medigovich was Chief of the OES California Law Enforcement Division which manages the state's law enforcement and mutual aid system, training in search and rescue, and other public service functions. Previously, he served six years as an administrator for the California Department of Justice in Sacramento.

Medigovich is a graduate of San Francisco State University and holds a Master's Degree in International Relations from the Monterey Institute of International Studies.

FEMA is the lead federal agency responsible for national emergency planning and preparedness, and for coordinating federal response and recovery activities following Presidentially-declared major disasters or emergencies. Major Disaster Declared For Northern Marianas

Federal Disaster Aid Ordered For Washington State Flood Victims

Federal disaster aid was ordered by President Bush on January 18th, 1990, to help Washington State recover from damages to private and public property caused by severe storms and flooding that hit the western part of the state in early January.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) said the President's major disaster declaration makes federal funding available to supplement the needs of affected residents and local governments in Lewis County.

The county, where some 395 dwellings were reported to have sustained varying degrees of damage, was designated eligible for federal aid by FEMA Acting Director, Robert H. Morris, immediately following the declaration. He said damage surveys are continuing in other areas and additional designations may be made after the assessments are completed.

The assistance, to be coordinated by FEMA, can include temporary housing, grants, low-interest loans to cover uninsured private and business property losses, and other programs to help individuals recover from the effects of the disaster.

Federal funding also will be provided to pay 75 percent of the eligible costs for the repair or replacement of damaged public property, including roads, bridges, water and sewage systems and other publicly-owned facilities.

Joan F. Hodgins, of the FEMA's regional office in Bothell, Washington, was named by Morris to coordinate the federal relief effort in the stricken area. She said procedures for requesting assistance will be announced within the next few days.

Major Disaster Declared For Northern Marianas

February 6, 1990 President Bush declared a major disaster exists in the Mariana Islands and ordered federal aid to assist in the recovery from the effects of Typhoon Koryn which struck the Commonwealth on January 15th and January 16th, 1990.

The President's decision authorizes the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which will coordinate the federal relief effort, to make supplemental disaster funding available to pay part of the costs for damages to public property on the islands of Rota, Saipan and Tinian.

The islands were designated eligible for public assistance by FEMA Acting Director Robert H. Morris immediately following the declaration. He said

continued on page 21

FCC Enforcement Actions

FCC Release dated January 11, 1990, Frederic K. Stark, KA2YIZ, from West Taghkonic, New York has been fined \$1000 for pirate radio operation on 1000 KHz. The FCC received a complaint from the NY State Broadcasters Association in Albany that alleged an unauthorized station was rebroadcasting US Armed Forces Radio Network programs. The unauthorized station apparently interfered with the reception of a licensed station on 1010 KHz.

Using mobile radio direction finding equipment, an engineer from the New York FCC field office located the illegal station at the Stark residence. The unauthorized broadcast station was playing music and gave WNYS as its call letters.

Illegal radio operation is a violation of 47 CFR section 301 of the Communications Act. Unlicensed radio operations may be subject to fines of up to \$100,000 and/or one year in prison.

Working together, the FCC Baltimore

and Detroit Field Offices located and shut down an unlicensed West Virginia pirate broadcast station on January 30. Mark R. Leavitt was fined \$1000 for illegally operating on 3.820 MHz in the 75-meter amateur band.

RFI Case Dismissed In Washington Superior Court

The RFI nuisance case of Luedke and Abigando v Hudson has been dismissed by the Superior Court of the state of Washington. The case is one of the few recent cases in which a nuisance complaint was dismissed by the court for lack of jurisdiction. The court stated that only the FCC has exclusive jurisdiction over cases involving RFI.

The case involved Dr. Wayne Hudson, KT7G, a resident of King County, Washington, and his two neighbors, Messrs. Luedke and Abigando. After an initial complaint of RFI by his neighbors, Hudson had his station inspected by the FCC and a private firm. His equipment was found to be operating in accordance

with FCC rules. The RFI problems, however, continued and his neighbors took him to small claims court. The court ruled in Hudson's favor when it was determined that his neighbors touch lamps were the actual cause of the RFI.

Not satisfied, Luedke and Abigando took their case to Washington State Superior Court. The Superior Court determined that "The Supremacy Clause of the United States Constitution bars the instant state law claims...since RFI problems are within the exclusive jurisdiction of the FCC preempting any state laws to the contrary...". In addition, the court determined that the neighbors had not taken steps to solve their own RFI problems as requested by the FCC.

Hudson's neighbors also sought an injunction on the basis of aesthetics saying that his antennas were unsightly. The court responded by saying that aesthetic impact is not a ground for injunctive relief. It concluded by reaffirming that the court's jurisdiction is preempted by federal law and that the FCC has exclusive jurisdiction over RFI problems.

Proposed Improvements In School Bus and Pedestrian Safety

continued from page 18

particularly useful in spotting small children near a bus, and most states already exceed the current minimum federal standards. NHTSA will also consider other systems to improve awareness for bus drivers, such as control crossing arms which swing out from the front bumper to keep students in the direct field of view.

Curry noted that both rulemaking actions has been recommended by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) in its May 1989 comprehensive report on school bus safety. NHTSA endorsed the NAS report, and has been implementing its recommendations for new vehicle rules and other programs to upgrade pupil transportation safety.

In a related action last fall, NHTSA set aside \$4.5 million in highway safety funds for special school bus safety grants during fiscal year 1990. All 50 states have applied for these grants, which they will use to develop new training programs for drivers and students, to review bus maintenance procedures, and for better planning of

school bus routes.

Curry also noted his agency was pursuing actions to improve safety inside school buses, even though deaths and serious injuries to passengers are relatively rare. The number of students killed while riding school buses each year is less than half the total killed outside the bus. This, despite the fact that school buses transport some 22 million children over 3.3 billion miles each year. When measured on a vehicle-mile basis, the risk of fatal injury to a school bus occupant is 75 percent lower than for an automobile passenger.

NHTSA earlier opened rulemaking proceedings to update federal standards for fire safety on school buses—including emergency exits and seating materials—following a tragic 1988 church bus crash and fire in Kentucky. The agency commissioned a study by the National Institute of Standards and Technology on the flammability of seating materials, which will help to determine the new rules in that area. Formal regulatory proposals on both subjects are expected this year.

REACT MEMORIAL PLAQUE ADDITIONS

- \$50 donated in the name of Curtis Bell, Navarro County REACT Team #3051, Corsicana, Texas
- \$50 donated in the name of Paul Lynard, Kettle Moraine REACT Team #3866, Lannon, Wisconsin.



Donations Deserve Recognition

- A \$50.00 donation has been received from KANSAS REACT COUNCIL. The contribution has been earmarked to obtain a FAX machine at REACT International Headquarters. Also the KANSAS REACT COUNCIL would like to challenge all other Councils to match or exceed this donation.
- GOPHER STATE REACT #4570 in Bloomington, Minnesota donated \$100.00 to REACT International to help out in areas where there is a great need to be met, as in the start of a disaster fund to be used in emergency disasters.
- MID GEORGIA REACT Team #4623 donated \$30.00.
- \$25.00 donated from REACT OF THE GOLDEN GATE #C373 for REACT International's use.
- \$25.00 donation was received from Northern Tier REACT #4299 to be used towards the legal defense fund.

continued from page 19

damage surveys are continuing in other areas and more designations may be made when these assessments are completed. Warren M. Pugh, of FEMA's regional office in Kansas City, MO, was named by Morris to coordinate federal recovery operations in the stricken area.

FEMA Pledges To Strengthen Lead Role in Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program

A Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) official stated on March 1st, 1990 that getting technical earthquake information to state and local officials is a key task of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP).

Grant C. Peterson, FEMA associate director, made the statement in testimony before a House subcommittee hearing on re-authorization of the program, which operates under FEMA's leadership and includes the U.S. Geological Survey, the National Science Foundation and the National Institute for Standards and Technology.

Peterson said FEMA provides funding support under the NEHRP to state and local governments in 17 states designated as high-risk quake areas. The Administration's request for \$13 million for the next year to support FEMA's NEHRP activities, compared with \$6 million last

year, coupled with a \$3 million supplemental appropriation made after the California quake, will "expand our efforts in earthquake mitigation, preparedness and response planning."

Peterson presented the subcommittee with an overview of the NEHRP, for which the Administration is asking a two-year funding authorization. He said FEMA, as the program's lead agency, has worked to enhance state and local earthquake programs.

Of key importance, Peterson said, is FEMA's effort to exert leadership "to bring together the diverse elements of the NEHRP and different viewpoints among the experts in the earthquake community."

The new budget proposal will allow FEMA to establish "various mechanisms and strategies which can channel and take advantage of these different interests to benefit the overall implementation of the program." Peterson concluded by pledging that FEMA will continue to lead the program by working with other agencies and individual experts "to ensure that research data on earthquakes is appropriately transferred in a manner beneficial to state and local and private users, and we will continue to build, train and exercise federal and state response capabilities in preparation for when a catastrophic earthquake occurs."

continued on page 25

Calendar of Events

April 21, 1990 Wisconsin Council of REACT Teams General Meeting. For further details please contact the Council at, P.O. Box 228, Pewaukee, WI 53072.

April 22, 1990 Minnesota REACT Team Council Meeting. For further details on location and time, please contact the council at, Rt. 2, Box 173G, Glenville, MN 56036.

May 1-30, 1990 REACT Month.

May 5, 1990 Washington State REACT Council Meeting. To be held in Spokane, Washington. For more information please contact the Council at, 9808 42nd Street, N.E., Everett, WA 98205.

May 5, 1990 Commonwealth of Virginia REACT Council Semi-Annual Meeting to be held at Ruritan Hall, 1000 Ruritan Road, Loudoun County, Virginia. For further details contact Council at 10403 Hunt Country Lane, Vienna, VA 22182.

May 19, 1990 Arizona REACT State Council Meeting. For more information please contact: Gene Mahoney, State Council President, 2701 Mockingbird Drive, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635.

May 20, 1990 New York State REACT Council Meeting. For more information please contact: Livingston REACT, Inc., #2386, phone 716/658-4182. GMRS 462.60000/462.675/462.63750 tone 141.3

May 26-27, 1990 Wayne County REACT Jamboree and Camp-O-Rama. To be held at the fairgrounds in Wooster, Ohio. For more information please contact: Wayne County REACT, P.O. Box 281, Wooster, OH 44691.

July 23-26, 1990 REACT International Convention. Spokane, Washington, USA.

Other Events

May 10-12, 1990 Truck Expo to be held at the MECCA Convention Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

May 21-28, 1990 Buckle Up America Week

NOTICE: We regret to inform you the 1990 United Kingdom Council Convention has been canceled due to insufficient pre-registration.

Westbury REACT #5031.

EDITORS NOTE: Councils please provide notice of your meetings and conferences to The REACTer for inclusion under this column. Please submit meeting date, place, time, particulars and a FMI contact. Provide this information as far in advance as possible. It's your opportunity to announce your event!



Three members of Greater Carlisle Area REACT #2859, serve beverages to motorists at the I-81 rest area near the Newville Exit. Left to right is, Martha Wilson, Jane David and Jean Dias. The van in the background purchased and refurbished this past year replaces their previous vehicle which literally "died" on the way home from the 1988 Labor Day Coffee Break.

Team Events



St. Joseph Valley REACT Team #C100, from left to right, Michael P. Pathoff, Robert L. Phelps - President and Jean Seafoss - Public Relations.

#3866 Kettle Moraine React, Lannon, Wisconsin, held their annual Team Dinner on February 17th, 1990. While 19 people attended, one of which, a prospective new member, awards and name tags were presented. Among the recipients were, Rodger Reimer and Jam Lazacheck who both earned over 100 points to receive their name tags. Also awarded were "Member to Member Appreciation" awards, to Jim Taege #244, Phil Becker #237, Larry Zygumt #203 and to Bonnie Zygumt. What could be better than a good meal with good friends?

#3897 South Gate React, South Gate, California, surprised charter member Bill Gatzke with a life membership to REACT International. Ed Munro, Sergeant of Arms, Southern California REACT Council made the presentation on behalf of the team.

As one of two charter members left on the team, and since joining, he has been active within the team always helping and always offering help. Our congratulations go out to Bill!

#C282 Wayne County React, Wooster, Ohio, is preparing for the "28th Annual Wayne County React Jamboree and Camp-O-Rama" to be held May 26th through May 27th, 1990. Lots of fun, prizes and trophies are planned, so don't miss out.

#C332 Herndon React, Oakton, Virginia, recently held their Team Awards Night. Among those awarded was, Rick

Rohmann whom received the highest team award, the "William O. Rohmann Award", named after Rick's father. Also receiving awards were Mike Reese, receiving the "Silver Medallion Award", Sarah Leach, recipient of the "Special Recognition Award", Lee Williams, who received a "Team Special Recognition Award", Bob Baird, Al Hanger and Mike Reese all received "Special Recognition Awards".

#4630 North Central React Team, Wichita Falls, Texas, has been very busy over the past several months. In August, they hosted a concert with Rex Allen, Jr., as the guest, followed by an October flea market, both events to raise money for the team. Also in October they provided a Safety, Security and Communications, to the Annual Girl Scouts Camp-O-See with approximately 500 girls in attendance as well as the Annual Spook Trail, which was presented by the Department of Parks and Recreation. In November, Safety, Security

and Communications were provided for the Annual Turkey Day Walk presented by the American Heart Association. The Annual Christmas Party topped off December and ended a busy and rewarding year.

#4700 Kitsap County React, Poulsbo, Washington, held their General Meeting, December 14th, 1989. Present at the meeting was, Kay Bair, founder of H.E.L.P., (Help Everyone Learn Preparedness). The topic of Kay's talk, was getting prepared for a disaster. Realizing that the community consists of islands, bridges and peninsula's, the team goal is to be more involved in any disaster and all were encouraged to offer support.

#2869 Evergreen React, Everett, Washington, received two dates for Safety Breaks in 1990. In attendance at the WSDOT drawing held in Everett on January 9th, was Marilyn Goodenough, Orville and Billie Simpson. Over 200 people were in attendance representing 137 assorted non-profit organizations. Out of a total of 53 weekends in 1990, the two received were for August 3rd through 5th at Smokey Point, SB and August 24th through 26th at Silver Lake. If you're in the neighborhood, drop by and say hello.

#2036 Michigan Emergency Patrol, Detroit, Michigan, presented numerous awards at their recent Annual Dinner. Among some of the awards presented was the "Hour Participation Awards" to: Carol Lapp and Rob Stevens with 500 hours each, Jeff Bauer and Ray McDonald with 1,000 hours each. Robert Brainard, Steve Ernst, George Kushnir, Bill Craig and Larry Leitner were awarded 1,500 hour certificates. Kurt MacDougall, Glenn Oswald, Brian O'Brien and Leon Avedisian were all honored with 2,000 hour certificates. Marsh Math, John Sherwin and Jack Williams completed 2,500 hours for their awards, and a 3,500 hour award was presented to Kevin Bryne. Both Don Fournier and Milt Portmann received 4,000 hour awards with Dennis Neubacher receiving a 6,000 hour award. For the 6,500 hour award Claude Heise received the honors with a 7,500 award going to Ray Loeb. The remainder of the evening was spent dancing, visiting and eating by all who attended.

★ **NEW** ★

**Team Management Notebooks
Now Available**

HOW CAN YOU POSSIBLY MISS REACT?

Who wants to spend their free holiday serving coffee to travelers on the road at 6 a.m.? What sort of a nut would run to the airport to help out at a plane crash? How stupid do you have to be to ride around a city looking for a breakdown or accident to assist at? What person in his (or her) right mind would get out of bed at 2 a.m., when the temperature is 13 degrees to help a fellow member on the road who ran out of gas? And lastly, what jerk would work in 95 degree weather and 20 degree weather in a stadium booth just to keep his club in the black so he could do all of the above things?

Well, I've done all of those things and I

really loved every minute of it (almost). But now, I live in New Haven, Connecticut, and the nearest REACT Team is over an hour away. I truly miss the fun I had with the REACT Team I was with (Dallas County REACT, Dallas, Texas). I miss the feeling of dealing with people that were basically down to earth nice "folk". I always enjoyed using the CB radios and GMRS systems we had. And I especially enjoyed the special friendships I had with some of the team members.

Once REACT is in your blood, it is hard to let it go. I would consider starting a team in my area, but my own profession has me traveling nationwide through the year. If there was a team locally, I would

join. (I am in the process of setting up a base station in my home).

I still have kept my membership active in REACT, and I truly hope that the lucky ones of you that are active in local REACT Teams can really appreciate what you have got. Withdrawal is a tough thing to go through when you love a club so much!!

Hopefully I'll be able to be near a REACT Team at some point, I and will be more active than I am now. Remember, you sometimes can't appreciate something until it is gone. I'm going through it and I wouldn't like any of you to share the experience.

Steven Jay Ross #173

Dallas County REACT #C622

REACT RESPONSE TO FCC P.E.L.T.S. ISSUE

INTRODUCTION: REACT International, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as REACT) takes this opportunity to comment on the Commission's Docket No., 89-599. We congratulate the Commission for taking this step to establish a Personal Emergency Locator Transmitter Service (PELTS). REACT is the acronym for "Radio Emergency Associated Communications Teams". REACT was founded in 1962 and is an independent Non-Profit Public Service organization under IRS rule section 501(c)(3). REACT provides skilled volunteer two-way radio communications for a wide variety of Public activities and services and is the recipient of the United States President's "Volunteer Action Award".

REACT performs a wide variety of Public Services including the supplying of communications for many public events and activities such as Parades, Highway Rest and Coffee Breaks, Neighborhood Watches, etc., and the more serious services needed by disaster incidents such as Hurricanes, Earthquakes and the Air Florida Plane Crash. REACT continues to provide traffic reports to AM Radio Station WMAL in Washington, D.C.

The mission of REACT is to enhance the personal safety of every citizen through volunteer members who provide emergency service through radio communications. Our goal is to continue to be the recognized foremost supplier of private emergency communications services made of volunteers. REACT has a membership of approximately 10,000. Although we are international in scope, the bulk of our activity is in the United States and therefore relates to the American Public.

REACT'S CURRENT COMMUNICATIONS: Presently, much of the REACT radio traffic is handled on CB channel 9 in the 27 MHz band. We also use the General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) in

the UHF 450 MHz band. As time goes by, the 27 MHz band is becoming of less value due to long distance "skip" interference and more and more hobby type of activity. Although a much higher calibre of service, GMRS has some limitations due to the prevalent business type of activity employing mobile relaying systems. The new rules in the GMRS may eventually change this but Grandfather clauses will allow this mode of operation to continue for many years to come.

In addition, REACT has recently began a program of tapping the resources of Amateur Radio for expanded communications capability and we will be commenting on the "no-code" docket (PR Docket No. 90-55).

COMMENTS: What is really needed is a radio service and spectrum allocation which will not invite a wide variety of continuous communications of heavy on the air traffic. The Commission's PELTS proposal seems to fit this need of a high quality radio service for emergency use. We see the need for equipment design which is extremely cost effective. This equipment must be sufficiently sophisticated to provide a high level of performance while being able to be produced at a price which will be affordable by large numbers of the American public. The market for a personal location beacon will be many times more attractive and the economies of scale much larger if both urban and rural areas are included in this service.

Cost differences between one or ten channel equipment are not significant, therefore, all portable units should be capable of operating on all of the 10 channels allotted. Ten channels initially may be adequate; however, if the service is made available nationwide, additional channels may be needed. We suggest that the Commission give serious consideration to allocating 10 to 20 five

KHz spaced channels for future use once loading levels and demand is established. Virtually all communications should be through a base station. No portable to portable operation should be allowed thus ensuring proper use of the spectrum.

The following comments are numbered in accordance with the paragraph numbers of the instant docket;

2. It is not clear what the Commission is referring to when it says "Even rural America has access to a communication's network to summon assistance". While it is true that in most cities and towns 9-1-1 service is available, one who is in need of emergency communications is not always accessible to a telephone. PELTS could offer that "missing link" in obtaining emergency help.

5. The problem of overloading the ELT/EPIRB system not only exists in remote areas but also in the urban and rural areas, too. The proliferation of unauthorized users of EPIRB's is even greater in these areas. PELTS can relieve this a great deal.

7. Since there is widespread recognition of the need for personal locating beacons in the U.S. and several other countries, this NPRM should be expanded to address the overall need and not just in remote areas.

9. The quickest and easiest way to bridge the distance gap between any unpredictable position and needed assistance is through the use of radio.

10. There is no radio communications capability that exists solely for individuals in distress, urban or rural areas.

11. All the problems with existing communication systems and techniques are similar in urban, rural, as well as in remote areas.

13. Costs associated with satellite systems could be restrictive and would act as a deterrent to timely system implementation. *continued on page 25*

Life Membership Corner

The following list of new Life members may well be the largest number ever announced in 1 issue of the REACTer.

Letha Clury LM 416
Southern Nevada REACT
Las Vegas, NV

James Clury LM 417
Southern Nevada REACT
Las Vegas, NV

Herbert Bedford LM 418
Somerset County REACT
Piscataway, NJ

David Paul Romig LM 419
Ramsey County REACT
Apple Valley, MN

W.W. (Don) Gilpin LM 420
Seacoast REACT
Oceanside, CA

Gerald H. Shoat LM 421
Suburban REACT
Bromall, PA

Bill Gatzke LM 422
South Gate REACT
South Gate, CA

John W. Findley LM 423
Antelope Valley REACT
Littlerock, CA

Hope Skinner LM 424
Antelope Valley REACT
Littlerock, CA

Ruth C. Finley LM 425
Antelope Valley REACT
Littlerock, CA

Daniel M. Cecil LM 426
West Volusia County REACT
New Smyrna Beach, FL

Henry J. Broughton LM 427
Tri-City REACT
Long Beach, CA

Benjamin L. Griffith LM 428
Tri-City REACT
Downey, CA

Edward Munro LM 429
Tri-City REACT
Garden Grove, CA

Darlene Luebben LM 430
Tri-City REACT
Trenton, NJ

Kristine L. Andrejco LM 431
Hamilton-Mercer REACT
Trenton, NJ

Roger W. Andrejco LM 432
Hamilton-Mercer REACT
Trenton, NJ

Paul W. Oby LM 433
Ramsey County REACT
St. Paul, MN

Gene Hong LM 434
Golden Gate REACT
Fremont, CA

Jim Koritzky LM 435
Arrostook County REACT
Bangor, ME

Paul H. Raines LM 436
Dallas County REACT
Dallas, TX

Robert T. Yunker LM 437
West Volusia County REACT
New Smyrna Beach, FL

Jim Dean LM 438
Loudoun County REACT
Sterling, VA

Dee Young LM 439
Abington REACT
Warminster, PA

Michael A. Saville LM 440
Sedgwick County REACT
Wichita, KS

Robert B. Edwards, Sr. LM 441
Middle Georgia REACT
Lizella, GA

Daniel Harrison LM 442
Rowan County REACT
Salisbury, MD

Andy Hetz LM 443
Shenandoah Valley REACT
Weyers Cave, VA

Ernest H. Dickey, Jr. LM 444
Bristol Virginia-Tennessee REACT
Bristol, VA

George W. Vance LM 445
Bristol Virginia-Tennessee REACT
Bristol, TN

William H. Webb LM 446
Bristol Virginia-Tennessee REACT
Bristol, TN

Robert E. Markwalter LM 447
Bristol Virginia-Tennessee REACT
Bristol, TN

Robert I. Jones LM 448
Bristol Virginia-Tennessee REACT
Bristol, TN

Jack C. Lee LM 449
Bristol Virginia-Tennessee REACT
Bristol, TN

A. Wesley Gould LM 450
Champaign County REACT
Conover, OH

Edward L. Howell LM 451
Rainer REACT Radio Watch
Auburn, WA

Ronald R. Witherwax LM 452
Grand Island REACT
Grand Island, NE

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL NEW LIFE MEMBERS!!!

I will "stick my neck out" and say that 1989 reflected the largest growth ever in the Life Membership roles with the addition of 68 new Life Members. In the last issue I referred to some of the responsibilities that go along with Life Membership. I must also echo something that Dick Pratz said in a past issue - It only takes 3 members to keep a team charter alive so don't let your team dissolve if you have 3 or more Life Members. Currently 21 states and 1 province have 1 or more teams with 3 or more Life Members per team. It is also important that the Unattached Life Members attempt to start a team or join a nearby team, whichever choice is appropriate.

The Commonwealth of Virginia REACT

Council recently took some of my advise and appointed Doug Jernigan as Life Membership Chairman in Virginia. Per his request, Doug has received a list of all Life Members in Virginia so that their information can be updated and more Life Members obtained. A list like this is available to any council's Life Membership Chairman. Write to REACT International or call me at 609/259-7088 or through the Prodigy Bulletin Board by using my J.D. number CHGM62A. The following Life Members need to submit new addresses to REACT International. LM mail has been returned as undeliverable. The Life Member numbers are: C-030, 122, 123, 136, 137, 144, 233, 243 and 353. Anyone else who has changed their address needs to notify RI or Dick Cooper.

Now that all information is in I can publish the following list of Life Members by state, province and country as of the end of 1989. You can tell how your council stacks up against the others and how much more work you need to do on obtaining Life Members.

California	60
Florida	54
Texas	43
Washington	36
Maryland	21
New Jersey	21
Virginia	21
Kansas	16
Pennsylvania	16
New York	13
Illinois	12
Massachusetts	10
Ohio	9
Oregon	9
Tennessee	9
Wisconsin	9
Nevada	8
Ontario	8
Arizona	7
Indiana	7
Michigan	7
Nebraska	7
North Carolina	7
Georgia	5
Alabama	4
Minnesota	3
Alberta	2
Colorado	2
Connecticut	2
Hawaii	2
Iowa	2
Louisiana	2
Missouri	2
Utah	2
Alaska	1
France	1
Kentucky	1
Maine	1
New Hampshire	1
New Mexico	1
Puerto Rico	1
United Kingdom	1
Venezuela	1

Remember that Life Membership is still a good deal even though the dues increase has raised the price.

Dick Cooper, LM 329
Life Membership Chairman

continued

**FEMA Asks 1991 Budget
Totaling \$831 Million**

The Administration will ask Congress for \$831.3 million in budget authority for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for fiscal 1991, which runs from October 1st, 1990 through September 30th, 1991.

This compares with \$1.7 billion estimated for the current year, a decrease of \$925 million, due almost entirely to the impact of the Loma Prieta Earthquake October 17th, shortly after fiscal 1990 had begun.

The Administration is asking for \$270 million for its Disaster Relief Fund, from which the President authorizes federal assistance where a major disaster or emergency has been declared, such as Hurricane Hugo or the California earthquake.

This compares with \$1.1 billion for fiscal 1990. The new figure was determined by averaging disaster costs over the past eight years.

The Administration also is requesting \$124.9 million for FEMA's Emergency Food and Shelter Program, which channels emergency support to the homeless through a national board of major private charities.

Another high-profile FEMA program, the National Flood Insurance Fund, is projected to be self-supporting for the average loss year.

FEMA's administrative operating budget request is \$420.4 million, an increase of \$8.2 million, or less than 2 percent, over the \$412.1 million estimated for fiscal 1990.

Most programs will be maintained at or below their current levels, with increases reflecting the impact of the 1990 pay raise and other administrative expenses. Highlights of the budget request by program, with fiscal year 1991 in parenthesis, include:

*Civil defense (\$154.1 million). An increase of \$4.8 million allows this program to continue its emphasis on development of dual-use capabilities and population protection and survivable

crisis management.

*Earthquake and other hazards (hurricanes, unsafe dams) planning (\$16 million). A \$4.3 million increase will enhance

FEMA's lead-agency activities under the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act, including the development of certified search and rescue teams at the state and local level.

*Technological hazards (\$11.2 million). A net increase of \$156,000 is asked for two programs: Radiological Emergency Preparedness, which is concerned with off-site emergency planning around nuclear facilities; and Hazardous Materials, through which FEMA participates in interagency efforts to improve federal, state and local response to hazardous material incidents.

*Federal preparedness (\$160.3 million). A \$1.2 million decrease is asked for programs designed to ensure that the nation can respond to, manage and recover from domestic and national security emergencies.

*Training and fire programs (\$21.5 million). While the overall request is down \$2.6 million, due to an anticipated end of SARA Title III grant funding for training programs, the request features modest increases for two U.S. Fire Administration programs—fire prevention/arson control and fire fighter health and safety. It also continues student travel and lodging stipends at current levels.

*Flood insurance and mitigation (\$56.1 million, up \$2.3 million). This provides administrative resources for the National Flood Insurance Fund, which is self-supporting for the average loss year, and the Flood Plain Management Program.

*Disaster Relief Administration (\$11.6 million, up \$393,000). This activity provides the resources to manage the Disaster Relief Fund.

*Emergency Food and Shelter (\$240,000, down \$3,000). This represents administrative costs for the program that channels emergency support to the homeless through a national board of major private charities. The budget proposal calls for 2,713 full-time equivalent employees, an increase of 49 from the current 1990 estimate.

**REACT RESPONSE TO FCC
P.E.L.T.S. ISSUE**

continued from page 23

16. The objective as stated in this proceeding should be expanded to delete the reference "...in remote areas...", and include the capability in all areas of the country.

18. There should be little, if any, restrictions on who should be allowed to use the portable equipment, as it is proposed. The eligibility for base station use should be broader to include organizations that provide volunteer public services by interfacing with public safety officials in reporting emergencies.

19 & 20. The individual portable stations should be licensed by the FCC or registered with a nationwide organization. Since all units should operate on all 10 channels, they should be sold through mass retail outlets and operate with base stations nationwide. PELTS local systems must be nationwide inter-operable.

22. REACT agrees that there should be no license fees for the base stations.

23. There is a need to coordinate search and rescue operations by communicating with the victim as well as other rescuers.

29 Federal government users should be allowed and there should be established Government run base station installations in areas such as National Parks and Forests.

30. There could be a coordination effort assigned for this service for the base operations, with the responsibility given to a third party such as REACT or other volunteer public service organization.

36. Capability should be expanded to include rural and urban areas. If PELTS service is only allocated in remote areas, there could be the potential of an enforcement problem once units are available in the marketplace similar to what exists in ELT/EPIRB systems, unless the service is made legally available in urban, rural and remote areas.

CONCLUSION: REACT's interest in this docket is that of an independent volunteer safety related organization. REACT firmly believes that PELTS service should be available nationwide. Because this docket has not had the benefit of a Notice of Inquiry the 30 day reply comment cycle may be insufficient to fully analyze and prepare a meaningful response. (almost half the proposed 30 day reply comment period of time may be needed to obtain copies of all the replies and distribute same to our governing body). One or more of the comments may relate to concepts which have not been widely discussed in the past.

Respectfully Submitted

James E. Bear
President,
REACT, International, Inc.



Wisconsin Council of REACT Teams gathers food donations. As part of the regular quarterly meeting of the State Council, held January 14th in Waukesha, a new twist was added. A drawing for donated door prizes had always been held, as a way to raise cash funds for the Council. The new twist was that instead of cash, a non perishable food item was donated for each ticket issued. For the first time ever done, over 120 items were donated to the Waukesha Food Pantry on behalf of the Teams in the Council.

“Listening is only half the fun. Popular Communications is the other half.”

Twelve Issues \$18

Published Monthly



Regular Subscription Rates:

- 1 year - 12 issues \$18.00
(Save \$12.00)
- 2 years - 24 issues \$35.00
(Save \$25.00)
- 3 years - 36 issues \$52.00
(Save \$38.00)

Canada/Mexico—one year \$20.00, two years \$39.00, three years \$56.00. 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.

Far and away the best and most widely read magazine for the listening enthusiast. See for yourself. Send check or money order for \$2.40 postage and receive three recent issues of Pop'Comm by First Class Mail. (Sorry, no choice of issues in this special sampling offer. Offer void outside U.S.A.) Mail to:

**Popular Communications Sampler
76 North Broadway
Hicksville, New York 11801**

Be sure to include your name and address!

□ Team Events

#2620 Oklahoma County React, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, was represented at the "Operation Lifesaver" meeting held by the Oklahoma Safety Council in Oklahoma City by President Robert L. Kaster, Jr. While there, he was able to say a few words about REACT to the group of representatives from the various railroads, the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Federal Railroad Administration and both the Oklahoma City and Norman Police Departments. Not only was it a good chance to spread the word about REACT but also provided a great opportunity for some exceptional barbecue.

#4686 Eastern Panhandle React, Martinsburg, West Virginia, had a busy November, when a fire broke out in an old warehouse building. Central dispatched the fire equipment & Eastern Panhandle React Unit 5 also responded. He immediately started to direct traffic, to help get fire equipment into the fire and keep spectators away. React Unit 4 was on the mobile CB giving instructions to units 2 and 3 on what position to take for traffic control. For about 3 and one half hours they were there helping. Before leaving the scene another alarm came in for another warehouse fire fully involved. These 4 volunteers were out from 5:45 p.m. Thursday until 6:00 a.m. Friday. On Saturday, a house fire was reported again React Unit 5 responded. Only this time due to the cold weather he gave instructions on his mobile CB, for units 2 and 3 to meet him at a local convenience store. They purchased 20 cups of coffee, then they responded back to the scene of the fire and served coffee to the firemen. Sunday afternoon React Units 2, 3 and 5 were used again to direct traffic for another structure fire. This shows you that volunteers do care. These four volunteers of REACT deserve our sincere praise, they were there when they were needed.

#C040 Antelope Valley React, Lancaster, California, accomplished quite a bit during 1989, including an increase in membership as well as widening their communications capabilities. They are now a permanent part of the valley disaster planning. The city has even purchased and installed both CB and GMRS radios in the new EOC center for their use. To top off a really good year, they also received an award from the International Board of Directs of AI-Impics for their work with the Alcohol and Drug rehabilitation program.

#2503 Seattle React, Seattle, Washington, has a busy spring and summer planned. With three safety

breaks scheduled in May, June and July, as well as a safety fair and parade planned they are certainly happy to have a good size and loyal membership.

#2592 Lompoc Vandenberg React, Lompoc, California, has been staying busy with local events. Some local events they will be monitoring include, the "Handicap Fishing Derby" for handicapped children, held at a local man-made lake in May. In June, they have the "Flower Festival Marathon" put on by Lompoc Valley Distance Club. In July, the "Justice 10K Run and 25K Bike Ride". September brings the 8 mile "Park to Park Run" as well as the "Space Country Triathlon". A 25 mile bike ride for charitable purposes is scheduled in October. November holds not only the "Turkey Trot" but also a 5K and 10K run. Besides all that, they are also on call to help in other local events and in cases of emergency.

#4714 Whiteside County React, Sterling, Illinois, aids local police in Descrambling Egg Tossers Plans. Sunday evening, January 14th, 1990 a team monitor listened in on youths, apparently using a police scanner and portable CB

radios to avoid apprehension during a criminal activity. Five local youths were apprehended by police.

In the past year, over 1,300 hours have been donated including working such events as overnight security, crowd and traffic control, as well as helping out over the Christmas holidays doing courtesy patrol in downtown Sterling and at the local mall.

#C614 Charleston React Emergency Team, Charleston, South Carolina, reports being very busy the last few months of 1989. Between Hurricane Hugo, and the exceptional harsh winter weather not native to that region, they were still able to concentrate on new memberships as well as hoping to obtain a four wheel drive vehicle to assist in emergency calls. December 19th brought the annual Christmas Dinner which was followed by a special presentation of a plaque for 8 years service as president, to former president Joshua Hines. Ending off the year was the teams annual donation of \$100.00 to the local "GOOD CHEER FUND" drive to help the under privileged at Christmas.

Finally! All-band scanner antennas with great 800 MHz performance.

Exclusive A/S MICRO-CHOKE™ provides pinpoint resonance at 800 MHz scanning frequencies

Leave it to The Antenna Specialists to develop all-band scanner antennas with excellent performance up to 1000 MHz—unheard of in an all-band antenna. Now your scanner can hear all police, fire and emergency communications you may be missing. Choose trunk lid mount, Model MON-52, or Model MON-58, base station antenna.

Send now for the new 16-page A/S Personal Communications Antennas catalog. Free!

the antenna specialists co.
a member of The Allen Group Inc.
10000 Bruce Industrial Parkway
Cleveland, OH 44139-3996
TEL: 216/349-8400

© 1989 by The Antenna Specialists Co.



A Monumental Classic

The 29. Since hitting the road over a decade ago, the most talked on, most traveled, most dependable CB of our time has been renamed. THE 29 LTD CLASSIC. Continuing to prove itself as the CB that comes thru loud and clear, time and time again. Maybe it was meant to roll forever.

 **Cobra**
DYNASCAN CORPORATION

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CIRCLE A ON READER SERVICE CARD