



the REACTer

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

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GMRS...rx

To Join Or Not To
Join REACT

Donation From
Pennsylvania Council

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

President's Perspective

A fresh year. A fresh start. Have you made your 1991 resolutions?

One resolution I would challenge every REACTer to make concerns our monitoring of CB Emergency Channel 9. Simply put, it is a challenge to monitor more in '91 than you did in '90.

CB Emergency Channel 9 is the "stuff" of REACT. Nearly 30 years ago REACT was founded for the express purpose of providing help on Channel 9 to persons in distress. Over the years many police forces joined REACT volunteers in monitoring CB 9. Some Teams perhaps even felt intimidated by the police expertise and presence on Channel 9.

Meanwhile, organizers of community events were quick

to solicit the known communications expertise of REACT Teams. Wise they were to do so, too.

However, community involvement has taken a toll in REACT monitoring of CB 9. Some REACTers, even some entire REACT Teams, have reduced their monitoring little by little. In some instances, that monitoring has diminished to the point of being non-existent.

It is time to get "back to basics," back to our REACT roots. Community service projects are highly commendable Team activities. Teams should certainly participate in them to the extent that they can realistically do so.

However, monitoring CB Emergency Channel 9 should now more than ever be the pri-

ority of every REACT Team. Why? Two reasons.

First, many of the police forces that did monitor Channel 9 no longer do so. Manpower shortages and budgetary reductions have forced them to abandon CB. Increasingly, REACT monitors are once again becoming the only source of help for travellers in distress.

Ironically, there are more CB equipped travellers out there than ever before in REACT history. Thanks to corporate support, an intensive publicity program over the past two years has resulted in a higher profile for REACT than ever before.

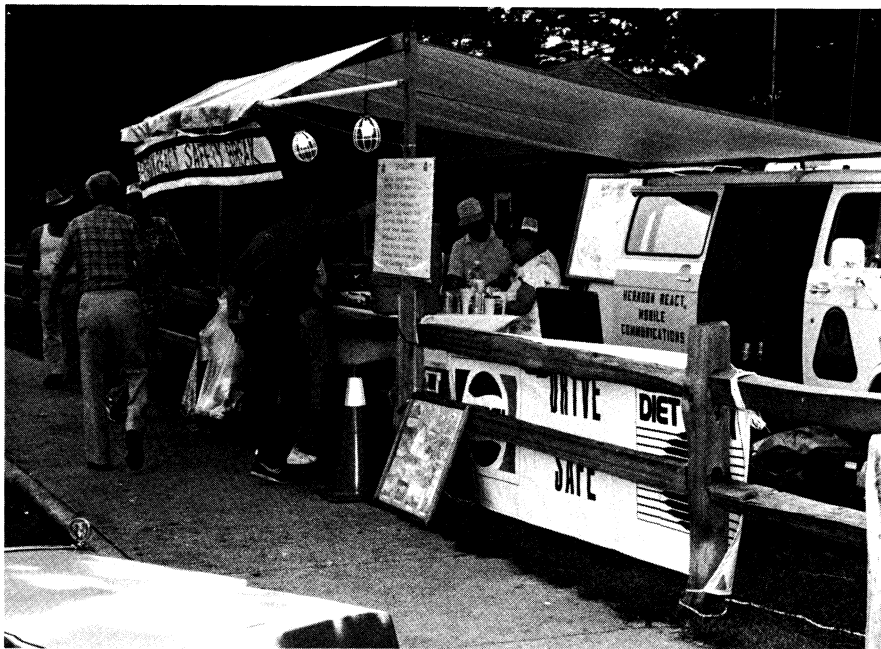
More travellers know about REACT. More knew how to call correctly for help on Channel 9 and are doing it. Now, it is up to us to be there for them when they need us.

Never has our monitoring been more important. Never have REACT volunteers had a greater opportunity to make a life-and-death difference in the safety of travellers.

Many REACTers already monitor 24 hours. They can't do more. Most of us, however, can. Determine to monitor an extra hour or two a week. Keep your CB on as you do other tasks. Your trained ear will likely pick up a call for help when it comes.

Thousands of people are alive today because REACT volunteers were monitoring when they needed help. We have an enviable record, but that record won't help the call that comes next week, next month.

Only your faithful monitoring will be able to do that. Please resolve to monitor more in 1991 - unless your already among REACT's 24-hours monitor. And, thanks for all your past monitoring.



Herndon REACT Team #C332, Inc., Vienna, Virginia "Safety Break" booth was manned on the westbound side of Interstate Route #66 rest area in Virginia. Herndon REACT volunteers manned the booth from 6:00 p.m. Friday August 30th through Monday 6:00 p.m., September 3rd, a period of 72 hours around the clock.

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TO ALL REACTor's
 A SAFE AND
 HAPPY YEAR
 FROM REACT
 INTERNATIONAL!

**the
 REACTer**

January/February 1991
 Vol. 25 No. 1

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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

Before we begin with this issue's "Headquarters Report", I would like to extend a warm thank you to one of our REACT state councils.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, fellow members and office personnel of REACT International a sincere thank you goes out to the Pennsylvania Council of REACT Teams, Inc. On December 3rd a package was delivered to Headquarters from the Council. Much to our surprise was a Canon fax machine with a pleasant note and challenge to all other councils (see separate item in this issue) from Council President Fred Lanshe. Headquarters has also prepared a short 'wish list' for any interested REACT Councils or Teams (see separate item in this issue).

This was a much needed piece of equipment and I can assure everyone it will be put to good use. The fax is now hooked up and is available from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 a.m. (CST) Monday through Friday and continuously through out the weekend hours. If someone wishes to send a fax between normal office hours, a quick phone call to let us know its coming can prepare the machine to receive it. When sending a fax please use the REACT telephone number of (316)263-2100. Provisions will be made to have a designated telephone line installed so the fax can be utilized during normal business hours shortly.

Another first has occurred at International as you can tell by the cover of this issue of the REACTer. For the first time color has been utilized for the cover photographs. Now, we can't guarantee that every issue will have color, but if we receive a good color photograph and story we will use it. So send

your stories and pictures in.

Headquarters would like to thank all the Teams, Councils and individual members who have taken the time to submit articles for the REACTer.

When submitting articles on events worked, we would not only like the information on the events itself, we also would like information on the process steps utilized that worked up to the event. A good example of this was the article submitted from Travis County REACT Team #3022 entitled "Visitor Sign-In Cards Work Well at Safety Breaks" published in the November/December issue. Another good example is the article entitled "To Join or Not To Join REACT" submitted by Southwestern REACT Team #C475 on page 14 of this issue. In this way, we can give other Teams and Councils ideas on functions and events and the preparation and steps involved in working the events. All Teams and Councils should make it a goal to pass on their expertise.

The new price list from Headquarters was mailed out with the December issue of the Team Topics? Most prices have been reduced along with shipping and handling charges. Please remember when ordering to insert the current price list number of PL11/90 on your order form. In this way, you will receive the best and most current price available.

An omission was made on the price list mailed. The REACT pin is a way to award that special member for outstanding service. A charm can be suspended from the pin to signify the years of membership or the number of hours monitored in a given period. This award charm has a black enam-

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

eled background with silver lettering. Any number from 1 to 30 can be specified for years of membership. Hours monitored can be specified in intervals of 100, up to 1,000, or in intervals of 500 up to 17,000. "President" and "Past President" charms are also available. Replacement charms are available with pins to update awards. These are "special order" items, and require up to 5 weeks for delivery. The pin with one charm is \$11.50 each and weighs 1 oz. If only ordering a replacement charm the price is \$5.75 and weighs 1/2 oz. each. For further details please contact Headquarters.

During the 1990 Convention held in Spokane, Washington a revised 'Policy and Procedures Manual' was approved.



Poway Valley REACT Team #2642, Poway, California kept busy Thursday, June 28, 1990. An arsonist threw an incendiary device starting a fire at the side of state highway 79 a few miles north of Santa Ysabel in the back country of San Diego County. As it spread rapidly to the east, the California division of forestry was mobilizing an army of men and equipment to do battle. The army eventually grew to more than 1900 men, 70 fire engines, 6 fixed wing aircraft, 4 helicopters and 6 bulldozers. The fire singed a boy scout camp, a navy seabee camp and threatened many homes.

Poway REACT unit 7, Bobby Suttle, went the 20 miles to Santa Ysabel and while reporting by phone to his team president, Gary Bollschweiler, was approached by two plain clothes CDF prevention officers. They had noticed his truck and asked if he could talk by radio to Paul Olsen, the area REACT coordinator for CDF located at their headquarters in El Cajon. Upon learning he could, they

The staff has tried to forward all Teams who have purchased the REACT Team Management Notebook the revision automatically. This was a long and involved process. It involved going through purchase orders and shipping records to find all Teams and Councils that were entitled to the revisions. If you have received a Team Management Notebook since February, 1990 and have not received your revision, please drop Headquarters a note with the month the notebook was received and we will promptly forward your revision.

Michele, Lynda and I are looking forward to a great year in 1991. If you have any suggestions, comments or ideas you would like to see achieved drop us a note. We are always glad to hear from you.

instructed him to accompany them to the roadblock first, then to the fire's origin, then to Puerta La Cruz to set up "firebase" so they could relay information back to Monte Vista (CDF Headquarters).

The "fire information officer" at "Firebase" and FIO's on the fire line, used REACT's GMRS radio operators and repeater system to provide information for release to the news media thru out the 4 day fire. Due to the rugged terrain, all the public service agencies experienced extremely poor radio operations, but with the equipment and expertise REACT provided, many of the problems were overcome and people were impressed with REACT's capabilities and professionalism.

A communications trailer was set up at "Firebase" the next day and it and Monte Vista were manned 24 hours a day by REACT people from San Diego County, until the fire was contained. REACT members also rode with the Field FIO's relaying reports to "firebase" for forwarding to Monte Vista and the media.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 3, 1991 Ohio REACT Council meeting and officer elections. To be held at the Travelodge Motel (Route 23 South), Circleville, Ohio from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. For further details please contact the Ohio REACT Council at (614)474-3786.

February 3, 1991 Southern California REACT Council meeting will be held in downtown San Diego. For more information and directions please contact Southwestern REACT Team C475, P.O. Box 4554, or San Diego, CA 92104-4554. Or by phoning (619)274-8840.

February 16, 1991 - Arizona State Council 1st Quarter meeting will take place in Mesa, Arizona beginning at 11:00 a.m. For more information contact Council President Walter L. Stewart at (602)964-7163.

March 10, 1991 - Commonwealth of Virginia REACT Council, Inc. Board Meeting. To be held at the Community Room of the Fashion Square Mall, Charlottesville, Virginia. For more information contact the Council at (703)938-7138.

April 1991 - New Jersey Council of REACT Teams 2nd Annual Convention. See further details in this issue.

May, 1991 - REACT Month

May 19, 1991 - Upstate New York REACT Council meeting. To be held in Schenectady, New York beginning at 11:00 a.m., hosted by Empire Central REACT Team 3030. For further details please contact the upstate New York REACT Council at Route 3, Box 159A, Potsdam, NY 13676.

July 22-25, 1991 - 1991 REACT International Convention, Melbourne, Florida. Further details in this issue.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Councils please provide notice of your meetings and conferences to the REACTor for inclusion under this column. Please submit meeting date(s), place(s) and time(s) particulars as well as an FMI contact. Please provide this information as far in advance as possible. It's your opportunity to let fellow REACT members know what you're doing.

WHAT DOES A FIELD DIRECTOR DO?

by Richard Pratz

What does a Field Director do? That is a question that has been asked by more than one REACT member. I can hear some of you answering that question as I write this.

The Field Directors and the Directors at Large are responsible for the management of REACT International, Inc. It is their responsibility to operate the business on the funds available and try to keep membership services at the same level or higher. This also includes handling all International office personnel matters.

They supervise the expenditure of all funds and try to come up with ideas for raising more money. There must be a source of money out there for organizations like REACT International, Inc. and we keep looking for it.

We try to formulate policies, procedures and programs as the need arises. Many of you will remember that for years we heard of policies, but did not see all of them in writing. The Policy and Procedures Manual that was handed out in Spokane, and mailed to the Teams not represented at the convention, is the beginning. These are policies that were found and verified in the minutes. They are now a part of the Team Manual. Other policies will be added as they are found and approved or passed by the Board and the membership.

Field Directors often receive ideas from the membership to help the organization grow. These ideas are passed along to the other members of the Board of Directors for their consideration. Many good ideas are received, but often there is no way available to fund them. We also can be a source of ideas for the Teams since we do talk to many Teams and they do share past experiences and ideas that have worked for them.

The Field Directors vote on the Directors at Large, who serve terms of one year. In addition, the Field Directors that are not being considered for reelection to the Board supervise the election of Field Directors. This means that at least

two Field Directors, one Director at Large and two REACT members present the Saturday prior to the convention will verify and count the Team ballots for the election of Field Director. Should there be a Field Director whose term is expiring that is not a candidate for reelection, that individual will also assist with the election. **NO FIELD DIRECTOR WHO IS A CANDIDATE FOR REELECTION IS ALLOWED TO BE IN THE SAME ROOM WHERE THE BALLOTS ARE BEING COUNTED OR TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTION PROCESS IN ANY WAY.** The procedure used to be, to wait until the Monday afternoon opening session to announce the successful candidates. At the Wisconsin Convention in 1989 that procedure was changed. Now the winners are announced as soon as the ballot counting is completed.

One of the most important duties of a Field Director is to handle the problems that come up in the field. This is also one of the toughest jobs we do. Council, intra-team and inter-team problems are very touchy at best. Most of the time we are working by mail or long distance telephone. It is hard to make recommendations concerning a problem when you are

not sure that you have the whole story. It can be very difficult to get both sides of a disagreement to open up by mail or long distance telephone. Unfortunately funds are not available for a Field Director to go and meet with those involved in a problem. So we do the best that we can from a distance.

The recent division of the continental forty-eight states into four sections by REACT International, Inc. would indicate that you must discuss any ideas or situation with the Field Director in charge of that section. Any REACT member can talk to the Field Director of their choice. We all represent you, the member.

I like to close any job description the way the government does. They always include the statement, "and other duties as required." There is no way that we can imagine all of the things that could come up during the year, so this is just a catch all phrase. President Ron McCracken can call any of us and tell us about something that needs to be checked on, looked into or just watched. It is just part of the job.

What does a Field Director do? These are just a few of a Field Director's duties, what can we do for you?

**REMEMBER!!!
MAY IS REACT MONTH!!!
MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!!!**

WOMEN IN REACT

(Reprinted from the "Break 9", Texas State REACT Council newsletter. June-July 1990.)

Women leaders are judged by the results they get through others. Women who set goals and objectives, gain commitment, and gain the respect of REACT members of both sexes, know what to delegate and how to do it. Women have learned how to build loyalty and gain others' support. The woman who builds teamwork and gains cooperation has learned to motivate and invigorate the membership. She listens powerfully and really hears what is being said. If she is seen as a credible, confident and authoritative person with a strong self-concept, then she probably also has the compelling communications skills that make her effective with people at all levels and in a variety of situations. Her personal-

ity influences the way she leads.

The woman who wants to serve her community as a REACT leader knows the positive side of conflict but is able to curb it's potentially negative effects. She must be able to manage emotions and the anxiety involved in conflict. She will learn the long term benefits of handling stress and pressure. She must prevent "burn out" by enriching and protecting her precious time with her family and friends. She may need to learn new skills in order to make "networking" really work for her. She will want to build on her good points and correct the bad ones. She will especially need to be assertive without seeming to be "pushy"!

Everyone wins when a woman blends REACT's goals with her own. A woman's energy, humor, warmth and forthright communications style will help her plan and conduct meet-

ings with a lively pace, focused on relevant issues.

Do you still think that women are needed only to provide refreshments at meetings and rest stops?

TASK GROUP REPORT

When we started this "Task Group" we wanted to increase the number of women in REACT. Have you recruited a new member lately? It would be nice if this new member were a woman, but even if it wasn't, congratulations. Remember 57% of REACTers are married. Have you signed up a spouse lately? If you have an idea for our article, we could try to have it published in a womens' magazines, please send them to me. Thank you.

REACTively,
Dorothy DePoe, Chairman

CAL-TRANS CALL REACT FOR HELP

Late in October, I received a call from our Training Officer, "Lew" Lewis, telling me of an interesting development in the community awareness of REACT!

He hurriedly asked me to get on channel 9, then 17 to attempt to locate a wayward Cal-Trans truck that has left the San Jose area bound for Eureka, California, a couple hundred miles north of us and a far distance from where Cal-Tran's needed them to be!

It turns out that the California State organization has heard of REACT doing emergency assistance volunteer work on the Citizen's Band radio and

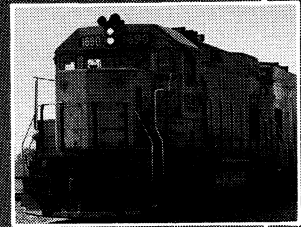
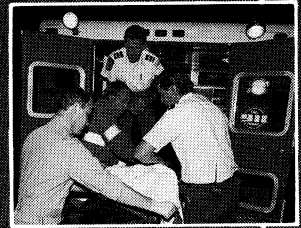
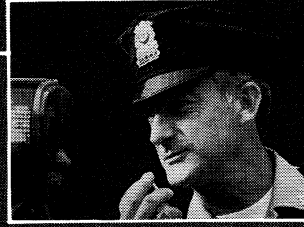
they had guessed right when they had figured on their driver using the C.B. to monitor accidents and traffic conditions on his journey northward instead of using his own VHF transceiver, which he had available and was probably out of range, or so Cal-Trans had thought.

Frantic about the need for this particular vehicle and its crew to be rerouted, they had called upon the assistance of a local REACT Team in Mountain View, California Team #C057, Blackberry REACT, and talked to Jim Galbreath who in turn contacted our Team's secretary's wife, Mrs. Allen Marks who he had met before and

knew that he was on the route that the truck in question would be taking.

I'm very glad to say that due to an increase in community awareness about our work that, it has paid off time and time again! Possibly saving lives (we don't always get the final outcome of each call) and definitely helping anyone that asks, quickly, professionally and courteously. Way to go TEAM!!

N.G. Stacey
Public Relations Officer
REACT Team #C318
Marin County, California



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SEAT BELT SAFETY



DECADE OF PROGRESS IN MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY

1989's record-low traffic death rate, spurred by more safety belt use and a decline in alcohol-related deaths, closed out the "most significant decade in the history of U.S. efforts to reduce crash casualties," said Jerry Ralph Curry, administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

According to Curry, "the 1989 fatality rate dipped to 2.2 deaths per 100 million miles of travel, a remarkable improvement from the 3.3 figure registered 10 years earlier."

"Particularly encouraging," he said, "was the declining trend in alcohol-related deaths following the anti-drunk driving emphasis that typified the decade."

NHTSA figures show that in 1982, the trend lines for total crash deaths and alcohol-related deaths began to diverge. Alcohol-related deaths declined and have remained below the 1982 figure every year since. In 1989, for example, alcohol-related deaths were 11 percent lower than in 1982.

Curry said that "in the past, alcohol-related fatalities tended to move up or down with the cyclical shifts of total crash fatalities. Now, the public pressure evidenced by tougher laws, increased enforcement and more stringent penalties seems to be working."

The NHTSA safety official said "the public's growing acceptance of safety belt use was another important trend of the 1980's. In 1982, 11 percent of

Americans used belts. In just seven years the use rate quadrupled to 47 percent, influenced by the increasing number of states with safety belt use laws."

Curry described the 1980's as "the decade when America began to take the traffic crash problem seriously." He said the 1980's should be remembered for:

* The lives saved by a declining death rate. Had the 1980 rate of 3.3 (deaths per 100 million vehicle miles) remained constant, another 124,190 people would have died in traffic crashes by the end of 1989.

* Reinforcement of the long-term drop in traffic deaths. The 1989 total of 45,555 deaths compares with 53,543 in 1969 and 51,093 in 1979.

* Safety belt and child safety seat use, credited with saving more than 21,000 lives between 1983 and 1989. All 50 states and the District of Columbia have child safety seat laws; 36 states and the District have safety belt use laws.

* The effect of anti-drunk programs on young people. Among 15 to 19 year-old drivers involved in fatal crashes, 17 percent were intoxicated (BAC of .10 or above) in 1989, down sharply from 28 percent in 1982. The proportion of Americans killed in crashes involving intoxicating levels of alcohol declines as well - from 46 percent in 1982 to 30 percent last year.

* Opening the door to greater achievements in the 1990s:

Every new passenger car

now sold in America must be equipped with automatic crash protection (automatically operating belts or air bags). The positive effect on fatalities and serious injuries is evident already and will be even more dramatic as more of these vehicles enter the U.S. fleet.

Anti-drunk and drugged-driving efforts will emphasize relatively new strategies that should reduce alcohol-related accidents still more. Among these are "on the spot" administrative license revocation for drunk drivers, lower blood alcohol limits for drivers, more severe sanctions for drunk driving convictions, expanded use of sobriety checkpoints, and testing drivers for the presence of drugs besides alcohol.

WHICH SEATS CAN CHILDREN USE ON BOARD AIRCRAFT??

Car seats must pass an inversion test to be certified for use on aircraft. Certified seats manufactured between 1/1/81 and 2/25/85 that are approved for aircraft use bear the label: "This child restraint system

(Continued on page 9)

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conforms to all applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards." Those made since 2/26/85 have a label stating: "This restraint is certified for use in motor vehicles and aircraft." Seats made before 1981 are not permitted.

The Air Transport Association urges airlines to honor parents' requests to use certified seats. It suggests that parents purchase a ticket for their child and request a seat assignment in advance, away from emergency exits and aisles. It also suggests that the width of a car seat not exceed 16 inches.

(Safe Ride News, Spring 1990)

ARIZONA PASSES SAFETY BELT USE LAW

Arizona Governor Rose Mofford signed her state's new safety belt use law May 23rd, making 35 states including Washington, D.C. that are covered by laws.

NHTSA estimates more than 15,500 lives have been saved since 1983. More than 10,500 of those are credited directly to safety belt use laws.

States which have enacted safety belt use laws are: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, Washington D.C., Wisconsin and Wyoming.

TEAM EVENTS

Poterville REACT Team #2517, Poterville, California has had a busy year to date. Late August and September they held a Labor Day Safety Break. During September they sponsored the Central Valley Council Meeting as well as manned the March of Dimes Walk America. During October the team worked traffic control and pedestrian safety for the Native American Pow-Wow, the Stagecoach Stampede & Carnival and the Springville Apple Festival. November brought the Celebrity Golf-A-Rama with December topping off their busy year with team participation in the Children's Christmas Parade down Main Street.

The team has also instituted a project of contacting service clubs, organizations, school PTA's as well as the media. This curtails informing them of the functions as a team, the services provided, membership information and how the team can serve them and their community.

Colleton County REACT Team #3153, Walterboro, South Carolina members are the recipients of several awards for the work during Hurricane Hugo and other activities. Chief William R. Kofron has received a letter of appreciation from President Bush and was honored with the South Carolina Governor's Award of Appreciation. Lt. Noah H. Weese, Team Membership Officer also received the South Carolina Governor's Award of Appreciation for his dedicated service and assistance to the state during Hurricane Hugo. Captain Robert Hudson and Assistant Chief Richard Byrd was both honored by the Governor of Georgia for his assistance to the people of the State of Georgia. In addition to the above all the members of the team received

letters of commendation from the Governor of the State of Florida, for the teams held to the citizens of the state passing through. April brought the team a commendation from the Governor of Alabama.

During July members of Colleton County REACT #3153 finger printed 107 children on Dick Tracey day at a local store.

Kitsap County REACT Team #4700, Poulsbo, Washington participated in a joint exercise with the American Red Cross and local LDS church on September 29, 1990. The purpose was to set up a shelter and provide communications. REACT practiced a dual relay system of mobile to mobile and a start up from their base trailer through mobile to a base station in town. Over half the Team was present. Among items learned was how to fill out message forms, write fast and speak slow as well as how to fight skip on the radio. This drill was so well received that it will be ongoing with the American Red Cross every 3 months.

Oakland County REACT Team, Inc. #C238, Waterford, Michigan held a record Safety Break recently. In all the Team served over 1900 cups of hot coffee: 22 gallons of tea: 75 gallons of orange drink and 1900 doughnuts. Other events scheduled for Team participation over the past few months included, the Lake Orion Families in Action Run, the Clarkston Scamp and the Jaycees Haunted House during October.

**INTERNATIONAL
NOW HAS FAX
CAPABILITIES!!!
FOR FURTHER
DETAILS PLEASE
REFER TO THE
HEADQUARTERS
REPORT ON PAGE 3
OF THIS ISSUE!**

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

The following is the newest edition to the Life Membership roles.

LM #465
Rex C. Harwood
Mission Peak REACT
Team #4041
Fremont, California

This column was advised of the death of Walt Kummer Jr., Life Member #284, at the age of 59. Walt was one of the founders and the last charter member of Northwest REACT #2867 of Portland, Oregon. Walt was a very outstanding member. He was recognized by President

Gerald Ford, Oregon State Police, he also appeared on the Jerry Lewis Telethon where he presented a check for over \$1,000 in his name as he had a progressive muscle disease that kept him in a wheelchair most of his adult life.

Once again, the number of new Life Members in nothing to write home about. I wish that someone would let me know what the problem is so that it can be addressed. The purpose of Life Membership is to give dedicated REACT members an opportunity to state their belief in REACT and it's goals and objectives. Certainly, there are

many non-Life REACT members that are willing and able to become Life Members!!!!!!

Although this is not directly connected with Life Membership, I wish to pass on the following thoughts. Mr. Kummer's dedication to REACT as reported above should be an inspiration to all teams. Handicapped people make up a large part of our society today and although everybody recognizes them, not everyone knows what to do to help them. I am saying this as a completely mobile person, but I can say that handi-

(Continued on page 11)

1990 APPLICATION FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP IN REACT INTERNATIONAL

DATE _____
NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____
TEAM # _____
TEAM NAME _____

Date joined Team (month and day) _____
NOTE: If the two year requirement is fulfilled through membership in more than one Team, please attach a letter of explanation stating which Team(s) and reason for change (moved, etc.)

DATE OF BIRTH _____ (Minimum Age 13)

DUES ENCLOSED: Full Life Member Dues \$340
 Senior Citizen Discount applied
 Age 61 - \$306 Age 62 - \$272 Age 63 - \$238
 Age 64 - \$204 Age 65 and over - \$170
 Payment Plan - \$34 first payment, 10 monthly payments total.

METHOD OF PAYMENT: Check Money Order Payment Plan*
 VISA MasterCard Card # _____
 Exp. Date _____ Name on Card _____

I give my permission to publish my address _____ and my phone number _____ in the Life Member directory and other official REACT publications. (Please initial each area.)

TEAMS, check this box if this is a surprise gift or recognition. All information will be sent to Team address.

I understand that my acceptance as a Life Member in REACT International does not release me from any financial or other obligation of membership in my local REACT Team. I shall be entitled to all privileges of Life Membership in REACT International wherever and so long as I live and my conduct is consistent with the purposes and ideals of the REACT organization.

SIGNED _____
DATE _____

APPROVAL OF THIS APPLICATION IS RECOMMENDED BY APPLICANT'S TEAM.

(Requires signature of two Team officers other than applicant.)

SIGNATURE _____
TITLE _____
DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____
TITLE _____
DATE _____

*Payments made are considered a donation until Life Membership is paid in full in the prescribed period. There are no refunds of partial payments.

MAIL TO: **REACT International, Inc.**
242 Cleveland
Wichita, KS 67214

(Continued from page 10)

capped individuals do make very good REACT members. One team in New Jersey has a member who is paralyzed and wheelchair bound as a result of an automobile accident. He is a full time police dispatcher and very devoted REACT member (Life Member as well). Another team has a handicapped individual who found "something that he could do" with REACT. He has become a very active team member and will probably be team President in 1991. Remember that handicapped individuals may not be able to do many of the things that you and I can do but their minds still function very well. They still have the desire to be of service and feel that they can do something. To this end, I would encourage each team to recruit the handicapped. Consider them when you are selecting meeting places and making arrangements for activities. They will appreciate it if you let them do something and be a part of the Team. Remember Mr. Kummer and his service to his Team, Council and Community. He was a perfect example of what I am trying to say.

With the REACT International Convention less than 6 month away, everyone should start thinking about registering and reserving your hotel room(s) if you haven't already. As usual, there will be a Life Membership Dinner on Monday evening. We plan to have a new Life Membership Directory for everyone at the Convention plus other Life Members so plan to attend.

In the next Life Member article we will have an update from the Life Membership subcommittees as to their progress in their respective area. Remember that your input is welcomed and needed to improve Life Membership. If we don't hear from you, we won't know what you're thinking. I received a

WANTED!!!

Bids are now being accepted for the 1993 REACT International Convention for the Western Region of the United States. For further details or a bid package please contact:

Azella Tingler - Chairperson
Convention Site Selection Committee
2525 Westover Avenue, SW
Roanoke, VA 24015

letter from a REACT member who read this column and commented on the recommended policy for handling Life Member charges. Although the member agreed with what we recommended, he would like it to include all members regarding appeals, ect. This is the type of input that we need.

Although I am running out

of things to talk about, don't forget about Life Members. Recognize an outstanding officer for 1990 by awarding a Life Membership. This is the type of recognition that will never be forgotten.

Dick Cooper,
LM Chairman
LM 329

Walt was a lover and writer of poetry. The following is a poem that was submitted to Northwest REACT by Team member Cappy Beals to Walt. It has a lot to say of how Cappy and Team members of Northwest REACT felt of this great man.

Some we meet are here and gone
Though face or name may linger on
Some by word and deed have taught
What's valuable in life or not
Those with time and interest tary
To exchange views extraordinary
Those in hot pursuit of aims
May only play productive games
And there amidst the crowds are they
Who supplement our lives some way
Whose lives and love become a part
Of what and how and who we are
At this time, at epoch's end
I find you in my heart, my friend.

Laurel

**FUTURE DEADLINES
FOR
the REACTer**

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

May/June, 1991 issue:
Article submission due by: April 1, 1991

**NEW JERSEY
PLANNING
2ND ANNUAL
CONVENTION**

**FCC CHECKS
CABLE SYSTEMS**

Engineers of the Federal Communications Commission conducted field tests of cable television systems around the country the week of August 20th, according to a Commission release. The stated purpose of the checks was to assess and improve compliance with a new Cumulative Leakage Index (CLI) that went into effect July 1st.

The CLI standard sets a leakage limit that cable operators must not exceed, in order not to cause harmful interference to aeronautical communications and navigation frequencies. Cable systems found not in compliance will be ordered to shut down operations in the aviation banks 108-137 Mhz and 225-400 Mhz, the Commission said.

If a cable leaks out, it leaks in as well. Amateurs operating on the 2-meter band can be affected (most cable TV systems put Channel 18 within our 2-meter band), as are those operating 220 Mhz.

Cable system licensees are required to provide documentation of compliance to the FCC, and all systems are subject to on site evaluation by Commission personnel.

Results of the tests are not yet available.

**FCC COMMISSION
OFFICE MOVES**

Effective May 17th the FCC Denver Office has moved to 165 S. Union Blvd., Suite 860, Lakewood, CO 80228, (303)969-6497/8.

TEAM EVENTS

Eastern Panhandle REACT, Inc. Team #4686, Inwood, West Virginia held a bake sale on October 13th, 1990. The sale was no sooner over when Vice President Richard Long performed a heroic deed. Due to rains, the streams and creeks were flooded out of their banks making traffic impassable. Richard living across from one such stream, saw a car carrying three people trying to cross a bridge be swept away by swift waters. Immediately Richard contact central dispatch on his GMRS radio. Upon closer inspection of the vehicle he noticed that two of the occupants in the car were young children. Risking his own life, Richard entered the water and was successful in rescuing all three occupants.

Harford County REACT Team #2342, Joppatowne, Maryland member Dave Pennington was instrumental in the recent capture of a young man charged in a bomb scare at the local high school. The description of the suspect was broadcast on the police radio and member Dave Pennington heard it on his scanner. Mr. Pennington, who was driving in the area, saw someone matching the suspect's description speaking on the telephone outside the Post Office. Mr. Pennington drove to a local convenience store and called the sheriff's department. Within minutes the local authorities had the suspect in custody. Mr. Pennington is to be commended on his alertness and quick response in the apprehension of this young man.

The New Jersey Council of REACT Teams is making plans to hold it's 2nd Annual Council Convention in April 1991. At this time the exact date hasn't been established (probably weekend of the 13th or 20th). Plans are to have speakers as well as seminars all day Saturday and Sunday morning. Sunday afternoon is open at this time. The survey that was sent to all attenders of the 1990 NJCORT Convention gave some very good ideas and suggestions for following Conventions. The survey was sent even though there was a critique at the 1990 Convention. I would suggest a survey to anyone who has thoughts of running a convention.

It is planned to have speakers from the FCC and other fields of interest, and seminars will be well planned for maximum effect. Everyone is invited to attend this Convention - REACT member or not. There will be a registration fee which will cover the Saturday Night Banquet and other incidental expenses. Although the 1990 Convention got a lot of good reviews, this one is planned to be even better. If you are interested in attending, call Dick Cooper at (609) 259-7088 or phone Dorothy DePoe at (201) 218-9760 for further information.

Ipswich REACT #5009, Suffolk, United Kingdom have been busy organizing relief for the victims of the floods in North Wales. With permission from the Clwyd emergency planning office, the Team has been actively collecting money, blankets, clothes and non-perishable foods for the flood victims.

GMRS...Rx

by Bill Simpson

During the years I've been in REACT, I've notice that every Team tries to re-invent the wheel! We all get manuals from RI... read them.... and then proceed to write our own! My Team did the same thing. I can't understand today why we wasted all that time and energy rewriting a perfectly good document, or training manual or bylaws.

Since the GMRS Task Group has been assigned, the arduous job of preparing a training manual, and since we do not claim to have all the answers, we feel that all the members should have the opportunity to add your two cents.... and get national credit for your work. Come on guys and gals, now is the time for your Team to shine. Send us a copy of your GMRS training manual, so we can use the best parts from each. Every existing manual is important... yours may explain something that no other manual even discusses.

One of the questions that arose in Spokane concerned "tone" or CTCSS - Continuous Tone Code Squelch System. Most manufacturers have their own name for it... PL (Private Line), Channel Guard, Select Call, just to name a few, and each manufacturer would like you to believe that your calls are private, heard only by you and the person to whom your are talking. Ladies and gentlemen, "it just ain't so!" Tone is simply a sub-audible signal up to 300 hertz that accompanies the carrier wave from your transmitter to the repeater, activating it, and continuing on to the receiving radio, allowing the receiver to

"hear". Your repeater, and your radios are set to hear specific tones and will not operate unless those tones are present with the carriers. As long as you set your radio in the "tone" position, you won't hear anyone else. But...and here's the part that confuses people.... you must monitor the channel before your transmit, right? Take the radio off tone, and you can hear other systems on the frequency. They were on the frequency all the time, but your radio was blocking the signal because the tone was not the one the radio recognized. The same works in reverse.... you are on the frequency all the time, and any radio not in the tone position - or any scanner, - can receive your transmissions. There's no such thing as privacy on the airwaves with any of the 36 CTCSS tones! Why use tone anyway? Why not simply leave the repeater "carrier squelch" so anyone can access it? As the TV commercial says, "why ask why?"

Carrier squelch repeaters, by their nature, are open to any signal that's on the frequency, even though the transmitting unit may not wish to accept that particular repeater. According to FCC rules 95.7 (b)

"Licenses of GMRS systems suffering or causing harmful interference are expected to cooperate and resolve this problem by mutually satisfactory arrangements. If the licenses are unable to do so, the FCC may impose restrictions including specifying the transmitter power, antenna heights, or hours of operation of the stationed concerned."

While allowing an open repeater is a noble idea, the concept, in any major metropolitan area, is archaic, outmoded, and unreasonable, simply because of the interference caused to operators on any other system! Everyone on the frequency accesses the repeater, and interference on that frequency is the end result.

There's an argument against carrier repeaters.... but I have an open mind. If anyone still has an open repeater, please send me your reasons for retaining it.. and I'll publish those. In the interim, please send your GMRS training manuals.

IMPORTANT

We've said this before, but it's worth repeating - when renewing a Team GMRS license don't make changes or you could loose the license.

Also during license renewal time, you may receive letters from outside sources offering to renew your license for a fee. Don't do it! There's too much expertise within REACT that is free.

**ATTENTION ALL
REACT TEAM
MEMBERS!!!**

**YOU ARE
ENTITLED TO
A TREASURER'S
REPORT ON THE
TEAM LEVEL
EACH MONTH!!!**

**BE INVOLVED
IN YOUR TEAM
AND ASK FOR IT
AT YOUR NEXT
MEETING!!!**

"TO JOIN OR NOT TO JOIN REACT"

"Why has the **Southwestern REACT Team #C475** been able to grow? Many Teams have been faced with declining membership?" This question is often asked of Southwestern REACT members at State Council meetings, at the REACT International Convention and at visits to other Teams around the country. There is no single easy answer to how we grew in the face of declining Citizen Band interest, but I will try to explain some of the ideas that have worked for us.

Number one is a strong, positive attitude about the REACT program by the members of the Team. REACT members must feel that they are making a needed contribution in their community. Recognition by the inter-action with the agencies that REACT Teams serve helps to instill the feeling that our services are wanted.

This can be in the form of guest speakers at our monthly meeting. The speaker is asked to talk about how the Team has helped their agency, how we may be able to help them in the future, or how we could adjust our operating procedures to better serve their needs. Additionally our Team is represented at local group meetings where our communications services could benefit the community, such as our county VOAD committee. Also our Team has appointed Team liaisons with local police, fire and emergency management officials. Our Team's coverage includes more than a dozen government jurisdictions at city, county, state and federal levels. Each liaison has frequent person to person contact to ensure that the officials are kept current on any changes in the Team's ability to provide services.

Number two on our list of answers is an active recruiting program involving every member of the Team. We have noticed that we recruit the largest number of new members from casual contacts made by our individual members as they go about their daily routine of work, shopping, travel and recreation. At the initial contact, the name, address and phone number of the interested individual is obtained. This information is immediately turned over to the membership Committee. Within a couple of days, a personal letter is sent out containing an explanation of REACT, how to join the Team, the Team's training program and a no obligation invitation to visit our meeting and training classes. Also included in the envelope is a membership application, a schedule of meetings and classes for the next four months, a copy of the Team's informa-

tion brochure, and a copy of REACT International's "How to Get Help on CB" pamphlet.

A Membership Committee person follows up with a phone call within a few days. This phone call helps to answer any questions and to invite the prospective member to visit with the Team at the next meeting. The phone calls continue on a monthly basis as long as there is a continued interest in joining the Team. When an application is submitted, another letter is sent thanking them for their application. The letter also explains again the Team's training program and includes an up-to-date schedule of meeting and training class times. Additional phone calls are made just before each of these dates to remind the applicant and to determine if there are any problems. All of this effort by the Membership Committee is done to ensure that the new member is immediately made to feel part of the Team and it works.

Third is a Team Public Information Officer who is constantly on the lookout for local activities where the Team may be able to set up a display advertising REACT and the Team. This manned display may be as small as a table with pamphlets, radios, pictures, trophies, and a compact VCR showing "When Seconds Count." While at a large expo, the exhibit may also include both Team trailers and a well-equipped personal vehicle. If a visitor shows an interest in joining the Team, a contact sheet is completed and turned over to the Membership committee for follow up.

Next, the Team has a phone number listed in the local phone directory. This is often used when radio contact is made with

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**

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

a radio operator interested in obtaining more information about REACT. The phone is the existing second residential line of a member with an answering listing of the existing number at very little additional cost. The listing is under "REACT" followed by the Team's name.

Also, the Team has obtained free advertising on more than a dozen AM/FM radio stations through plugs made by a privately-owned traffic reporting service when we provide on-the-spot reporting of traffic conditions throughout our coverage area. The information is obtained via CB and GMRS reports from both REACT and non-REACT travellers. The information is then relayed to the studio in real-time via our GMRS radio link or the telephone.

The last point to be made is the diversity of the Southwestern REACT Team communications activities. An organization which is based solely on one idea may not be able to recruit and hold many members. Our Team is diversified. We are a public service, all-volunteer, communications organization, but that can cover many interests. A few years ago we dropped the requirement that an applicant had to have a working CB station to join the Team. Now you just need an interest in radio communications and public service. We feel that if they have an interest, it is our job to increase this interest into becoming a radio operator.

Nearly every member has a CB radio. Most members have a GMRS license and many have a GMRS radio, and a few are licensed to operate in the Amateur Radio Service. In addition to monitoring, the Team provides communications and radio training for charity events, crime and fire presentation, lost child searches, wild-fire

watches, adverse weather watches, and major disasters. Some of our members have completed training in the Emergency Medical Service and have been county certified as First Responders, EMT's or Paramedics. Others have completed state or federal courses in Emergency Management. The team has prepared itself to operate as a self-supervised communications Team or to work under the supervision of the professionals. Our plans and training have included something for everyone.

REACT as a well-trained communications Team can still provide something that no other radio service can provide. They can provide direct radio contact

with the public via CB radio. Our Team believes that the other radio services that we use only enhance our ability to help the public. CB is inexpensive and easy to use. No license is required. The Amateur Radio Service, the Business Band Land Mobile Radio Service and cellular phones do not come close to providing this kind of contact with the public. All these radio services can help in a major emergency and the REACT Team can help tie all this together.

Southwestern REACT Team #C475

P.O. Box 92164-4554
San Diego, California
92164-4554

TEAM EVENTS

Oklahoma County REACT Team #2620, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma served over 2,000 travelers over their Labor Day weekend Safety Break. In all a total of over 336 hours were worked on this event by both **Oklahoma County REACT Team #2620** and the **University of Oklahoma REACT Team #3916**. From September 14th through September 30th, the 1990 State Fair of Oklahoma occupied most of the Teams time. Again with support from the **University of Oklahoma REACT Team #3916** a total of 1,078 hours and 2,700 miles were reported on involvement with 264 accidents. A letter of appreciation was presented to all members involved in this event by the Oklahoma City Police Chief David McBride. October brought the Team participated in the Swing for Sight/ Million Dollar Hole-In-One Contest as well as a Jail & Bail for the March of Dimes Foundation.

Brownwood REACT Team #C446, Brownwood, Texas was busy this past summer working on their new home, the future headquarters for Team #C446. Once the construction is finished the Team will be able to provide an Emergency Operating Center for all Brownwood and Brown County. During the fall some 1500 members of the famed 36th Texas Division celebrated their 50th reunion in Brownwood. The Team provided a sound system for outdoor meetings, furnished cooks for the big fishfry, served as KP's to clean up afterwards and last but surely not least, worked traffic control for the biggest parade held there since World War II. The parade was so large help was requested from the **San Angelo REACT Association #3387**. Over Thanksgiving Brownwood REACT delivered 475 meals to shut-ins within the community. This has been an on going project for the past five years on the Team level. A recent grant from the J.R. Beadle Central Texas Foundation has enable the Team to acquire an entire system for GMRS.



Publicizing REACT

by P.R. Task Group

Trying to get P.R. for your Team and/or Council is not a May Program (May as REACT month) but is an every day program. As a Team Member, you are constantly in contact with members of your community. You have the opportunity to hear what these members are doing in your community. This interaction gives you the potential opportunity to work into your conversation projects that your Team and/or Council does, or is doing, in your community that they might be interested in. How many times have you participated in a community event such as a run or walk or another activity where you work with communications? You will probably answer, all of our activities deal in some way with communications. How many times has a member of your Team while involved in such an activity found him or her just talking in general with an official from a City, County or State Agency and discussing the capabilities of your Team? Have you ever felt that you might have exaggerated what your Team does or could do in these conversations? Hopefully if your Team would get called upon by one of these agencies, your Team would be able to act as "somewhat promised."

Members from a number of Teams in the San Francisco

California area were recently cooperating and supplying communications at the Moffitt Field air show where the Blue Angels were flying and one REACTor happened to be talking to a representative from the California Department of Transportation from San Leandro, located on the east side of the San Francisco Bay.

Days later a member of Blackberry REACT in Mountain View, in the West Bay area, received a phone call from Cal-Trans in the San Leandro area asking for help getting a message to one of their trucks heading for Santa Rosa, North of San Francisco from the Monterey area, south of San Francisco. Cal-Trans felt that their truck has a CB radio and that REACT used CB radios in assisting the motoring public. Their request was: "can you contact our truck and get a message to him?" This question probably has been put to other Teams many times. In this case members from 3 or 4 Teams worked together and the truck contacted. The point of this example is that when one of your members finds him or her making statements to agencies about what his or her Team can do. We all need to be careful in what we "sort of promise" even though we do not come right out and say "We promise to...."

Negative Public Relations could have resulted if the actions supplied by "REACT Teams" had fallen short of expectation. We all want to blow our horn, but we do not want to "Cry Wolf."

Paul Oby recently took the opportunity offered him by his employer and wrote for publication in their house publication "Power/House News" the monthly publication of power/

mation an article entitled "volunteering is more than donating time." Many of you work for companies that have your own publications. Consider submitting an article about your community service through REACT.

Mr. Ed Vance or Whidbey REACT, Box 514 Oak Harbor Washington 98277 has developed a color program for use with the Comadore 64 and 128 computers that becomes a self running graphics narrative. This program can be customized by the Team using it through answering such questions in the set-up mode as: The name of your Team, your Team address, activities your Team has or is doing and the like. When this program runs, the customized answers are worked into the presentation. This Team has used their presentation at a number of their community service functions and the reception has been great. For further information and demo disk, contact Whidbey REACT.

If your Team or Council would like to exchange your newspapers 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 your zip code. This column will attempt to publish as many as possible to help your expand your newspaper exchange.

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



Donations Deserve Recognition



PENNA. EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL, INC.

PENNA. COUNCIL OF REACT TEAMS, INC.

P.O. BOX 8797, ALLENTOWN, PA 18105-8797

November 29, 1990

TOWARD THE REACT INTERNATIONAL FAX FUND !!!

A CHALLENGE TO ALL THE COUNCILS TOWARD THE NEW
OFFICE EQUIPMENT FUND.

MATCH IT OR DO BETTER ! ! ! !

THE PRIDE IS BACK AND GROWING.

ON BEHALF OF THE TEAMS OF THE PA COUNCIL.

SINCERELY,

FRED J. LANSHE
PRESIDENT

TEAM EVENTS

McLennan County REACT Team #4747, Waco, Texas held their Labor Day Wake Break with the help of Bell County REACT Team 4047 and friends and relatives, hosed it's second Labor Day WAKE BREAK at New Road and I-35 in Waco, Texas. It was a great success. The support from the community has never been stronger. We had businesses help us out at the last minute with supplies we forgot to order and the pizza deliveries at midnight and chicken dinner deliveries on

Sunday to the site were greatly appreciated by the workers. Since we hold our break on private property, we were able to keep a donation can in the tent. As a result all expenses were covered and we have a good down payment on the next break. Next time we will probably have to rent the tent as our Army Reserve unit and tent supplier has been activated for the far east. We had coverage everyday in newspapers and on TV, with all the local stations taping their evening traffic reports and interviews with the Department of Public Safety Officers on site with our tent and

signs in the background. The coverage has already helped us gain one new member.

Besides the usual coffee, cold drinks and assorted munchies, we handed out red, white and blue ribbons to those that wished to show support for our troops and toy soldiers for the kids. So great was the response that our supplies were gone by the second day. We had poster boards to write "messages to our Armed Forces in the far east." The travelers filled up 5 posters, some with very moving comments, which we have forwarded to a ship located in the Persian Gulf.

We served more than 2,500 people over the 4 days, which is 1000 more than last year. We has people from 29 States and 1 from England. We gave everyone a big "WACO WELCOME" when they entered the tent and got to meet a lot of nice people. One man, just arriving from Alaska, left his rig on site while he was escorted around town to the different mobile home parks by one of our members. He was starting a new job in Waco on Monday. Two families slept on the site overnight, one due to fatigue and the other waiting for morning to go house hunting. They both felt safer with us around than they would have if they had just stopped in a rest area along the road. We also has a few "locals" drop by, just to see what was going on.

Since most REST AREAS in Texas do not provide rest room facilities, we decided to rent two porta potties for the people to use. One of our local companies who has supplied the tables and chairs to us in the past, jumped right in with a donation to cover the rental of the porta potties. We wish to say **THANK YOU** to all who helped with manpower, supplies, equipment and donations. We couldn't have done it without you.



WORLD BAND RADIO

By R.C. Watts

As I write this, we are well into the Kuwait Crisis. Hopefully, by the time you read it, the crisis may be peacefully resolved. Somehow I doubt it though. I was able to hear first hand some of the United States response by monitoring the Global Command and Control System (GCCS) stations operated by the U.S. Air Force.

This is a big network, stretching from Elmendorf AFB, Alaska and Thule AB, Greenland in the North to Ascension Island in the South Atlantic Ocean. In the Middle East is a station at Incirlik AB, Turkey then west (the long way) to Clark AB, Philippines and

Yokota AB, Japan. In between are stations in the U.K., Azores, U.S. Mainland, Hawaii and Panama.

You can hear these stations working aircraft with weather, phone patches and other services, including the famous "Sky King" broadcasts and phonetic coded emergency action messages. Some of the more active frequencies are 8993, 11176, 11179, 13201 and 15015 KHz, all USB, CAN FORCES and the RAF are also active on nearby channels.

On the civilian side the BBC began to broadcast the "Gulf Link" program for their hostage and stranded citizens. The BBC provided transmitters three times per day for British Forces Broadcasting Service programs. The Voice of America has been broadcasting notices for the Department of State. Radio Australia opened a Middle East service for both military and civilian personnel. Iraq has begun a propaganda war via radio and Radio Free

Kuwait has come on the air from Egypt.

Having won a PRO-2022 scanner at Monitoring Times Conference in Knoxville, a lot of my shortwave listening has gone by the wayside while I look for frequencies to fill it up. Best catch so far has been Air Force 2 when the VP was in Louisville. If you hear something interesting, let us know about it.

25th Annual meeting of the European DX Council will be in Barcelona, Spain - May 91. From winter 1990 "Downlink" ".....open to anyone who is interested in the world of telecommunications....."

Perhaps European REACTers would like to show the REACT flag. I'm thinking about it!

Address:
EDXC - 91
P.O. Box 1275
08080 Barcelona
Spain



Prince William REACT Team #C109, Woodbridge, Virginia decided on a joint Labor Day Safety Break with Herndon REACT. A Extensive discussions within and between the two Teams led to a written agreement stating each Team's responsibilities. Herndon REACT operated at the Westbound area and Prince William REACT operated on the East. Prince William REACT's service set-up was centered on the Team's Command Post trailer with it's attached canopy which covered the major serving area. After removal of a portion of a rail fence, the

trailer was parked on the grass to one side of the restroom building. The fence sections were replaced and tables were set just inside the rails. Power was supplied to the trailer and serving area from the custodial area of the restroom building using heavy duty extension cords connected to separately breaker circuits for the coffee pots, extra fluorescent light fixtures and radios.

Communications networks were maintained during the entire weekend. In use were a cellular phone (courtesy of a member), a GMRS handheld (for contact

with Herndon Team), and a CB Base Station (for monitoring Channel 9 and for announcements on Channel 19). CB Contact was available during most of the weekend with local Manassas-Area Team bases.

Seventy-four hours of service as provided with 19 members serving 6-hour shifts of two or three members on each shift, comprising 79% of Active Membership. Considering set-up and tear-down along with serving shifts, 83% of the Team's Active Membership participated. Two-thousand three-hundred and nine persons were registered in our guest book. On the combines basis of coffee, soft drinks and other food consumed, we estimate that we served between 4,600 and 5,800 guest between 1700 hours Friday and 1830 hours Monday. The heaviest service periods were as follows: Friday 1700-2400, Saturday 1200-2200, Sunday 1100-2000, and Monday 1200-1830.

Pre-break donations of money and supplies combined with guest donations to cover ALL our costs, and to provide for our next Safety Break or emergency service activity. Prince William REACT is proud of our effective and helpful work, happy with our "joint" Break with Herndon REACT, and satisfied that we provided an important service and support for highway safety over the Labor Day Weekend of 1990!



TEAM EVENTS

Mark Twain REACT Team #C336, Waynesville, Missouri held their Memorial Day Safety Break near Rolla. The Team tried something different during this Safety Break and reports that it worked great. They worked Friday and Saturday on the westbound side then Sunday switched to the eastbound rest area. This idea worked out so well they did it again during the Labor Day Weekend Safety Break. In June and also in July the Team aid the police department in a river drowning. The victim of the June drowning was recovered after 2 and a half hours by a member of #C336. July brought the Team using a fireworks display stand as a fundraiser. Members also assisted in parking cars for the Fort Leonard Wood Army Base. For the 5th year in a row help was given to the Missouri State Special Olympics. To show their appreciation, the Special Olympics presented Mark Twain REACT with a certificate.

Lenawee County REACT Team #C460, Adrian, Michigan wears many hats within their community. Besides monitoring Channel 9, crowd control is one of the many contributions #C460 extends to the community. Team members not only work security for the Michigan International Speedway and the Clinton Fall Festival but are available on other activities as needed. The Teams communication van when on assignment is wired for the fire department and sheriff's radio frequencies. The van is utilized during major accidents or fires as is the Team members for traffic control in freeing up the needed fire and police personnel.

WHEN PLACING SUPPLY ORDERS WITH HEADQUARTERS PLEASE USE CURRENT PRICE LIST MARKED PL11/90.

THIS WILL GUARANTEE YOU THE BEST POSSIBLE PRICE. IF YOU NEED A NEW ORDER FORM AND PRICE LIST PLEASE CALL HEADQUARTERS AT (316)263-2100.

" R E A C T "

Breaker! Breaker! Breaker! Channel Nine,
Is there a REACTer on the line?
I am north bound on the side of the road,
And my truck is weighted down with a heavy load.

I am sitting here with an Emergency situation,
I need to get back into circulation,
I am in a hurry to get to my destination.

Then a kind voice came over the air,
Driver, this is Roanoke Valley REACT Unit Ten,
Do you need some HELP there?
"Yes" my motor is over heated and,
I have to drop off this load before ten.

"So" the REACTer made a quick call,
And in no time at all,
I was back on the road,
To deliver this truck with the heavy load.

I thanked the Roanoke REACTer for answering my,
problem with a solution,
And in return I gave to their Team,
A great contribution.

"OH" REACTers and drivers every where,
When you need HELP, some one is always there.

"So" when you are in trouble or need information,
To save you from frustration, just
tune into Channel 9,
And call for HELP to save time.

On the CB radio, Channel 9 is the
Emergency station.
There are Police and REACTers that will,
help you in any situation.

by Ray A. Braley, Sr.
Unit #44
Roanoke Valley REACT Team #2166

CBers across Canada now stand a better chance of getting help in emergencies. It is the result of co-operation between Communications Canada (formerly DOC) and REACT.

Communications Canada contacted REACT Canada eighteen months ago. It advised that it was preparing a new edition of its "CB Handbook," RIC-18. Did REACT have any input to offer?

The "CB Handbook" is a popular radio manual with Canadian CB operators. It had been out of print for about a year already, so a new edition was indeed needed.

RIC-18 offered good information for Emergency Channel 9 monitors in recent editions. What it lacked was information (for those in distress) on correct emergency message content and broadcasting.

REACT urged ComCan to restore this potentially life-sav-

ing information which had appeared in older editions. ComCan heeded the request.

Recently, the new RIC-18, "CB Handbook" was released. The section on distress message composition and broadcasts is closely modelled on REACT's leaflet "Getting Help by CB Radio." What a generous tribute to REACT and its safety education efforts.

Canadian REACT Teams can obtain RIC-18 in quantity from Communications Canada offices to distribute at safety displays, speaking engagements, ect.

REACT has earned the respect of government regulatory bodies in the several nations where its Teams serve the travelling public. As we approach our 30th anniversary REACTers everywhere can take pride in their contributions to the atmosphere of confidence and trust.

Mountain Top REACT Team #26007, Mountaintop, Pennsylvania has found other alternatives to helping the surrounding community. Due to inactivity on Channel 9 the Team members also have been monitoring Channel 19 as much as possible. The Team utilizes a base station from Plymouth, Pennsylvania as well as making use of a GMRS system operating from a repeater atop our local mountain. The Team is in the progress of joining with a Special Police Road Safety Agency for increased protection of the local area.

Whidbey REACT Team #3283, Oak Harbor, Washington members helped with flooding, after heavy rains from the tropical storm system "Pineapple Express" near Fir Island in western Washington November, 1990. Using their radio equipment Whidbey REACT aided with communications and also packed sandbags in a futile attempt to keep the dike from failing. With Fir Island being virtually destroyed, Whidbey REACT members helped in the evacuation of approximately 200 people.

— Getting on GMRS? —

Announcing the antenna designed specifically for REACT teams...The MAX GMRS Ground Plane

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TEAM OR
COUNCILS EVENTS TO
HEADQUARTERS FOR
INCLUSION INTO
THE MAGAZINE.**

**LET OTHER TEAMS
AND COUNCILS
KNOW WHAT
YOU'RE DOING.**

**REMEMBER THIS
IS YOUR MAGAZINE!!!**

1991 Convention
Melbourne, Florida
July 22 - 25, 1991



nications vehicles/trailers with static display is also planned. Here is your chance to show off your vehicle. If you have no special vehicle, bring your Team signs or banners to decorate your car. Provisions are being made to try to have extra cars available for REACT members flying in.

Activities for the "younger" conventioners will be available during the Monday through Thursday meetings. The cost will depend on the activities, number and ages of children. Those children between the ages of 3 through 12 may go on the Space Center tour with their parents.

All registrations post-marked by March 31, 1991 will be eligible for the drawing of one nights **FREE** hotel room (at the REACT convention rate).

For a registration form and further details mail in the order form printed below.

Time is moving on and the 1991 REACT International Convention is getting closer. This year's convention will be held at the Hilton At Rialto Place in Melbourne, Florida. For reservations at the host hotel call toll free 1-800-HILTONS. You **must** mention you are with REACT when making reservations. Normal rates are \$137.00 per night. REACT rates are \$55.00 for single/double and \$61.00 for 3 to 4 people. The above prices do not include tax.

Yvonne's Travel, Inc. is offering REACT members attending the convention airline discounts of 45%. Yvonne's is also offering pre and post convention tours for interested members planning on coming early or staying later. In addition to the 45% airline ticket discounts Yvonne's Travel is donating 40% of all travel booked through them back to the 1991 Convention Fund. Will your travel agent beat that?

A tour of Kennedy Space Center, Spaceport U.S.A., has been planned for Tuesday, July 23, 1991. The tour will include

the launch facilities, IMAX production, exhibits of actual spacecraft as well as a tour of the Art Gallery with over 250 paintings of space activities.

An opening day parade of REACT emergency or commu-

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:

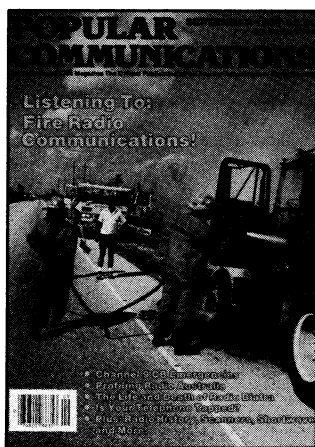
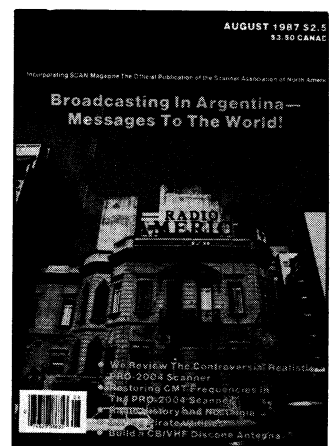
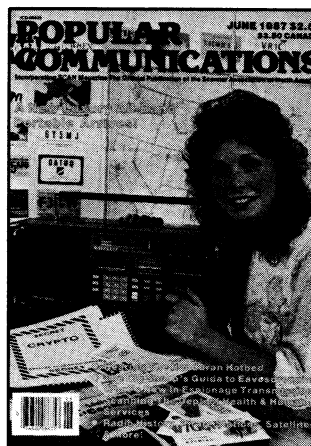
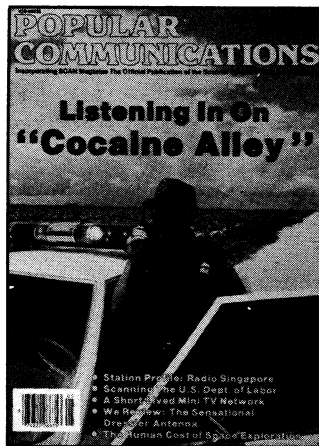
REACT 1991 Convention
 Space Coast REACT #4577
 P.O. Box 360292
 Melbourne, FL 32936

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

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(Save \$38.00)

Canada/Mexico—one year \$20.00, two years \$39.00, three years \$58.00. Foreign—one year \$22.00, two years \$43.00, three years \$84.00. Foreign Air Mail—one year \$75.00, two years \$149.00, three years \$223.00.

"I DID WHAT I HAD TO DO"

.....said Richard Baldwin, Mobile Operations Officer of **Central Arizona REACT Team #4767**. What Richard did was save two lives, a 3 year old and a 17 year old and gave aid and comfort to a dying older female. All were thrown from the vehicle they were in after it left the freeway, rolled several time and came to rest in the median of a very remote mountainous area of Central Arizona. A 4th occupant, "obviously dead" was also thrown from the vehicle.

"I was returning to Phoenix from Prescott when I received several 'break channel 9' reports of a serious rollover accident with many injuries from truck drivers who knew how to use channel 9. The accident location was 3 miles ahead and the nearest telephone was 3 miles behind me. I headed for the scene of the accident. Upon arriving I realized two medavac helicopters would be needed. Knowing I was in a CB/GMRS dead zone I immediately placed

a call for assistance to DPS (Department of Public Safety) on their UHF frequency. I had to repeat my call to a startled dispatcher which was immediately acknowledged with the assurance assistance has been dispatched. A DPS (Ranger) helicopter from Flagstaff, 60 miles to the north and a Medevac helicopter from Phoenix, 60 miles to the south were alerted. Stopping traffic on the freeway and establishing two helicopter landing zones using flares was my next move. I then asked for and received assistance from passerby's who were very helpful in rendering first aid to the 3 injured females. It took 40 minutes for the first medical units to arrive."

Richard has been a volunteer for 17 years, 5 with a volunteer ambulance company in Michigan, 11 with Phoenix Emergency, a local volunteer rescue unit and 1 year with our REACT Team. Being certified in First Aid as a "First Responder" and in CPR, Richard

was well qualified to handle this emergency until trained medical assistance arrived. According to the DPS officer in charge on the scene, "Richard did all the correct things and did them well." He was praised by the Department for his volunteerism and professional attitude.

"The two who survived this terrible accident owe Richard their lives," said the medical authorities at the scene. Richard stated, "the American Trucking Association has some good drivers out there who know how to respond in emergencies as well. It was several truckers who got the word out to me. I was just in the right place at the right time."

Our Team is very proud of Richard and his outstanding performance as a REACT volunteer. We thank you Richard.

Central Arizona
REACT Team #4767
Glendale, Arizona

NEW TEAMS CHARTERED

- | | |
|-------|---|
| #4792 | LaCross Coulee Region REACT
Onalaska, Wisconsin
October 17, 1990 |
| #4793 | Burt Region REACT
Tekamah, Nebraska
October 17, 1990 |
| #4794 | Gallia County REACT Ecom-Sar Team
Bidwell, Ohio
November 15, 1990 |

Headquarters Wish List

Fax paper (Canon
Faxphone 15)
Dot matrix printer
3 1/2 drive (external or
internal)
40 megabyte hard drive
(IBM compatible)
Fire proof file cabinet (2
drawer)
United States Flag
GMRS Radio (International
use)
Telephone answer
machine

**All donations
are sincerely
appreciated!**

DECISIONS, DECISIONS... WHAT'S A LEADER TO DO?

by Bonnie Zygmunt

"The camel is a horse designed by a committee."

That's what everyone says when a group is gathered to make a decision or solve a problem. Most people don't think that groups use much common sense when trying to get something done. Nevertheless, most organizations find they need to use groups for problem solving and decision making. Since it happens often and the results are not always satisfactory, leaders need a clear set of guidelines to use when they need to decide to assign a problem to a group and when to assign it to an individual member. This way the leader will know whether a group or an individual member is likely to produce a better outcome on a given task. And, if a task is referred to a group, how the leader can manage the group to get effective results.

WHEN TO CHOOSE A GROUP AND WHEN TO CHOOSE AN INDIVIDUAL

There are five factors to consider when deciding who to assign a particular task to.

- 1) Type of task:
- 2) How important it is that everyone accepts or commits to the decision or solution, so it gets done:

3) What value is placed on the quality of the decision:

4) The abilities and commitment each person has & the role each member will play in getting the job done.

5) How well the group will work together & if the group leader will be effective.

NATURE OF THE TASK

It is the type of task itself that is the first and most important factor in determining whether a problem would best be solved by a group or by an individual. Certain types of tasks, such as creative or independent tasks, are best performed by individuals. Other types of tasks that involve blending various bits of information together or goal setting are particularly suitable for groups.

CREATIVE TASKS

Research shows that individuals working separately are more creative and effective as generators of ideas and as problem solvers than individuals working together in groups (except the brainstorming group--a collection of individuals following an established procedure--which can generate more ideas

than individuals working alone). When the task calls for a creative solution, that is, a new alternative or an option that had not been considered before, an individual is a better choice than a group. For example, individuals do better than groups at creating an original crossword puzzle, designing a PR poster, or writing a newsletter article. When seeking a creative outcome, one would do better to find a member with the skills and interest in the area, rather than to assemble a number of people.

COOPERATIVE TASKS

When the problem requires that various bits of information be brought together to produce a solution, such as developing an emergency response plan, evaluating a new product, or planning a Team event, groups can offer superior outcomes. Provided that the group of members, is capable of working together effectively.

GOAL SETTING

The lesson of management by objectives (MBO) is that members should be involved in determining the goals that are designed to guide their behavior and against which they are to be evaluated. When goal setting is done in appropriate groupings of leaders and members, more commitment to individual objectives can be expected.

IMPORTANCE OF COMMITMENT OR ACCEPTANCE

Research has shown that when people participate in the process of reaching a decision,

(Continued on page 25)

REACT Memorial Plaque Addition

Ivan Knox XIT REACT Team #2492
(Donated by the Texas State REACT Council)

The REACT Memorial plaque is displayed at REACT International Headquarters. It contains 70 plates onto which the individual's name and Team number can be engraved. Once filled, additional plaques will be obtained. A \$50 minimum donation to this fund is required to have a name placed on the plaque. This amount can be from one or many. Names added to the memorial will be mentioned in the REACTer.

they have more commitment to that decision--they feel more ownership over the outcome. This way they are likely to have more interest in it and to make more energy available to get it done.

On the other hand, when an individual solves a problem or makes a decision, two tasks still remain. First, others must be persuaded that the aimed for outcome is the best solution or at least is what is desired. Second, others must agree to act on this decision or to carry it out. It is clear that if having people participate in the decision-making process increases ownership of the outcome, it will reduce the time needed, by the leader, to check on progress and follow-ups.

IMPORTANCE OF THE QUALITY OF THE DECISION

The best leaders know the trade-offs involved when they choose between a decision that will be easier to get acceptance and commitment for, but is of lower quality and a decision that may be more difficult to get others to do, but is of higher quality.

If a leader is concerned with distributing responsibility so that a solution will be carried out quickly and completely, he or she may accept a solution, that may not be the best one, because it has widespread acceptance. They may do this rather than insisting on a solution of somewhat higher quality that is unacceptable to the members who will have to do the work.

The quality of a group product, in contrast to one produced by an individual expert in the field, varies depending on the abilities of group members, the information available to them, and their effectiveness in working together as a group.

CHARACTERISTICS OF INDIVIDUAL GROUP MEMBERS

There are three clear guidelines to use in assembling a group of people to address an issue: (a) the expertise each individual brings to the particular problem under consideration; (b) the stake each party has in the outcome; and (c) the role each person is likely to play in carrying out any decision, that is, how dependent others will be on each individual's support of the group's solution. It is obvious from these three factors that leaders probably will not wish to bring together the same collection of individuals to address every issue.

OPERATING EFFECTIVENESS OF THE GROUP

A question that deserves special consideration is how effectively the individual members of a group will be able to work together to produce a good solution. This question needs to be raised each time a new group is gathered. All committee members should be genuinely interested in the business of the committee. They also should be dependable, able to accept responsibility, and work well with other members. If the members will have great difficulty in working effectively as a group, it may be better to refer the decision to an individual. In considering the operating effectiveness of the group, the skills of the committee leader are particularly important, because the leader can do more than any other person both to enhance and to block the effectiveness of group efforts.

So when the Team Leader is choosing committee leaders they would be wise to consider that person's abilities. The major skill they need is working

well with others, which involves being a good listener, being fair-minded, and being able to abide by the decision of the group. The committee leader should resist the urge to do all the work independently. They should also resist the urge to assume the credit for what the committee accomplishes. When everything has been completed, credit should be given to the entire committee. An effective committee leader stimulates others to work, is patient, does not show favoritism, and does not overload key members of the committee.

Adapted from: Basic Skills in Decisionmaking & Problem solving, FEMA Student Manual SM-63, John J. Sherwood and Florence M. Hoylman.

And: Committees & Boards: How to Be an Effective Participant, NTC Publishing Group, Alice N. Pohl.

CLASSIFIED SECTION

Our Team would like to hear from other Teams who are mostly rural and have membership that covers more than one county. How do you handle membership recruitment? Do you work mostly with one town even though there are many different communities in your coverage area? Write **Kettle Moraine REACT 3866**, P.O. Box 269, Lannon, WI 53046.

NOTICE

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

For a limited time free **informational only** ads are available to members on a space availability bases. Deadline for classified ad submission is the same as article submission deadline.

For further details please call REACT Headquarters at 316/263-2100.

FIELD DIRECTORS REPORT

by Robert M. Riechel

The following is my continuing series of reports to the REACT membership & specifically those members, teams, and councils in the western part of the US.

By the time you read this I will have contacted those Teams in my area who are not listed on Norm Kaplan's list as responding to the "EMERGENCY Services Form" to see if assistance is required in understanding and/or filling out the form. Contacts with the EMERGENCY authorities are showing that for REACT members to be fully usable in EMERGENCIES, we will have to expand our capabilities. This form will allow those teams with capabilities in a needed area to be contacted quickly. Teams not list-

ing such a capability should not be bothered.

Bonnie Zygmunt has proposed 'That before a convention a TEAM TOPICS should be prepared and sent to every Team. It should contain the proposals that your Board of Directors will be presenting to the membership for discussion and/or voting'.

Do you as members want this type of information? Do you feel that your delegates can vote effectively without this information? Drop your thoughts to your Field Director or Bonnie: 5925 Donegal Road, Hubertus, WI 53033.

By now all Teams should have received their copy of the newly revised 'Policy and Procedures Manual'. This multi-

page revision is very detailed and your Field Directors are here to help you understand this manual. Contact him or her if you have questions or suggestions.

The proposal has been made that a Field Director must run and be elected from a specific area of the country. This proposal would make major changes in the way your Field Directors are elected. Another proposal suggests that the position of 'Director-at-Large' be eliminated and replaced by additional Field Directors. Your Board needs all of your written comments and suggestions very soon so they can have the time necessary to consider your input in preparing their proposal(s) (if any) on this question of the '91 convention.

The Board must consider "if members feel that a specific topic is a problem," they must address this perception.

"Should Councils have a vote at the Convention?"



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An Apology...

In March 1990 I sent out a packet of information concerning actions supposedly taken by our Board of Directors. I have learned that some of this information was in error. I hereby apologize to Ex-Board member Mr. David Ferrell for publicizing these inaccurate statements about him. I wish Mr. Ferrell the best in his future endeavors.

Signed,
Robert M. Riechel,
L.M. #152

REACT ROAD SIGN

Recognized REACT Teams are granted permission to reproduce our REACT name and the road sign for display purposes. The use of such must be in the exact form as shown below. The name REACT is registered with the U.S. Patent Office and in many other countries.

The logo must appear in two color, blue and white. With

the background in blue and the mic, trim and wording in white.

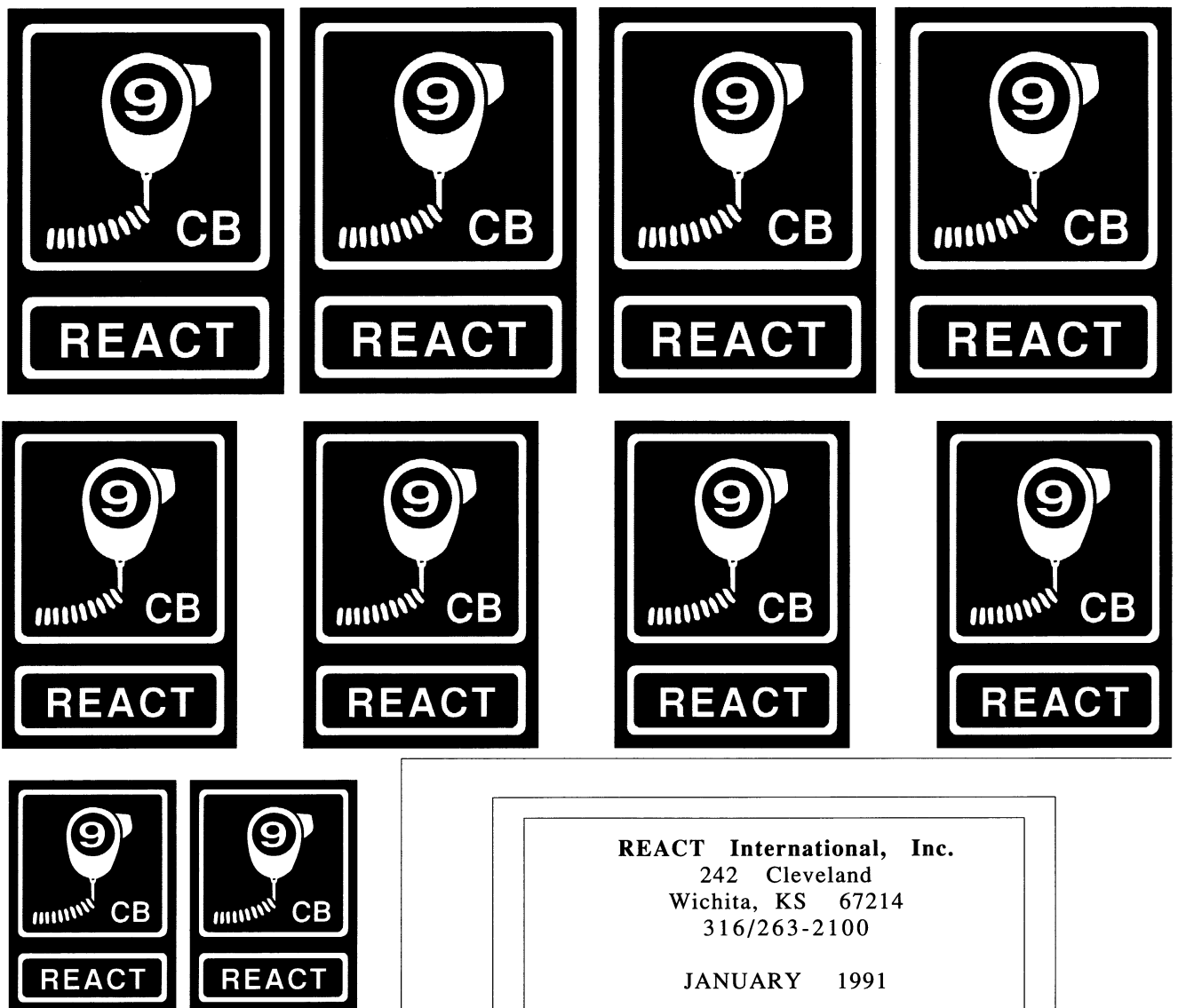
NOTE: There are no periods, dashes or other separations between the letters in REACT. All letters are capitalized in equal proportion. REACT is an acronym for Radio Emergency Associated Communications Team(s).

REACT Teams who lapse their charter and members who

do not renew must stop their use of the REACT name.

Teams and Councils who wish to produce goods bearing the REACT name and/or logo for resale must obtain permission from REACT International.

The printed road sign logo below can be used as camera ready art for reproduction. Be sure and check them against your current road sign logo use and correct if needed.



REACT International, Inc.
242 Cleveland
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JANUARY 1991

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