



# the REACTer

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

July/August 1992  
Price \$2.50



From the REACT International, Inc., Board of Directors and Headquarters staff...  
we wish all REACTers worldwide a very Happy 30th Anniversary!!!

REACT International, Inc.  
P.O. Box 998  
Wichita, KS 67201

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Headquarters tells me the 30th Anniversary edition of the "REACT Team Contact Directory" will be off the presses and out to Teams long before you read this. I haven't seen a copy as I write but Deanne's excitement about the Directory has infected me too.

I hope you like the pocket-size format. The price is certainly right, whether your Team plans to use it as a fund-raiser or to give to agencies with which you work, or both.

Thanks to the efforts of our Headquarters staff, the Team information in this edition is based on the 1992 Team renewal data you provided. The Directory is therefore up-to-the-minute and should serve well those who support your Team by buying a copy.

Now our job is to "be there" for people who use our Directory in emergencies. "It pays to advertise," but we must back up our advertising with good service.

A business that advertises its phone number, then doesn't answer the phone, quickly loses credibility and won't survive long. Its advertising is not only a waste of funds, but is self-defeating.

For REACT, "being there" for

travellers in distress has far-reaching implications. First and foremost, lives may be at risk. Every REACT Team should either be providing 24-hour monitoring of CB Emergency Channel 9 or be devising a plan and timetable for doing so.

Travellers rely more on us now than they have for many years. Budget and staff cuts have undermined many fine police monitoring programs. Police themselves value REACT monitoring more than ever since it eases demands on their limited manpower yet gives the public speedy access to them in emergencies. By monitoring reliably REACT Teams aid both travellers and police in important ways.

If a Team misses a Channel 9 call, every REACT Team gets a black eye. Each Team has heavy responsibilities to every other REACT Team worldwide. Everything we do as individuals or Teams reflects well or badly on everyone else. Always keep that in mind.

Being part of an international organization like REACT has many advantages. That is exactly why most of us wanted to be REACTers. We liked what we saw and heard.

However, with the benefits of REACT prestige, reputation, renown and stature come costs. Far more crucial than the dues we pay is our commitment to the purposes and standards of REACT.

Thanks to GMRS columnist Bill Simpson for reminding us about commitment. In his March/April, 1992 GMRS column Bill stressed emphatically our obligation to "be there" on CB Emergency Channel 9 for the millions of travellers who count on us. It was really heartening to read those words about CB in the GMRS column.

It does pay to advertise. Our Public Relations Task Group works hard to offer us tools and ideas that will help.

Just remember that we must back up our advertising with service. If your Team doesn't answer when the call comes on Channel 9, every REACT Team's credibility suffers. The advertising was wasted, even harmful to our entire organization.

As we celebrate our 30th Anniversary, review your Team's monitoring of CB Emergency Channel 9. Are your monitoring hours up over 1991? How close is your Team to 24-hour coverage. How can your Team improve its coverage?

Distribute the new "Team Directory" with pride. Renew your efforts to "be there" - for your own Team, for other Teams, for police. Most importantly, resolve to be there for the travellers who rely on REACT. They're depending on us for their lives.

Be sure our service measures up to our advertising.

**Order Extra Copies  
of The REACT Team  
Contact Directory Today!!!**

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# Headquarters Report.

In the past two and one half years you have all made me feel like I belong and that I am family even though I am not a member of REACT. For that reason, I would like to let my REACT family know what is happening with the Earwood family.

It is with joy that I would like to announce that the Earwood family will be increasing in size by one later this year. Yes, that is right! Glenn and I are preparing for another arrival (perhaps even my REACT replacement in another 20 years or so).

The big event is scheduled for October 24, 1992 but we all know that sometimes having a child does not follow a time table. For that reason, I would like to let all the members know what to try to expect in October and November.

With my first daughter I was out walking the mall and shopping two days out of the hospital. With my second daughter Glenn decided I needed to be pampered a little more (perhaps this was because I wasn't getting any younger) and he tried to keep me

house bound for at least a week. Logic tells me not to plan on being up for a couple of weeks, just in case the third child doesn't follow suit.

I do plan on working as long as I possibly can. I have versed Lynda on what will most likely occur during that first week. Tentatively, I have planned that after the first week I will be available to Lynda by phone. After a few weeks of rest, I plan on being back in the office for several hours each day. If all goes well, I should be back in the office full time within 4 to 5 weeks.

I have tried to make myself available to the members over the past 2 and 1/2 years. I trust that this relationship will not change. I ask all of you to give Lynda your full support and patience during this time. With one employee out of the office logic tells me that some requests will take a few days longer than normal.

I promise that before you know it Headquarters will be back to normal with a new edition to our family.

## ARE YOU COMING?

Remember, every REACT member is welcome to attend International conventions.

We want to meet you.  
 You will enjoy meeting other REACTers.

Please come if you can.

## REACT International, Inc.'s 1992 Early Bird Renewal Contest Winners



The following is the list of REACT Teams and the prizes that they have won in the 1992 Early Bird Renewal Contest. We would like to thank the manufacturers who donated the prizes as well as congratulate those Team who have won.

**Antenna Specialists Company** donated several Mon-52 and Mon-53 Micro Choke Scanner Antennas, Mon-58 Micro Choke Base Antennas, Mon-70 Micro Choke Mirror Mount Antennas and M-711 Formula-I Mag Mount Antennas. The REACT Team's winning these prizes were: C075 and 4719 in California; 4069 in Georgia; 4086 in Maryland; 3231 in Mississippi; 3679 in Montana; 3732 and 4818 in New Jersey; 2651 in North Carolina; C055 and 2102 in Ohio; 2829 and 4797 in Oklahoma; C152 and 2785 in Pennsylvania; C491 in South Carolina; 3025, 3390 and

3622 in Texas; and C117 in West Virginia.

**Celwave** donated two Glass Advantage Antennas and the winning Teams were: 4766 in Ohio and C332 in Virginia.

**Cobra Electronics** donated two HH-40-40 Channel 2 Way Portable CB Radios and the winning Teams were: C227 in Michigan and 4094 in Maine.

**Firestik Antenna Company** donated ten FS-4 Single Tunable Tip Whip Antennas and two FBP-1 Fire-base Phoenix Base Antennas. The winning REACT Team's were: C125 and 2190 in California; 3625 in Connecticut; 4815 in Illinois; C100 and 3329 in Indiana; 2503 in Massachusetts; C663 in Nebraska; 2332 in Ohio; 4529 in Puerto Rico as well as 2503 and 4258 in Washington.

**Hustler, Inc.**, donated a SCB "Redneck" Antenna to Team 3000 in Kentucky.

**Midland International Corporation** donated a 77-116 CB Underdash Mobile Radio, 77-913 CB Portable Radio and two 74-105 Weather Monitor AM & FM Radio Combo's. The winning REACT Team's were: 2727 in California; 2545 in Illinois, C692 in Indiana and C505 in Utah.

**REACT International, Inc.**, also awarded several REACT materials to the following Teams: 3629 in Alaska; C040, 4109 and 4802 in California; 2648 in Colorado; 4810 in Florida; C222 in Georgia; C049 in Illinois; 2401 in Kentucky; 3791 in Minnesota; 4105 in New Hampshire; 4403 and 4805 in New York; C363 in Ohio; C604, C655, 2607, 3412, 3654, and 4580 in Pennsylvania; 4754 and 4598 in Puerto Rico; 2400 in South Carolina and 4747 in Texas.

Each REACT Team renewing was eligible to receive up to 9 in chances in this years contest. In all, a total of 2,673 chances were accumulated between all the renewing REACT Teams. A whopping 65 prizes were awarded for the 1992 Early Bird Renewal Contest. REACT International would like to thank all Teams for their early renewal.

Don't forget Headquarters is already gearing up for the 1993 Early Bird Renewal Contest!

## Team Events

**Fort Sutter REACT #2260**, Sacramento, California received a \$9,000.00 grant from their county to purchase radios to be used for emergencies and community services. Congratulations to the Team members on obtaining this grant and good luck with all that new equipment.

**Lakewood REACT Team #4677**, Tacoma, Washington, held a safety break at the Sea-Tac Rest Area November 22-26, 1991 with the help of eight members of **Rainier REACT Radio Watch #3366**, Auburn, Washington. During the three and a half day break the members served up 2,750 cups of coffee, 359 cups of hot chocolate, 54 cups of tea and 186 cups of McDonalds orange drink.

**Lakewood REACT** would like to challenge any and all Teams who belong to REACT International to meet or beat their team efforts at recycling for the year 1991. The dates should be from 1/1/91 through 11/30/91. Team #4677 recycled a total of 35.69 tons of glass, cardboard, newspaper and aluminum cans and does not include the many cases of returnable bottles members have collected.

**SEND YOUR  
TEAM EVENTS  
TO HEADQUARTERS!!!**

**LET OTHER  
TEAMS KNOW  
WHAT YOU ARE DOING!!!**

## Calendar Of Events

**July 11, 1992 - Wisconsin Council of REACT Team meeting.** Hosted by Fond du Lac REACT. For further details please contact the host team or a council representative.

**July 20-23, 1992 - REACT International Convention** to be held in Anderson, Indiana.

**August 2, 1992 - Southern California REACT Council meeting.** Hosted by Big Bear REACT. For further details please contact the host team or a council representative.

**August 2, 1992 - Pennsylvania Council of REACT Teams, Inc., meeting.** Co-hosted by Abington REACT. For further details contact Fred Lanshe (215)434-3235.

**August 7-9, 1992 - Wisconsin Council of REACT Teams Camp-Out.** For further details please contact a council representative.

**August 29-30, 1992 - Washington State REACT Council meeting.** Hosted by Evergreen REACT. For further details please contact the host team or a council representative.

**October 2-4, 1992 - Commonwealth of Virginia REACT Council Annual Membership Meeting.** Please contact a council representative for further details.

**October 11, 1992 - Garden State Council of REACT Teams, Inc., meeting.** Hosted by Old Bridge P.A.C.E.R.S. For further details please contact the host team or a council representative.

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

## DATES TO REMEMBER...

**August 1, 1992 - Deadline** for article and advertising submission for the September/October issue of **the REACTer**.

**October 1, 1992 - Deadline** for article and advertising submission for the November/December issue of **the REACTer**.

**October 15, 1992 - Team renewals** mailed to all REACT Teams. (Renew early for more chances in next years contest!)

by Wesley Miller  
2nd Vice President and Operations Officer  
Summit County REACT, Inc., #C480  
Akron, Ohio

**Tuesday,  
October 29, 1991**

It had been a quiet night on Bridge Watch for the members of Summit County REACT, just the way we like it on this detail. We provide the Bridge Watch service in cooperation with the Ohio State Highway Patrol every Halloween season. At or about ten minutes to twelve my wife Sadie and I had just gone to bed for a good nights sleep after a long day.

**Wednesday,  
October 30, 1991**

Around midnight we heard the Akron Fire Dispatcher dispatch the first alarm to Goldsmith & Eggleton, a rubber processing facility. A second alarm went out just a few minutes later, with several calls for mutual aid from the volunteer fire department of Summit County. The first was just outside the city limits of Akron in Springfield Township.

At 12:15 a.m., I called the Springfield Township Police Department. I told the dispatcher if she could get McDonalds to make some sandwiches, I would pick them up and take them to the fire scene. At 12:20 a.m., my pager

went off, it was the Akron Fire Department requesting refreshments for the firemen and women and the police officers at the scene. I then paged teammate Dale Hendershot to get in contact with me by GMRS radio. Dale was all ready on his way to the Summit County Chapter of the Red Cross for the same



reason. Dale and me are on Team C which is on call from 12:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. Our first alternate is our President Bob Krauthem, who received a call at 12:20 a.m.

I then called a local Giant Eagle Supermarket, open 24 hours a day, for a donation of donuts and soda pop. I then prepared Team C480's emergency communications van for Bob to drive to the scene. Bob got gas for the van and generator

on the way to the fire. I picked up the food and drinks. Team members were at the fire scene and serving coffee, donuts and soda pop by 1:40 a.m. The Red Cross showed up shortly thereafter. At 3:00 a.m., Wayne Burketh was called at home and asked if he could go to Giant Eagle for more supplies. When Wayne got to the fire he had lunch meat, bread and more soda pop. The fire was so hot that it vented itself through the roof within 45 minutes after it was discovered.

While Wayne made sandwiches Wes and Bob made and served coffee and gave out soda pop to the many people working the fire scene. Wayne had to leave by 7:00 a.m. He was scheduled to work with the Red Cross at a peat bog fire also in Springfield Township that had been burning for more than 3 weeks.

By 4:00 a.m. more than 200 fire fighters from four counties were fighting a very hot and stubborn fire. Flames shot more than 200 feet in the air and before I got the call I could hear explosions at my house which is about 5 miles from the fire.

At 7:00 a.m., Jim Ries, Secre-

*(Continued on page 7)*

(Continued from page 6)

tary and John Antonavich, Past President were called for relief and given directions about the best way to get to the site. Bob telephoned Hardy's down the street from the fire for a donation of 50 breakfast sandwiches. Donations of more donuts and orange juice were received from Finast Supermarket also.

At around 8:00 a.m., foam was put on the fire. The foam seemed to knock it down for a while, but within 30 minutes it was burning again. A rubber fire is one of the hardest fires to put out. A two mile section of Interstate 76 on the east side of Akron was closed east and west bound from 12:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. because of smoke. Bob and me left the fire scene at 11:00 a.m. to catch up on some well needed sleep. Jim and John closed down at approximately 2:00 p.m. as there were only a few fire fighters left to control small hot spots.

#### Thursday, October 31, 1991

At 7:15 a.m., fire fighters were called back to Goldsmith & Eggleton. The fire was burning again at full force. I called Sadie from work where I was only half a mile from the fire to have Team A take the van back to the fire scene. Jim got the van from my home and was met at the scene by Trustees Caleb Kiefer and Bill Edmiston. The Red Cross was also called back for another long day. We still had donuts and soda pop from Wednesday and a good supply of coffee. Bill got sandwiches for lunch from Hardy's and also Wendy's. While at the fire the Team was requested to provide communi-

cations at the bog fire. At 2:00 p.m. Wayne and Bill went to the bog fire with GMRS radios to help with communications between that fire scene and the command post at the Springfield Township Town Hall. Bob went to the bog fire after he got off work and relieved Bill. The county's radio systems were so taxed that Team radios and operators were welcomed with many thanks.

#### December 10, 1991

Bob, Gene Homer, Past President and I were presented with a check for \$100.00 by Rodger Sansom, President of the Summit County Firemen's Association. The donation reflected their thanks and appreciation for being at the Goldsmith & Eggleton Fire. It makes our Team members feel great when you see a fire fighter or police officer on the street and they tell you that they are glad REACT is there.

## Team Events

**Broward County REACT #4694**, Davie, Florida is proud to announce the return of SSgt. Lon Ratner, U.S. Army to south Florida. SSgt. Ratner was the first president during 1987 the year the Team was founded.

SSgt. Ratner was called for Desert Shield/Storm duty as a nurse. Lon has been a nurse since 1986 and has been using his skills

within the Team in providing a first aid station for the many events they have participated in. These past events include: the World's Largest Bar-B-Que, the March of Dimes Walk-a-Thon and the MDA Telethon.

Upon his return to the states Team #4694 announced their appointment of Lon as the Medical Director of the First Aid Station as well as the beginning of the new CPR course which he will teach.



Pictured in photo standing from left to right is SSgt. Lon Ratner, Medical Director, Deputy David Pearson, First Responder, Brian Hembling, Assistant Medical Director and Gary Sibulkin, Med. Assistant.

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

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**Be sure to include your name and address!**





# GMRS...Rx

by Bill Simpson

Welcome to Indiana, for those of you at the Convention. We're sorry to miss those who couldn't make it this year. If you've never attended a convention, plan to attend the next one in your area. If it's within a two day drive, it can be planned for a vacation. It's well worth it.

Perhaps you noticed, as the seasons changed, two phenomena that we experience every year, but simply forget as the year progresses, and no one says anything. The first is a degradation of UHF signals within your repeater coverage area. Suddenly, in areas where you normally hear and can access the repeater easily, the signals simply have "gone south." Everyone screams and yells and calls the technician...but there's really nothing wrong. Chances are the new foliage is absorbing the signals. (Yeah, I know, users from Texas and Oklahoma don't have that problem...oil wells don't absorb UHF signals.)

The second is the ducting...like "skip" or DX on CB and the ham bands...which enables us to talk some amazingly long distances. The best time is at sun up or sundown with preference given to sundown, although it can occur at anytime, especially as the days grow warmer.

R.C. Watts, in his April/May column mentioned listening to the shuttle, but failed to mention

a frequency. I listened on two meter...145.35 MHz, although that may vary by area. Check with the local hams, I guarantee that they know. If you have a scanner, it makes for a fascinating evening (or morning).

One last mention of CB, and then I'll leave it alone for awhile. There have been complaints about REACT Team's ordering others off Channel 9, both in English and Spanish, as well as reports of REACT Team's using Channel 9 for projects and conversations. To set the record straight, this is an absolute NO-NO! There are 39 other channels for the projects, chit-chat on 9 is against everything that REACT stands for, and anyone can monitor Channel 9.

Besides, in most countries, Channel 9 is NOT designated as an emergency channel...and it usually does no good to try to contact a DX station with your legal 4.5 watts, or even your 100 watts. It simply increases your frustration level and your blood pressure. Don't waste your time. Next, why file a complaint with the FCC? Unless you can provide positive ID, including an address, and show a pattern,

you're beating that old dead horse again. Sorry, but that is the way it is, the FCC does not have the manpower, and does not have the funds, to chase errant CBers. However, show them an ID, a pattern and an address, and they are able to respond. They are very hard on excess power and out-of-band operation. Last, why threaten the Board with contacting the FCC, unless the Board "takes action!" What do you expect the Board to do? Remember, the Board uses Channel 9 just like the rest of us. They'd

like to see the "bad guys" go away. The monitoring manual is designed to train REACT monitors, and specifically

addresses illegal use of Channel 9, yet some people think they don't need it. Which gives me a nice segue into the final topic.

I've seen letters accusing the REACT International Board of "making a profit" by charging the members for the training programs.

So?

Let's look at simple economics. REACT International has

*Two Phenomena Experienced Every Year...*

*Degradation of UHF Signals Within Your Repeater Coverage Area...*

*Ducting...like skip or DX on CB and the ham bands...*

(Continued on page 10)

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certain expenses, salaries, utilities, rent, postage, etc. As I'm sure you've noticed, expenses do not go down. Membership dues, REACT's primary income continues to decline. There are two options, raise dues and cut expenses, or find some small alternative funding. The amount charged for the training modules was suggested by the Task Group at the 1991 Convention, and approved by both the members present and the REACT International Board. The price was set by US, the members who have to pay their dollars too. Members who were able to base their decision on the cost of printing, supplies, handling, postage and storage. I personally guarantee that the GMRS manual is worth a lot more than the \$7.00, it should be about \$20.00. REACT International is simply trying to compensate for the costs incurred in preparing the two training manuals. And to anticipate costs to be incurred in preparing future manuals and training programs. Are YOU supporting the REACT programs by ordering the manuals? If anyone has a super financial problem with the cost of the manuals, please contact me personally, by letter. I'll personally see what I can do, and I promise confidentiality.

Remember, too, that many Teams are either subsidizing the cost, or are paying the entire amount upon completion of the courses. If your Team has not signed up for the courses, ask your officers why?

Sign up for the Monitoring course and the GMRS course today!

## New Ad Succeeds

Who said CB was dead? All the doom and gloom was for nothing, it appears.

Inquiries have been pouring into Headquarters recently for details on chartering new REACT Teams. Lots of people out there are keen to become part of the REACT family and extend CB Emergency Channel 9 coverage. That's really encouraging.

A brand new REACT ad in a Popular Communication's Buyers Guide (special) issue generated this latest burst of CB enthusiasm. The REACT Public Relations

Task Group prepared the ad.

The PRTG is putting the final touches to the "parent" of this ad. That version will soon update our long standing ad in Popular Communications. It will also appear here in the REACTer for Teams to use locally.

Watch for it. Use it and other graphics the Public Relations Task Group has presented in past issues. Publicize your Team/Council through all the media across your monitoring area.

This is another benefit your dues enable REACT International to provide for all Teams.

## New Teams Chartered

- |       |   |       |   |
|-------|---|-------|---|
| #4843 | Madison Metro REACT<br>Madison, Wisconsin<br>4-15-92  | #4846 | Seneca County REACT<br>Findlay, Ohio<br>5-08-92           |
| #4844 | Marble City REACT<br>Gouverneur, New York<br>4-17-92  | #4847 | Tri-County REACT<br>Funk, Nebraska<br>5-15-92             |
| #4845 | REACT of<br>Trumble County<br>Gerard, Ohio<br>4-20-92 | #4848 | Lenawee Community<br>REACT<br>Adrian, Michigan<br>5-27-92 |

*Headquarters extends a warm  
welcome to our newest REACT  
Teams and their members.*

## Life Membership Corner

Hello again;

This article should be out to you either just before or more than likely during the convention. At that point those of us that are at the 30th Anniversary Convention will be busy in meetings, training sessions and fun. Those of you that could not make this big shin-dig this year we will miss you and know that if you could have been here you would have been. But then there is San Diego, California next year and then we may see you there.

I would like to be the first to congratulate the Board of Direc-

tors elected for the '92-'94 term of office and to the '92-'93 President of REACT International. Even though I do not know who they are I wish them a prosperous term of office.

At this time I would again thank those "Life Members" of the 1991 Convention that elected me as Chairman of the Life Member Committee for this past year. It has been very interesting and quite a learning experience. I have enjoyed the challenge of the office and of the articles for theREACTer.

Here is the latest list of new Life Members into our family:

LM#486  
Derrill Edward Wilson  
Mid Valley REACT#4614  
Clovis, California

LM#487  
Juan M. Santiago  
Atlantic REACT Team#4756  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico

Thank you again;

R.T. Gamble LM#226  
REACT Life Membership  
Chairman  
P.O. Box 63  
Kirkland, WA 98083-0063  
Phone (206)823-8129  
Prodigy "JHJMO7B"

### Team Events

On July 27, 1991 Douglas E. Pete Memorial REACT#3609, Canton, New York members traveled to Massena. Team members helped with communications and traffic control for the annual Alumaman Triathlon.

The race course consisted of a 1/2 mile swim, 14.2 mile bike run and finished with a 5 mile run. Out of 262 registered participants 255 competed in the triathlon. Team members set up the van as a communication base and used mobiles in their vehicles along the course route.

After the event was through at 3:00 p.m., members enjoyed a meal provided by the event sponsors and received trophies for their fine work. The highlight

of the day came when Team members received a plaque for seven years of participation and

a standing ovation from the participants for their support.



Eight Team members helped, from left to right they are, Leslie Peters, Earl Strader, Bruce Beggs, Reginald Hanson, Steve Richards, Ken Reasoner and Kay Reasoner. Not pictured was Richard Rockefeller.

## REACT CONDUCTS ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL HAM CLASS

by Lee Besing, President  
San Antonio REACT #3622

San Antonio REACT has been conducting Novice/Technician Amateur Radio License Classes since the No-Code Technician license became available in 1991. Their first class in 1991 had 22 students enrolled, lasted over two months, and had a graduation rate of about 50% with their No-code license, and another 20% with higher class licenses.

Responding to requests from potential students, Herman Aguirre (WB5TRK) agreed to instruct another class starting in January of 1992. An astounding 29 students showed up on the first night, overflowing the room

REACT had reserved at the American Red Cross HQ for the class. The students ranged in age from 14 to 70. We also began offering license testing by VE's (Volunteer Examiner's) on class nights, by using REACT's Communications Center down the hall from the classroom as the test site.

The photograph below was taken on the third week of this class, after many had already passed their Novice Exams and were working on their Technician. They experienced a graduation rate of 90%. Included in the picture are REACT members Herman Aguirre, Rick George and Leo Quintanilla. Photo taken by REACT Vice President, Roy R. Botello. The

Volunteer Examiners were Leslie Dale (N15S) and Billy Graef (N5NQR).

The week after this class was completed, another was started, but with only nine students. Three weeks into this class, no photo was possible because seven of nine had already passed their exams. As a result of these classes, our REACT Team's standing among the Amateur community has been greatly enhanced. REACT is accepted by more amateurs than ever before. We are currently processing several applications for membership as a result of being a student in one of these classes. Another class, this time taught in Spanish, may be in the works for later this summer.

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

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



*Class photo including San Antonio REACT members as well as Novice/Technician Amateur Radio License graduates. Photo taken by Roy B. Botello, Vice President of San Antonio REACT Team #3622.*

## Team Events

On April 11, 1992 Sedgwick County REACT #4208 participated in the yearly event of Project Concern - Walk For Children. Team members worked communications for the nine check points and manned a base at the control center.

Members started the day out at 5:30 a.m. with radios set up and ready to go by 6:00 a.m. The walk kicked off at 7:00 a.m. with the last walker checking in around 4:30 p.m. It was a very long but rewarding day for the Team members of #4208 who worked the event.

Houston Metro Emergency REACT #4098, Houston, Texas was proud to get the chance recently to assist Brazoria County REACT #2988, Angleton, Texas with the Lake Jackson Festival of Lights Parade. This was attended by various Houston public figures, as well as by Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, high school bands, fire and police departments and everyone else that could devise a float. The weather was crisp and dry. GMRS was utilized in simplex mode for this event.



**DON'T FORGET!!!  
REACT HEADQUARTERS  
HAS FAX CAPABILITIES...  
(316)263-2118**

## WORTH QUOTING

"Contrary to what some people will tell you, usage of Citizen Band Radio and Channel 9 is not down.

The problem is that monitoring of Channel 9 is down, and as the saying goes, 'if you're not there when they need you, they quit trying to find you.'"

*The REACT Mirror, Oakland County REACT, Inc., #C238, Waterford, Michigan.*

### REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC. TEAMWEAR ORDER FORM

Team #

Team Name

Address (Please use physical street address only)

City

State

Zip Code

Country

Daytime Phone Number

Please specify quantity and size on order form

**LIGHT LINED SUMMER JACKET \$27.00 EACH**

Small

Medium

TOTAL  
ORDERED

**QUILT LINED WINTER JACKET \$30.00 EACH**

Small

Medium

TOTAL  
ORDERED

AMOUNT ENCLOSED

\$

MAIL ORDER FORM AND PAYMENT TO:  
REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
P.O. Box 998  
Wichita, KS 67201



### 40 Channel Full-Power Portable CB

A highly versatile yet compact new portable 40-channel CB radio featuring a scan mode which searches all 40 channels and a dual watch mode for monitoring two channels simultaneously has been introduced by Midland International Corporation. The new 2-way transceiver, Model 75-779, also provides instant access to emergency and road information on Channels 9 and 19. Two features of particular importance to the serious user are designed to significantly conserve power. A high/low switch permits the use of low power for close-in situations, and a unique battery saver circuit automatically reduces battery power drain by as much as 80% in the receive mode. In the full

power mode, the radio delivers 7 Watts of input power (FCC maximum 4 Watts output, switchable to 1 Watt). An external power jack and power cord with lighter plug (supplied) permit operation from any 12 Volt DC supply. The 75-779 also features a large multi-function liquid crystal display which indicates received signal strength; battery condition; scan or dual watch mode; emergency memory channels; and output power level in use. The radio is supplied with a unique snap-on battery pack for instant replacement with an optional spare battery pack. A highly efficient flexible rubber antenna is also supplied.

For complete information

ment, Midland Consumer Communications Division, 1690 N. Topping, Kansas City, MO 63120 or phone 1-800-MIDLAND, ext. 1690.

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### Secret Signals The EuroNumbers Mystery by Simon Mason

Released in December, this unusual book will fascinate any radio enthusiast who's intrigued by shortwave's dark side. Mason gives a detailed presentation of the numbers stations of Europe, which are still very active - never mind the end of the cold war and the virtual elimination of communism throughout the continent. Who's behind the likes of The Lincolnshire Poacher, The Russian Man, The Jazz Player, Swedish Rhapsody and many more? Mason has monitored and analyzed these mystery stations for years, logging literally thousands of transmissions in the process. The book includes an extensive by-frequency log of the transmissions, complete with times, formats and notes. Secret Signals is a full 70 pages measuring 8 1/2 x 11 inches and retails for \$9.95. For further details please contact Tiare Publications, P.O. Box 493, Lake Geneva, WI53137 or phone (414)248-4845.



**Pocket Roll-up  
"J" 2-Meter Antenna**

MFJ Enterprises, Inc., announces the new MFJ-1730 Pocket Roll-up "J" 2-Meter Antenna for only \$14.95.

MFJ's new 1730 2 Meter half-wave vertical J antenna is terrific for traveling, vacationing, and motel use when attending ham-

feasts. You can roll up this half-wave 2 Meter gain antenna, stick it in your pocket and go! Using the MFJ-1730 is a cinch: just hang it in a convenient spot, plug the handy BNC connector into your handheld and enjoy base station performance almost

anywhere!

The MFJ-1730 Roll-up antenna really adds big-time performance to your handheld. It is omnidirectional and does not need an awkward ground plane. Works indoors and outdoors. Works with all 2 Meter handhelds. Good gain characteristics. Classic half-wave "J" design.

It comes with MFJ's one full year unconditional guarantee.

For more information or to order, contact any MFJ dealer or MFJ Enterprises, Inc., P.O. Box 494, Mississippi State, MS 39762 or call (601)323-5869, fax (601)323-6551 or order toll free at 1-800-647-1800.



**SUPPORT THE MAGAZINE ADVERTISERS!!!  
MAKE SURE WHEN TALKING TO THEM  
YOU TELL THEM YOU SAW IT HERE...  
IN THE REACTOR!!!**





## Team Events

**Lake Palestine REACT #3129**, Athens, Texas has had a very exciting and busy year already. In January the Team donated food for needy families around Athens. February brought the Team members working a five and one half hour fire at a local brick company. Members provided refreshments for emergency personnel during the fire. In March Team #3129 hosted the Texas State REACT Council meeting with 86 REACTers in attendance. During the month of April members cleaned a two mile stretch of the highway, held their annual E.M.S. and Fireman Appreciation Day, worked concessions at the annual East Egg Hunt, held a one day Easter Rest Stop as well as worked parking, security and traffic at a local PRCA Rodeo. In May members assisted **McLennan County REACT #4747**, Waco, Texas with a March of Dimes Walk-America. This is over and above their regular activities of monitoring CB Channel 9 and conducting an on-going weather watch program.



## CLARIFICATION

**No one, but no one, knows how your Team votes in the Field Director Elections.**

**A secret ballot process is used throughout. The steps followed to protect the secrecy of your Team's vote have been outlined at convention and in election material you Team receives.**

**If you have any questions or concerns regarding ballot secrecy, please feel welcome to contact any Director, or Headquarters, for further information.**

**Congratulations to those Teams which exercise their democratic right to vote in REACT elections each year. Be sure your Team is among them.**

**The next issue of the REACTer will list Teams which did vote. Check to see that your Team participated in electing your Field Directors.**

**It's your right. It's your responsibility.**

On May 6, 1992, the Honorable David Walters, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, signed a Proclamation declaring the month of May, 1992 as **NATIONAL REACT MONTH** in the State of Oklahoma.

Pictured in the photograph below, from left to right (stand-

ing) is Robert Kaster, President and Roy Allen, Chairman of the Board, **Oklahoma County REACT Team #2620** and Pete Durso, President of the **Oklahoma State REACT Council** during the signing of the Proclamation by Governor Walters.



## Classified Section

### FORSALE

**Convention GMRS Radio Special:** save 20% or more on new radios from Yaesu/Vertex, Icom, Ranger and others. Call Advantage Communications, Inc., (316)264-5005. Or write for a free REACT catalog at 301 Laura, Wichita, KS 67211.

### MISCELLANEOUS

**Help - Need to Beg, Borrow or Steal:** video of the Awards Presentation at the 1990 Convention Banquet. Contact Wayne Stanley at 12033 Parker Plaza, #101, Omaha, NE 68154.

**Rabbit's Party!** January 10, 1999: San Antonio, Texas. For more information mail a postcard to Rabbit's Party HQ, 1508 Vanderbilt, San Antonio, TX 78210.

Try placing a classified ad in **the REACTer**. Cost is only \$.45 per word for REACT members and \$.65 per word for non-members. Phone numbers automatically count as two words. Deadline for ad submission is the same as for article submission. For further details telephone REACT Headquarters at (316)263-2100.

## Team Events

At a recent City Council Meeting Mayor Johnny Ramirez presented South Gate REACT #3897, South Gate, California with a Proclamation proclaiming May as International REACT Month. Mayor Ramirez also gave each member a special certificate thanking them for their dedicated service.

Bill Gatzke, Vice President of Team #3897 then presented the Mayor, Vice Mayor, Council and Chief of Police pins commemorating the 30th Anniversary of REACT International. This has been an annual presentation

dating back two years. During 1991 the Team presented REACT cups and in 1991 they presented REACT litter bags containing the pamphlet "Getting Help by CB Radio and a key chain advertising South Gate REACT #3897 to city representatives.

Travis County REACT #3022, Austin, Texas hosted a very successful 15th Anniversary meeting for the Texas State REACT Council. The Keynote Speaker for the meeting was REACT International Director At-Large Bob Stone. Sixty-eight REACTers from around the state attended the banquet.



Vienna Police have joined Herndon REACT #C332, Oakton, Virginia in patrolling the Old Dominion Railroad Regional Park bicycle and jogging trail. Herndon REACT members have patrolled the trail since early 1990. In May of 1991 the Vienna

police began policing the bike trail along with Team #C332 members. From left to right is John Webster of Team #C332, Officer 1st Class Joe Boudreau and Lt. John Cheyne of the Vienna Police Department.

## Team Events

**Marathon County REACT #4730**, Wausau, Wisconsin kept busy on November 18, 1991. Team members worked traffic and pedestrian control for the 3rd Annual Night of Lights and Magic Christmas Parade in Wausau. The parade is put on by the Downtown United Corporation of Wausau. For the second year in a row members of Team #4730 was asked to help. Starting at 4:00 p.m. that day members were busy blocking off intersections for the parade traffic. The temperature was 39 degrees and cloudy with a chance of rain, which is exactly what it did! By 9:30 that evening the rain had turned to snow.

**Battle Creek REACT, Inc., #2975**, Battle Creek, Michigan lost an active member and good friend. Lee Boston Unit 5 passed away unexpectedly on February 2, 1992. Lee had been a member of the Team for the past 16 years. Lee was not only always cheerful but also a firm believer in the REACT principles. Lee's unit number has been retired in his honor. We are sure Lee will be missed by all the members of Team #2975.

**REMEMBER!!!**

**MID-YEAR DUES  
ARE IN AFFECT**

**REGULAR IS NOW \$12.00  
FAMILY IS NOW \$10.00  
JUNIOR IS NOW \$10.00**



Iron Eyes Cody, famed indian motion picture and parade star has joined the **San Fernando Valley REACT Team #C183**, Pacoima, California. Iron Eyes became a member of the Team that already is home for teen star Bobby Sherman and news weatherman Dr. George

Fishbeck. Pictured is Iron Eyes Cody (left) making a presentation of a montage of photographs of his fifty odd years in motion pictures. Team President Brad Baverman (right) is pictured receiving the presentation from Iron Eyes. Photo taken by member George Remer.

### REACT Memorial Plaque Addition

Alma Chubb  
Morrow County REACT Team #3006, Inc.  
Mt. Gilead, Ohio

The REACT Memorial plaque is displayed at REACT International Headquarters. It contains 70 plates onto which the individuals 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.



## Announcing The 1991 Annual Winners Of The K40 REACT Achievement Awards

**INDIVIDUAL - Joe Branin** from Golden West REACT #4802 has monitored 5840 hours in the past year. Joe has attended all 12 of the past 12 Team meetings and 3 of the past 4 Council meetings.

Joe was given special recognition at a banquet held in November for his efforts, time and devotion to REACT. In support of this award, Mr. Branin's efforts were also recognized by several well known public and private organizations.

Throughout the year ending December 31st, 1991, Mr. Branin received and dispatched numerous calls using both CB and GMRS - including monitoring scanners, telephone communications between Air Watch and Metro Traffic. In addition, he continues to monitor and take calls as TRAFFIC WATCH COORDINATOR during the morning hours and again during the evening freeway rush hours, often 5 days a week.

Between January 1991 and November 1991 Joe log a staggering 1,000 radio calls. The nature of these calls ranged from disabled vehicles, traffic emergencies, local fire/police assistance, Air Watch and Metro Traffic freeway conditions. A special feature story that was published by the Orange County Register newspaper on June 22, 1991, best describes Mr. Branin's accomplishments. "This man, despite his handicaps (to which he feels is nothing more than ... 'a set back...') is more than remark-

able: he is an inspiration to all of the other Teams in the area and his dedication and love for radios creates a desire in others to enlist his help and many do work closely with him."

**TEAM - Hagerstown REACT #C022**, Hagerstown, Maryland is one of the oldest REACT Teams in existence as well as one of the most active. During the past 12 months Hagerstown REACT has taken over 2,750 calls during 52,531 hours of monitoring.

Hagerstown REACT began several years ago providing a unique brand of communications services to other organizations in the area. During the past year the Team provided over 2,500 man-hours during a 54 day period to non-profit organizations and local government.

Out of the 49 active members and several membership applications pending, Hagerstown has a network of 23 members with GMRS capabilities. The use of GMRS provides better coverage for the part rural, part mountainous, part urban area covered by the Team. Though based in Hagerstown within Washington County, Maryland, the Team also covers some areas of Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Safety Breaks have always proven a deterrent to holiday accidents and Hagerstown REACT has provided Safety Breaks along Interstate 70 for many years. During the last four breaks held more than 1,000

travelers were served coffee, hot chocolate, hot tea, cold drinks and snacks.

Between the regular monthly meetings (including a family picnic in June and a family dinner in December), the civic service activities and work with the Fire and Rescue, Hagerstown REACT members are committed to serving the community an average of one day in three. Add to this their monitoring of Channel 9 and training sessions (including CPR and First Aid) and you have a very busy Team with very committed members.

**COUNCIL - The Commonwealth of Virginia REACT Council** had an outstanding year during 1991. The Council held four board meetings and 2 successful state conventions. The Council also met with DMV to encourage endorsement. This meeting resulted in REACT representatives being invited to their District Safety Council Meetings. The Council also participated with state officials at the DMV Annual Safety Conference. Arrangements were made with the DMV to review the REACT License Plate Program and obtain a copy of listings.

Representatives from the Council met with Governor Wilder and received the May REACT Month Proclamation. The Commonwealth of Virginia

*(Continued on page 21)*

(Continued from page 20)

**REACT Council** launched a significant PR effort. The campaign included sending letters, flyers and REACT materials to 104 publications in Virginia during the month of May. Visits were also made to radio and TV stations to promote REACT. The Council also prepared, lobbied, testified and received their State

Tax Exemption. Visits were made to Virginia State PD District commands. The Council produced and published a list of telephone numbers for State Police.

State wide coverage of GMRS with Virginia Teams was discussed with expansion planning provided. The **Commonwealth of Virginia REACT Council** furnished GMRS licensing

assistance to all interested members within Virginia.

The Council reinstated the state newsletter and mailed it to all REACT Teams within Virginia. Enamel REACT logos were also made available for Team Awards.

Besides all this the Council still had time to help REACT Teams within the state of Virginia.

## "B B Sing For Fun"

### Learn More About A New Type Of Communications

Bulletin Board Systems have been around for as long as modems have connected computers together. Over the past several years people have begun to learn more about computers communicating with one another using telephone and radio modems.

This new type of communications has created a whole new way to access megabytes of information stored on many different computers. Subjects covered range from cooking recipes to "how to instructional information" to making your flight reservations and financial transactions. Hams have developed a wireless way of connecting computers together to create what we know as "Packet Radio."

**Sedgwick County REACT, Inc., #4208** of Wichita, Kansas has run a computer BBS board for its' members and other interested parties for over two years. The Board contains information about items for sale,

by-laws, FCC GMRS and CB rules, GMRS equipment prices and more. You can also leave and retrieve messages for/from REACT International, other REACT Teams or members through the E-Mail section. Just imagine being able to send your REACTer articles and other reports to REACT Headquarters at your convenience, late at night when phone costs are at their lowest. You can also download files of information from the File Transfer Section. Pick up computer programs for your IBM or Commodore computer from the shareware program section and more.

To utilize the **Sedgwick County REACT BBS** system you need a computer of either IBM Dos type or Commodore (others may also work). You will also need a telephone modem of 300 to 2400 baud rate and a communications software package like BitCom, ProComm or similar. Set your computer communications settings to 8 Data

by Ken Green - Sys Op/President  
Ron Mayes LM162 - Co-Sys Op  
Sedgwick County REACT #4208

Bits, 1 stop, no parity, no echo and dialing 1-316-264-9993.

When you first call into **Sedgwick County REACT BBS** you will be prompted to enter "NEW" user. Enter your BBS name (kind of like a CB handle), your REAL name, phone number, computer type, screen width and length and whether or not you can support ANSI graphics and color. Next you will be given a password and an opportunity to change the password to something easier for you to remember along with a user number. You must write this information down for future call backs. Other personal data is also requested to verify you and for informational purposes. Age is a factor as certain BBS areas are restricted by age. On your initial call you will be given a limited access to the BBS and allowed on for a small amount of time. This access will be upgraded and extended once you have been

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## A n o t h e r D a y I n T h e L i f e O f A R E A C T e r

by James Trentlage  
Marathon County REACT#4730

**Dateline: Mid June, 1990,  
Time 11:15 a.m.**

The day started like any other Saturday, over cast and not much sun. My children were inside playing and I was getting together some of my cleaning supplies to clean the inside of my van if the weather got any better.

The sun finally came out and I started to take my supplies out to the van. After getting everything outside I decided to go back in and bring out the cordless telephone just in case I would receive a call on Channel 9. With everything set I proceeded to start cleaning. I turned on my CB in the van and turned the volume up so not to miss any calls.

I was about 10 minutes into cleaning when I heard a call on the Emergency Channel. I was not sure if it was a local call so I listened for the caller to repeat what his emergency was. I then went back to the caller and informed him that he had reached a REACT Team monitor that could help him with his emergency. The gentleman then got very nervous and upset as well as confused. He started telling me that he was not from this area, and they were on their way to Marshfield, Wisconsin. They were on US 51 south bound when his wife had passed out in

the front seat of the car. He then informed me he did not know what to do.

I talked the man into stopping his car on the shoulder of the highway to check on his wife to see what her condition was. After a short time he came back on the radio and said he did not believe his wife was breathing. In the back seat of the car was

**Being a REACT monitor gives you a certain feeling about helping people out, and a lot of times you never know who they are. You just know in your heart you have done the best you can do.**

his daughter-in-law who was trained in CPR. I informed the gentleman to get his wife out of the car and onto the shoulder of the highway away from traffic. After doing this he should come back to the radio so I could get more needed information on their location. It seemed like minutes had gone by when it was only a few seconds.

I informed his daughter-in-law to check for vitals on the woman. She relayed there was no pulse or heartbeat at which time I told her to start CPR and mouth-to-mouth. As I was getting that information from her, I was on my cordless telephone to Central Fire trying to explain the situation that I was working on

Emergency Channel 9 of the CB. When I got the gentleman back on the radio I told him not to leave the radio because I needed him to tell me of his exact location on US 51 for the emergency people to respond. I was also trying to keep his mind off the CPR that was being performed on his wife.

I asked the man if he had any idea of where he had pulled off the highway and he had none. I then asked him what color of car and make of car he was driving. After he relayed the needed information I told him to stay on Channel 9 and not leave the radio that I would be right back to him.

After getting this information I changed to Channel 19 on the CB radio. I identified myself as a REACT monitor and gave a short explanation of the situation occurring on Channel 9. I asked any driver if they saw a car on the side of the highway with their emergency flashers on, to come down and give me the location right away. I still had the fire department on the telephone waiting for more information to give to their rescue personal. I then went back to Channel 9 and asked the gentleman at the scene to give me any type of road signs he might have remembered before pulling off the highway.

*(Continued on page 23)*

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He thought for a period of time and then came back and said he remembered seeing a sign about fog.

With this description I knew just about where he was. There is an area that warns of fog across the highway about 3 or 4 miles out of Wausau to the north of the city. I informed the fire department of the location and they sent out 2 of their units to that area. In the meantime I had a truck driver come down to Channel 9 and give me their location on US Highway 51. I recalled the fire department and they informed the units dispatched to that location. I kept talking to the gentleman on Channel 9 and told him to let me know of any changes in his wife's condition so I could relay that information to the fire department. This also kept him thinking about me on Channel 9 and out of the way of the individuals trying to help his wife.

The gentleman came back on the radio and told me, he could hear sirens in the distance coming his way. I made sure he still had his emergency flashers on and told him as soon as he saw the ambulance to start flashing his headlights so they would be able to see his car right away. He came back on the radio and said the sirens were getting closer. At that time I told him to start flashing his headlights and not to stop until they were at the scene.

After approximately 5 minutes the gentleman came back on the radio. He informed me that they had loaded his wife in the ambulance and he was following

them to the hospital.

Being a REACT monitor gives you a certain feeling about helping people out, and a lot of times you never know who they are. You just know in your heart you have done the best you can

do. It took me a few hours for everything to sink into my head with what took place. After that I went back to cleaning my van and monitoring Channel 9 on the CB radio.

**DON'T FORGET TO  
ORDER YOUR  
COPY AND EXTRAS  
OF THE NEW  
REACT TEAM  
CONTACT DIRECTORY!**

**COST IS A LOW \$1.85  
PLUS SHIPPING AND HANDLING!**

**Team Events**

Colleton County REACT Team #3153, Walterboro, South Carolina has been busy lately. The Team just finished the Walk for the March of Dimes, provid-

ing security for the marchers.

On May 23, 1992 the Team assisted with traffic and crowd control for the March of Jesus. Over 2,000 marchers were anticipated to walk in the 1.8 mile event.



From left to right is, Captain Robert Hudson, Chief Bill Kolron and Lt. Noah Weese receiving awards for their dedicated service from the Fraternal Order of Police.

## Enforcement? With What?

Be thankful for any FCC help your REACT Team has had with interference or other radio rules. If you have had little support from the FCC, it is understandable.

This year, the FCC Field Operations Bureau has only \$1.6 million to try to do its job of enforcement across the entire United States. Last year, the Bureau had \$3.2 million to work on enforcement matters. It couldn't cope then.

REACT Teams reported difficulty in getting enforcement of radio regulations at 1991 funding levels. A 50% cut in enforcement funds for 1992 will not inspire confidence in FCC ability to meet Teams' needs.

Congress has not funded FCC at levels adequate for its mushrooming enforcement role in over a decade. Illegal operators,

as aware of the FCC underfunding as REACTers, are having a field day.

Reliable two-way radio communications become more vital by the month. Meanwhile, "FCC in some ways is a dying organization." Bureau Chief R.M. Smith made that comment just weeks ago. Something is drastically wrong.

Thank your FCC Field Office for any help the staff have been able to give your Team by sending them a note. It may assist FCC to get better funding next year so it can help more.

Do more. Send copies of your thank-you note to REACT Headquarters, as well as to your Congressional representative.

Remember, it pays to say thanks. Lay the groundwork now for better FCC enforcement in the future.

(Continued from page 21)

validated. This usually takes about 48 hours. **IMPORTANT** REACT members must leave E-Mail to the Sys Op stating you are a REACT member. This will be included in your upgrade for access to certain REACT only areas of the BBS.

On your next call back enter your user number, password and the last four digits of your phone number. All of these are compared for verification and access. You will then be allowed access to the BBS.

There are four areas of the BBS: Message Base, G Files, Mail System and File Transfer Section. You will start at the beginning of the command structure in the Message Base when you access the BBS. The basic command and help information will be shown on the screen for you after each command is entered by you in the general area. Think of the BBS as a tree with you starting at the main branch. Each branch will take you into different areas with some variation in user commands. These commands will be shown on your screen automatically. Later you may choose the Expert mode to eliminate these help screens to save time once you are familiar with the BBS. To return back to the main menu you will need to hit "Q" to quit the area you are in.

The BBS information and general instructions are contained in the G-File section. You enter this section by hitting "G" from the main menu, then hit "3" for BBS system documentation, then "3" again for the user documents. Note you may want to print these

(Continued on page 25)



### Donations Deserve Recognition



The Council Reimbursement of \$130.75 has been donated to REACT International from the Northern California REACT Council.

*Headquarters would like to extend a warm thank you to all REACT members, Teams and Councils for their kind donations.*



(Continued from page 24)

## Citizen Band Still Works

by Norman Kaplan, Chairman  
Government Relations Task Group

out for your review and use when calling into our BBS or a similar WWIV BBS.

The Message Base contains several categories of subjects for you to review public posting's or leave a posting of your own. These subjects include: General, REACT Information, GMRS Problems, Got A Problem? Who Cares, Suggestion Box and Adults.

The G files section contains informational text messages and larger information files.

The File Transfer section contains all the uploaded files for access by the BBS users to download and put to use. You may also upload files containing Team newsletters, and such which would be of interest to the users of the system.

The Electronic Mail section enables you to leave private message(s) to other users or multiple users of the system. This is a good way to communicate with other friends and even REACT Headquarters (user #42).

Call in anytime, the Sedgwick County BBS is up 24 hours every day. The system is an IBM Clone, 1 meg Ram and about a 100 meg HD with color and ANSI graphics. The everex modem is capable of 300 to 2400 baud and adjusts automatically. Sometimes the Sys Op or his assistant Ron M. is around to break in and say hi. We look forward to BBSing with you.

**NOTE:** We would like to hear from all other REACT operated BBS's. Please give us a call.

**Next issue:** How to up and download files on the Transfer section along with other REACT BBS's you can call.

On April 2nd, I received a telephone call from Ms. Beverly Morin. She had got my number from the Maryland State Police. Ms. Morin needed assistance in contacting Francis "Red" and Margaret Stonebreaker, her aunt and uncle. The Stonebreaker's were on vacation and traveling north along either Interstate 85 or Interstate 95. The route traveled was believed to be north of Georgia and possibly north of South Carolina.

I contacted Jerry Nowlin, President of the **Maryland State Council of REACT Teams, Inc.**, and Al Hanger of the **Commonwealth of Virginia REACT Council**. I explained the problem to them and asked them to have the REACT Teams along the probable route attempt to notify the couple.

The only information we had was, the possible routes, the couple was driving a Bluebird Motor Home pulling a red Toyota and that they listened to Citizen Band Channel 19.

The various state police were notified by the family and everyone felt that REACT was a low chance possibility that needed to be tried. On April 3rd, the various REACT Teams began putting out

a call to the Stonebreaker's.

A motor home travelling south heard the call and when it passed a motor home travelling north that fit the description the message was delivered. By 6:00 p.m. the Stonebreaker's had the message and Jerry Nowlin, President of the **Maryland State Council of REACT Teams, Inc.**, was called and thanked.

This assignment worked for several reasons:

1. Appropriate people in the police department knew how to contact REACT.
2. REACT members knew how to contact Teams in both their own state and states closer to the action, in this case Virginia.
3. REACT is able to get onto the Citizen Band radio and communicate with the motoring public.

If these lines are not in place in your REACT Team, they should be implemented.



The Stonebreaker's were on vacation and traveling north along either Interstate 85 or Interstate 95. The route traveled was believed to be north of Georgia and possibly north of South Carolina.



## Publicizing REACT

### "A Year End Report of the Public Relations Task Group"

by the PR Task Group

The PRTG has been busy this year. The PRTG is looking into ways to continue to improve our public relations on a worldwide basis. This year we concentrated on the roles of educator to the motorized public and direct recruiting for the membership. This important job of getting the word out is up to ALL levels of REACT. Here are a few of the many accomplishments from the PRTG:

The Best Western Motel Directory continues to use the REACT graphic.

Another corporate sponsor, Esso Oil, was acquired in Canada, through their newsletter.

The sun visor, REACT flag and decal sheets, was developed for the membership.

The new Popular Communications ad was released.

The 30th Anniversary logo was developed into an ever popular decal.

A stamp cancellation was produced for this years International Convention.

REACT is continuing to try to "get in the back door" at the National Ad Council through the expertise of Dr. Hall Duncan, At-

Large Director.

We are designing a more easy to handle, table top "Display Exhibition" to replace the outdated bulky one.

The PRTG is currently working on contacting the various two-way radio manufacturers to include either the "Emergency" Best Western ad or a copy of the REACT pamphlet in their product packages.

The print in the REACTer is slightly bigger, without losing space, for easier reading.

Soon to be released new "Road Sign" and "Emergency" decals for the members use.

Getting the "May is REACT Month" information together and out to the Teams and Councils early.

Obtaining the prestigious "Thousand Points of Light" Volunteer Recognition Award from the President of the United States for the continuous efforts of all REACTers worldwide.

Issuing test flyers around the country to see just what catches the public's eye.

Providing the President of REACT International, Inc., with a fax machine to help cut down the time delays through mail delivery.

The new Team Contact Directory was released in a new and improved size with up to date Team and Council information.

The PRTG has submitted numerous magazine articles and press releases outside of REACT. Several have been seen in other

publications. This will be an ongoing project.

More graphics added to the REACTer. These graphics are now available to Teams and Councils. Graphics will also be available at this years Convention during the PRTG seminar for Team and Council use.

Providing handout information at the PRTG seminar at this years Convention to help benefit the Teams and Councils.

The REACT Newsletter Contest co-sponsored between the Convention Committee and the PRTG.

REACT's involvement in the National Hurricane Conference.

REACT participated in this years East Coast Associated Public Safety Communications Officers (A.P.C.O.) Conference.

REACT's listing in the printers National Blue Book for Trademarks.

The encouragement to Teams and Councils in selling various items to help keep Headquarters costs down. Some items produced are rings, pins, patches, etc.

Continually protecting the trademarked name of REACT.

Providing valuable information in the REACTer magazine at both the Team and Council levels.

Encouraging Teams and Councils to make their own table top display boards for member recruitment.

*(Continued on page 27)*

(Continued from page 26)

Maintained a continuous involvement with different organizations that could use REACT's various two-way radio assistance. This was done through a request to have their national organization put out a letter to their field offices to contact REACT Headquarters for the REACT Team nearest them.

Establishing REACT Teams to sponsor "BSA Explorer Posts" to supplement NOT replace the Junior REACT Program.

Inquiring to various travel magazines and map companies and asking them to include the Emergency ad in their next printing.

Encouraging the various Teams, Councils and directors of REACT for membership incentive programs.

Soon to be released information on how to get the prestigious "Thousand Points of Light Award" and the J.C. Penny "Golden Flame Award".

The PRTG is working on a proposal, in memory of Donna Beckwith, to try to educate children in the schools. This program will consist of how to get help on the CB radio through a children's coloring book.

They are also working in combination with the Government Relations Task Group on the Road Sign project. The continued support of all REACT Teams and Councils is needed on this project!

Encouraging the ideas of Teams, Councils and directors of REACT that are positive and successful, for example the "Adopt a Highway" program.

Involvement in running direct recruitment ads in "Ham" maga-

zines with the Pennsylvania Council.

Headquarters received a one year free subscription to the National Volunteer center for their quarterly publication.

The PRTG donated three 800 telephone directors to REACT International President, Headquarters and the Director over the PRTG to help save costs.

Presently the PRTG is working on a newer version of the video "When Seconds Count."

### **Build a Program That Works!**

To build an effective and long-lasting media-relations program:

1. Don't just react. Set goals, build relationships with reporters and match newsworthy story ideas with each medium's focus and style.

2. Know that reporters want

two things, newsworthy information and sources who are consistent and credible.

3. Respond quickly. Many reporters will call when on a deadline. If you don't respond quickly, you could miss a valuable story opportunity.

4. Give them your best. Pick a poised and authoritative spokes person who knows the topic, has a sense of timing, knows how to go on the offensive, speaks

simply without jargon and delivers quotes they can't resist using.

5. Go for the long-term benefit. Don't get angry if the media let you down occasionally with an inaccurate or botched story. Think of media relations as a long-term effort that will allow you to get your viewpoint across substantially and correctly most of the time.

*Source: Hank Walshak, writing in Marketing News, American Marketing Association, Suite 200, 250 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606.*

### **Special Mention Earned**

Thanks to Richard Sherrer of Virginia for being the initial contact and to Al Hanger of Virginia for being the representative of REACT International,



**Join the Public Relations Task Group during their seminar at this years REACT International Convention held in Anderson, Indiana. Learn valuable tips on publicizing your REACT Team.**

Inc., at this years National Hurricane Conference.

Thanks to Stuart Meyer, Director for the inside contacts along with the members of the Pennsylvania Council. They assisted Fred Lanshe, PR Task Group, Co-Chairperson at the East Coast Regional Conference of the Association Public-Safety Communications Officers (A.P.C.O.) organization, held in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.



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