



# the REACTer

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

March/April 1992  
Price \$2.50



Dr. Jerome G. Bricker (right) hands letter of appreciation to Mr. Harvey W. Huntzinger (left) of National Systems Management Corporation, for their generous donation to Prince George's County REACT, Inc., #2106.

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

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Convention Update

May is REACT Month

Orange Lite Specials

Major REACT  
Communication Exercise

## HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

by Ron McCracken

Are you feeling pretty good about yourself? You should be.

Some of you go back nearly to the beginning of REACT. You have contributed to the safety of thousands of travellers in your long REACT careers.

Others of you are reading your very first edition of the REACTer. So new are you to the REACT family, you may still be awaiting your first call on CB Emergency Channel 9. Your contribution will enrich REACT's future.

"Veteran" REACTers have contributed ideas, leadership and time to REACT at Team, Council and Interna-

tional levels. In short, they have made REACT the renowned, award-winning organization it has become.

"Novice" REACTers bring the enthusiasm, innovative approaches and fresh dedication that will propel REACT into the 21st century. What more could we wish for?

As we celebrate 30 years of public service safety communications, REACT's future is secure. We enjoy the experience and expertise of our veterans, expertise in a wide variety of backgrounds that can benefit REACT. Similarly, we benefit from the idealism, fresh insights and eagerness that our novices can offer to REACT. These are qualities any large organization finds essential if it is to thrive.

Veterans can share their experience with our novices. Novices can inspire our veterans to even greater achievements. What a recipe for success!

Obviously, you are already doing quite a few things right now. At least 40 new REACT Teams were chartered in 1991.

Forty groups liked what they saw, heard, or read of you so much that they wanted to be part of what you are doing for the public too. That is perhaps the highest tribute that anyone could pay to your efforts as REACTers.

Think of that, and feel good. You deserve it. Relish every moment of our 30th anniversary.

**Send In Your  
Team Events  
To Headquarters!**

**We are currently  
looking for articles  
and "On The Cover"  
photographs!!!**

Prince George's County REACT #2106, Maryland recently received a donation of four commercial coffee makers from National Systems Management Corporation for use at motorist rest stops.

Prince George's County, MD, which borders Washington D.C., contains some of the most heavily-travelled highways in the mid-Atlantic region. They include Interstate I-95, I-295 and I-495; US Routes 1, 50 and 301;

### On The Cover

and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway. For several years, Prince George's County REACT, Inc., has operated motorist rest stops along these highways during holiday weekends and other periods of heavy traffic.

In expressing his appreciation for the donation, Dr. Jerome G.

Bricker, Team President, said, "These coffee makers will greatly enhance our capability to provide a refreshing break to tired travellers." Mr. Harvey W. Huntzinger, President of National Systems Management Corporation, Alexandria, VA, stated, "NSM is a community-minded company, and is proud to support REACT. I congratulate REACTers everywhere for their dedication and professionalism on behalf of their communities."

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the  
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## Headquarters Report

Things have really been jumping around Headquarters lately. The Team renewal process is almost completed for another year. Remember, to you Teams and members who have not renewed yet, this will be the last magazine you receive under the 1991 dues. So, get your dues in now!

REACT Month is right around the corner. In this issue of **the REACTer** you will find valuable information for your Team's use in promoting REACT Month.

Also look forward to the Team Topics to be mailed in mid-March. This issue of Team Topics will be chocked full of valuable information to help your Team and members promote May Is REACT Month. In this issue of the Team Topics will also be the "So Moved" items from the REACT International Winter Board Meeting as well as some "new" supply items. Make sure you share this valuable information with all your members at your next Team meeting.

Headquarters received samples of the new 30th Anniversary pins and patches from Southwestern REACT Team #C475. I recommend any member who wishes to order one of these collector's items to do so immediately. They are well made and reasonable in price. Thanks to Southwestern REACT for their support in pro-

moting the 30th anniversary commemorative items.

While your reading this issue of the magazine, you will notice several uses of clip art. A special thank you goes out to Lee Besing, San Antonio REACT #3622, San Antonio, Texas. Lee has been kind enough to scan this clip art for International's and other Teams use. Those of you who have BBS capabilities can download these files by calling the Sedgwick County BBS at (316)264-9993.

Every once in a while a visitor stops by Headquarters. This is always a special treat, as during normal hours of operation, there is usually just Lynda and me here. Well, on February 19th, Sandy Van Doren, past secretary for REACT International, Inc., stopped in. As many of you know, Sandy resigned to pursue her writing career and travel with her husband, an over the road trucker. While on her most recent trip she happened to pick up a copy of "Truckers News" a publication put out for truck drivers. In this particular issue was an article written by Mr. George Rhodes, past member of Orange County REACT Team #C399. The article was entitled "How To REACT In An Emergency." A special thank you goes out to Mr. Rhodes for penning the article and to Sandy for bringing it in.

**Coming in the next issue!!!**  
**Nominations for Field Directors**  
**Treasurer's Report**  
**Annual Audit**

## Restructuring

*(On behalf of the REACT International Board of Directors, the following is submitted for your information).*

At the January 1992 Winter Board of Director's meeting, Mr. W. Robert Stone presented the report of his committee on the **RESTRUCTURING** proposals discussed at the Melbourne Convention. The report included comments submitted by the membership over the past months.

The overwhelming consensus, among Teams, was that no major changes were desired. There were desires for minor changes to fine tune while general satisfaction with the current structure of the Board of Directors was clear. A desire to leave the current structure in place while giving future consideration to financial constraints was expressed.

Your Board of Directors took the following actions:

1. In keeping with the majority opinion expressed by the Teams, the number & makeup of the Board of Directors will remain unchanged.

2. A standing committee for long-range planning and goal setting will be created. It shall meet no less often than once each quarter until a set of long-range plans and goals has been approved by the Board of Directors. A report of this committee is expected within 12 months of its formation.

3. The President of **REACT** International will appoint an ad hoc committee to review the "Blue By-Laws" for Councils for the purpose of determining those which are required in order for **REACT** International to retain 501(c)(3) status and to maintain uniformity of compliance with the purposes of **REACT**. These required By-Laws should be submitted for Board of Director's approval by the July 1992 **REACT** International Convention together with recom-

mended but not mandatory By-Laws for the Councils.

4. An ad hoc committee of the Board of Directors will be established to review the policy of re-admitting teams to membership. A report of this committee's recommendations should be submitted to the Board of Directors at the July 1992 **REACT** International Convention.

5. The President and Secretary of **REACT** International will undertake [with the assistance of legal counsel as necessary] to define the role of the individual as part of the **REACT** organization and their relationship to the Councils and **REACT** International. The specific issue of authority of the Board of Directors or Council officers over individuals will be addressed and resolved.

6. The Operations Review Committee, consisting of 2 Field Directors, one of whom must be the Vice President and one At-Large Director, has been assigned the task of monitoring Council activities. This committee is specifically charged with the analysis of Council meeting minutes.

7. A standing committee will be established for the specific purpose of recommending qualified candidates for possible running for election to the Board of Directors. Teams will continue to nominate candidates. This committee will consist of two Field Directors and one At-Large Director.

8. It was moved, seconded and passed that no person or team will be removed from membership in **REACT** International without being given the opportunity to hear all accusations made against them and to respond. Neither may Council recognition be withdrawn without equivalent due process. An ad hoc committee of the Board of Directors should be appointed by the President to conduct any investigation of such matters and submit a written report to the Board of Directors.

## Don't Scrap Your CB

Spread the word! CB is not the only radio service that is imperfect after all.

Even cellular (costly as it is) has its problems. A recent article in *Popular Communications* tells of "dead spots" and "dropouts." It reveals that "terrain, man-made obstacles, humidity, even heavy vegetation" can block cellular radio signals. Do these sound like phenomena we've been told are unique to CB?

Cellular operates at 800 MHz "where signal propagation is tricky." At 800 MHz "signals [may] flutter, disconnect calls, or play other annoying pranks on people using car phones." Do these resemble problems supposedly experienced only at 27 MHz, the so-called "garbage frequency" of the airwaves?

Don't be deceived. The phenomena that annoy REACTers at 27 MHz affect all radio frequencies. No radio service is immune from them.

Cellular is great. Likewise GMRS, amateur, marine, etc. REACT Teams are using various of them to excellent advantage. More and more Teams are supplementing their CB radios with at least one other radio service.

It's very wise. Remember, "putting all your eggs in one basket" is very risky. A back-up, or alternate, radio system is particularly valuable in your disaster planning and community service programs. All Teams should make a second system their eventual goal.

CB, however, is a perfectly viable radio service that every

REACT Team should continue to use proudly. Teams that must rely solely on CB in all their activities may well be doing a far better job than Teams with fancier equipment.

Expert, committed REACT operators are far more important than any equipment or frequency. Take pride in your Team's Emergency Channel 9 monitoring. It is the most important service your Team provides.

More travellers can contact you for help on CB Channel 9 than on all those other radio services combined. They are counting on you and your CB. Be there for them.

When anyone tries to put down your Team's use of CB or Channel 9 monitoring, tell him about one or two recent emergency calls where CB made a difference. Remind him that no radio service is perfect, however costly or sophisticated. What really counts, tell him, is how well operators use their radios regardless of the band.

No, don't scrap your CB just yet. Keep doing what REACT has done so well for thirty years. CB and REACT have helped millions of people to date. We're both good for a few million more.

---

## A Message From The Vice President

by Robert M. Riechel

Your Board of Directors has taken what we believe to be the desires of the majority of you on restructuring and have set committees in place to work out the final details. We look for your continued input to these committees on the very specifics of each of these 8 areas. When you are contacted and asked to offer your assistance to one or more of these committees please do so. If you have specific written input for one or more of these committees, send them ASAP to Mr. Ronald McCracken, as President, with a note asking him to forward them on to the correct committee chairman for their use. Members of REACT have

spent way to much time and effort over the past few years discussing restructuring. This discussion has taken away from the main purposes of REACT. REACT membership, as a whole, must get back to "Providing Public Service Through Communications."

Your Board of Directors is pleased with the thoughts and discussions that were put forward, by you the membership, concerning RESTRUCTURING. Working together with this type of thoughts and discussions REACT can "Provide Public Service Through Communications" at all levels of community involvement.

## Team Events

**Metropolitan REACT Diversified Services #3461**, San Juan, Puerto Rico is proud to announce they have a division within their team called Metropolitan **REACT Junior Blind**. This division is composed of visually handicapped children who have received training in first aid and CPR. These children stay at Loaiza Cordero Institute for Blind Children where Team Coordinator Joseph A. Sterling works. Support is also given to this project by the **Puerto Rico REACT Council**.

**McLennan County REACT Team #4747**, Waco, Texas has their computer bulletin board up and running as of January 10th. This BBS is for **REACT** members only. A message base BBS with limited file transfer abilities is now available with upgrades planned for the future. The BBS is a free service to **REACT** members with the hours of operation between 12:00 noon and 10:00 p.m. CST daily. For further details please contact the Team.

**REACT London #4833**, Ontario, Canada has been quite busy for one of International's newest Teams. Monitoring Channel 9 is one of their main goals as well as building a close relationship with the local law enforcement, emergency and disaster assistance services. This Team has also recently setup their own BBS.

## VHF On Board Above Board?

Does your **REACT** Team use VHF Marine Band radio?

If so, have you checked with your local FCC office lately to ensure you are "running legal"? FCC has hiked the license fee for VHF marine stations to \$35, but, that's only part of the story.

FCC is also cracking down on unlicensed or illegal Marine Band operation. Be sure your Team's operations comply in full with FCC regulations. Remember, you want to generate only favorable publicity for yourself, your sister Teams and all of **REACT**.

*Popular Communications* (January 92, page 46) covers the situation well. Try to have a look at Gordon West's article. It could save your Team money and embarrassment.

Misuse and abuse of the Marine Band see (the REACTer, November/December 91, page 23) have undoubtedly prompted this FCC crackdown. Marine Band is the current radio "craze."

Those who disgraced CB radio a decade ago have found a new radio "toy." They have "moved up" to Marine Band radio and are creating havoc in that important service.

**REACT** Teams are likely to use VHF handhelds in their work. PC cautions that those handhelds likely need their own licenses and recommends you obtain them.

It warns that handhelds can be used only while afloat, unless they are also licensed for use on land. The same radio would then have two call signs: one for use afloat; the other for use ashore.

In short, talk to your FCC staff. They will be impressed that your **REACT** Team cares enough to investigate.

Invite an FCC speaker to a Team meeting to update you. Open the meeting to boaters and publicize it well. FCC will appreciate your helping them to reach other Marine Band users. Your Team may land a new member or two.

Then, offer a **REACT** speaker for a local Power Squadron meeting. Talk on both correct CB and VHF radio operations. Make the same offer to other boater groups.

Remember, compliance with all FCC regulations in the radio band(s) your Team uses is excellent PR. Make the regs work to **REACT**'s advantage.



**Have a Question?  
Call Headquarters  
at (316)263-2100!!!  
Want to place  
an order quick?  
Want to let us know  
about upcoming events?  
Fax Headquarters  
at (316)263-2118!!!**

# GMRS...Rx

by Bill Simpson

Recently, I read an article from Stuart DeLuca, President of Texas REACT Area V Council, in the October issue of "Break-9" the Texas Council newsletter. Certain portions of this article are well worth repeating:

"Some members believe that CB radio is "dead" and that monitoring Channel 9 is largely a waste of time, and that REACT's persistent association with CB and it's old 'redneck' image hampers our efforts to attract new members, especially amateur radio operators."

####

"REACT was founded with the specific purpose of providing an emergency monitoring service for CB radio."

####

"Maybe we should abandon CB. Maybe NOT. Until we do, it seems to me that we should keep the promises we've made, and do whatever we can to restore public confidence in CB."

####

This article kind of hit home...are we actually monitoring? I'm in the car all day...so I am able to monitor with no problem. How many of us even bother to turn their CB on when traveling to and from work? Or (shudder) how many don't even have a CB?

The big push recently has been to get everyone licensed as a

ham or to get everyone into GMRS. No one has been able to explain why GMRS and amateur should replace CB within REACT. We're supposed to be helping the motoring public...but if I'm monitoring only my 2 meter and my GMRS, I've effectively cut myself off from the guy two miles away, reaching for his "HELP" radio as he watches a car roll over the front of him.

Our problem is, as Mr. DeLuca says, "yes, it's frustrating to sit for hours and listen to nothing but noise and skip -- and when there is a local call, to have it covered up with noise." We've stuck ourselves in a vicious circle. We don't monitor because there is nothing there...and there is nothing there because we don't monitor.

If you think YOU are frustrated listening to noise constantly, think about the poor guy screaming into his radio for help while his wife lies, unconscious and bleeding from multiple lacerations. How would YOU feel in that situation? Frustrated? After all, when you plunked down your \$50 for the radio, the salesman told you that help would be available if you needed it.

As REACTers, we have 'promises to keep'...our entire organization is based on the premise of assisting the motoring public, and providing emergency communications yet, if we turn off the CB, we're not keeping those promises. Leave it on...monitor...use the other communications to

augment and expand the CB coverage. Take the call on Channel 9...relay on GMRS...auto patch on 2 meters. Above all...**MONITOR! MONITOR! MONITOR!**

Some REACTers say CB is "dead." Here's a challenge for you - prove them wrong! Starting on the first of the month after this column appears, April 2, keep careful records for the entire month, and send me a summary - the number of hours, the number and type of calls and what you did in relay, auto patch or calls from home. I'll publish results and present them at the convention. Remember, the success of this depends on YOU! Everyone who has been yelling for years "we need CB"...it's time to show why and that it's still a viable radio service. Let's do it!

REACTively,  
Bill  
KCF7177  
KAD7146  
N9NMT

Received a form letter from some outfit in California, offering to renew my FCC license for \$85.00, assuming no changes are desired. What a rip off!! If I have no changes, the cost is signing my name to the renewal form sent to the FCC and enclosing a check for \$35! Changes are slightly more complicated, but not worth \$50! The last license application I completed took about 20 minutes, from scratch. If you have problems, with your renewal, contact me. I'll be glad to help - for free! Remember, if you have a team license, don't make any changes!

Hello again to our present and growing family of REACT Life Members now (at the time of this writing) up to #482. It does not seem possible that it is time for this article again. (Time flies

when you're having fun, are we having fun yet???) Convention is just around the corner, and there is yet so much to do before then.

As I write this, the Board of Directors is meeting in Wisconsin

and doing some of their planning for this year's Convention in Indiana. Those of us who have a few Conventions under our "belts" look forward to the camaraderie, the fun and yes even some dedicated work.

We happily receive the following new Life Members into our growing family:

LM#481  
Nancy L. Spain  
Wisconsin Capital REACT #3183  
Madison, Wisconsin

LM#482  
Patricia Pelo  
Bayshore REACT #4583  
Cliffwood Beach, New Jersey

With the above mentioned NEW Life Members, I have had several requests for the 1992 Life Membership applications that I have put in the mail and am looking forward to seeing them come back all filled in and signed very soon.

I know the pressures out there get to all of us now and then. For what it is worth the dedicated times we all put in to help our fellow men and women in our communities and within REACT will not go unnoticed or unrewarded. We do get the gratification of knowing we have been there in their time of need.

R.T. Gamble (LM226)  
REACT Life Membership  
Chairman  
P.O. Box 63  
Kirkland, WA 98083-0063  
Phone (206)823-8129  
Prodigy "JHJMO7B"

### Ode To The REACT Wife

To be a REACT wife  
is a different way of life  
it's quite a task I must admit  
into their schedule you must fit.

Whether wrecks, fires or halloween patrol  
they are always ready to roll.  
Just like the mailman they go  
through rain, sun, sleet or snow.

Even though they are cussed at now & then,  
great pride I have for these REACT men.  
Who are always there to lend a helping hand  
to assist the Sheriff & Fire Departments when they can.

At home for the evening to watch a few TV shows,  
the scanner tones and off he goes.  
A code 4 sends him into flight  
and I'm home all alone for another night.

As they return in the middle of the night  
they wake you to tell you about the awful sight.  
As you slowly drift back to sleep,  
they crawl into bed beside you and  
hit you with their cold feet!

So to you wives of members new & old  
here's something I feel you should be told.  
Patience & understanding we must give  
if with these REACT men we are to live.

It's with great honor and pride I say  
to be a REACT wife is the only way!!!

Written by: Linda McCurdy (wife) of  
James McCurdy, President  
Coshocton County REACT, Inc. #C575



# 30th Anniversary REACT International Convention

## Anderson, Indiana

### July 20-23, 1992

Have you marked your calendar? Has your registration form been sent in? You've made your hotel reservations, of course. What? Time has slipped up on you and you didn't realize how soon the **1992 30th Anniversary REACT International Convention** will be here? Well, relax. There is still time left to register and get your plans made before the early-bird date of May 2nd. Rooms are still being held for you at the Holiday Inn - Holidome. These rooms are at the best convention rates we have seen in recent years.

Registrations are coming in rapidly now as **REACTers** reserve their place for **REACT's 30th Birthday Celebration** this July in Anderson, Indiana. Expectations are high for attendance to surpass recent years due to this central location, our 30th Anniversary, announcements of major initiatives for **REACT's** future (see special Board of Director's notice elsewhere in this issue). A full program of seminars, meetings, task groups, social functions, group fun trip, free time and more meetings is sure to provide all attendees with new ideas, information and memories to take home with

them. This convention is a **"MUSTDO"** for your summer family vacation plans.

and other foods will be provided for you as you browse through the exhibit of **REACT** memorabilia which will be on display during this celebration.

The newly renovated Holiday Inn - Holidome boasts two swimming pools, one indoor one outdoor. You can work up a sweat in the exercise room or sauna then relax those muscles in the jacuzzi hot tub. The video and game area is sure to be of interest to many. The lobby, courtyard and Holidome seating areas will lend itself to stimulating conversation, as always.

During your free time before and after, and even some during the Convention, you can enjoy that

movie you wanted to see at the Applewood Theaters featuring 9 different movies. Test your skill at the Putt-Putt course or bowling lanes all within walking distance of the Convention site.

You will not go wanting for food or variety of menu. Over 25 restaurants are within a six block walking distance of the Convention hotel. Shopping and

*(Continued on page 10)*



Plan to arrive on Saturday or Sunday before the Convention in order not to miss the pre-convention activities. Amateur radio No-Code licensing class and testing will be held Sunday afternoon. Sunday evening join with **REACTers** from around the world to celebrate **REACT's 30th Birthday** at a party hosted by **Madison County REACT #C697**. Hors D'oeuvres, drink

(Continued from page 9)

other services are also located close to this ideal location.

The **Indiana REACT Council Convention Committee** requests that you carefully complete your registration forms (see Jan/Feb **REACTer**). Be sure to reserve your place on the "Fun Trip" now. This will allow adequate plans to be made for the charter buses, tickets for the INDY 500 track, Museum Tours and the Beef & Boards Dinner and Show. Everything is included in the low price and promises to be a highlight of the Convention activities. Commemorative 30th Anniversary Convention logo shirts are available. These are high quality picque knit with pocket. Don't miss the Life Member dinner or the Amateur breakfast. Order your Convention and Life Member pictures. And sign up for the First **REACT** International Ping Pong Tournament. This promises to be both fun and entertaining. Several have already signed up and practice tables are getting a

workout across the nation. Will this Championship event become an annual event for future conventions?

Convention travel agency, hotel room rates, descriptions and convention information is included on the registration form (Jan/Feb **REACTer**). Any other specific information (i.e., campground, etc.) may be obtained by contacting the Convention Chairperson at the address or phone number listed at the end of this article. A full schedule of the Convention program and activities along with highway travel information will be included in the next issue of **the REACTer**.

This Convention promises to be one of those which will be remembered for years to come. An exciting week filled with information, meetings, new ideas and enjoyable activities for all. Don't miss the opportunity to be a participant in this wave of renewed enthusiasm as **REACT** moves forward into its fourth decade of "Community Service Through Communications."

#### Convention Information:

30th Anniversary **REACT** International Convention  
Indiana **REACT** Council, Inc.  
3036 E. 8th Street  
Anderson, IN 46012  
(317)643-4871

#### Convention Hotel:

Holiday Inn - Holidome  
5920 Scatterfield Road  
Anderson, IN 46013  
(317)644-2581  
1-800-HOLIDAY

#### Convention Travel Agency:

Edgewood Travel -  
Ray or Carol Renner  
501 W. 8th Street  
Anderson, IN 46016  
(317)642-7300

See you in  
Anderson, Indiana  
July 20-23, 1992!!!

## REACT Memorial Plaque Addition

James Goodman  
Morrow County **REACT** Team #3006, Inc.

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**.

## REACT Affiliates

We thank you for using your CB skill to correctly report emergencies to **REACT** Teams or police. Greatwork!

Try to join or form a **REACT** Team in your area. Enjoy all the benefits and activities Team membership offers you.

Contact Headquarters for help in locating the Team nearest you.

## MAY IS REACT MONTH FOR 1992

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

To increase awareness about **REACT**, specifically your Team, in your community, International suggests you prepare and carry out the following media attention getters. These are provided by the **REACT International Task group** on Public Relations, headed by Dr. Hall Duncan, Director, as well as Fred Lanshe and Jeff Lawless, Co-Task Group Leaders.

**Press release(s)** detailing your Team's recognition of May as **REACT Month**, proclamation(s) received, and Memorial Day activities; separate releases may be created. Be sure to mention the previous press release or later releases. Send these to print/newspaper, radio and television media. For more information about press releases refer to the Public Relations Kit from **REACT International** or **the REACTer** article(s) on "**Publicizing REACT**."

**Proclamation(s)** are great for getting the attention and support from your community leaders. Use the letter and proclamation

from your package.

**Public Service Announcements (PSA) Radio.** The sample radio PSA script enclosed with your package can be shortened or lengthened, and personalized for your Team. Send this to the radio station along with your press release and cover letter. Request one of the stations better known personalities or D.J.'s to make the PSA for their exclusive use. This way the listening audience will recognize the voice and give more attention (and credibility) to your spot. Another hint is to mention a Team officer/spokesperson is available for an on-the-air interview for the station.

**Public Service Announcements (PSA) Television - Local stations and cable systems.** Contact the station and let them know your Team can provide a 30 second PSA on **REACT** done by Bobby Sherman (see the **REACT merchandise price list**). The station can add your Team name and contact number to the PSA with their by-line generating equipment while its running. Or you can order the PSA personalized from **REACT Headquarters**. Here is an idea: In your press release and other media provide the public a free **REACT** pamphlet, "**Getting Help by CB Radio**." Provide pamphlets to interested persons who send the Team a self-addressed, stamped #10 envelope. The pamphlets are available from **REACT International**. Stamp your Team name on the front and/or inside. Also include information about

your Team and membership opportunities. Be sure total piece weight is one ounce or less. This idea benefits your Team in several ways. The pamphlet educates recipient(s) on how to make a call on CB channel 9; and your Team has a promotional tool directed to interested person(s); you may get a new member.

### *Fred Lanshe writes...*

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

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

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

## Radio Public Service Announcement

A CB radio in your car or boat is an ideal communications link in case of accident, need for road directions or encounters with an impaired driver.

\_\_\_\_\_ REACT Team, affiliated with REACT International,  
(insert your Team name)

Inc., monitors CB EMERGENCY Channel 9 for calls requesting assistance.

REACT Teams also provide communications assistance for various local community events. Learn how you can participate with these dedicated REACT volunteers to increase public safety.

### CALL

\_\_\_\_\_ REACT at \_\_\_\_\_  
(insert your Team name) (insert your telephone number)

or send a self addressed stamped envelope to

\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
(insert your Team name) (insert your Team address)

(Repeat contact information for 60 seconds)

## Request For "May Is REACT Month" Proclamation

WHEREAS, through REACT (Radio Emergency Associated Communications Teams) over 9,000 people participate as volunteers to provide highway safety and emergency communications using their own CB radios in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the \_\_\_\_\_ (your city/town) area is fortunate in having a local unit known as \_\_\_\_\_ (your Team name), which has served well in many civic endeavors; or (list a few big local events) and

WHEREAS, REACT's cumulative efforts, result in the saving of many lives annually, through the greater speed with which medical aid is reached to an accident scene, and better communications provided in time of natural disasters.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Mayor's/Governor's/Premier's name), of the City of \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby designate the month of May, 1992 as

National REACT Month In \_\_\_\_\_  
(City/State/Province)

during which all citizens shall take notice and be aware of the significant contribution every local REACT Team makes to welfare of their local community, as time to honor and recognize these local groups and their members.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the \_\_\_\_\_ (City/State/Province), \_\_\_\_\_ (State/City/Country) to be hereto this 1st day of May, 1992.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Mayor/Governor's/Premier)

(Retype with your TEAMS information included)

## FEMA News

### Free Brochure Available For Disaster Supplies Kit

Thousands of individuals are at risk from disasters ranging from earthquakes to household fires. All families need to be able to take care of themselves until help arrives in case of disasters.

A typical disaster supplies kit will contain an assortment of items, including a battery operated radio and flashlight, first aid supplies, ready-to-eat food, water, non-prescription drugs, spare clothing and some basic tools -- these supplies should be kept together in an easy-to-carry container. FEMA and the American Red Cross have jointly prepared a free brochure which spells out the simple steps to take to help assemble a family disaster supplies kit. For a free copy contact any local chapter of the American Red Cross or a local emergency management office. Request FEMA Brochure L-189 or Red Cross Brochure ARC-4463.

### Fire Prevention Case Studies Are Issued As Models For Community Volunteer Organizations

Fire prevention program ideas for use at the grass-roots level are available in a five-volume set of case studies by the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) United States Fire Administration (USFA).

The work, "Successful Demon-

(Continued on page 21)

**REACT MONTH**  
**"ORANGE LITE SPECIALS" (RM/92)**  
**LIMITED OFFER GOOD THROUGH**  
**APRIL 30, 1992**

As a special offer to REACT Teams and members prices have been reduced on the REACT items listed below. These are rock bottom prices and only valid through orders postmarked no later than April 30th, 1992. There is no limit to the quantities ordered at this price and all Teams are encouraged to order early. To receive the special price when ordering please mention "Special RM/92."

**ASSISTANCE ID CARDS**-Can be used to hand out as business cards or as contact/assistance cards for motorists. Has CLIP information on back with room for name and Team or unit number on front. Two-color logo. Special \$2.20 per 100 (weight is 9 oz. per 100 ordered.)

**REACT HIGHWAYS SAFETY LITTER BAG** - To use as a great low-cost giveaway. A very useful triple-duty item. Litter bag, HELP sign for non-

CB equipped vehicles and CLIP instructions on calling for assistance on CB Channel 9. A quality, full-size (8 1/2" x 11") litter bag. Special \$9.00 per 250 (weight is 3 1/2 lbs. per 250 ordered.)

**REACT "GETTING HELP BY CBRADIO" PAMPHLETS**- A smart five-fold pamphlet containing information on using our CB radio, when you need help, who monitors CB Emergency Channel 9, disabled vehicles, impaired driving, CLIP instructions as well as information on REACT. Room for Team name and address on front. Special \$4.40 per 100 (weight is 24 oz. per 100 ordered.)

**REACT FLAG** - A full 3' x 5' nylon flag of orange background with black REACT logo. Flag has grommets for hanging and comes pre-boxed. Special \$40.00 each (weight is 19 oz. each)

**Team Events**

Carter County REACT #2012, Elizabeth, Tennessee set up its Safety Breaks over Independence Day and Labor Day weekend. They served coffee, snacks, hotdogs and more. Travelers were glad to see the Safety Break over the holiday weekends, so they could stop and get directions, a cup of coffee and sit and rest awhile. The Team went one step further and set up a tent for a Team cookout over the 4th of July. A good time was had by all.



*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**



## The World Ham Net Directory

Tiare Publications has released a new, third edition of the popular *World Ham Net Directory*, by Mike Witkowski.

Completely revised and updated, the new 3rd edition lists over 900 special interest ham nets a - 50% increase over the 2nd edition.

The Directory lists nets by name as well as by operating frequency and day/time. Ham networks listed in the Directory cover a wide range of interests: air force fliers, amateur satellite

groups, shortwave listeners, DX, Coast Guard, Bible study, experimental aircraft, railroading, Pearl Harbor survivors, weather, technical forums, UFOs and dozens more.

The third edition of the World Ham Net Directory is priced at \$9.95 plus \$2 shipping and handling and is available from Tiare Publications, P.O. Box 493, Lake Geneva, WI 53147 or through amateur and shortwave radio dealers.

needs replacement. It has a rugged, telescopic antenna for easy transport. Other features include an earphone jack for private listening, variable volume control with power on/off, variable squelch and a large push-to-talk bar for easy use. The unit has a high-tech, European appearance. For complete information on Midland's 75-160 contact Midland International Corporation, Consumer Communications Division, 1690 N. Topping, Kansas City, MO 64120.

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## Monitoring NASA Communications

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## Compact Three-Channel 27 MHz FM Walkie-Talkie

A new, three-channel (all crystals supplied) 27 MHz FM walkie-talkie has been introduced by Midland International. Small enough to fit in a shirt pocket, this ultra-compact unit, Model 75-160, is ideal for outdoor enthusiasts and industrial/business users such as construction and traffic crews. It offers crystal controlled operation, with one-channel crystals supplied. With FM modulation, operators get



less static and other background noise than with conventional walkie-talkies. The 75-160 provides the max power allowed by the FCC, and operating ranges is up to 1/2 kilometer. A squelch/range control provides quite operation between calls. A super heterodyne receiver circuit adds to superior reception. The unit operates on one 9-volt battery, and features a battery-low indicator that visually warns when the battery

Monitoring NASA Communications -- How To Tune In The National Aeronautics And Space Administration On HF, VHF, UHF and Satellites was written by Anthony R. "Tony" Curtis, K3RXX.

NASA and space news enthusiasts can circumvent the often thin or non-existent space coverage the major media provides and, instead, stay up to date with information direct from the source. MONITORING NASA COMMUNICATIONS provides all the information needed.

The book includes a history of rocketry and how NASA came to exist, discusses space satellites in general as well as communications satellites, weather satellites, navigation satellites, space shuttles and deep space probes. NASA radio

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

frequencies are broken down by usage and there are tips on equipment needed to receive these transmissions. Also included is a quick-tuning guide to space shuttle and amateur radio shuttle retransmissions, followed by what the author describes as "the world's largest list of NASA radio frequencies."

Anthony Curtis has specialized in writing about science and technology for 30 years. He is the author of some 66 books, including the 960 page *Space Almanac*. He has written hundreds of magazine articles and once served as press secretary to a former governor of Pennsylvania. He has been a ham radio operator and short-wave enthusiast since the early 1950's.

**MONITORING NASA COMMUNICATIONS:** ISBN 0-936653-30-2 is 8 1/2 x 11 and approximately 100 pages. Retail is \$14.95 plus \$2 shipping and handling (\$3 foreign), US Funds only. Visa and MasterCard welcome. Mail orders to Tiare Publications, P.O. Box 493, Lake Geneva, WI 53147 or phone (414)248-4845.



### Radio Enthusiasts Needed To Evaluate New Product

Volunteers are needed to evaluate and report on a new tone activated alerting device. This device is connected to a transceiver or receiver and mutes the speaker until a unique DTMF touch-tone is received by that receiver from a calling station. Upon detection of the tone, the speaker is activated and the call can be received normally. An option to re-mute the speaker is also available. The device is capable of base, mobile or portable operation.

This device is designed to be reliable, simple and easy to use, and very inexpensive. The basic premise for its inception was an appeal to a broad variety of radio users. Examples of users are CB radio, amateur radio, GMRS, marine radio, volunteer fire departments, community crime watches, paging, small businesses, emergency networks (i.e., REACT, weather watches, etc.), scanner notification and alerting systems, etc.

Any individual wishing to take part in testing and evaluating this device should or will have access to the

following:

1. A transmitter and receiver capable of receiving the transmitter frequency.
2. A DTMF telephone dialer (for example, Radio Shack 43-139) or similar, DTMF microphone, or touch-tone telephone capable of sending tones through a microphone.

3. An external speaker or the soldering skills to connect device to internal speaker.

4. Good faith, truthful and expedient reporting on questionnaire sent with unit.

In return, the evaluation unit will be awarded to the volunteer and a discount given toward future purchases of the unit. Those interested in assisting in the product development please write to the address below. Those interested in the final product can also write and will be placed on the mailing list.

Thank you,

Robert R. Bellville  
P.O. Box 892  
Northboro, MA 01532-0892

**REMEMBER WHEN CALLING  
A REACT ADVERTISER...  
TELL THEM YOU SAW IT HERE!**

# Training & Development Committee

## MEETING MINUTES

*Like the sands in the hour glass...so are the "minutes" of our lives*

by Bonnie Zygmunt

Which Team Officer position is usually the hardest to get members to run for? Why, it's the Secretary's job, of course. A lot of arm twisting and pleading goes on before election time to line up someone, anyone, to agree to accept this nomination. It needn't be such a dreaded duty.

Knowing what's needed makes any job easier. Let's take the assignment of keeping the Team's or Council's meeting minutes, as an ex-

ample. There are certain items that make meeting minutes meaningful and legal. If your Team is incorporated in your state, the legal aspect of keeping proper minutes is very important. Many times the standard legal requirement is that the organization "shall keep correct and complete books of account and shall keep minutes of the proceedings of its members, board of directors, and committees having any of the authority of

the board of directors.

### **What makes them correct & complete**

The arrangement of the minutes should closely match the agenda or order of business of the meeting. The usual items that should be included are:

1. Name of the Team or Council
2. Date, time and place
3. Attendance information -- names of members present and absent, special invited guests and/or a statement that a

*(Continued on page 17)*

## TRAINING REGISTRATION FORM

Subject:                    [        ] 101 Monitoring                    [        ] 201 GMRS

Fill in your name and address, your REACT Team number and REACT member ID number (as found on your REACT card). Enclose \$7.00 for each training manual you request.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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Team #

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|  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|

Member ID #

**MAIL TO:**  
REACT International, Inc.  
P.O. Box 998  
Wichita, KS 67201

Monitoring Manual (\$7.00)  
GMRS Manual (\$7.00)  
Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



(Continued from page 16)

quorum was present.

4. Previous minutes -- approved as read or distributed, corrections if necessary.

5. Proceedings: a record of all announcements, reports and motions.

Motions -- by whom exact wording of motion that it was seconded (name optional)

if it passed or failed

Reports -- by whom title or subject

may be summarized or filed elsewhere, with a reference in the minutes

Unfinished business (if any) motions, by whom, votes,

6. Time of any recess and reconvening, except for short breaks.

7. Date and place of next meeting.

8. Time of adjournment.

### Communicating the action

Everyone has their own style of writing, but when it comes to official documents such as meeting minutes you may have to suppress your creative urges a bit. Minutes should be worded in an objective, businesslike way. Don't allow your personal opinions or interpretations to influence what you write. Avoid using adjectives like enthusiastic,

interesting, and well received. Don't allow any suggestion of bias. Report any discussion as it happened, don't favor one side over the other. Aim for a formal tone, though not legalistic. They should be a clear and accurate account of what happened at the meeting.

### What they should not be

Someone who was not at the meeting should be able to read the minutes and not be left with questions as to what took place. Submitting just a copy of the meeting agenda would not answer that question.

Including information or

(Continued on page 18)

## TRAINING WINNERS

### CANADA

Ron Ficht 2341

Pam Hedden 4760

Wray Simms 3027

### CALIFORNIA

W. Buck C475

### COLORADO

Walter Green, III 4817

Bennie Hatch C422

### CONNECTICUT

Thomas Morelli 3625

### FLORIDA

Lloyd Tedder 4778

### INDIANA

Johnny Gentry C149

Lester Purviance C149

### KENTUCKY

Thomas Currie 1582

R. C. Watts 1582

### MASSACHUSETTS

William Dresner, Jr 2453

Diane Mattera 3606

Christine Jones 4508

Deborah Morley 4508

Robert Anderson, Jr 4795

### MARYLAND

Mark Henry 2342

Terry Smith C022

### MISSOURI

LeRoy Schebaum C263

Dixie Banks C336

### NEW JERSEY

Mary Cooper 4651

Dick Cooper 4651

Matthew McGillis 4818

### NEW YORK

Capt. R. Casper 4368

Charles Rousselet 4552

### OHIO

Brian Kellison 4820

Edward Moore 4820

### OKLAHOMA

Glenn Hendrix Affiliate

### TEXAS

William Gardner 3022

Herbert Gehring Affiliate

### VIRGINIA

Elmer Dozier C053

Erich Geppert C109

Vincent Del Giudice Affiliate

### WASHINGTON

Glenn Young 3283

Richard Gamble 4784

### WISCONSIN

Ken Eustice 4089

Larry Fry 4365

David Rothschild 4813

Henry Sahler 4813

Judith Simpson 4813

William Simpson 4813

This listing is of individuals who have received their Monitoring Module certificate.

(Continued from page 17)

activities that occurred after the meeting would also be giving a false report of what took place at the meeting. Using a tape recorder to refresh your memory is a good idea, but always try to write up the minutes as soon after the meeting as possible. Errors won't be able to creep in if the memory is recent. And batter-

ies and machines have a bad habit of developing gremlins at the most unfortunate times.

#### Where to look for more

If officers and members of Teams and Councils want easy to understand and correct minutes, you should help train the person you elect to the position of Secretary. If you haven't given your secretary a copy of the information "Meet-

ing Minutes: What they should contain" from the Team Management Notebook from International, why not? There is a wealth of information there in Chapter VI under Team Management. That and checking the books in a library under "Secretaries" or "Parliamentary Procedures" should give anyone a solid base from which to work from.

## A Challenge To The Membership

February 2, 1992

Dear Fellow REACTers:

Last week I heard a statistic that really bothers me. As of the winter board meeting there were less than 140 registrants in the new Monitoring course and less than 100 registrants in the new GMRS course. That's just over one percent of the membership. And eight percent of them were from one team - the team I belong to. That is a very bad showing for those two very basic courses.

I ask myself why the response is so poor. The subjects? Monitoring is basic to REACT. I doubt if there are many in REACT that know all there is to know about monitoring. I know I don't and I have been in REACT for almost 15 years. GMRS is a tool that is used by many teams. I have been asked questions about GMRS for years at team meetings, council meetings and international conventions. I am taking both courses. Maybe afterward I will be able to answer all the questions I am

asked.

The cost? That might be a factor. I know that several team members who wanted to take the training just did not have the extra cash during December. Yet almost fifty percent of our team is registered for at least one course. Seven dollars is cheap for any kind of training. Red Cross is getting \$29.00 for CPR training now. The literature that I receive at work on conferences, seminars and the like have prices in excess of two hundred dollars.

Apathy? I hope not. Monitoring is much too important to REACT to have REACTers not care. I would hope that most REACTers would want to know as much about the major function of REACT, monitoring, and a major tool; GMRS, as they could. I know I do.

How can we improve? First off, if you haven't registered for the courses, do so. Secondly, talk it up. Bring it up at team and council meetings. Maybe you can get it to be a team project with the team picking up part of the cost. **Waukesha Area REACT** is picking up three

dollars of the cost upon successful completion of the course for those members who register through the team by July 31st. We have nine members who have registered for at least one course and several others who hope to shortly.

For years REACT members have complained there was no training, that International did nothing for members, that the work of task groups were never published. Now International is presenting a training program developed by the Training and Development Committee. If you really want training and other task group material published, the membership has to support the programs or International will not be able to continue them.

The first six months of the training program are history. The second six months are the future. I challenge all of REACT to have a thousand registrants in each of the two courses by Convention '92. **Do your part - take part - LEARN.**

George MacDonald LM #80  
Waukesha AREA REACT #4089  
Waukesha, Wisconsin

# Publicizing REACT



by PR Task Group

Just think, even calling into the authorities can generate PR for your Team. When the dispatcher answers, don't forget to say "This is XYZ REACT (fill in your Team name). We have a report..."

Be sure each agency you deal with has your current roster. Dispatchers can then easily verify your REACT status if they wish.

Here is something the Councils may be able to help the Teams with.

## Government PR

Does your Department of Highways publish a newsletter? How about the Department of Tourism? Your state/provincial police? Maybe others come to mind. Write and compliment them on their publication or a particular item in it. Send along a sharp, clear photocopy of the REACT - Best Western safety graphic. Ask them to include it in a future issue. This will benefit their readers by improving the success rate among emergency CB calls. Thank them. Be patient. It will take time to appear. Send Headquarters a copy when it does. Share your success with us. Try it. **IT PAYS.**

## Want Team publicity and fun too?

Form a REACT color party and participate in parades throughout your monitoring area. Your REACT flag and your Team banner are your basic ingredients. Add one or two national flags, a state/provincial flag and perhaps a municipal flag. Your Team is now in the parade business.

Small Teams can involve everyone in the color party. Larger Teams can add a marching unit and/or a mobile escort. A tip for the mobiles - use your flat magnetic signs or have a computer generated paper banner on the side of the vehicle, telling what you do.

Some Teams may be able to contribute a color party to a parade while other members provide radio communications for the same parade. You don't

have flags? You may be able to borrow them from other organizations.

REACT Lake Simcoe used this color party idea for the recent Highland Games Parade. Spectators responded enthusiastically to the REACT contingent. Five members formed the color party with a vehicle escort. The organizers were most appreciative. The Team is buying more REACT flags for future parades.

## Colorful PR

Baer REACT of California is using brilliant orange envelopes to mail it's award winning newsletter, *BAER Facts*. The 30th decal shows off really well on the orange background. Great, eye-catching use of REACT colors for effective, economical PR. Try it. **IT PAYS.** (Continued on page 20)



(Continued from page 19)

### Quality PR

High Country REACT of Colorado sends over 20 public safety agencies with which it works a quality "control" report on a regular basis. It indicates; total calls relayed, total hours monitored, total "lost" calls, etc. The agencies and Team members alike are reminded regularly by these reports just what a valuable service H.C.R. performs. (Hopefully, the media gets the reports too.)

H.C.R. also frequently provides a "Team Facts and Figures" (Team equipment capabilities) sheet, to the agencies.

A third sheet provides the Team roster, which includes member call signs for each radio service (GMRS, Amateur, etc.) applicable. It also indicates what radios (base, mobile,

portables) members have available for each band. This is essential for the agencies and great PR. Try it. **IT PAYS.**

Unity REACT, P.O. Box 358, Western Springs, IL 60558 recently included in their Team newspaper a copy of a pamphlet entitled "We're Out There." You might want to request a copy to see if this is the type of information your Team would like to make available in your community. Archie Hawley, P.R. Officer forwarded a copy of their newsletter that contains a great definition of the word "Team."

Gayland Kitch, Editor of the *Sooners REACTer*, has a new address: P.O. Box 6753, Moore, OK 73153-6753. Copies of newspapers and requests for exchange should be sent to the new address.

Mr. John Lamoureux, Editor of *The Sandhills REACT Times*, 205 1/2 North Macomb Street, Valentine, NE 69201, of Team #4822 just received their charter in September and desires to exchange newsletters. Their first issue is available and they desire editors names and address for exchange.

Suffolk County REACT Team #2371, P.O. Box 11352, Hauppauge, NY 11788-0703 again this year distributed a Christmas time yearly calendar for the use all year long.

For use at functions such as coffee stops and just general distribution, Mr. Al Moore of Brownwood REACT Team, 110 West Anderson, Brownwood, TX 76801 recently forwarded a 30 page booklet put out at no cost to their Team along with the local hospital and a TV station that deals with all aspects of "What To Do In An Emergency." Besides containing all of the emergency information in one booklet, it contains information on how to use CB radio and about their Team. If you contact Al Moore, he, most likely, will be glad to share a copy with you and share with you how their Team was able to publish and distribute this booklet free in every home in Brown County, Texas.

California REACT Teams and other interested Teams may want to contact the California Public Utilities Commission, 1145 Market Center, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103. Request the free copy of their "Lifesaver Quarterly" publication, the quarterly newsletter of California Operation Lifesaver, a public awareness program to eliminate railroad crossing accidents.

## New Teams Chartered

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| #4834 | Madison-Oneida REACT<br>Oneida, New York<br>01-02-92 |
| #4835 | Patrulla REACT<br>Trujillo, Puerto Rico<br>01-10-92  |
| #4836 | Hall of Fame REACT<br>Canton, Ohio<br>01-13-92       |
| #4837 | Channel Area REACT<br>Deer Park, Texas<br>02-18-92   |

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

## REACT FLAGS FLYING?

It's time for action. **REACT Month** will be here soon. So will "Safety Break" season, parade season, etc.

Does your Team have at least one **REACT** flag ready to fly on these special occasions? Maybe you need more. Now is the time to order so you will be ready.

Have you contacted your mayor, the police and fire chiefs, the public library, post office, courthouse and others for cooperation in flying your **REACT** flag(s) during **REACT Month**? Now is the time. Get extra mileage from your flag by flying it for a week at different locations.

Have you arranged with the media for coverage of the flag raising(s)? Send them a letter

now giving time(s), date(s) and location(s). Be sure, the mayor, etc., know of the media coverage. Give these officials a "Fact Sheet" about **REACT** and your Team now, so they can answer questions the media may ask them. Help officials to help your Team. Make them look good.

Mention to all involved that 1992 is **REACT**'s 30th anniversary. This milestone may arouse special interest among the media. Include a copy of "Getting Help by CB Radio" with other information you distribute to the media.

Your **REACT** flag-raising can bring your Team more good publicity than you imagined. Plan for it now.

*(Continued from page 12)*

stration Project Series," is a result of a six-year-old initiative called the National Community Volunteer Fire Prevention Program (NCVFPP). The program is jointly sponsored by USFA, NGA and NCJA.

USFA Administrator Olin L. Green states, "It is hoped that this report will inspire states, local governments, fire departments, the private sector and private citizens to develop community-based education and prevention programs to reduce fire-related deaths."

Each volume presents the experiences of NCVFPP project groups in a fire prevention program category: school-based, residential, commercial property, population-specific or special-focus programs.

Each provides descriptions of three successful NCVFPP programs and master materials from these programs that are available to groups wishing to conduct similar programs.

Projects included such groups as Business and Professional Women's Clubs, education

## EQUIPMENT BARGAINS

Make the recession work for your Team. If you've been wanting GMRS radios, now may be your chance.

Unfortunately, the recession has taken its toll on small businesses. Many of those businesses used two-way UHF business radios. Those radios are now available at bargain prices. Many are nearly new.

Check the newspapers for auctions or sales by liquidators. Talk to auctioneers and liquidators. Have Team members help with this project.

It can save your Team treasury hundreds of dollars. It can get your Team into GMRS soon, or increase the number of GMRS units available in emergencies, etc.

One pair of GMRS radios will get your Team started. They can be really valuable in a disaster or in your Team's community service work. Build toward the future now.

Similar bargains are likely available on VHF marine radios too. Take the opportunity to equip your Team while you can.

*(Continued on page 26)*

### Last Call!!!

**This will be the last issue of the REACTer you receive if your 1992 dues have not been paid yet.**

**Don't miss out on upcoming issues... mail your dues in today!!!**



Do you sometimes get discouraged because you, and maybe your whole Team, have "only" CB radio? Does all the talk about GMRS/UHF, VHF, or amateur being "the future" of radio and REACT make your CB seem obsolete?

Well, stick out your chest and hold your head high. Your CB radio is more important, more useful today than ever. Defy anyone to tell you otherwise.

How many motorists or boaters in your area carry only a CB radio when they travel? How many don't carry a CB, at least as a back-up for whatever other communications they have? Think about it and feel good.

Millions and millions of people rely heavily on CB Emergency Channel 9 for their safety as they travel on land or water. They will continue to do so for years. Until another radio service comes along that is as economical as CB, and does a better job, your CB radio and your Channel 9 monitoring will continue to matter - a lot - to a lot of travelers. Hang in there.

In a major emergency, your Team's CB radios and your operating skill will be in hot demand, too. When all the latest cellular phones "crash" from circuit overload, emergency officials will be mighty happy to

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## Prize Your CB Radio

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have your Team and its CB radios around. Did you read the item from the California Office of Emergency Services (OES) about CB radio (the REACTer, Sept/Oct., '91, page 10)?

Your Team's discipline and expertise in using its CB radios will be far more important to authorities than the type of radios it has. When telephones go out or overload in an emergency, as they almost invariably do, your CB radios will look awfully good to disaster officials. Be prepared for their call.

Obviously, CB is not the Cadillac of radio services. We know that. Rather, it is the Chevy or Ford truck, the work-horse of personal radio. It is what most people have and rely on in a travel or community emergency, particularly in our vast rural areas and smaller communities. Let's remember that.

Meanwhile, your Team can and should increase its CB capabilities, and its value to authorities, by using some SSB units. Remember, on SSB you have the equivalent of 12 watts legal power. SSB will punch through "hash" that AM will not.

SSB rigs are more affordable than GMRS radios, so they offer an economical way to "grow" your Team's radio options. Not every member need have sideband, at least not all at once. One pair will get your Team started. Maybe you already

have them. Work toward adding more.

Sideband is a radio mode many REACT Teams have overlooked. It is the easiest route to greater capability and reliability. It is the easiest to add or expand, especially for small Teams whose members have limited funds.

Speaking of funds, SSB involves no license fee and uses the CB antenna you already have. Nice bonuses you can take advantage of.

Practice using SSB alone and in combination with your AM units. Learn what works best, how SSB can enhance your Team's operations most.

Plan to add GMRS and amateur services too, as your Team can. Top Teams want to have as varied a range of radios at their disposal as possible. In a major emergency you'll need them all, and wish you had more.

A recent full-scale disaster exercise in a major city identified that clearly. Despite the number and variety of radios in use, the post-exercise critique cited communications problems as the most serious fault.

Yes, prize your CB radio. Whether the emergency is a highway mishap or a major disaster, your CB can save lives.

Isn't that why you're a **REACTer**?

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

## REACT's Own Kentucky Colonel

Louisville Metro-REACT Team South #1583, Louisville, Kentucky has something to be proud of. It seems the Kentucky Governor has named Team president Tom Currie, as a

member of "The Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels." This is the highest honor awarded by the state of Kentucky. Commissions for Kentucky Colonels are awarded for

contributions to the community, state or nation and for special achievements of all kinds. Although Mr. Currie is certainly not the first REACTer named as a Kentucky Colonel, his award is particularly significant because he was named a Kentucky Colonel for his accomplishments as a REACTer. In his 18 years as a REACT member, he has served as a Team and Council officer and as the State Council's representative to the KyVOAD. He is also active in the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). As a Kentucky Colonel, he is in good company. The list of Kentucky Colonels is a "Who's Who" of outstanding men and women around the world. The certificate signed by the Governor and Secretary of State and bearing the Great Seal of Kentucky, has hung on the walls of such distinguished leaders as President Lyndon B. Johnson, English Prime Minister Winston Churchill and America's first man in space, John Glenn. Congratulations goes out to Mr. Currie on this outstanding accomplishment.

### Classified Section

#### For Sale

**This Is A Special REACT Member GMRS Sale -- A 30% Savings! Your Choice:** Yaesu Portable GMRS; 6 chl, 4.5 watt, includes CTCSS, ant, bat, belt clip and dual desktop rapid charger. Yaesu Mobile GMRS; 12 chl, 25 watt, includes CTCSS, mounting hardware and HD microphone. Both GMRS are fully synthesized, include a three (3) years warranty, FCC GMRS license application, all programming and ready to go! Only \$389.95 plus S&H, offer expires soon! Check, MO, Visa or MC. Advantage Communications, Inc., 301 Laura, Wichita, KS 67211, phone (316)264-5005.

#### Miscellaneous

**Registered Disaster Specialist:** professional certification by examination for emergency communications personnel. For an application contact VASI, 3624 Citadel Drive North, Suite 309, Colorado Springs, CO 80909.

**Rabbit's Party! January 10, 1999:** San Antonio, Texas. More info, mail postcard to Rabbit's Party HQ., 1508 Vanderbilt, San Antonio, TX 78210.

**Emergency Communications Course:** a 13 lesson correspondence course on managing emergency communications for small organizations. Continuing Education Unites and credit towards ESTI Diploma program. \$33.00 from Emergency Services Technical Institute, 3624 Citadel Drive North, Suite 309, Colorado Springs, CO 80909.

Try placing a classified ad in the REACTer. Cost is only \$.45 per word for members and \$.65 per word for non-members. Phone numbers automatically count as two words. For further details telephone Headquarters at (316)263-2100. You can also fax your classified ad to Headquarters at (316)263-2100.

**Is Your Radio  
On Right Now?  
Let's All Make It  
A Goal To Monitor  
More During 1992!  
Lives Are Depending  
On It!!!**





**WORLD BAND RADIO**

By R.C. Watts

U.S. and Canadian "pirates" have been very active on weekends and holidays around 15055 KHz (afternoons) and 7415 KHz (evenings). When the FCC takes off the pirates turn on! Radio Caroline, the (in)famous off shore pirate was put out of commission when the M/V Ross Revenge radio ship ran aground in the U.K. She probably won't return this time, but that's been said before and she did.

The Voice of American (VOA) has installed shortwave transmitters in Botswana (Africa) to replace the Monrovia, Liberia relay station destroyed during the civil war. Good evenings in the U.S. on 7265 and 11940 KHz with English African Service. As always, frequencies are subject to change without notice. With the "cold war" ended, speculation is there will be a shake down of VOA, Radio Marti and Radio Free Europe/ Radio Liberty due to the federal budget crunch. The U.S. funded RIAS (Radio in American Sector) in Berlin is already being absorbed by a German broadcaster.

A religious organization in Upton, Kentucky has a FCC permit to construct a shortwave radio station. Not far south of Louisville so I'll probably go look at it someday. Radio

Miami International, currently programming via WHRI, WWCR and WRNO also have a short-wave construction permit. The medium wave AM band has been expanded to 1700 KHz. Only things up there now is the Caribbean Beacon (on Anguilla) and low power highway stations on 1610 KHz. Should be some moving to those ten new frequencies in the next couple of years.

One last item from the NASWA Journal; there is a new West Coast SWL Ham Net on 7268 KHz LSB at 18:00 UTC Saturdays. Net control is N6IFO in San Francisco. You don't need a license to listen in on amateur radio. While we're at it, let's listen to the REACT Ham Net and let International know if we hear it!

73 until next time.

**Team Events**

**Lake Palestine REACT #3129**, Athens, Texas participated in the Athens Christmas Parade held December 7, 1991. The parade was aired on the local cable channel. Great publicity for **Lake Palestine REACT** as well as other REACT Teams.

**Minnesota REACT Team Council**, Minnesota presented a new slogan for the state, at their November board meeting. "Wake Up Minnesota...REACT is Alive." The purpose of this slogan is to open yourself in communication, volunteerism and represent yourself as a member of REACT. REACT is alive!

**Donations Deserve Recognition**

A \$1,000.00 personal contribution has been received to be used for the REACT Safety Break Program. Life Member #435 Jim Koritzky of Bangor, Maine made the generous donation in memory of his wife Mary Lou.

A donation of 25 3 1/2 and 30 5 1/4 diskettes has been received from the Wisconsin State REACT Council.

A donation of 50 5 1/4 diskettes has been received from George and Jacki MacDonald of Pewaukee, Wisconsin.

An American flag has been donated to Headquarters from Milwaukee Area REACT Service #4712, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

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

## Calendar of Events

**April 11, 1992** - Wisconsin Council of REACT Teams General Meeting will be held at the Red Cross building in Waukesha, WI. For further details please contact the a council representative.

**April 26, 1992** - Minnesota REACT Team Council Meeting and Spring Workshop. For further details please contact the Council.

**May 3, 1992** - Southern California REACT Council Meeting will be hosted by REACT of Greater Long Beach #C059. For further details please contact the host team or Larry Luebben, President of SCRC.

**May 5, 1992** - Garden State Council of REACT Teams, Inc., Meeting. The meeting will be held at the Old Bridge P.A.C.E.R.S. Headquarters and hosted by Somerset County REACT #4259. For further details please contact the host team or a council representative.

**May 17, 1992** - Upstate New York REACT Council Meeting to be held in Binghamton, NY. For further details please contact Nelda Shoemaker, President of Triple Cities REACT #2202 at 607/797-4407.

**Send your submissions on meetings and Council activities to REACT International, Inc. Here is your chance to let fellow REACTers know what you have planned in the future.**

**May 23-24, 1992** - Wayne County REACT #C282 Jamboree and Camp-O-Rama. This event will be held at the fairgrounds in Wooster, Ohio. For further details please contact the team at P.O. Box 281, Wooster, OH 44691.

**June 19-21, 1992** - 2nd Annual California Weekender hosted by Southwestern REACT of San Diego #C475. All REACTers are welcomed to come. Response needed by June 12, 1992. For further details please contact Jesse Mauk at 619/274-8840 or John Pfingsten at 619/585-8283.

**June 27, 1992** - Texas State REACT Council Meeting hosted by Rockwell County REACT #4683. For further information please contact the host team or a council representative.

**July 20-23, 1992** - REACT International Convention to be held in Anderson, Indiana. Further details can be found in this issue of the REACTer.

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### Other Events

**April 26 - May 2, 1992** - National Volunteer Week.

(Continued from page 21)

associations, Kiwanis Clubs, American Red Cross chapters, Future Farmers of America, historic preservation organizations and hospital burn units.

Designed for use with community volunteer organizations, the guides provide program organizers ways to select specific fire-related problems in their community, identify a community's unique requirements and select program designs and materials.

Further information is available from the USFA, 16825 South Seton Ave., Emmitsburg, MD 21727.

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### Team Events

**Porterville REACT #2517**, Porterville, California was busy in 1991. They held Safety Breaks on President's Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day and Thanksgiving. The Team also provided traffic control and communications for the St. Patrick's Day Marathon. May was #2517's largest project, traffic control and pedestrian safety for the Porterville Junior Livestock Fair. June brought the Sober Graduation Party for all high school seniors and the Moonlight Fly-In at the airport. July bore the Team handling communications for the Exchange Club Community Fireworks show. October was the busiest month with the traffic control and pedestrian safety at the Native American Pow Wow, Stagecoach Stampede and the Springville Apple Festival. December ended off a busy year with the Children's Christmas Parade down Main Street.



## Major REACT Communication Exercise

Could Headquarters get a message to all or most REACT Teams in a major disaster?

The time to try, of course, was under normal conditions. We did, on February 4, 1992. It was a very fitting event for an emergency communications organization marking its 30th anniversary.

Jim Taege of Kettle Moraine REACT #3866, Lannon, Wisconsin and a PR Task Group member, was the "culprit" who caused all this activity - without even knowing it. Jim spied a notice in *USA Weekend* about that publication's "Make A Difference" award.

"Make A Difference" was scheduled for February 29 (Leap Day). Headquarters got Jim's tip on January 31. Thoughts turned first to a Team/Council mailing (out of habit). However, a mailing would miss many Febru-

ary Team meetings so that would be a waste of precious funds.

Suddenly, lights began flashing. Let's try existing REACT communications links. It would be free, and it would test our ability to get far more urgent comms to Teams/Councils in a major emergency.

Jim's message would go out over the REACT computer BBS. GMRS networks would be utilized. CB radio, and telephone "fan outs" would get the word to still more Teams. The message also went out in the next regular Council mailing, for incorporating help in contacting Teams by the Council's.

Exercise plans originally included using the REACT amateur network too. It would pass the message to REACT Teams worldwide. An apparent hitch in FCC regulations, however, made it impossible for the amateurs to participate on this occasion.

The jury is still out on just how successful the exercise was.

Early returns look good. We'll update you later. Meanwhile, your Team can help us measure our success.

Please return the survey sheet in your current Team Topics packet, which your Team should receive about the same time as your Magazine. Do it today. Be sure your Team is counted in the results. Send the survey sheet to: REACT Exercise, P.O. Box 998, Wichita, KS 67201. Better yet, fax it to (316)263-2118.

Thanks for helping us to evaluate the results of this exercise. (We hope your Teams wins an award.) Thanks to Jim Taege for making it all happen.

Hear Ye!

Hear Ye!

### REACT INTERNATIONAL'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY PIN OR PATCH



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The Board of Directors of REACT International is pleased to inform you that Mr. Al Hanger of Virginia will officially represent our organization at the 14th Annual National Hurricane Conference. This conference is April 8-10, 1992 and will be held in Norfolk, Virginia. There will be speakers and numerous workshops including the following: Inter-governmental Coordination and Mutual Aid Agreements, Traffic Control During a Hurricane Evacuation and Emergency Operation Centers. Your Board looks forward to Al's report and if possible, will have the information he acquires available at our July Convention in Anderson, Indiana.

Thanks Al for your REACTing!



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