



# the REACTer

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

November/December 1990

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## IN THIS ISSUE...

So Moved...Actions  
Taken by REACT  
Board of Directors

Work Smarter,  
Not Harder

A Unique Idea For  
Safety Breaks

1991 Convention,  
Melbourne, Florida

# P R E S I D E N T ' S P E R S P E C T I V E

by Ron McCracken

The season of Thanksgiving is upon us once again.

As we say "thank you" to our Creator for the multitude of blessings he has showered upon each of us, we would do well to take time to thank others also. All too often we overlook the importance of saying "thank you" to those who help our Teams.

A principal with whom I worked a decade ago taught me how much those two simple words, "thank you" mean. I never heard anyone use them as generously as he did. He thanked people for the least little thing they did. Sometimes it was even humorous to me and my colleagues.

Yet, I noticed how it lifted people's spirits to be thanked, how it brightened their faces to get that bit of recognition on a hard day. I noticed, too, that he seldom had any difficulty finding a volunteer for a task that

needed to be done.

Seeing the impact it had on people, I began making a point of saying "thank you" more frequently myself. I felt good saying it, and the expressions on recipients' faces made it obvious that they enjoyed hearing it. Now, I find I say it so routinely that I'm sure some who overhear me find it somewhat humorous.

Try it. Thank your Team members for their monitoring. Thank various Team officers for the extra duties they perform to help your Team function smoothly. Thank members for making the effort to help with a Team event or project. Acknowledge the smallest act with a sincere "thank you". Watch the effect it has on the individual. Watch the effect it has on Team morale.

What works within the Team will work equally well beyond. Thank **anyone** who does **anything** to help

your Team. Drop a note of thanks to a speaker at your Team meeting. Say thanks personally the next time you meet. Thank anyone who takes the time to write saying "thank you" for helping them in an emergency.

Thank the media for time or space devoted to your Team. Send a note of thanks to the president of a corporation that supports REACT. A "thank you" note for a member of REACT will be far more highly regarded than one from REACT Headquarters or me, although we will certainly write also.

Don't panic either. This doesn't all have to be done today. In fact, it should be a year-round activity. Begin today. Verbal "thank you's" take only a second and you get instant results. Give lots of those. Notes take more time, so send one a week or even one a month. But do it, and start now. Thanks.

## O n T h e C o v e r

REACT Wirral #5005, Wallasey, Wirral was recently presented with the Annual Safety Officers Award from the Wallasey Power Boat and Ski Club for the Teams contributions during the 1989 season.

Other duties the Team provides is safety coverage and radio communications at club and national events held by the WPBSC.

Throughout the year members of the Team assist at local events by providing radio coverage and personnel to help the

events run smoothly. Over the last few years Team #5005 has been involved in the rescue of boats and crew on several occasions.

All this activity does not stop members of the Team from their main function - monitoring the CB emergency channel. Since being formed over 6 years ago, members of the Team have logged thousands of hours listening out for those who need assistance.

Team members are able

to assist in medical emergency situations, house fires, crafts stranded at sea, vehicle breakdowns, advising motorists and general assistance.

Liaison with the local authorities has enabled the Team members to appreciate what role they can play in the event of a major disaster and frequent visits to the local police communications headquarters has shown them how they can best work with the "statutory services".



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SEASONS GREETINGS  
 FROM THE STAFF  
 AT REACT  
 INTERNATIONAL

the  
**REACTer**

November/December 1990  
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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. Offices: REACT International, Inc., 242 Cleveland, Wichita, Kansas 67214 USA (316) 263-2100. Deanne Earwood, Office Manager and Editor. 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 6 weeks for change of address and delivery of first issue

HEADQUARTERS REPORT

By now all Teams should have received their 1991 Team Renewal Packets from Headquarters. If your Team has not received your renewal packet yet, please contact Headquarters as soon as possible. If you have received your packet, remember the earlier you send it in, the more chances you have of winning in the 1991 REACT Renewal Lottery. We have already received confirmation of donated items from Antenna Specialists Company, Cobra Electronics, Firestik Antenna Company, K40 Electronics, Mag Instrument, Inc., Midland and many more companies, which should make this years lottery the best ever. So don't delay get your renewals in the mail early!

Also enclosed with your Team renewal was an "Emergency Services Form" to be filled out for use by the REACT Government Relations Committee as well as REACT Headquarters. Take the time and fill it out now, the information once compiled will not only help fellow REACT Teams but also your local communities.

The September/October issue of the REACTer brought two new advertisers. Headquarters would like to welcome our newest advertisers Advantage Communications and Cellular Security Group. We would also like to welcome back Radio Shack as an advertiser and supporter of REACT as well as thank Cobra Dynascan and Popular Communications for their long standing support.

Please remember when it comes to purchasing equipment for yourself, your Team or Council to use the REACTer advertisers. And don't forget to try the REACTer's newest addition to the magazine the "Classified Section". What better way to part with any un-needed items than to advertise them in your own magazine. Rates are very economical, for sale items only \$.45 per word for members, \$.65 per word for companies and free for informational items. For further details on classified advertisements, please contact Headquarters at 316/263-2100.

Several Teams have called Headquarters lately inquiring on when items pertaining to their Teams would be included in the REACTer. When submitting articles of information for use in the magazine, please mark your envelopes as well as the article itself "The REACTer Article". In this way, the staff will know exactly what it is from the time the envelope is received. We try to get all information from Teams and Councils in, but with over 600 Teams and 31 Councils and only publishing bi-monthly, sometimes inclusion can take a couple of issues, but if the envelope and article are clearly marked it will be in.

With Christmas right around the corner, now is the time to think about what to get your favorite "REACTer". Why not try a gift from International? We

(Continued on page 4)

presently have a few specials going on that we're sure you will find will make the perfect stocking stuffer. In limited stock we currently have...

**25th Anniversary Limited Edition Belt Buckles** for only 3.95 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling.

**Tomcat's Big CB Handbook** for only \$9.95 plus \$3.60 shipping and handling.

**Team Contact Directory** for only \$2.00 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling.

**Lil REACTor Fuzzies** for only \$6.95 for 10 plus \$1.00 shipping and handling.

(Why not try these on top of your Christmas packages this year instead of a bow?)

While Michele and Lynda were doing their spring cleaning this year they also found several of the Swinger spring and winter jackets in various sizes. These most likely won't last long so get your orders in early.

**Summer Jackets** without 5" back patches (3 Small, 1 Large, 1 XX-Large) for only \$38.00 each includes shipping and handling.

**Summer Jackets** with 5" back patches (1 Small, 1 XX-Large, 1 XXX-Large) for only \$41.00 each includes shipping and handling.

**Winter Jackets** without 5" back patches (1 Small, 1 Medium, 2 XX-Large) for only \$42.00 each includes shipping and handling.

**Winter Jackets** with 5" back patch (1 X-Large, 1 XXX-Large) for only \$45.00 each includes shipping and handling.

Remember all in-stock items ordered from Headquarters are shipped the same day the order is received via UPS (please use physical street address).

As the holiday season approaches Headquarters would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to all members, Teams and Councils for your help thus far this year.

We've had an interesting and informative year-to-date that included changes of many kinds. With the transition in staff it has not always been easy to get our jobs done, but with your help and cooperation it has been handled.

The holidays is a time for gathering with friends and families, a time of visiting and remembering. It's a time for food and fun as well as helping our fellow man.

May your own holidays be blessed with all the good things you expect to happen. From Lynda, Michele and myself we would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

## Team Events

**San Angelo REACT Association #3387, San Angelo, Texas** visited San Antonio recently to demonstrate their communications van during a State Convention for emergency service agencies. They had to overcome the usual obstacles of clearance heights, but then ran into an unusual problem, a restriction by the San Antonio Fire Codes prohibiting vehicles inside the convention center from having more than 1/4 tank of fuel.

Members also assisted during the April Capital 10,000 Run in Austin and supplied a GMRS repeater on .675 for the event. Two of their members

participated at the Texas State Special Olympics Meet in San Marcos.

**Ohio Valley REACT #2601, Sharonville, Ohio** provided communications support during the BASF explosion in Cincinnati, Ohio on July 19th 1990. In all a total of 9 members participated in various roles with other members serving in "off-site" capacities.

Their primary role started out as information gathering for Civil Defense, but progressed into one of relaying information/meeting points for those investigating possible chemical leaks.

**YOUR COMMENTS  
AND SUGGESTIONS  
ARE ALWAYS  
WELCOME**



# GMRS...Rx

by Bill Simpson

This issue, let's do something a little different...and try to find out your views. In 1987, the FCC modified the rules, part 95 to favor the individual user more than in prior years. The rules were changed significantly in several areas. We'd like to know in what way, if any, the changes you would like. This is NOT a Scientific study, but we would like your input, as it may give us direction for the future. One suggestion!! This is important, so grab a piece of paper now, and answer the questions as you read. Otherwise, you may forget about this article.

READY?? Ok, here we go:

1. The changes in rules prohibit other than personal licenses being granted. In other words, NO MORE Business licenses, or group licenses should be issued. Existing licenses were grandfathered, assuming no significant modification.

A) Have licenses been granted to groups in your area since the changes went into effect?

B) Has the number of (group) (business) licenses decreased at all since 1987?

C) Would you like to see group licenses re-established?

D) Has the inability to obtain a group license affected your team either positively or negatively?

2. The changes in rules created new "interstitial" channels for use with no license modification required. Use of these channels is limited to transmitters of five watts or less on simplex only.

A) Do you use these interstitial frequencies at all?

B) Does the Team use the frequencies, for example, as command or administrative channels during projects?

C) Have you heard non-REACT users on these frequencies?

D) Have you heard group licenses on these frequencies?

3. The rules change allowed "transient use" of a repeater, i.e., use of a

repeater in areas other than your own, with only verbal consent of the repeater owner, and allowed two channel licensing, plus the use of "675" as an emergency or road assistance channel.

A) Has anyone on your Team utilized "transient use"?

B) Has anyone used 675 under the emergency use rule - that is, without being licensed specifically for 675?

C) In the above two instances, were the people treated cordially, or were they given a "hassle"?

D) Have all the Team members upgraded their license to include the second channel? Would three or four channels be preferred?

4. A) If your Team uses GMRS, is it a primary or secondary form of commu-

(Continued on page 8)



**Whiteside County REACT #4714 helped work on the Newmanfest which was May 16 through May 20. The Newmanfest was started 19 years ago, to help support Newman Central Catholic High School. Activities held during the event included a Beer Garden, Carnival, Home Show, large food tent and dancing.**

**Whiteside County REACT is on their second year with the Newmanfest. They helped with ID's, exit gates and the Home Show. A total of 311 hours were donated during the fest.**

**Besides the Newmanfest, Whiteside was also in the Memorial Day Parade, in which they directed traffic and had a car participate within the parade itself.**



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**S O M O V E D . . .** A Summary of Actions Taken by  
The REACT International, Inc.  
Board of Directors at its  
July 1990 Meetings  
Compiled by Edward W. N. Smith, Secretary

1. Attendance (all or part of meetings): James Bear, Jacki MacDonald, Ronald McCracken, Stuart Meyer, Richard Munton, Richard Pratz, Gregory Seemuth, Edward Smith, Robert Stone, Deanne Earwood.

2. The minutes of the February 1990 meetings were approved as distributed.

3. The following "Papers" were received:

A) Proposal for a New Membership Class; submitted by Mr. Steven Gobat, KA3PDQ, Harrisburg Area REACT Team C445, Eppers, Pennsylvania. (This proposal was referred to the REACT Amateur Radio Club members for review and comment).

B) Proposals submitted by Ms. Bonnie Zygmunt, President, Kettle Moraine REACT 3886 and 1st Vice President, Wisconsin REACT Council:

1) Publish special editions of Team Topics prior to Conventions containing proposals that the Board will be presenting to the Membership for a vote. (It was noted that this process had been initiated, and that further efforts in this direction will be desirable).

2) REACT International pay a local expert to give a seminar at each year's Convention on Volunteer Management (there was agreement that more training at Conventions would be desirable and that efforts should be made in this direction).

3) Publish unabridged Board of Directors Meeting Minutes in a special Team Topics mailing. In addition, allow individual members to attend Board of Directors Meetings.

C) Suggestion to recognize the contributions handicapped members make to REACT, and proposal to create a Task Group charged with offering recommendations regarding these members; submitted by Dorothy V. DePoe, Sommervale, New Jersey (It was agreed that the Board encourages award nominations, including with regard to the contributions made by handicapped members).

D) Petition from the Illinois REACT Council, Inc. to re-open the matter of the agreement between the Council and the Board (regarding Council re-recognition signed July, 1989) (this petition was denied on the grounds that there was no basis for revisiting the issues).

E) Petition from the Illinois REACT Council, Inc. to declare the Board of Director's candidacy of Mr. Ronald O. Mayes null and void (see below).

F) Proposal to request bids from Publisher's Representatives for sale of advertising space in the REACTer; submitted by Edward W. N. Smith, Field Director and Secretary, REACT International, Inc., Plymouth Meeting, Pennsylvania (this proposal was referred to the Office Staff for consideration).

G) Proposal for a REACT Brochure contest; submitted by Edward W. N. Smith, Field Director and Secretary, REACT

International, Inc., Plymouth Meeting, Pennsylvania (this proposal was referred to the Awards Task Group).

H) Final Report of the 1989 - 1990 Communications Task Group; submitted by Robert D. Adler, NZ2T, Philip A. S. Treglia, Lance Luedtke, & William F. Simpson, Task Group Leaders, and Edward W. N. Smith, Task Group Director (no action required).

I) Proposals submitted by Dan Furman, Secretary of Stanislaus REACT, Ceres, California:

1) Suggestions regarding stationary options available from Headquarters (referred to the Office Staff for implementation as appropriate).

2) Computer equipment:

- Consider establishing a computer bulletin board (referred to the Computer Task Group).

- Maintain membership records in house (referred to the Computer Task Group).

3) Several suggestions regarding possible restructure of the Board of Directors (discussed at length at this Convention).

A number of other questions and/or requests, compiled by Robert Riechel, Life Member 152, were presented to the Board at the beginning of the meeting.

4. Candidacy of Board Members: There was agreement that there were insufficient grounds to the Board candidacy of Ronald Mayes invalid. However, the following resolution was adopted:

No candidate for a Field Director position may have been involved with the management of the REACT International headquarters office (excluding Board members) as either a paid employee or an unpaid volunteer for a period of one year prior to the submission of the nomination form.

5. A revised statement of compliance regarding IRS charitable organization regulations was adopted.

6. The proposal to retain the services of a management company to handle the administrative affairs of REACT International was removed from Board consideration.

7. The following Officers were appointed:

President: Ronald McCracken  
Vice President: Robert Stone  
Secretary: Richard Pratz  
Treasurer: Gregory Seemuth  
Asst. Secretary: Deanne Earwood

An Executive Committee was appointed consisting of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Assistant Secretary/Office Manager was authorized to

(Continued on page 21)



**WORLD BAND  
RADIO**

By R.C. Watts

If you are a U.S. Coast Guard fan, as I am, there is a great new book; "Coast Guard Radio" by James T. Pogue and published by Tiare. Price is \$12.95 plus shipping from the publisher or one of the several retailers. It contains complete facility, vessel and aircraft listings, with radio frequencies, call signs and QSL addresses.

Plus plenty of background reading and lots of pictures.

The venerable anti-Castro station, "La Voz de Alpha 66", last busted by the FCC in 1989, has gone legal by buying air time over WHRI. At time of writing it's heard morning and evening for a half hour in the 31 meter band. All Spanish program.

From August 1990 SPEEDX; The Ontario DX Association (ODXA) has the Foreign Language Recognition Course available again for CAN \$6.00 or US \$5.00 (\$1.00 higher in other countries) to P.O. Box 161, Station A, Willowdale, Ontario, M2N 5S8, Canada. This 90 minute audio tape was produced by Radio Canada International in 1983. Sales benefit the Handicapped Aid Program (HAP) conducted by ODXA.

From August 1990 NASWA; The Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402 sells the "U.S. Frequency

Spectrum Chart" (stock #003-000-00652-2) for only \$2.75. It's in color on 30" x 52" glossy paper, check or money order to above address or by phoning (202)783-3238 (Visa or MC orders) between 8 am and 4 pm eastern time.

Voice of Hope - Asia has been testing Chinese programs via KSDA for several months. Their station, KHBN on Guam, is due on the air by year end if there

are no construction delays (there almost always is!) Apparently several other shortwave stations have applications for construction permits before the FCC. Where will it end? I don't know, but I am planning to attend the October Monitoring Times Conference in Knoxville. If there is anything covered that appears to be of interest to REACT Monitors, I'll include it in a future column.

# GMRS...Rx

*continued*

nication? Why did you choose GMRS?

B) If your Team does not use GMRS, why have you chosen to use something else? Would you be interested in learning more about GMRS?

5. A) If you have decided to use CB, would you explain your reasoning... be honest - if cost is a factor, say so!

B) Do articles in the REACTer concerning GMRS bore you? Would you prefer articles on CB?

6. In many areas, multiple Team use of a single repeater has become quite common, since different tones are available to activate the repeater.

A) If this is the situation in your area, do you find that it creates problems, or does it solve problems?

B) In the event of an emergency, do you have one common tone, and do you

appoint one person to control radio traffic?

7. What is the biggest problem facing GMRS users at this time?

What are your suggestions for solving this problem?

8. Do you - and the Team - adhere to the rules? Estimate the percentage of time that rules are ignored. (Come on - be honest!!)

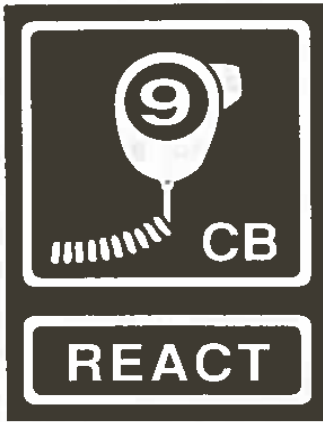
9. Do other non-REACT users in your area, adhere to the rules? If not, have you or your Team taken any action? What has been the result?

10. What changes would you like to see in GMRS?

See..... that wasn't hard... but it is important! Please mail your responses TODAY to:

**GMRS Task Group**  
c/o Bill Simpson  
3259 Eric Blvd.  
Park City, IL 60085





## Publicizing REACT

by P.R. Task Group

*Fred Lanshe, PR. Task Group Co-Chair From Pennsylvania Offers the Following PR Suggestions:*

### PARADE PR

Join the parade whenever your town has one.

**REACT Lake Simcoe** of Ontario CANADA recently responded to a plea for help from local parade organizers for more participants in the Sulton Centennial Parade.

Overnight, this REACT Team mustered five of its members with their vehicles. Next morning, the five vehicle contingent, each decked out with REACT magnetic signs and HELP litter bags flying from their car radio antennas, arrived at the parade assembly area on time.

Parade watchers really enjoyed the uniform, multi-vehicle REACT entry. The parade marshals thanked the Lake Simcoe REACT Team for their participation. These REACTors overheard many complimentary remarks about their appear-

ance from the spectators and several people inquired about joining their Team.

Team president Bruce Evans said the Team will certainly repeat this activity in future parades.

Try it with your Team. It's amazing PR.

### GETTING YOUR STORY COVERED

Knowing the needs of local television, newspaper and radio assignment editors is the best way to make sure your story is covered. Consider these tips:

- \* Get the direct telephone numbers of assignment editors to use on weekends and holidays.

- \* Don't call assignment editors on deadline (typically two hours before broadcast).

- \* Provide visuals for TV stories. The average hard-news story without visuals will get about 20 seconds of air time.

A soft-news story with good visuals can garner up to 90 seconds.

- \* Offer interviews with those affected by your story (an endorsement from those agencies you assisted, for example).

- \* Contact your local TV and cable stations two to three weeks prior to your

weekend highway safety coffee break to have it put on their community bulletin board, usually at no cost (if permitted in your state).

- \* After the event, contact the media that was involved and do a follow-up interview. Mention the needs that were fulfilled and don't forget to thank your sponsors and the media that covered your story, it will payoff in the future.

The "GUADALUPE 9'ER" is no longer. In the San Antonio area since the 2 REACT Teams became one, the name of the paper has been changed to "San Antonio Reflections", P.O. Box 2595, Universal City, TX. 78148, Tom Allred, Editor. The new look is impressive.

If you would like to exchange your newspaper or would like to receive other Team or Council newspapers, drop this column a note so stating which and your editor's full name and address including zip code. This column will attempt to publish as many as it can to help you expand your newspaper exchange.

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

A M A T E U R R A D I O C L U B N E W S

by Bob Adler

Sorry about the delay in getting around to an article for the REACTer, but 1989/90 was a very busy year for us, both personally as well as for REACT A.R.C. Personal business aside, I would like to bring you up to date on where amateur radio stands in REACT at this time.

1990 saw REACT gain significant recognition within the amateur radio community. Just prior to the 1989 convention, New Jersey's Garden State Council of REACT Teams (NJCORT) Amateur Radio Club applied for and was granted affiliation with American Radio Relay League (ARRL) as an affiliated club. This year, the Dallas County REACT's Amateur Radio Club also came on as an ARRL affiliate, making it the first TEAM in REACT to do so.

In June, both Pennsylvania and Texas REACT A.R.C. participated in "Field Day", another REACT first!! I do not have the Pennsylvania statistics here, but I do have Texas'. In limited operations conducted in Amarillo, TX., the group ran 2A with an additional novice station. Some 20 operators or more participated, as well as non-hams who helped support the effort. Chuck Thompson (N5IAG) took care of the publicity and public relations prior to and during the event, while Dwaine Carter (N5MOD) did most of the legwork and construction with help from Steve Delano (N5PXX),

Bernard Parker (N5EYR) and others. No one knows how we "placed", but all had fun and are looking forward to next year with enthusiasm.

This year is the year we get organized on the RIARC level. We have three major projects to complete, and we're going to need all the help we can get. First, is the database, second is a regular "net" on HF, and third is the Special Event for the 1991 convention in Melbourne, FL. There are also "spinoffs" from these projects, such as a list of all REACT members who use packet, with a list (available for an SASE) of all home PBBS's. Another idea is a Simulated Emergency Test (SET) on HF among REACT hams sometime in the future after a consistent net is established.

In order to establish a reliable, current, and up to date data base, I need the following information from any REACT member who is a ham: name, address, phone numbers for home and work. I also need your call sign, license class, when your license expires, your ARRL membership number (off QST label), and when your ARRL membership expires. Further, we need to know your capabilities, so include HF bands you can work, what modes (CW, SSB, PACKET, RTTY, etc.), as well as VHF/UHF packet including your home BBS WITH HEIRARCHAL addressing (ex: NZ2T @

NZ2T.#DFW.TX.USA.NA).

The net will commence on the first Sunday in October at 2000Z (3 pm CDT) on or near 28380 khz. It's initial purpose will be for check-ins and local news exchanges. **NO REACT "BUSINESS" WILL BE PERMITTED.** Further down the line, once established, the net can be used for a variety of things to be decided by the Net managers. There will also be some regional nets established, starting with call district five. The REACT LONE STAR NET will be on 40 meter phone, and will be on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays on or near 7275 khz LSB, at a time to be decided by Net Managers N5MOD and myself. CW training nets may also be developed if there is interest. I would also like to encourage an RTTY net on 10 meters in the novice/tech sub-band if there is interest as well. Comments are welcome concerning these ideas, and we also would like some volunteers for Net Control Stations (NCS) on all of these nets.

The 1991 Convention in Melbourne, FL will have at their request amateur radio participation. We have proposed a full HF station, as well as a packet station set up as a BBS for forwarding NTS traffic on behalf of convention attendees to their families and friends. We need operators for HF special event opera-

*(Continued on page 11)*



(Continued from page 10)

tions, as well as packet operators who can take and upload NTS traffic via packet and/or local nets. If you are interested in this activity and plan to attend the 1991 Convention, please contact me at the address which appears at the end of this article.

On a personal note, I would like to thank the Communications Task Group as a whole for all of the support they have given to development of amateur radio in REACT, and a special thank you to those of you who have helped this development by what you do every day on your local level. I am also proud to announce to you that upon my return from a recent (and extended) trip to New Jersey, I had QSL cards waiting from T7OA, UP1BYL, KH8/SM7PKK, 5W1ML, TF3CQ, SV9/DL6RAI, and VP5VPX. These cards gave me 103 DXCC countries confirmed by QSL (unofficially until submitted to ARRL DXCC desk). Most of the 103 are CW contacts, most were done with a trap dipole, and the rest with an R5 vertical, and all 100 watts or less.

Some local news: Dallas County REACT member Jim Brown, N5LLI has his repeater on 443.450 identifying as "N5LLI/REACT", and is planning some nifty projects for the "machine" as well. He already has a remote base on 145.58, and soon may have one for 6 or 1.25 meters as well. Other DCRARC members are planning to operate the ARRL Sweepstakes in November, as well as CQ Worldwide DX during the winter months. We'll keep

you up to date on the contest scene within REACT as things develop.

Please send us news from your local team that might be of interest in future additions. We'd like to hear about upgrades, new hams, local projects, ARRL Field appointments, etc...share the good news with your fellow REACTORS!!!!

(approx) every night at about 2100 CDT, or 21.110 weekend afternoons and at about 0000Z every night (1900 CDT). Maybe we'll see you there.....

73s for now de.....

Bob Adler, NZ2T  
Dallas County 146  
LM 299

Packet: NZ2T @  
N5AUX.#DFW.TX.USA.NA  
NZ2T @  
W5T00.#DFW.TX.USA.NA

=====
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## L I F E M E M B E R S H I P C O R N E R

Following is the newest addition to the Life Membership roles.

LM 464  
Rob Adams  
Seattle REACT  
Everett, Washington

Obviously REACTers haven't been applying for Life Memberships at a record pace, but this is ridiculous. I'm sure that there are REACTers that would like to become Life Members but are not. I would like to know your reasons and ideas. As described in the last Life Membership article, there is a sub-committee that will address potential improvements and changes within Life Membership. We need to hear from you though - Life Members and non-Life Members alike.

It is time for renewals and even though Life Members won't be effected they should work with team

officers to assure that renewals are sent in on time and that everyone is registered.

It isn't too early to start thinking about an activity for REACT month - May 1991. Start now to get proclamations from local agencies, mayors, governors, etc. Also start now to plan an Open House or similar event to promote membership and tell your community about REACT. Maybe this would be a good time to award a Life Membership to a deserving member to show that REACT recognizes it's own members. Plan to have a radio distributor on hand to answer questions and maybe donate a door prize. Have guest speakers from the sheriff's office, police (state and local), mayor and others such as AAA. They will appreciate the PR opportunity and REACT will reap the understanding between groups.

Charleston REACT Emergency Team has notified me that there are some changes in the 1988-89 Team Directory. Page 174 contains phone numbers (803) 766-9727 and (803) 556-1117. These numbers are to be deleted and replaced with (803) 554-1406. Also Life Member 191, Mr. James O. Mauk passed away in April 1990. Although a letter was sent regarding this notice, it was apparently lost in the mail. Sorry!!

Dick Cooper  
LM 329  
Life Member Chairman

### O O P S !

New Life Member #461 was incorrectly listed in the September/October issue. Please make a note of the corrected listing...  
William Koller.

## Government Relations Task Group Report

Since I am writing this report on October 1 before most of you have had a chance to read the last REACTer, I have not received any suggestions, comments, or criticisms from my last column. I have also not received any suggestions on what the task group's charter should include. In the last 2 months, the task group has been investigating REACT's involvement in disaster and emergency communications:

\* Discussions have been

held with Red Cross about cross-training REACT members in Red Cross communication protocols,

\* Discussions are being held with the National Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (NVOAD) about emergency communications in a disaster,

\* Discussions are being held with F.E.M.A. to offer disaster communication aid and to ask F.E.M.A. for aid in getting surplus equipment for REACT,

\* Discussions are being pursued with the Federal Department Of Transportation for approval of the Channel 9 Microphone sign on federal highways,

And the monitoring directory is being put together.

I have received the July team mailing surveys from 103 teams for inclusion in the monitoring directory. (They are listed at the end of this article).

If your team has not re-

(Continued on page 13)



(Continued from page 12)

sponded, please have your team be included. If your team did not get a survey form, have the Team Secretary get in touch with Deanne Earwood in the Wichita office. Of the teams that have responded to the survey 101 teams monitor Citizen Band Channel 9, 33 teams monitor G.M.R.S., 16 teams monitor Amateur band generally around 146 MegaHertz, and 9 teams monitor Marine band Channel 16. Every team is attempting to monitor as much as they can and are attempting to monitor 24 hours a day. REACT is alive and working to fulfill the original purpose of aiding in an emergency and giving motorist assistance.

Red Cross is designing a course for Red Cross communicators. In discussions with National Red Cross, they requested those REACT teams who want to work with Red Cross in an emergency to get in touch with the Red Cross Disaster Director in the teams local area. Since both Red Cross and REACT have a national agreement for communications aid, I recommend to the teams that they follow through. Red Cross will be sending out the same recommendation to their chapter houses. Since REACTers are trained in emergency communications, I recommended to National Red Cross that they allow REACT members to take their radio training courses. This would familiarize REACT members in the Red Cross communication protocols and would allow us to use their radios in the Red Cross frequency of 47 MegaHertz (as Red Cross

volunteers). I am working with the National headquarters to persuade them to license on a 400 MegaHertz band in the 450 to 460 range which would allow those teams with programable G.M.R.S. radios to act as additional Red Cross communicators in an emergency or disaster.

At the July convention, the question was raised "what REACT will be doing in the year 2000 as cellular phones and other communication techniques become more popular and lower the use of Citizen Band radios?" One answer is to improve our communication abilities and responses to emergencies and disasters. This is the reason that the Government Relations task group is beginning to reach out to these other organizations at the national level. The task group is attempt-

ing to open the doors at the national level that will allow the teams to be as active at the local level as they wish to be. These national agreements will hopefully set the stage for local agreements between REACT teams and their counterparts. Naturally, any agreements that are currently in place would not be superseded.

If there are any questions, comments, offers of assistance or complaints, they can be addressed to me at 2605 Loma Street, Silver Spring, Md. 20902-4841.

REACTively,

Norman L. Kaplan,  
Chairperson  
Government Relations  
Task Group

C022	C491	2515	3221	4089	4712
C064	C514	2620	3327	4094	4713
C071	C602	2624	3329	4105	4716
C081	C653	2642	3361	4252	4727
C102	C733	2647	3387	4270	4730
C109	2012	2683	3410	4299	4746
C114	2037	2785	3420	4508	4748
C149	2083	2802	3425	4534	4765
C161	2106	2833	3556	4544	4775
C199	2126	2859	3587	4566	4778
C261	2166	2869	3606	4573	4782
C263	2202	2975	3722	4618	4783
C296	2332	3022	3810	4637	5002
C316	2388	3032	3866	4646	
C322	2400	3038	3916	4666	
C373	2416	3066	4020	4686	
C439	2418	3083	4046	4694	
C453	2424	3129	4047	4707	

**FUTURE DEADLINES  
FOR  
the REACTer**

January/February , 1991 issue:  
Article submission: December 3rd, 1990

March/April, 1991 issue:  
Article submission: February 4, 1991

**NOTE: Mail in your Team and Council events today!**

## DAVISS COUNTY REACT TEAM INC. #4666 HELPS IN TIME OF DISASTER

Members of this Team hauled jugs of water to the people of Petersburg, Indiana for over (4) four weeks.

The reason for this was that during the flooding in May, 1990, the city's main water line ruptured and the city was totally without drinking water for more than four weeks.

The Daviess County REACT Team carried ap-

proximately 10,000 gallon jugs of water from Washington to Petersburg over this four week period. Some of the jugs went to nursing homes, some to senior citizens homes, to shut-ins, restaurants, and to the Disaster Center.

Petersburg is 15 miles south of Washington, in Pike County, Indiana, and on June 2, 1990, was hit by

several tornadoes, destroying over 2/3 of the town of 3,000 people. Seven people were killed during the tornadoes touching down directly on the southern half and the center of the town. The town was left with no electric and no water.

The Salvation Army, the Red Cross, FEMA, National Guard, State Police and many other volunteer groups responded to the town to assist with the disasters. The Daviess County REACT Team was already there because of the flooding and water problem.

We continued to carry jugs of water on a regular basis. We started working with the Salvation Army, helping to organize and unload donated supplies which were coming in from everywhere. Members of our Team also began carrying sandwiches and food from Washington to the Salvation Army to distribute to workers and the homeless victims of the tornadoes.

During the first week after the tornadoes, Hardee's Restaurants in Washington, Indiana donated 200 to 300 sandwiches 3 times a day to help the people of Petersburg. McDonald's and others also donated food on a daily basis. The Manager of the local Wal-Mart store in Washington donated, delivered and helped with REACT and other personnel to unload 2 semi loads of gallon jugs of drinking water. Wal-Mart also do-

### A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM RON MAYES LM 162

I wish to thank all of the REACT Teams and their leaders who voted for me in this years Board of Director elections.

The three way tie for first place demonstrated to me and many others that there was equal confidence in Bob Riechel, Jacki MacDonald and myself to serve the best interests of this organization. Winning the election and tie-breaker was a great honor to me.

However, since leaving REACT's employ and long after my nomination to be a candidate was submitted, I embarked on a new career challenge. Starting my own business Advantage Communications, Inc. which involves Paging, Cellular, and GMRS radio. My time is now at a premium and in all good conscious, I would not be able to handle the additional challenges of serving you as your elected field director.

I therefore, must decline the elected position. I do so in knowing that my replacement, Jacki MacDonald, shares the confidence of the Teams and myself in doing a fine job. The Board and HQ office also know they can contact me whenever I can be of service to REACT.

Thank you again,

Ron Mayes  
LM 162  
Sedgwick County REACT  
#4208  
Wichita, KS

**Note: Due to the REACTer deadlines and a full schedule of articles for the September/October issue the above article was omitted.**

(Continued on page 15)



Vice President Dan Quayle stated during his visit to Petersburg.... "Let me say on behalf of President Bush that you are part of his 1,000 points of light. Thank God for all the volunteers that we have here in Petersburg". (Source: *The Press - Dispatch*, June 21, 1990)

## Team Events

**Southwestern REACT Team #C475, San Diego, California** provided radio communications for the second year in a row for the "Say Yes to the 90's and No To Drugs" Walk held recently. In all a total of 25 radio units were utilized for the fourteen block event. During the same time period the Team also set-up a canteen and communications trailer for the Earthquake Expo 1990. A barbecue of hot dogs and hamburgers were offered to all participants as well as perspective membership information. Now we know how **Southwestern REACT Team #C475** continues to remain the largest REACT Team, by good exposure, good fellowship and great food.

**Douglas County REACT #C663, Omaha, Nebraska** has been quite busy of late. Springtime found the Team being called out three different times for severe weather and tornado activity, by the National Weather Service.

The Team has also been doing their part on not only publicizing their local Team but REACT as well. The Team has been running REACT's "Bobby Sherman's PSA" on four local channels.

Over the summer, the Team kept busy working communications at the Special Olympics, 3 different parades, a number of runs, as well as the big 26 mile run in October.

(Continued from page 14)

nated flashlights, batteries, diapers, blankets and other items that were needed.

After the first week, the Salvation Army was ordering food from Hardee's Restaurant on a regular basis of 3 times per day, breakfast, lunch and evening meals. Members of the REACT Team from Washington (Davies County) were picking up the food and taking it to 3 sights in Petersburg that the Salvation Army had set up.

Members of the Davies County REACT Team, Inc. #4666 were totally involved with these disasters for more than six weeks. We had committed ourselves to do what we could for as long as we were needed.

This was a double disaster. President Bush had declared Petersburg and other southwestern Indiana Counties as disaster areas because of the flooding and loss of water.

Members of Civil Defense, FEMA, National Guard, SEMA and Davies County REACT personnel were already on the scene when the tornadoes hit Petersburg, just two weeks

later (June 2), President Bush again declared Petersburg a disaster area because of the "Killer Tornadoes".

Shortly after the tornadoes, Vice-President, Dan Quayle, arrived in Petersburg to see for himself the degree of mass destruction this town had suffered.

Also, from day one of the flooding to the end of the disaster RELIEF EFFORT, the Davies County REACT Team, secured from Hardee's Restaurant in Washington, cups, sugar, creamers, and five gallons of coffee every morning, which was delivered to the disaster command center at Petersburg City Hall. The Davies County REACT Team has been hauling water jugs to Petersburg to help out in the town's crisis. The team's members are making four to five trips a day, and REACT plans to continue with the help as long as the situation in Petersburg continues, according to Chuck McMahon, area REACT leader.

(Source: *The Times-Herald, Washington, Indiana-May 29, 1990*)

### NEW TEAM CHARTERED

4791      Yadkin County Emergency REACT  
            Yadkin, North Carolina  
            September 19, 1990

## COMMUNICATION SKILLS

What communications skill people have the most trouble with is the most important one, LISTENING.

When talking with others, think how you feel. A casual conversation with friends or family doesn't raise much concern for what is said or what you hear. It is the most neutral atmosphere.

Now think about what the atmosphere is like when you are discussing an important issue or when a decision has to be reached. It becomes a little more intense, doesn't it? Compare the effort you apply to making your points to the effort you give listening to other's points of view.

Do you strain to hear each point being made - and to fully understand it's implications?

Or, do you spend your time thinking how best to make your case, how to find the weaknesses in the other persons position and how to overpower their viewpoint with your own?

Do you look objectively for the truth and an opportunity to share knowledge and understanding?

Most of us are not as careful as we should be to truly listen and understand the points others are trying to make. And when we interrupt, it's because we are trying to convince others to our points of view.

As a communications organization we have a special responsibility to learn better skills dealing with

listening. We are forced to listen while on a radio since we can't interrupt until the other person unkeys. But if, while the other person is talking, you're thinking about the next question you're going to ask, what will you get? Garbled information. That's bad for your Team's reputation.

At a Team meeting where no one listens, you get the same points raised time and again and no constructive decisions made without a lot of wasted time. Team Leaders need to listen to members and members need to learn to listen to their fellow members.

Author Jim Lundy in his book, Lead, Follow or Get Out of the Way, has identified nine levels of listening. Compare the items on the list with how you listen while another person is talking. How would you like to be listened to? Is there room for improvement in your listening skills?

## LEVELS OF LISTENING

1. Not there physically. (You didn't attend or show up)
2. There physically, but not mentally. (Not paying any attention at all.)
3. Hearing speaker, but doing something else at the same time. (Such as watching elsewhere, reading, or thinking about a different matter.)
4. Interrupting speaker soon and frequently.
5. Interrupting speaker later and less often.

6. Allowing speaker to finish, but meanwhile intensely thinking of a counter argument or response.

7. Allowing speaker to finish while earnestly trying to understand what is being said, and then replying immediately.

8. Allowing speaker to finish, pausing, thoughtfully considering what has been said, and then replying.

9. Allowing speaker to finish, pausing, summarizing what you think you heard, and only then replying.

If you find yourself listening at or below level 7 and would like to improve your listening skills, the following suggestions by Dr. Ralph G. Nichols will be helpful (Nichols, R., and Stevens, L.A., Are You Listening?, McGraw-Hill, 1957):

1. Listen for ideas and central themes.

Search for the speaker's central theme or main points instead of getting lost in - or reacting to - the supportive details.

2. Judge content, not delivery.

Focus, to your best ability, on what the speaker is saying and try not to be unduly influenced by his or her way of saying it.

3. Search for area of interest.

It is extremely easy to tune out a speaker - so work on sharing his or her enthusiasm. Selfishly search for new ideas or insights which might be beneficial to you.

4. Don't jump to conclu-

(Continued on page 17)



(Continued from page 16)

sions.

It's easy to assume that you know the rest of a sentence or message after hearing the beginning.

Avoid prejudging a message, so you can receive and evaluate all of it.

5. Take notes, but adjust your note-taking to the speaker.

By taking notes you sharpen your reception, understanding, and, of course, retention of the information.

6. Concentrate - resist distraction.

External distractions include nonrelated things you can see or hear, or which may be impacting your other senses. Internal distractions occur when your mind wanders into unrelated memories or shifts its focus to worries,

plans, or anticipations.

7. Use the fast pace of thought to your advantage.

Most people can think three or four times faster than they speak. Don't let your quick mind indulge in all sorts of thoughts unrelated to the conversation. Capitalize on your thinking speed by actively sensing, interpreting, evaluating, and summarizing the messages being received.

8. Check your emotions.

It has been said that the intellect is the slave to emotions. Be sensitive to things that trigger your emotions - and increase your efforts to focus on a clear reception and understanding of what is being said.

9. Exercise your mind.

You can turn away from complicated or difficult subjects, or you can intellectually wrestle with com-

plex information so that you will have a chance to grow.

10. Work at listening.

Be an active listener. Follow the above suggestions. Ask questions and seek clarification. Actively share in the sender's efforts to improve your level of understanding, whether or not you think you will agree.

These important tips aside, the most important step in improving your listening skills is to adjust your basic attitude during communication. Think how much quicker things could be accomplished if everyone shifted to higher levels of listening.

As a follower, a leader, a family member, a member of your community, and a citizen - do you have room to become a more effective listener?

Why not give it a try?

**NOTE:** In the September/October issue of the REACTer, Bonnie's address was incorrectly published. Please make a note of her corrected address...

Bonnie Zygmunt - Task Group Leader  
5925 Donegal Road  
Hubertus, WI 53033

**REACT Suroeste #4027, Yauco, Puerto Rico receives support from fellow REACT emergency units during the XVI Coffee Festival held in Yauco, Puerto Rico during March, 1990. Photo taken by Team #4027 member Mr. Esteban Bonilla.**



## VISITOR SIGN-IN CARDS WORK WELL AT SAFETY BREAK

Travis County REACT Team #3022, Austin, Texas has conducted at least a dozen holiday safety breaks over the years, usually at a Texas Highway Department rest area on busy Interstate 35. Usually visitors have been asked to sign in on a pad of paper, and to indicate the number of people in their party. This year, a different system was used with generally very satisfactory results.

The main problem with having visitors sign in on a pad of paper is that only limited information can be recorded, and analyzing that information afterward is a time-consuming chore.

For this year's Labor Day holiday safety break, visitor sign-in cards were designed and printed. A sample card is reproduced at the end of this article.

Two thousand of the 4 1/4 by 5 1/2 inch cards were printed on index card stock, at a cost of about a penny per card. During the safety break, the cards were kept in a metal recipe box; a few cards at a time were attached to a small clipboard. As visitors stopped for refreshments, one person (usually the driver) in each group was approached by a volunteer and asked, "Would you fill out an information card so we'll have a record of how many people we've served?"

Only two visitors, out of some 3,000 people served during the three-day event, refused to fill out a card. Two others objected to giving their home address,

and were quickly told that they didn't have to give any information that they didn't want to give.

The cards were a challenge to some visitors who spoke little or no English. In those cases, a volunteer assisted in filling out the card.

One serious problem was noticed almost immediately. The card asks, "How many people are traveling with

you today?" A few people answered, "0"--not counting themselves! The ambiguous wording of the question bothered many people; a few answered by writing in, "Just me."

The two questions at the bottom of the card, however, were spectacularly successful. Out of nearly 800 cards filled out over the holiday (representing approximately 3,000

*(Continued on page 19)*

### SAMPLE FOLLOW-UP LETTER

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for stopping at our recent Labor Day Holiday Safety Break, on IH-35 north of Round Rock. We hope the rest of your trip was safe and enjoyable! You might be interested in knowing that we served about 3,000 people over the weekend.

You asked for information about REACT. Travis County REACT is the local Team, or chapter, of REACT International, a worldwide, nonprofit, all-volunteer communications service organization. REACT is probably best known as the group that monitors the designated emergency channel, Channel 9, on CB radio, but we provide many other services to our community as well.

The enclosed pamphlets will tell you a little more about the CB emergency channel and about our Team's community service programs.

REACT is a tax-exempt charitable organization, and contributions are tax deductible. Our Team relies primarily on members' dues and on contributions from community groups for whom we have provided a service. This year, for the first time, Travis County REACT is eligible for contributions in the Combined Federal Campaign, administered by United Way.

We are always eager to welcome new members. Membership in REACT is open to anyone 18 year old and above; no prior experience is required. Our members have the use of our central CB base station on Justin Lane and the equipment in our mobile communications center. Travis County REACT serves all of the Austin metropolitan area; our members live in all parts of the city, from Cedar Park to Oak Hill.

If you would like to know more about membership in Travis County REACT, or about REACT in general, please give me a call at 836-2861. I'll look forward to hearing from you!

With best regards,

Stuart M. DeLuca, President



visitors), more than 180, or nearly 25%, checked the box to ask for information about REACT. More than 250 visitors asked for information about Texas Highways Magazine, the tourist information monthly published by the Texas Highway Department.

After the event, Travis County REACT President Stuart DeLuca sorted the cards and analyzed the information on them. To correct for the undercount, due to people misinterpreting the question about the number of people in each party, he counted the total number of cards (784), then added 50%, or 392, assuming that half the visitors neglected to count themselves. Adding up the number of people represented on the cards gave the total number of visitors served, 2,729.

The cards were then re-sorted according to whether the Texas Highways box had been checked. Those cards were duplicated and the copies forwarded to the marketing director of the magazine.

The cards were sorted again according to whether

the REACT information box had been checked, and those cards were sorted by ZIP code. Matching up cards with the appropriate REACT Team proved fairly easy, although a few cards from small towns had to be rather arbitrarily referred to Teams a considerable distance away. About 150 of the 180 cards were from Texas locations. The rest were sent to REACT International headquarters in Wichita to be forwarded to the appropriate Teams.

An informative letter, (see page 18) was sent to each visitor in the Austin area who had requested information, and the Team plans to follow up on these letters to determine whether the individuals are interested in becoming REACT members.

Copies of the cards from visitors in other parts of Texas were sent to the nearest Team's president.

Aside from the problem with the poorly-worded question, which can be easily corrected the next time the cards are printed, visitor sign-in cards proved to be a useful addition to the holiday safety break program.

## Team Events

**Carter County REACT Team #2012, Elizabethton, Tennessee** recently helped the Roan Mountain State Park in their yearly, Mountain of Praise Gospel singing. The Team not only parked cars but had the opportunity to met with several visitors from Tennessee as well as other states. The gospel sing lasted three days and the Team helped local rangers throughout the entire event. **Carter County REACT** can be proud to be involved with such a worthwhile cause.

**University of Oklahoma REACT #2916, Norman, Oklahoma** had a busy spring. In February, two members combined with three from Oklahoma County, forming a team to assist in the search for a missing aircraft in Southern Oklahoma. REACTers also provided traffic control for the university during a fire/hazardous materials incident at the University's chillwater generating plant. Traffic control was also provided for the Randy Travis concert at the Lloyd Noble Center. Upcoming projects include communications assistance for the Special Olympics Area 1 track and field meet at Norman High School, traffic and communications service for the Norman 89er Day Parade, and coordination assistance for the Norman Walk America.

### TRAVIS CO. REACT Holiday Safety Break

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

How many people are traveling with you today? \_\_\_\_\_  
Where did this trip begin? (City:) \_\_\_\_\_  
Where will this trip end? \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE CHECK for FREE, NO OBLIGATION INFORMATION:**

Please send me FREE information about the REACT Team closest to my home community.

Please send me FREE information about the award-winning **TEXAS HIGHWAYS MAGAZINE**.

**This Safety Break is co-sponsored by  
TRAVIS Co. REACT and Austin Police Monitors.**

## A BOARD MEMBER'S VIEW

News and Views from the REACT International Board of Directors

"NOW IS THE TIME..."

by Edward W.N. "Ned" Smith

Now is the time... to consider who you will nominate to be candidates for two positions of Field Director for REACT International, Inc. Your Team should have already received nomination forms used to nominate candidates who will then be voted upon by Teams in late Spring/early Summer 1991, with the electees taking their seats following the July 1991 REACT Convention.

It is my view that the nomination process is even more important than the actual election process. If

you don't have qualified candidates nominated, only the unqualified will be elected.

Up until now the REACT Board of Directors has avoided the issue of appointment of a Nominations Committee - we truly feel that the Teams need, and want, a slate of candidates that comes without the form of "inside track" that is afforded to individuals who receive the "blessing" of a Nominating Committee. The down side of the approach taken is that the responsibility for nominations falls to each and every REACTer.

The job of Field Director is not to be taken lightly. Board members spend hundreds of hours of their time in meeting preparation, travel and attendance, generating/reviewing correspondence, and talking on the telephone. If you want a feel for the work level ask our spouses - many have slept while Board members have la-

bored long into the night (in some cases the morning) dealing with matters that could not be delegated elsewhere. The next few years will be an especially exciting, and important, time for REACT. While financial stability will always be an issue, we have the stability required to focus additional efforts on the plans of the 1990's - the plans that will lay the groundwork for the year 2000 and beyond.

This will be a joy - REACT was on the verge of financial crisis when I joined the Board in 1985.

I am now in my sixth year of service to you, the REACT member, on the REACT Board of Directors. I think you will agree with me that six years is long enough. I have worked to bring REACT from the mid-1980's into the 1990's. It is up to you to select who will ready REACT for the year 2000 - and now is the time...

*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**

### SPECIAL NOTICE

WHEN SENDING A CHANGE OF ADDRESS INTO HEADQUARTERS - PLEASE NOTE YOUR TEAM NUMBER AND PERSONAL MEMBERSHIP NUMBER



(Continued from page 7)

sign contracts upon approval of the Executive Committee.

The U.S.A. was divided into four regions for assignment to the effected Field Directors (see September/October REACTer).

8. Task Group and Committee Leaders and Directors for the 1990 - 1991 year were appointed (see in September/October REACTer).

9. A committee was appointed to study the issue of REACT's By-Laws vis-a-vis the position of General Manager.

10. The performances of the Headquarters staff were reviewed and salaries were revised.

11. Two Life Memberships were revoked.

12. Bank signature authorizations were approved for Ronald McCracken, Gregory Seemuth and Deanne Earwood.

13. The current Council Reimbursement System was left intact as currently structured.

14. The purchase of computer equipment to allow typesetting of the REACTer in house was authorized.

15. A marketing/fund raising proposal was declined because it would not be consistent with the REACT Program, the those

submitting the proposal are invited to advertise in the REACTer.

16. Copies of Revenue Procedure 80-27 and the IRS' AISC Entity Report Form were added to the Management Handbook.

17. The process of considering membership revocation was initiated for two Team members.

18. Numerous Team, Council and member problems were discussed at great length.

19. Relocation or remaining under the current lease options of the International Office was discussed.

20. Supply inventory pricing and shipping costs reduction.

21. Winter Board Meeting site selected for Milwaukee, Wisconsin February 1st through February 3rd, 1991.

22. 1991 REACT membership renewal kits to include Field Director nomination forms will be distributed no later than September 30, 1990.

21. REACT Month - May 1991 will be issued no later than February, 1991.

22. Procurement of one fire proof file cabinet for Headquarters.

23. Availability of all Board Minutes to REACT members in good standing supplied at a reasonable cost.



**Greater Carlisle Area REACT #2859, Carlisle, Pennsylvania** knows just how to drum up support for their REACT Team. Anji Schell, a commercial art student at Cumberland-Perry County Vocational-Technical School, is shown here with her winning entry in a recent poster competition to encourage membership in Greater Carlisle Area REACT #2859. The Team plans to develop an annual poster contest to promote interest in the organization.

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## Getting on GMRS?

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## FIELD DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By Robert M. Riechel

As the Field Director assisting the Teams & Councils in the Western states and in keeping with my goal to keep these Teams & members informed, in August I mailed to all of my Council Presidents & all Team Presidents in those states not having a council the first of my periodic updates. This contained a list of questions I am seeking your input on, concerns brought to my attention concerning the "Affiliate" Program, concerns brought to my attention concerning the FCC and interference on CB Channel 9, and the Council's or Team's copy of the personnel emergency con-

tact list as limitedly handed out at the recent International Convention.

I hope each Team in those states having a Council has received from their Council their copy of this information. I hope each REACTer in all Teams has taken the opportunity to offer their input back to their Team and Council so these concerns can be presented to the International Board on a timely basis.

In September I contacted those Teams not listed in the September/October 1990 REACTer as submitting acceptable ballots asking if they had unanswered questions that did not let them cast a ballot

in the recent Field Director's election. I offered to attempt to answer or acquire the answers to their questions so that these same unanswered questions do not cause them to not vote in the future. The right to vote and make your desires known is very important and REACT desires all Teams to vote.

As a Field Director responsible to all REACTers, I remain open to your questions, as well as your constructive suggestions. I will attempt to explain your concerns and suggestions to the full Board and keep you informed on the Board's actions.

Dorothy DePoe is happy to report that discussions were held at the recent convention on the topic of "Women in REACT". A few items are being researched, such as a visor specifically for women. The task group needs input from women and men who were not able to attend the convention on what aspects of REACT can and should be expanded and publicized showing the equal involvement of women. If you have suggestions for items specifically suited for women or if you have suggestions for areas of involvement that might be more appropriate for "Women in REACT", please drop Dorothy a note explaining your thoughts. You may address your ideas to: Dorothy DePoe, Chair of Women in REACT Task Group, 100 N. Richards Ave., Somerville, NJ 08876.

### Team Events

**Garvin County REACT Team #2829, Pauls Valley, Oklahoma** is conducting a membership drive. Five REACTers assisted the Garvin County Sheriffs Office with the search for a missing aircraft in February. Members are also planning to provide service during the May Fest on May 5th. The Team will again continue a longstanding tradition of operating a Rest Stop on I-35 near Davis during the summer holidays.

**Kettle Moraine REACT Team #3866, Lannon, Wisconsin** has been busy with two March of Dimes Walks, the MADD Dash and the Waukesha Training Center run. In addition, they held a joint training

meeting with Waukesha Area REACT and helped Waukesha Area REACT with Ueckers Ride. They also worked on the Truck Show with Waukesha Area REACT, Milwaukee Area REACT Services, Door County REACT and Tri City REACT.

**Oklahoma County REACT #2620, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma** have been busy this year. In February, the Team sent two search teams to the southern part of the state to assist in the location of a missing aircraft. March brought the REACTers providing security and communications for the Easter Seals Telethon at Penn Square Mall. Members were geared up for other projects as well, including, Walk America, a Safe Kids FunFest and the Flight for Sight.



**1991 Convention  
Melbourne, Florida  
July 22 - 25, 1991**

The 1991 REACT International Convention will be held in Melbourne, Florida July 22-25, 1991. Just minutes away from Cape Canaveral - Florida's center of space technology, the Melbourne Airport, Atlantic Ocean and the Melbourne Square Mall, Melbourne offers a wide variety of activities for every individual's tastes. Disney World and the sprawling city of Orlando are just an hour away.

Co-hosted by Space Coast REACT #4577 and Brevard Cares REACT #4743, the 1991 REACT International Convention is shaping up to be one of the best yet!

The Melbourne Airport Hilton At Rialto Place will be the host hotel for the convention. From the plush comforts of their spacious rooms to the athletic amenities you'll find outside, the Melbourne Hilton At Rialto Place is designed to make REACT's stay a pleasure.

You'll enjoy the sumptuous pleasures of the San Marcos restaurant and the vibrant nightlife in the Toucan Lounge.

Florida is known for its splendid seafood, and the San Marcos continues this tradition with a fresh catch every day, while accommodating landlovers with varieties of beef, veal and poultry.

After hours, you can unwind in the elegant ambience of the Toucan Lounge, explore the coastal delights of Melbourne or settle down to a movie in your room.

Rates for the hotel are \$55.00 per night for single or double occupancy, \$61.00 per night for 3 to 4 people plus 2% tax. You must mention REACT when making your reservations to get these special rates. To contact the hotel please call 1-800-Hiltons. Free shuttle transportation is provided within a 10 mile radius.

Early registration is encouraged. If you are able to register prior to January 31, 1991, you will be eligible for one free round trip airline ticket to the Convention. If registered by March 31, 1991, you will be eligible for a drawing of one free night of lodging at the Melbourne Hilton At Rialto Place.

**For more information regarding the  
1991 REACT International Convention  
in Melbourne, Florida contact...**

Convention Hotline (voice)	(407)254-1202
REACT Bulletin Board (computer)	(407)255-9948
Walt Young, Chairman	(407)242-8850
Phil Craggs, Vice Chairman	(407)951-3132
Mike Lajeunesse, Vice Chairman	(407)636-0320

**1991 REACT International Convention  
Melbourne Airport Hilton At Rialto Place  
Melbourne, Florida  
July 22-25, 1991**

Co-hosted by Space Coast REACT #4577 and Brevard Cares REACT #4743

**INFORMATION REQUEST FORM**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Registration Forms Needed: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO:**

REACT 1991 Convention  
 Space Coast REACT #4577  
 P.O. Box 360292  
 Melbourne, FL 32936

**REGISTRATION: \$55.00 through May 15; \$70.00  
 after May 15.**

**REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC.**  
**OPEN BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**JULY 26, 1990**  
**CAVANAUGH'S INN AT THE PARK**  
**SPOKANE, WASHINGTON**

1. Call to order: James E. Bear, President and Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. on Thursday, July 26, 1990. In attendance: James Bear, presiding; Robert Stone, Vice President, Edward Smith Secretary; Gregory Seemuth, Treasurer; Ronald McCracken, Richard Munton, Richard Pratz; Board electee Jacki MacDonald; Deanne Earwood, Office Manager; and the Delegates and Attendees to the 1990 REACT Convention.

2. Credentials Report: Lee White, Chairman of the Credentials Committee, presented the final report of the Committee: There were 51 Teams represented, 21 recognized Council/State representatives, for a total of 72 voting Delegates.

3. First Timer Introductions: Mr. Bear asked the "First Timer's" to the Convention to stand and be recognized; these individuals were welcomed by the applause of the attendees.

4. 1991 Convention Presentation: Mr. Walt Mabe, representing Space Coast and Brevard Cares REACTs, gave a presentation as to the program being planned for the 1991 Convention these Teams will be hosting in Melbourne, Florida.

5. Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The delegate from Greater Long Beach REACT moved to approve the Minutes of the July 26, 1989 Meeting as published in the REACTer. The motion was seconded and carried.

6. Treasurer's Report: Mr. Seemuth presented the Treasurer's Report. He reviewed the findings presented in the May/June REACTer and discussed unanticipated items, advertising revenue, staff salary considerations, and the Draft 1991 Budget.

Mr. Seemuth raised the issue of the proposal to change the membership dues period, from January to December to an October to September schedule. The Council Presidents reported that they had discussed the proposal and were recommending that the proposal not be adopted; rather, they recommended that the renewal packets be mailed out earlier than previous practice. A "straw vote" of the delegates was held and there was a clear majority of support for the recommendations of the Council Presidents.

Mr. Seemuth noted that the Internal Revenue Code requires that all member Teams wishing charitable recognition under REACT's "umbrella" 501(c)(3) authorization are required to reaffirm every year that the Teams are acting in compliance with IRS rules regarding fund raising and financial management.

Mr. Seemuth summarized his activities as an At-large Board member. These activities include: Listening to member complaints, making suggestions, review of financial data, signing of checks over \$1000, issuance of pay checks for paid staff members, and voting of matters before the Board.

Finally, Mr. Seemuth reported that donations to the REACT Trademark Defense Fund made in the name of Pam Reichel (whose mother had recently passed away) totaled \$215.15.

Task Group Reports

7. Awards: Dick Cooper, Leader of the Awards Task Group, noted the following suggestions for the K40 Awards Program: Notify all nominees of their nominations; issuance of a certificate to all nominees; and REACTer articles highlighting the accomplishments of these nominees. The delegate from Team C125 moved to accept the Awards Task Group Report. The motion was seconded and carried.

8. Computer Committee Report: Jacki MacDonald, Co-Chairman, presented the Computer Committee Report. The members will continue to work with the Headquarters staff to develop effect data processing systems that will serve the needs of the REACT Program. A question was raised as to the viability of a computer network; Ms. MacDonald responded that this topic is being considered, and will be implemented as is practical.

9. Site Selection Committee: Larry Fry, Chairman, reported the recommendations of the Site Selection Committee. Mr. Fry reported that complete bids had been received from Dallas County REACT and the Indiana REACT Council for the 1992 REACT Convention. Mr. Fry also acknowledged the submission of a partial bid from Waterloo Regional REACT in Canada.

Mr. Fry further reported that the Committee was recommending the acceptance of the Indiana Council bid. The delegate from Team 4089 moved to recommend to the Board adoption of this recommendation. The motion was seconded and carried.

Edward Smith moved to adopt the recommendation as presented. The motion was seconded and carried.

Azella Tingler, Committee Chairman for 1990-1991, tasked with review of bids for the 1993 Convention, noted that bids were being received, and asked for suggestions for cost saving options.

10. Government Relations Task Group Report: Norman Kaplan, Task Group Leader, reported on the plan of the Task Group. Mr. Kaplan envisions a 10 - 15 year program, to include contact with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD) and the state VOADS, and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

Mr. Kaplan asked if any Teams have bilingual members, proposed state level EMA contact, and suggested that disaster plans be reviewed for development of suggested guidelines.

11. Life Membership Committee: Dick Cooper, Chairman, reported for the Committee. He noted that groups had been appointed to review procedures for withdrawal of Life Memberships, the Life Member Application Form, and develop the 1991 Member Directory. He also reported the following recommendations:

- Set the minimum age for Life Membership at 18.

*(Continued on page 25)*



- Add a line to the Life Membership Application Form for Member Number.
- Update the Application and include in the REACTer twice per year.

12. Recess: The delegate from the Virginia moved to recess the meeting. The motion was seconded and carried at 11:50 a.m.

13. Call to order: Mr. Bear called the meeting to order at 1:35p.m.

14. Public Relations Task Group: Co-leaders Marv Lee and Fred Lanshe reported for the Task Group. The Task Group is looking towards 1992 - REACT's 30th Anniversary. Discussions included sales items, and the Task Group recommended that a new REACT Flag and a sun visor be made available. The Chair noted that the topics will be taken under advisement, and asked the Task Group for additional information.

15. Women in REACT: Leader Dorothy DePoe reported that the Women in REACT Task Group had had a successful luncheon, and was looking forward to a productive year.

16. Training and Development Task Group: Task Group Leader Larry Zygmunt reported that the Task Group will be continuing the development of an in-house Training Program, as well as reviewing the contents of the Team Management Handbook. Mr. Zygmunt asked for suggested updates to the Handbook.

17. Communications Task Groups: CB Task Group Leader Phil Treglia reported that the Group plans a back to basics approach, looking to develop a police phone number listing, revising the report log form, performing TVI public education, researching articles on CB & REACT, and development of new training materials.

GMRS Task Group Leader Bill Simpson reported plans to continue last year's programs, plus more training materials, including at Conventions, compiling a list of GMRS equipment, and development of an index of REACTer articles.

Amateur Radio Task Group Leader Jim Bear reported the goals for the coming year: More ARRL Affiliated Clubs, greater participation in 1991 Field Day, comments on the No Code proposal from the FCC, and a 10 Meter net on 28.380 MHz.

#### Future of REACT Discussion Reports

Several topic groups had been formed to discuss issues regarding the direction and future of the REACT Program. The following are summary reports from these discussion groups:

18. Where are we going? Russ Willis reported on the discussions of the group discussing the question "Where are We Going?" The group summarized its recommendations by adoption of the following statement: "REACT is and should remain an organization of volunteers providing communications for emergencies and events."

19. Membership Dues and Classes of Membership: Dick Cooper reported on the discussions of the group addressing the issue of Dues. The following recommendations were offered: Retain current structure; local and national publicity should be expanded and include mailings to State and National Legislators during REACT Month; special interest

sections should be developed within Teams and Councils; a child and youth education program should be developed regarding proper CB and emergency procedure training, opening an opportunity for grants, possibly in conjunction with the National Education Association (NEA). The Group recommended that Teams develop incentive/points systems to offset the costs of membership, with funding coming in the form of grants, possibly through or with the assistance of REACT International.

20. Organizational Restructure: Dick Cooper reported on the discussions of the Group considering options for the best structure for REACT. The Group recommended that a nine member Board of Directors be elected by region, seven from the USA and two from Canada.

21. Council Voting: Don Humphrey reported on the discussions held by the Group considering the issue of Council voting at Conventions. The Group recommended that Teams vote on matters related to Team issues, Councils be allowed to vote on matters related to Council issues, and that a proxy voting scheme be developed.

22. REACTer Options: Frank Jennings reported on the discussions of the Group considering options for the REACTer. Recommendations included: In-house layout; single source printing; retain the current six issue schedule; consider four issues plus eight newsletters; drop the computer service; adopt a non-glossy cover; accept classified ads, both commercial and membership; develop a subscription campaign; eliminate duplication of addressees; remove inactive members from mailing list; seek corporate sponsorship of printing, offering the back page as an incentive; and include a Round Robin Nest column to publish recommendations from Convention Round Robins.

23. Contests and Supply Items: Bill Simpson reported on the discussions of the Group that addressed Contests and Supply Items. Award recommendations included: Retain the Early Bird Program, possibly with a November 30 deadline; award Early Bird Qualifiers Certificates; retain the K-40 Award Program; increase program publicity; and issue press releases to local media announcing award winners. Additional award recommendations included making note of award nominees in the REACTer; reinstatement of the midyear membership drive, possibly with an individual "recruiter" award.

Supply item recommendations included dropping Junior REACT patches and decals, "member REACT" cards, Safety Break signs, fuzzy REACTers, pen sets, and CB manuals. Items to consider adding included visors, hip bags, a webbed belt, and big patches. The Group also recommended that local sources be checked, and that the price vs. the cost of goods be examined.

24. Round Robin Reports: Edward Smith reviewed the reports from the "Round Robins" held during the Convention. Recommendations flowing from these sessions included: More promotion of REACT, both in the media, with other organizations, and governmental agencies (including NVOAD); more member education; Teams should explore opportunities in new technologies; the Board should set a budget and work to adhere to same; complaints should be held at the Team level first, Council level second, Board level third; improved intra-organization communications are needed; and the results of Round Robins should be better communicated

to all Teams.

25. Comment regarding highway location markings: Mr. John Finley urged all Teams to contact their state Departments of Transportation to encourage the placement of "mile markers" on all interstate highways, noting that standardization would be an especially valuable tool since map and atlas publishers, such as Rand McNally, could then include this information in all such publications.

26. Task Group and Committee Leader Awards: Tokens of appreciation were presented to the Leaders of the 1989 - 1990 Task Groups and Committees. The convention delegates showed their thanks through a round of applause.

27. Field Director Awards: Tokens of appreciation were presented to James Bear and Richard Munton in recognition of dedicated service to the Board of Directors for their 1988 - 1990 terms of office. The convention delegates showed their thanks through a round of applause.

28. Farewell comments from Mr. Munton: Mr. Munton presented a farewell address to the delegates. He urged that Teams develop an air of cooperation with a focus on the future. He also commended Deanne Earwood on her superb service in her role of Office Manager.

29. Welcome to Deanne Earwood: John Leist of the Ohio Council proposed the following resolution:

WHEREAS Deanne Earwood has performed exceptionally at maintaining and improving the levels of service provided by REACT International to the Teams, Councils and general membership; and, WHEREAS she has, through her enthusiasm, knowledge and personal attention enhanced the public relations of REACT International; and, WHEREAS she has exhibited the capabilities and talents to take REACT Headquarters through the Nineties; NOW BE IT RESOLVED that Deanne Earwood be warmly welcomed to the REACT family by this Convention body.

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously by the applause of the Convention attendees.

30. Thanks to the 1990 Convention Hosts: Barbara Chuyen of Daytona Beach REACT proposed the following resolution:

WHEREAS the members of Spokane County REACT invited REACT International to hold its Convention in Spokane, Washington; and, WHEREAS the Convention Committee, under its Chairpersons Marv Wyrick and Jan Kinsella have done an excellent job in arranging - and rearranging - this fine Convention; and WHEREAS the hosts have gone above and beyond the call of duty in aiding us during the Convention; NOW BE IT RESOLVED that REACT International extends its warmest thanks and gratitude to all of these persons for an outstanding Convention.

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously by the applause of the Convention attendees.

Deanne Earwood then presented to the Convention hosts a plaque as tokens of appreciation for the hard work performed in hosting the Convention.

31. Thanks to the Board of Directors: Christene White, a member of the Board of Directors, noted that Board membership entails long hours of hard work with little recognition, and asked that all thank the current and retiring Board members for their service to the organization. The request was fulfilled by the applause of the Convention attendees.

32. Adjournment: There being no other business brought forth before the meeting, the delegate from Spokane County REACT moved to adjourn the meeting, and the Convention. The meeting was seconded and carried at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward W. N. Smith  
Secretary

**Team Events**

**Waukesha Area REACT Team #4089, Waukesha, Wisconsin** have been busy working the March of Dimes Walk, the Haws Pet Walk and a Memorial Day Wake Break. They assisted North/Northwest REACT with the Lake County Marathon and two Cart Races. They also attended a training meeting with Kettle Moraine REACT. times.

**CLASSIFIED SECTION**

**Junior REACT Patches Needed;** any Team having a surplus please contact: Allen County REACT #2468, Larry Coffman, 2067 Ontario Circle, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802, or phone 219/432-7256.

**NOTICE**

Try placing a classified ad in the new classified section of **the REACTer**. Cost is only \$.45 per word for REACT members and \$.65 per word for non-members. Phone numbers automatically count as two (2) words.

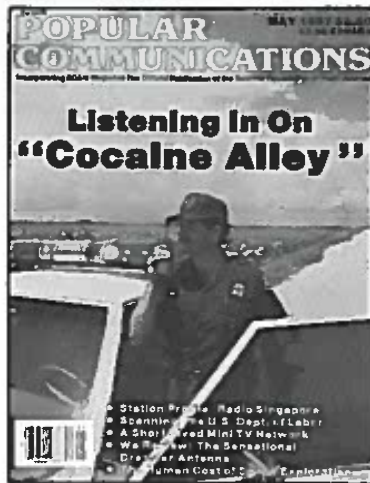
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