



# the REACTer

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

March/April 1993

Price \$2.50



In recognition of corporate sponsorship, Best Western International President, Mr. Ron Evans, was recently presented a plaque on behalf of **REACT International, Inc.**, by Walter Stewart, President of **Arizona State REACT Council**. The plaque was presented at Best Western Corporate Headquarters, Phoenix, Arizona. Present at the presentation were from left to right, Walter Stewart, President of the **Arizona State REACT Council**, Ron Evans, President of Best Western International and Gene McLemore, 2nd Vice President of the **Arizona State REACT Council**.

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Wichita, KS 67201

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## IN THIS ISSUE...

**The Future? It's Here!**

**May Is REACT Month**

**Evaluation of Hurricane Andrew**

**BBSing For Fun**

**REACTing To A Big One**

**REACT Regains Germany**

# The Future? It's Here!

by Ron McCracken

Keep up, or get run over. That's the message, loud and clear.

The writing is on the wall, and we must heed the message or *REACT* will go the way of the mighty dinosaur. The choice is ours.

USA Today recently chartered the soaring sales of cellular phones. The trend will continue. Prices are plunging. Cellular is now easily affordable.

Businesses give them away as promotional prizes. Manufacturers will soon "dump" their huge inventories on to the market at bargain basement prices. They want to launch the next generation of cellular: digital.

Popular Communications (Feb. 1993, page 12) featured a new Sony product, "Pyxis." It fits in your palm. It transmits a signal via satellite directly to Coast Guard or other rescue agencies.

The signal pinpoints your location to within 100 yards - anywhere in the world! Right now, it costs \$1,200 but we all know that price will plummet quickly.

Technology is advancing by quantum leaps. *REACT* can advance with it, or be left on the sidelines. We can welcome its improvements or hide our heads in the sand.

My CB is on 24 hours daily, but Emergency Channel 9 is increasingly quiet. Cellular is gradually replacing CB. Over the next few years that transition will likely be complete.

Devices like Sony's new "Pyxis" will have a major impact on *REACT*'s role in search and rescue, too. We can be angry, or we can rejoice that the new technology will save more lives by speeding rescues.

Oh, keep monitoring Emergency Channel 9. Millions of travellers still need and rely on *REACT*. They will continue to do so for some time yet. Don't fail them.

Meanwhile, prepare to meet the future. Some *REACT* Teams are already using cellular themselves as an instant link to emergency services from events where they provide safety communications.

*REACT*ers with cellular phones can pick up calls on CB while mobile and relay them directly to authorities from their vehicles. They are capitalizing on the new technologies to improve their service to the travelling public.

Continue or begin to upgrade your Team's GMRS capability. Encourage some on your Team to obtain their novice (or higher) amateur licenses. Both will be increasingly important to Teams, along with CB, as the *REACT* of the future emerges.

No need at all to fear the future. Just be sure your Team is getting ready for it, now.

As *REACT*'s role in highway emergencies gradually changes, its role in disaster communications will increase greatly. Hurricane Andrew ushered in a whole new era in the history of *REACT*.

After every disaster preparedness exercise, inadequate communications always heads the list of weaknesses. Those are controlled situations under ideal conditions. In the real thing, as the Oakland earthquake and Hurricane Hugo and

Andrew demonstrated, communication problems are always far worse.

Andrew was a watershed event. Disaster management will never be the same again. Are we ready?

*REACT* Teams in Florida performed honorably after Andrew. Several *REACT* Councils have begun to strengthen their disaster readiness plans in light of Andrew's hard lessons.

NWS predicts more numerous and more severe hurricanes this year and in the future on the east coast. USGS scientists predict a major earthquake within five years on the west coast.

*REACT* has its work cut out for it. Is your Team preparing for its new role? Is your Council developing a mutual aid pact with neighboring Councils?

Use your CB Emergency Channel 9 monitoring and your public events communications to keep your Team's radio skills at their peak. Invite the Emergency Planning Officer for your locality to outline to your *REACT* Team/Council its specific task(s) in a disaster. Find out what training is available to your group through his office and arrange to take it.

*REACT*'s fourth decade promises to be its best yet. Help your Team and Council in every way you can prepare for the new opportunities coming our way. Be ready to contribute to the new communications needs of your own community and those nearby.

The time to begin adapting to the changing role of *REACT* is this very day. *REACT* Teams have the experience, the expertise to make fundamental contributions to disaster communications.

Act now. Get in on the ground floor of the new disaster management system that is unfolding. What an opportunity!

Congratulations to the *REACT* Teams and Councils everywhere that are taking the lead in preparing for tomorrow today.

## Table of Contents

Presidents Perspective.....	2
Headquarters Report.....	3
Publications Promoting	
REACT Now On Sale.....	3
May Is REACT Month For 1993.....	4
Request For "May Is REACT Month"	
Proclamation.....	5
Radio Public Service Announcement.....	6
In Memory of Rosel H. Hyde.....	7
Evaluation of Hurricane Andrew.....	8
Life Membership Corner.....	9
Tech Tips.....	9
BBSing For Fun.....	10
Calendar Of Events.....	11
REACTing To A Big One.....	11
Training & Development Committee	
- Train for the Future.....	12
1993 REACT International	
Convention - San Diego Bound.....	14
A Field Directors Comments.....	15
32 New REACT Teams.....	15
Publicizing REACT.....	16
501(c)(3) Exemptions Revoked.....	17
REACT Meeting Interrupted	
By Disturbance.....	17
New Teams Chartered.....	17
Texas Teams Get Safety Break Grant.....	18
REACT Regains Germany.....	18
Rescue 911 Search Continues.....	18
REACT Affiliates Work Together.....	19
New FCC Fines Hurt.....	19
World Band Radio.....	21
Preparedness Exercises For	
CB Equipped Teams.....	22
REACT Month "Orange Lite Specials".....	23
REACT Services Diversified	
#4813 Recognized.....	23
Belmont County REACT	
Team #2373 Honored.....	Back Cover
Team Events.....	Throughout
Advertisers	
Wilson Antenna.....	7
COMMtronics Engineering.....	19
Popular Communications.....	20

the  
**REACTer**  
(ISSN 1055-9167)

March/April 1993  
Vol. 27, No. 2

*the REACTer subscriptions are available at \$11.00 per year in U.S.A. (Canada - \$14.00 U.S. dollars).*

*the REACTer is the official publication of REACT International, Inc., a non-profit 501(c)(3) public service organization. REACT stands for Radio Emergency Associated Communications Teams. This publication is provided to our dues paying members (one per household) and other interested parties. It is published six (6) times annually. Average distribution for 1992 was 8,500 copies with 95% USA and the remainder to Canada, United Kingdom, Trinidad & Tobago and U.S. territories. Offices: REACT International, Inc., 242 Cleveland, Wichita, Kansas 67214 (USA). Mailing address: REACT International, Inc., P.O. Box 998, Wichita, Kansas 67201 (USA), phone (316)263-2100. Deanne Earwood, Office Manager and Editor. Entire contents copyright 1993. Authorized REACT Councils and Teams may reproduce articles in their entirety, giving proper credit. the REACTer assumes no responsibility for submitted articles, manuscripts, photographs or drawings, such items cannot be returned. Please allow 6 weeks for change of address and delivery of the first issue.*

# Headquarters Report

Both Lynda and I have kept busy these past few months. The Team renewal process for 1993 is now almost complete. It is just about time to find out what Teams are winners in the 1993 Early Bird Renewal Contest. Headquarters wishes to thank all the sponsors who contributed this year. Those sponsors include: Antenna Specialists Company, Cobra Electronics, Firestik Antenna Company, Grove Enterprises, Inc., Hustler Antenna Company, K40 Electronics and Midland International Corporation.

**REACT Month for 1993** is just around the corner. In this issue of *the REACTer* you will find valuable information for your Team's use in promoting **REACT Month**.

You can also look forward to the next issue of the Team Topics, scheduled to be mailed in mid-March. This Team Topics is full of valuable information to help your Team and members promote **May Is REACT Month**. In this issue will also be a ballot for your members

to vote on the Team liability and bonding insurance. In the past the percentage of **REACT** Teams' voting on specific items has been low. Make sure your Team votes. Remember, every vote counts!

You might notice some changes in *the REACTer* with this issue. The staff and Board of Directors hope that these changes are as eye pleasing to you as they were to us.

Please help welcome our newest advertisers, COMMtronics Engineering and Wilson Antenna. Remember, when your looking to purchase new equipment and accessories to contact *the REACTer* advertisers first.

Headquarters appreciates all the fine articles we receive for *the REACTer*. keep them coming. In submitting your articles your letting other **REACT** Teams and Councils know what your doing. It is a great way to exchange ideas. This is your magazine.

Keep up the great work, be safe and remember, keep **REACT** ing!

## Publications Promoting **REACT Now On Sale**

Thanks to the efforts of R.K. Leef, Life Member #453, information on **REACT** can now be seen by literally hundreds of thousands of individuals.

If you are in your local Radio Shack or other independent radio and electronics store pick up a copy of the 1993 Edition of Police Call - The Radio Guide. Police Call is an excellent reference book and the largest selling frequency guide in the world, with a circulation of over 300,000.

Another excellent book on communications Mobile 2-Way Radio Communications is also being offered by radio and electronic stores, including

Radio Shack. Again, Mobile 2-Way Radio Communications mentions the **REACT** program.

**REACT** International, Inc. extends a warm thank you to the efforts of Mr. Leef who worked closely with both publications, in securing the references to **REACT**.

**REACT** also extends a warm thank you to Gene Hughes, Editor of Police Call and Gordon West, Editor of Mobile 2-Way Radio Communications. This is another great tool for getting the word out about **REACT** and generating new members.



## MAY IS REACT MONTH FOR 1993



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, Task Group Leader.

**Press release(s)** detailing your Team's recognition of May as **REACT Month**, proclamation(s) received, and Memorial Day activities; separate releases may be created. 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**."

**Public Service Announcements (PSA) Radio.** The sample radio PSA script shown in this issue 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 exclu-

sive 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** order form). The station can add your Team name and contact number to the PSA with their by-line generating equipment while it's running. Or you can order the PSA personalized from **REACT** Headquar-

ters. 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, Inc. 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."*

# 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 two-way 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 (if your Team is involved) sponsor "Highway Safety Coffee Breaks," 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. (Providing refreshments to weary drivers, if your Team has Safety Breaks).

NOW, THEREFORE, I \_\_\_\_\_ (Mayor's/Governor's name), do hereby designate the month of MAY, 1993 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 the 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, 1993.

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

(Retype with your Teams information included)

## Team Events

Allen County REACT #C322, Lima, Ohio had a very active 1992. In January the Team had 24 members and ended December with 33 members. Team members participated in the Klondike Derby For The Boy Scouts, Walk America and an Easter Safety Break to name just a few activities during the first months of 1992. Other events included an antique car show, the Spencerville Antique Fire Equipment Parade, the Labor Day Parade and the Johnny Appleseed Apple Butter Festival.

Besides these functions and many more, members patrolled Lincoln Park in July, August and September during dances held on Friday nights. During September and November football games the Team helped direct traffic at the Lima Stadium.

On Saturday nights, from April to September, 16 units drove 14,420 miles and donated 629 hours to run road patrol for the Ohio State Patrol.

During their busy year performing normal Team events, members helped with a major fire in Lima, flash flooding in the county and assisted in traffic control for over 150 accidents.

REACT Suroeste, Inc., #4027, Yauco, Puerto Rico was very busy during the first half of 1992. In conjunction with REACT Month in May, the Team was honored by a proclamation from the city mayor. May also brought floods to the region. During the floods, the disaster team was activated by the American Red Cross.

After over a year of meetings with town officials, members of #4027 were responsible for the assignment of a new, fully equipped, fire truck and building extension to house it, for the community.



**GET READY FOR  
SAFETY BREAK '93  
IN REACT MONTH**

## Team Events

**REACT Jersey Team #5037**, Channel Islands is alive and working hard in the United Kingdom. Team members found themselves busy in August working disaster relief during a flash flood. Members also worked the Aventi-Cycle Ride as well as the Jersey Rally.

**Peninsula REACT of Virginia, Inc., #2037**, Newport News, Virginia is establishing a relationship with the Peninsula chapter of CCATS (Concerned Citizens Advocating Traffic Safety). This is part of an effort to provide publicity for **REACT** in the Hampton Roads area of Virginia and also information on new legislation in the works in the state capital. Under the new agreement **REACT** will be able to work closer with the local communities in areas of traffic safety.

**Douglas County REACT #C663**, Omaha, Nebraska ended 1992 on a positive note with an increase in the Team membership. The Team also reported an increase in activities and monitoring hours. In all, a total of 405 calls were answered during a total of 1,566 hours. Along with this, other team activities, tornado watches, parades, runs, etc., totalled 2,490 hours, and 13,841 miles. Team members reported an increased interest in CB radio and calls being reported over Channel 9.



### RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

#### Don't Drive Alone Have A Traveling Companion

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

\_\_\_\_\_ **REACT Team,**  
(insert your Team name)

affiliated with **REACT International, Inc.**, monitors CB EMERGENCY Channel 9 for calls requesting assistance. Today's **REACT** Teams also provide communications for various local community events, using a variety of authorized frequencies. Many **REACT** Teams sponsor Highway Coffee Safety Breaks, during the summer holiday months.

If your interested in public service and want the satisfaction of knowing your efforts make a difference in your community...

#### Contact

\_\_\_\_\_ **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)

**Cedar-Loo REACT #4748**, Waterloo, Iowa was honored to provide crowd and traffic control as well as participating as parade marshall for the Five Sullivan Brothers' Parade held on November 14, 1992. The parade was just a part of a multi-function, two day event; to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the sinking of the U.S.S. Juneau, at the battle of Gaudacanal and the deaths of all 5 Sullivan brothers from Waterloo.

**Cedar-Loo REACT** was the only one of three radio groups in the area, asked to provide these services and Team members were proud to lend a hand.

**San Angelo REACT, Inc., #3387**, San Angelo, Texas established contact with Santa via a special GMRS link on December 22, 1992. Several small patients of Shannon and Angelo Community hospitals was able to talk to Santa and give him their Christmas lists direct from their beds. Of course, elves station at each hospital helped by obtaining information on each child, which made the conversations to Santa more personal.

**REACT Santa** (Gary Pittman) did an outstanding job with great "ho,ho,ho." **San Angelo REACT** also sponsored three angles for the Salvation Army with clothing, toys, etc.

## Team Events

Door County *REACT* #4755, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, began 1993 with a membership drive. Team members have also been actively publicizing the *REACT* program.

A major goal on the Teams' agenda is to increase monitoring during 1993. Plans are already in progress to train the membership in CPR. Team members are also looking at expanding their communications capabilities with the addition of GMRS.

Several events are planned throughout 1993 including, a May Safety Break and the June Jubilee. Team #4755 will be aiding Fond Du Lac County *REACT* #4364 with the Walleye Weekend.

## In Memory of Rosel H. Hyde

Rosel H. Hyde, past *REACT* International, Inc., Board of Director and former chairman of the Federal Communications Commission passed away December 19, 1992.

Mr. Hyde served with the FCC from its founding in 1934 until 1969 when he retired from government service.

Mr. Hyde joined the *REACT* Board of Directors in 1978. During his term as a director, Mr. Hyde attended the Atlanta *REACT* Convention, where the proposal was prepared for *REACT* - United Kingdom.



# IS YOUR RADIO ON?



## World's Most Powerful CB\* and Amateur Mobile Antenna\*

Lockheed Corp. Test Shows  
**Wilson 1000** CB Antenna Has  
58% More Gain Than The  
K40 Antenna (on channel 40).

In tests conducted by Lockheed Corporation, one of the world's largest Aerospace Companies, at their Rye Canyon Laboratory and Antenna Test Range, the Wilson 1000 was found to have 58% more power gain than the K40 Electronics Company, K40 CB Antenna. This means that the Wilson 1000 gives you 58% more gain on both transmit and receive. Now you can instantly increase your operating range by using a Wilson 1000.

Guaranteed To Transmit and Receive  
Farther Than Any Other Mobile  
CB Antenna or Your Money Back\*\*  
*New Design*

The Wilson 1000 higher gain performance is a result of new design developments that bring you the most powerful CB base loaded antenna available.

### Why Wilson 1000 Performs Better

Many CB antennas lose more than 50% of the power put into them. The power is wasted as heat loss in the plastic inside the coil form and not radiated as radio waves.

We have designed a new coil form which suspends the coil in air and still retains the rigidity needed for support. This new design eliminates 95% of the dielectric losses. We feel that this new design is so unique that we have filed a patent application on it.

In addition, we use 30 Ga. silver plated wire to reduce resistive losses to a minimum.

In order to handle higher power for amateur use, we used the more efficient direct coupling method of matching, rather than the lossy capacitor coupling. With this method the Wilson 1000 will handle 3000 watts of power.

### The Best You Can Buy

So far you have read about why the Wilson 1000 performs better, but it is also one of the most rugged antennas you can buy. It is made from high impact thermoplastics with ultraviolet protection. The threaded body mount and coil threads are stainless steel; the whip is tapered 17-7 ph. stainless steel. All of these reasons are why it is the best CB antenna on the market today, and we guarantee to you that it will outperform any CB antenna (K40, Formula 1, you name it) or your money back!

\*Inductively base loaded antenna  
\*\*Call for details.

### Lockheed - California Company

A Division of Lockheed Corporation  
Burbank, California 91520

Aug. 21, 1987

Wilson Antenna Company Inc.  
3 Bursat Way Unit A-10  
Green Valley Commerce Center  
Henderson, Nevada 89015

Subject: Comparative Gain Testing of Citizen's Band Antennas  
Ref: Rye Canyon Antenna Lab File #070529

We have completed relative gain measurements of your model 1000 antenna using the K40 antenna as the reference. The test was conducted with the antennas mounted on a 15' ground plane with a separation of greater than 300' between the transmit and test antennas. The antennas were tuned by the standard VSWR method. The results of the test are tabulated below:

FREQUENCY (MHz)	RELATIVE GAIN (dB)	RELATIVE POWER GAIN (%)
26.998	1.30	36
27.015	1.30	36
27.086	1.48	40
27.118	1.80	48
27.186	1.80	48
27.215	1.80	48
27.286	1.75	46
27.315	1.95	52
27.386	2.00	54
27.408	2.00	54

Individual test results may vary upon actual use.

**CALL TODAY**  
TOLL FREE: 1-800-541-6116  
FOR YOUR NEAREST DEALER  
**Wilson 1000**  
Available in Black or White

Roof Top Mount .....59<sup>95</sup>  
Trunk Lip Mount .....69<sup>95</sup>  
Magnetic Mount .....79<sup>95</sup>  
Wilson 2000 Trucker.....59<sup>95</sup>  
DEALERS Exclusive dealer areas still open

**Wilson**  
ANTENNA INC.  
1181 GRIER DR., STE. A  
LAS VEGAS, NV 89119

**58%  
MORE  
POWER GAIN  
THAN THE  
K40**

# Evaluation of Hurricane Andrew

By Jerry Rowton, President  
Florida Council of REACT Teams, Inc.

The Florida REACT Council was heavily involved in Hurricane Andrew from the very beginning. All Officers were put on alert 48 hours before the storm hit landfall. Twelve hours before landfall we were contacted by Emergency Management in Brevard County (131 miles north of Dade County) to start manning the Command Center. We could be in better control of the situation since we still didn't know where the storm would hit. Manning the Center was not only the Council President & 2nd Vice President, but teams members from North Brevard REACT #2562 and Space Coast REACT #4577 as well. In all over 100 REACT man hours were involved.

We also began notifying Teams within a 300 mile radius of south Florida to standby and see how many units, personnel and equipment we would have if needed. It became evident 8 hours before landfall, we had a major problem with people finding food and shelter as they evacuated out of south Florida. Reports were coming in as far north as Gainesville, Daytona and Jacksonville. All the rest areas were jammed. We notified all Teams along the interstate highways to set up coffee breaks. We had excellent participation. The largest set-up was on I-95 north bound in Palm Bay where a joint effort between Space Coast, North Brevard & Brevard

C.A.R.E.S. REACT #4743 cared for thousands of evacuees over a 72 hour period. Others set up on I-75 and all along I-95. After the devastation was known, the Council tried to contact our Teams in south Florida to no avail. After 6 days we contacted Broward County REACT #4694, which was manning shelters in schools. CB & GMRS communication was basically non-existent. A few mobiles were operating. Dade County REACT #4810 was contacted after 21 days. All members homes and businesses were either destroyed or heavily damaged.

Council and Teams from all over the country began contacting me to see if they could assist. We told them not to send any personnel or equipment until we could see where they were needed. They were requested to send clothes, money, baby goods, soap, toothbrushes, etc., through the Salvation Army. We want to thank those Teams and Councils for their generosity.

Since Hurricane Andrew, the Council has gained a new insight in disaster preparedness and is revamping its' procedures. The following is a list of some of the changes.

1. Have an Emergency Manager located in the Center of Florida with a back up.
2. Each Team will have contact infor-

mation, besides the Team President.

3. Have emergency equipment located in Central Florida that could respond within 6 hours.

4. Have a list of emergency capabilities of each Team.

5. Notify Alabama and Georgia REACT Teams for assistance, if needed to do their proximity to Florida.

6. Contact REACT International, Inc., to set up an Emergency Response Net, in case we need further assistance.

We have learned a lot through sharing with other organizations and survivors that will make us a better support group to bolster Emergency Management. The biggest thing we learned through all the seminars, reviews, meetings, etc., was we must get a strike Team into the area as soon as we can before any agency responds with a request. Team participation would be after the danger for the Team to go in and before major road blocks are set up. The Team must be self sufficient for at least 7 to 10 days, with GMRS, CB and Ham capabilities if possible. The Team must also be able to provide their own security. This Team would go in and start the communication. It was noted that communication was practically zero for over 5 days and 10 days ran 25% reliability. It took over a month before the majority of the affected areas had adequate communications.

The Florida REACT Council has set up a task committee and will report back at the next council meeting in May with final recommendations. One final note, Florida MUST recruit more Teams in all areas of the state for better coverage. Seventeen Teams are not enough to cover Florida properly.





## Life Membership Corner

Greetings to Life Members:

In this article for the March/April issue of the International newsletter, I am going to be very short, but have some statistics not reported on in the January/February issue.

These relate to the participation of Teams in the voting of the items on restructuring and field director term of office. Below is the breakdown by state:

I know we have life members in more than 17% of our Teams. I know that more than 17% of our Teams have numerous activities, but to think that there are only 17% of the Teams interested in what goes on and how things are run in *REACT* is just a little hard to compute.

I really hope that we have a better showing than this in the upcoming field

director elections.

REACTfully yours,

R.T. Gamble, LM #226  
Chairperson  
Life Member Committee  
P.O. Box 63  
Kirkland, WA 98083-0063  
(206)823-8129



STATE	TEAMS	VOTED	% VOTED
AL	3	0	0
AK	3	0	0
AZ	2	2	100
AR	7	0	0
CA	76	12	16
CO	5	0	0
CT	1	0	0
DE	1	0	0
DC	1	0	0
FL	19	3	16
GA	3	0	0
HI	2	0	0
ID	2	0	0
IL	19	5	26
IN	28	7	25
IA	3	2	67
KS	6	1	17
KY	13	0	0
LA	2	0	0
ME	2	1	50
MD	14	4	29
MA	8	0	0
MI	19	2	11
MN	8	1	13
MS	4	1	25
MO	4	1	25
MT	1	0	0
NE	10	3	30
NV	2	1	50
NH	4	1	25
NJ	17	4	24
NM	1	0	0
NY	23	4	17
NC	16	1	6
ND	1	0	0
OH	42	7	17
OK	7	1	14
OR	4	0	0
PA	35	3	9
PR	19	1	5
RI	1	1	100
SC	5	0	0
SD	1	0	0
TN	5	0	0
TX	27	6	22
UT	2	1	50
VT	1	1	100
VA	20	8	40
WA	17	3	18
WV	8	0	0
WI	16	7	44
WY	0	0	0
CANADA	19	4	21
UK	15	0	0
W. INDIES	1	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>17%</b>



Avoid handling any radio by its antenna. The exterior may seem unharmed but interior damage can occur unnoticed.

Gently tighten radio baseplate screws every few months. Handling and vibration can loosen them. That will cause intermittent battery contact and poor operation.

Turn your radio OFF when in its charger.

Take NiCad batteries to your dealer for a check up if they won't hold a charge for over 8 hours. In regular use a battery should last about 18 months. Have them checked to save money. They may not be "dead".

Swap components (antenna, battery, charger) with a similar unit to pinpoint a radio problem before you take it to your repair shop.

If control knobs loosen, head for your radio shop at once to avoid internal damage.

Leather cases and plastic holders help prevent costly impact damage.



# BBSing For Fun

by Ken Green, President  
Sedgwick County REACT #4208

## Virus Protection

Having just finished reading the article "The Great Virus Scare" from the February issue of *Compute*, I felt the need to talk about some of the steps you should take to protect yourself from the potential of contracting one. First the question what is a computer virus? Philip Chien describes it as a program that attaches itself to another program. It then replicates itself and spreads to other programs. As programs are shared, the virus spreads geometrically, infecting more and more computers. At some point, the virus activates and performs its damage. This can range from a simple prank to erasure of all the files on the computer's hard drive. In all cases, viruses are programs that were written by an outlaw - a hacker who specifically sets out to damage other people's computers.

Second question is, how do I get a virus? Any program you run on your computer has the chance of containing a virus. Some have a greater chance of containing one than others such as those you might download from a BBS. There have even been cases that have shown that even commercial programs have the potential of containing one but to a much lesser chance. In any case you must execute the file with the virus to begin the damage. For this reason, there are steps you can take to protect yourself from contraction of a virus.

How do I protect my computer from possible damage? There are several scanning programs on the market that are designed to search your files on your hard drive looking for all the known virus codes. Once found the file names are reported. In some cases the code is removed from the infected file. My recommendation is to delete the infected file and to restore the file from a backup of the original. This brings up the best first line defense. Once you are sure you have no infected files on your hard drive you should make regular backups of all

of your files on a regular bases. To make sure you have no viruses on your hard drive you should scan it before backing up your files. You should also scan any new software prior to running it on your computer. For us in the world of BBS usage we have an added problem, compressed files. Zipped or Archived files add to the woes of the average scanning programs. Due to the way these files compress codes, it makes it impossible for the scanner to recognize the known viruses it is designed to spot. This means you must first unzip or deArc the file before scanning. I also recommend whenever possible to download files onto a floppy disk. If room permits unzip the file to a floppy as well, due to the size of some of these files that may

not be possible. Never assume that just because you know the person you are getting the file from that it can't be infected. As an example, a User of our BBS uploaded a file containing at least three known viruses. One of our *REACT* users downloaded it and infected his computer before we were aware of it. The file has since been removed from our BBS and steps have been taken to ensure scanning is done on all uploaded files now but not until after its damage was done. The *REACT*er was forced to reformat his hard drive and restore all of his old files from his last backup. This took him several hours and recreation of any file he had changed since his last backup.

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The following is an excerpt from *Compute*.

## Virus Paranoia

One year ago, the name Michelangelo panicked hundreds of thousands of computer owners. With the fires of hysteria fanned by news broadcasts and eager computer salespeople, thousands of antivirus programs were sold. Michelangelo's trigger date came and went with barely a whimper. A couple of computers turned out to be infected, and a few users found out that they had made lucky investments - successfully eliminating viruses, including Michelangelo, before they activated. But for the most part, users wondered what the commotion was all about.

Most of the media reports described the potential damage by viruses in great detail but overstated the danger, implying that any computer could be infected and damaged by this one particular virus. The few stories that informed users that only certain people might be effected were lost in the flood of sensationalist stories.

The fake virus is an offshoot of virus

paranoia. A disgruntled employee might purposely erase his or her computer's drives, claiming that a virus destroyed the system. A careful examination of the computer's remaining contents can often determine whether or not there was actually a virus that affected the computer.

A good backup program is just as important as a virus detector, and using both programs should be a regular habit. However, users aren't as conscious of the potential damages from not backing up their computers. While your hard disk is always at risk from a virus attack, it's also at risk for accidental erasure. If your hard drive was erased by a virus, you should be aware that your backup probably also includes the same virus and must be carefully disinfected with an antivirus program to prevent your data from being erased again.

No matter how good a virus detector you have, you still need a good set of backups.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**March 27 - 28, 1993** - New Jersey State REACT Council 4th Annual Convention. For further details please contact a council representative.

**April 1, 1993** - Deadline for article and advertising submission in the REACTer magazine.

**April 3 - 4, 1993** - Washington State REACT Council meeting. Hosted by Evergreen REACT #2869. For further details please contact the host team or a council representative.

**April 10, 1993** - Oklahoma State REACT Council meeting. For further details please contact a council representative.

**April 17, 1993** - Wisconsin Council of REACT Teams meeting. For further details please contact a Council representative.

**April 18, 1993** - Minnesota REACT Team Council meeting. For further details please contact a Council representative.

**April 18 - 24, 1993** - National Volunteer Week

**May, 1993** - REACT Month.

**May 2, 1993** - Southern California State REACT Council meeting. For further details contact a council representative.

**May 16, 1993** - Upstate New York REACT Council meeting. For further details please contact Reginald Hanson, Secretary of the USNYRC at (315)328-4309.

**May 16, 1993** - Kentucky State REACT Council meeting. Hosted by Louisville METRO-REACT Team East. For further details please contact the host team or a council representative.

**May 23, 1993** - North Carolina REACT Council meeting. Hosted by Wake County REACT. For further details please contact the host team or a council representative.

**May 31, 1993** - Memorial Day. Headquarters will be closed.

**June 1, 1993** - Deadline for article and advertising submission in the REACTer magazine.

**June 26 - 27, 1993** - Texas State REACT Council meeting & Field Day Activities. For further details please contact a Council representative.

**July 10, 1993** - Wisconsin Council of REACT Teams meeting. For further details please contact a Council representative.

**July 19 - 23, 1993** - REACT International Convention hosted by Southwestern REACT of San Diego County, Inc., #C475. Further details in this and upcoming issues of the magazine.

## REACTing To A Big One

by Evelyn Tulloss  
Big Bear Valley REACT #3111

**Big Bear Valley REACT #3111** found themselves in the midst of a 7.5 and 6.6 earthquake on June 28, 1992. The earthquakes took place while planning for a July 4th fire watch exercise with the U.S. Forest Service as well as an exercise with the San Bernardino County Sheriff on Search and Rescue. Centered in the Landers and Big Bear area, the quakes caused severe damage to homes and businesses. **Team #3111** was on the air in less than 10 minutes beginning the first of three health and welfare checks on the members and their families.

The preliminary check showed much household destruction, but no physical injuries. At this point, the Team set up radio communications throughout the valley as the telephones were out. They dispensed information on the available escape routes from the valley, called in a plane crash, checked on the health and welfare of persons in their neighborhoods and helped evacuate one member whose house was damaged. Many of us served on the radios literally around the clock. The members not doing communication checked on gas leaks and delivered emergency food to the people sleeping in parks. Members also provided transportation to damage assessor teams and greatly aided the Red Cross the first two days.

A Red Cross shelter was opened at the local high school and was manned

*(Continued on page 13)*



# Training & Development Committee

## Train for the Future

by Bonnie Zygmunt, Chairperson

If you're seriously interested in public safety, the newest training package from REACT International is for you. The multitude of children and elderly who are reported missing concerns many communities. This training will expand your knowledge and give you the competence and professionalism to offer your services in your local area. These are skills you will be able to use your whole life.

If a portion of your REACT Team is interested in being involved in more

than walk-a-thons and parking duties this thorough SEARCH training will expand your horizons. You'll feel confident that you'll be on your way to professional expertise and it will help to build a top-performing team.

This is the opportunity you've been waiting for. Law enforcement and public safety officials respect training and commitment. Show them you are a group they can count on. The authorities will see that with this training, your members have a clear advantage over

non-trained volunteers.

Take this important first step. To order "SEARCH TEAMS, Basic Manual For Search And Rescue" fill in the order blank below and send it to REACT International. Learn everything from Witness Interviewing and Basic Direction Finding to Starting a Search Team in your REACT Team. Your order for this instructive 28-page training book will be filled promptly.

### TRAINING REGISTRATION FORM

Subject:     101 Monitoring                       201 GMRS (Includes FCC Rules)

301 Search Teams                       GMRS FCC Rules - Part 95A (ONLY)

Fill in your full name and address, your REACT Team number and REACT member ID number (as found on your REACT card). Enclose \$7.00 for each training module you request and \$2.50 for each GMRS FCC Rules Part 95A you request.

**NOTE:** When purchasing the 201-GMRS Training Module the FCC Rules is included).

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
First                      Initial                      Last

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Team # 

--	--	--	--

Member ID# 

--	--	--	--	--

**MAIL TO:**

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

Monitoring Manual (\$7.00)  
 GMRS Manual (\$7.00)  
 Search Teams (\$7.00)  
 GMRS FCC Rules Only (\$2.50)

**TOTAL ENCLOSED**                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Monitoring Winners

CANADA  
Ward Kennedy

CALIFORNIA  
Patricia Pierce  
Paul Dillree

ILLINOIS  
Joel Kogen

INDIANA  
Paul Simpson

MASSACHUSETTS  
Bruce Talanian

NORTH CAROLINA  
David Callahan

NEW YORK  
Douglas Rumsey  
John Soto  
Richard Zwirlein

SOUTH CAROLINA  
Bobby Mosier

WISCONSIN  
Linda Kirschling

**ORDER YOUR  
MODULES TODAY!**

**NOW AVAILABLE IS**

**101 - MONITORING  
201 - GMRS BASICS  
301 - SEARCH TEAMS**

## GMRS Winners

CALIFORNIA  
Paul Dillree  
Bill Rogers  
Patricia Pierce

COLORADO  
Grey Lacerte

INDIANA  
Paul Simpson

NORTH CAROLINA  
David Callahan

NEW JERSEY  
Robert Scherlachner  
Dick Cooper  
Ralph Gibson

NEW YORK  
Douglas Rumsey  
John Soto  
Richard Zwirlein

OKLAHOMA  
Joseph Price

SOUTH CAROLINA  
Bobby Mosier

VIRGINIA  
Johnny Helton Jr.

WISCONSIN  
Ken Eustice  
Linda Kirschling  
Mark Kirschling  
David Rothschild

(Continued from page 11)

and staffed partly by **REACT** members.

Over 5,000 homes were damaged or destroyed. Many persons flocked to the mountains only to find their vacation homes uninhabitable. **REACT** also participated in helping the Bear Valley Emergency Services office take care of the needs of the homeless. Transportation by **REACT** members tallied many miles in helping the less fortunate.

Early on, trained Red Cross workers from nearby unaffected areas gathered at the shelter and began organizing activities.

Our Team learned some valuable lessons during this emergency. The most important was that although we had been discussing and planning for years for a "future" emergency, our response could have been improved.

Members learned several key points during this disaster. Individuals need to seek out their own tasks. Teams should make sure their emergency trailer and supplies are adequately stocked. All untrained persons should wait for a request to help from disaster service relief agencies. When they send out a request by all means have your leader choose the best, most available members to answer the call, until that time stay away.

We also learned that working under stress, with an adrenaline rush, that four hour shifts can seem like a long time and rest periods should be mandatory. Some of the members found that the best therapy for our own terror was to talk and help others less fortunate.

## ATTENTION!!!



**THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL  
GRANT WRITING WORK SHOP  
OFFERED AT THE 1993  
REACT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION  
DETAILS WILL BE IN THE MAY/JUNE  
ISSUE OF THE REACTer MAGAZINE**

# 1993 REACT International Convention

## San Diego Bound

Plans continue to move along for this year's convention. Rest assured that you will be kept busy with work shops and seminars.

### Seminars

Emergency Management  
Grant Writing  
Disaster Communications  
(seminar/display)

### Work Shops

Grant Writing  
Search and Rescue  
Public Relations  
REACT Operations (Headquarters)  
F.E.M.A.

Door prizes continue to accumulate with over 100 donated items to be given away. Your TEAM or COUNCIL may donate items. All donations will be greatly appreciated.

YES, there will be TOURS. You will have Tuesday afternoon free for taking a tour, relaxing or battling the breeze...your choice. Tours will be offered EVERYDAY if there are sufficient numbers to fill the minimum requirements.

### COMMUNICATIONS

CB channel 4 and 9; GMRS (primary) 462.675 (103.5 tone) with multiple other GMRS frequencies moni-

tored, open tone includes .575, .600, .625, .650 and 700. Amateurs may use the LYONS repeater on the 141.265 up 600 no PL. All COMMS will be available through the operator in the COMM center. Don't forget a copy of your license.

### RVers

Contact Lonnie Trammel, our Wagon Master, at (619)476-7282 (recorded is attached) for reservations at Campland on the Bay (approximately 5 miles from the site). Car pooling to the Convention is highly recommended. RV's may park in a designated area at the Town & Country, but NO overnight camping is allowed.

### TEAM PLACARD CONTEST

This years theme is "COMMUNICATIONS." Double sided placards are preferred with maximum size of 10" x 20".

### HOSPITALITY ROOMS

Smoking and non-smoking will be open 24 hours. A wide variety of goodies including healthful snacks and drinks will be available. Yes, Ron tea will also be offered.

### TEAM BANNER AND DISPLAYS

If you would like to display your

Team or Council banner, bring it with you. Banners should be no larger than 3 feet by 5 feet. If you want a table reserved (free) for your Team display, including historical photo album, please contact us at one of the telephone numbers listed below.

### SHARE YOUR IDEAS AND LEARN FROM OTHERS

An Emergency Communication Display/Seminar is planned. If you can not bring your vehicle, then bring the next best thing: a video tape, no longer than 5 minutes, highlighting your Team vehicle or one you have access to. This includes how you do your Safety or Wake Breaks. Prizes will be awarded.

### SQUARE DANCING ANYONE?

A professional caller will be providing his music and services (squawking only, sorry) on Monday evening. Come have fun and learn.

The next issue of Team Topics will contain another Convention update, a tentative schedule, tour listings, RV information and newsletter contest deadlines.

If you have any suggestions for additional activities, work shops or seminars or need additional information on the Convention, please contact us.

#### Call

Pat Pierce, Convention Chair  
(619)422-1494 (days)

Scott English, Convention Operations  
(619)448-6788 (evenings)

Team/Convention Fax  
(619)420-8134 (24 hours)

#### Write

1993 REACT International Convention Committee  
P.O. Box 21277  
El Cajon, CA 92021

Southwestern REACT of San Diego County, Inc. #C475  
P.O. Box 4554  
San Diego, CA 92164-4554



## A Field Directors Comments

by Richard Pratz, Secretary

**MAY IS REACT MONTH!** Now is the time to make your plans to publicize your team and its activities. Get those proclamations ready so they can be signed before the first of May and use them in your publicity. A good place to display them is in your public library. Wear your **REACT** identification, such as badges and emblems. Use signs on your vehicles if you have them. Use the suggested public service announcements supplied by **REACT** International, but include details about your own team. If possible use a video of Team activities or possibly the Bobby Sherman tape. Many radio talk shows are looking for guests. You have a unique service to publicize. Tell the **REACT** story every time you get a chance. This is an excellent opportunity to publicize your Team and **REACT** International to the fullest extent. The publicity will help you find new members.

I want to take this opportunity to welcome **COMMtronics Engineering**, who make scanners, and **Wilson Antennas** who make CB and Ham antennas. They are new advertisers in *the REACTer*. Support the advertisers who support **REACT**.

Soon, you will be receiving the information about the 1993 candidates for Field Director. One of these candidates will be in office for three years and the second one for two years. For the past several years the Field Directors have been elected by less than one-half of the teams in **REACT**. Voting for the Field Director of your choice is one of your opportunities to tell the **REACT** Board of Directors how you feel. Choose the person you feel will represent your interests best and be sure your team casts its ballot. Take time to be sure the

envelope is signed properly and mailed in time to be delivered by the deadline. For the benefit of those who do not know how the ballots are counted, the ballots are picked up the Saturday before the convention by the membership chairperson. He, the Field Directors who are not candidates for office, one At-Large Director, the office manager and two **REACT** members, chosen from those arriving early, count the ballots Saturday afternoon. After the ballots are counted the winners are determined. All candidates are notified of the results and then a general announcement is made on GMRS.

We have learned that The Department of Transportation is requiring more reflective tape on the back of "over the road" trucks. Contacts have been made with several trucking companies asking them to use the **REACT** emblem on their equipment. You may see the name **REACT** on the back of trucks in your area shortly.

The 1993 REACT International

**Convention** is only about sixteen weeks away. This year there will be a special workshop for those wanting to know about grant writing. Check *the REACTer* for more information. The workshop will be limited to about twenty-five people. A certain amount of work must be done before convention, there will be two workshops for the twenty-five members and then their work will be critiqued following the convention. At this point their work will be ready to send to prospective granting foundations. You will want to take advantage of this unique opportunity. Check *the REACTer* for complete information. There are other seminars and workshops planned. There will be time to see the city, chances to visit with old friends and opportunities to make new ones. Convention time is a gathering of **REACTers** from all over the United States and the world. It is a time to share your ideas with others and learn their way of doing things. I'll see you in San Diego!!!

### 32 NEW REACT TEAMS

**REACT** welcomed 32 new Teams to the fold during 1992.

When the dust settled and figures were tallied at year's end, Puerto Rico led the U.S. with 4 new island Teams. Ohio was close behind with 3 new Teams. Nevada and Wisconsin added 2 new Teams each.

Canada increased its **REACT** rolls by 5 new Teams. Germany rejoined the **REACT** ranks with its first Team after an absence of several years.

Congratulations to current Teams and Councils that helped some of these newcomers along with their chartering.

A hearty **REACT** welcome to all.



## Publicizing REACT

by the PRTG

### Getting More Young People Involved Through Education

Contact Your Governor's Office and see if they have an Office of Citizen's Service. It is a national program funded by Congressional appropriations through the commission on National and Community Service. Through this and similar programs throughout the other states, over \$10 million is invested in youth services.

With the attention of both major political parties focused on the importance of education to the nation's future, these programs, will be in the forefront of the news media in the months and years ahead.

Ground work is being established in Pennsylvania through PENNSERV for a cooperative effort aimed at enlisting school students as volunteers in the REACT Programs. The students would work as part of Teams, for example in monitoring, coffee safety breaks, walk-a-thons and bike-a-thons.

These programs would be aimed at

developing a sense of social responsibility and a sense of self-worth in young people as the director has explained.

PENNSERV staff members have been supplied with copies of the REACT Team Contact Directory. The directories will be distributed to each of its regional offices and school administrators, through its periodical newsletter.

A Special Mention Earned by John Murdock, George Dias and Fred Lanshe of the PA REACT Council.

Mark your calendars --- April 20, 1993 is National Youth Service Day. All REACTers should recognize Junior members and the Junior Program for outstanding service within your community.

### The Boy Scouts Of America Exploring Program

Is another fine program to pursue for more youth volunteers.

Explorers are young men and women aged 14 through 20 who join Explorer Posts organized by career interests in their communities. The program of these Explorer Posts matches the interests of youth with the adult expertise and program resources of the organization.

The L.E.M.A. REACT Team #C546 of Pennsylvania, has sponsored a successful Emergency Service Explorer Post in the field of Emergency Radio

Communications and Electronics since 1974. Post 99 members have gone through the same training procedures as the regular Team members and have worked many events with them.

Many good people have come up through the ranks to be involved at the various levels of the Team. Others are getting involved around the country.

If you are interested in more information on Exploring, contact:

Boy Scouts of America  
National Council of Exploring  
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane  
P.O. Box 152079  
Irving, TX 75015-2079

A Special Mention Earned by Agnes Drauch of L.E.M.A. REACT Team #C546 of Pennsylvania.

### Sounds Good

Is your Team interested in exchanging your newsletter with other Teams. If so, send your Team and Editors name as well as your mailing address to:

Fred Lanshe, Chairman  
Public Relations Task Group  
630 Washington Street  
Allentown, PA 18102

From time to time, this column will publicize the Newsletter Exchange List.

Triple "C" REACT #4054, P.O. Box DC, Bethel Island, CA 94511 produces a great newsletter thanks to Jack O'Keefe, Editor. The Team assisted with Earthquake Preparedness and Earth Day. Team members patrolled as eyes and ears at the park during the events. Would you like to see Team #4054's newsletter? Write Jack with a request to be put on the mailing list, but don't forget to send them your newsletter(s).

**Want To Exchange Newsletters With Another REACT Team?  
Send your Team and Editors name and address to:**

**Fred Lanshe, Chairman  
Public Relations Task Group  
630 Washington Street  
Allentown, PA 18102**



## 501(c)(3) EXEMPTIONS REVOKED

Several *REACT* Teams have had their 501(c)(3) non-profit status suspended.

To protect the blanket 501(c)(3) exemption that benefits all *REACT* Teams, Headquarters recently took the unprecedented action. The Teams involved had failed to provide the EIN document which IRS requires.

*REACT* International must submit each U.S. Team's EIN to the IRS each year. This filing safeguards the blanket exemption for all American *REACT* Teams.

"We are volunteers, but the IRS views *REACT* as a business, a non-profit business," commented *REACT* President Ron McCracken. "*REACT* has the same legal obligations to the IRS as the largest U.S. company. The IRS is scrutinizing all non-profits much more closely. Unless we discipline ourselves to comply with IRS rules, we will unfairly jeopardize the blanket 501(c)(3) exemption that *REACT* Teams cherish. We can't risk that."

Headquarters has notified the affected Teams that as soon as they provide the needed EIN they will again be entitled to the blanket exemption other *REACT* Teams enjoy.

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REACT**

## REACT Meeting Interrupted By Disturbance San Bruno Police Take Reports

by Robert M. Riechel, Public Relations Officer  
REACT of the Golden Gate #C373  
San Bruno, CA

The special guest at the February, 1993 general meeting of *REACT of the Golden Gate Area, Inc.*, #C373, was San Bruno Police Officer Jonathan Burke. During the presentation, two suspects entered the meeting room interrupting Officer Burke.

After the disturbance stopped, Officer Burke, the Crime Prevention Officer for the City of San Bruno, California changed his presentation "Being Effective 'EYES & EARS' in One's Community" to conducting a test on accurately reporting what one saw and heard by passing out to our members Suspect Description Forms. The members were tasked with filling out the forms recording the just concluded disturbance.

After the forms were filled out, Officer Burke called the two suspects back into the room. He then polled the audience to see just how accurate and complete their observations were.

*REACT of the Golden Gate Area, Inc.*, is pleased to report that as a result of this exercise, our members were able to return to their community with better "EYES & EARS." That way, when they have the need to report what they see to the San Bruno Police Department or other agencies, their reports should be more accurate and complete.

What was learned by this exercise will allow *REACT* members to be better able to get more of the facts from the reporting party when they receive a call for assistance over Citizen's Band EMERGENCY Channel 9, UHF, or Amateur frequencies.

*REACT of the Golden Gate Area, Inc.*, wants to thank the San Bruno Police Department, Chief of Police Frank Hedley, Officer Jonathan Burke and especially the 2 suspects for their involvement in this "EYES & EARS" exercise.

### New Teams Chartered

- |       |   |       |   |
|-------|---|-------|---|
| #4863 | Aguilas REACT<br>Quebradillas<br>Quebradillas, Puerto Rico<br>December 17, 1992 | #4867 | REACT Fallon<br>Fallon, Nevada<br>February 12, 1993                             |
| #4864 | REACT Medicine Hat<br>Alberta, Canada<br>December 21, 1992                      | #4868 | Citizens Radio<br>Alliance REACT<br>Lansford, Pennsylvania<br>February 17, 1993 |
| #4865 | Dells Vacationland REACT<br>Portage, Wisconsin<br>January 18, 1993              | #5038 | REACT Funkhilfe<br>Kirchberg, West Germany<br>December 21, 1992                 |
| #4866 | Don Valley REACT<br>North York, Canada<br>January 26, 1993                      |       |   |



## Texas Teams Get Safety Break Grant

by Stuart M. DeLuca  
Travis County REACT #3022  
Austin, Texas

The H.E.B. Grocery Company has awarded a \$1,500 grant to the Texas State REACT Council to support holiday Safety Breaks in 1993. This is the second grant made by the grocery company to Texas REACT Teams.

H.E.B. is a major regional grocery company operating mainly in South and Southeast Texas, including the Austin, San Antonio and Houston areas. The company is presently expanding its market area in East and Central Texas. However, the grant funds are available to any REACT Team in the State.

Under rules adopted by the Texas State REACT Council, the grant is managed by Travis County REACT #3022. The funds are used to reimburse Teams for their out-of-pocket expenses in connection with holiday Safety Breaks. Many Teams operate their Safety Breaks at state-owned rest areas on interstate highways, where they are not allowed to solicit contributions. The H.E.B. funds also can be used to buy equipment needed for Safety Breaks, such as coffee urns.

## REACT Regains Germany

German travellers who utilize CB radio can again secure help from REACT.

A new Team was recently chartered to serve the Kirchberg area. U.S., Canadian and U.K. armed forces personnel who served in Germany under NATO will recognize the area.

Several years ago members of the U.S. military established a REACT Team on one of the bases. When they returned to the U.S. later, that Team disbanded.

German CB operators, who perhaps learned of REACT from the earlier Team's activity, have re-introduced REACT to their country. We welcome them into the REACT family of nations.

We trust that this Team will so impress other Germans that several more Teams will soon form to serve travellers and their local communities throughout Germany.



Burke County REACT #3420, Drexel, North Carolina is "Sweet Sixteen." Team #3420 celebrated its' 16th birthday in September, 1992.

Although none of the founding members are active, the Team has two members with 15 years service, six with 10 years and six members with 5 years or more.

Burke County REACT #3420 is active in emergency response with a county contract and receives partial funding from the county as well as the United Way.

## RESCUE 911 Search Continues

Have you ever had a dramatic or unusual call? Has a member of your Team? Headquarters is still interested in receiving accounts of those calls.

Send your descriptions to:

**RESCUE 911**  
**REACT International, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 998**  
**Wichita, KS 67201**

Be sure to include your name, phone number and Team information so we can contact you.

## REACT AFFILIATES WORK TOGETHER

by Bruce Talarian  
Milton, Massachusetts

Recently, I was driving to my home in Milton when I decided to check out the local middle school. I drove around and smelled intense smoke. I drove to the back of the building and sure enough the dumpster was on fire. The fire spread to the overhang and the whole building was on fire. I used CB Channel 9, repeatedly identifying myself as a **REACT** Affiliate. I gave my exact location and problem. The person on

the receiving end was another **REACT** Affiliate from Dorchester, Massachusetts.

I waited for the Milton Fire Department and explained what happened. The school building was saved.

*Editors Note: A thank you goes to Tom Currie of Louisville Metro REACT #1583, Kentucky for forwarding Bruce's story to Headquarters.*



Westchester County **REACT** #2240, White Plains, New York has shared space with the American Red Cross within their community since 1973. In 1992 the Red Cross finalized plans that required them to move to temporary quarters during major renovations. This resulted in the need for Westchester County **REACT** to find similar accommodations.

Pictured is Jim Morrella, a founding member, who was able to arrange with Ciba-Geigy Corporation to provide temporary facilities for **REACT**. The room will be in the corporation security area, where Jim is the Captain in charge of the operation.

This allows Westchester County **REACT** #2240 to continue to provide service in monitoring Channel 9, assisting the New York State Police and providing disaster communications. As a member of the County of Westchester Emergency Operations Council and Emergency Medical Services Council this consideration is very important to the community. Westchester County **REACT** #2240 wishes to express its' sincere appreciation to Ciba-Geigy Corporation for adding them to its many community supported projects.

## NEW FCC FINES HURT

FCC has greatly increased its fine structure for rule violation.

Field Officers can now issue fines of up to \$20,000 directly, without seeking prior authorization from Washington. FCC apparently wants to make its enforcement more effective and more efficient.

It would likely pay **REACT**ers to dust off rule books and read through them again. Set aside 10-15 minutes at Team meetings to review and discuss a rule or two each month.

Be sure all your Team's radio operations comply with the rules. You can't afford the fine - or the bad PR.

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## WORLD BAND RADIO

By R.C. Watts

I attended the Monitoring Times Magazine Convention this past October, at CNN Center in Atlanta. A highlight was the CNN Studio Tour which I recommend to anyone visiting the city. Only \$5.00 every day for a real look at television broadcast news, \$2.50 for people age 65 and over or 12 and under.

As I write this in January, I have just returned from a tour hosted by China Radio International (ex-Radio Beijing). CNN International was available on TV in the hotel rooms.

If you like your scanner(s), you might be interested in the Radio Communications Monitoring Association (RCMA) and their RCMA Journal magazine. RCMA had a booth at the Monitoring Times Convention, recruiting members and selling a neat T-shirt.

The Voice of America has a new relay at Udon, Thailand. If its' on the air I didn't hear it in China.

Would you like to hear Antarctica? I sure would! It's very difficult, but you might try 6.012 KHz for AFAN,

McMurdo (U.S. Navy) at 15.474 KHz, Radio Nacional Arcangel and San Gabriel at the Argentine Base Esperanza. Trans World Radio on the island of Bonaire will cease shortwave operations after 7/1/93. Get their last shortwave QSL before then!

In Eastern U.S. and Canada, try 9.535 KHz or 11.930 KHz around 11:00 p.m.

I've got very little feed back from the members about this column. Is it just taking up space or is it useful to some of you? It's your magazine, let us know your likes or dislikes.

*Editors Note: Send your comments to Editor, REACT International, Inc., P.O. Box 998, Wichita, KS 67201.*



# BALCONES HEIGHTS MUNICIPAL BUILDING

San Antonio *REACT* Team #3622, Universal City, Texas received the "National REACT Month" proclamation from the city of Balcones Heights in 1992. Pictured in the photo from left to right are: *REACT* members Jay Goff II, Otto Moellering, Frank Graves (past Team President) and Lee W. Besing (Team President during 1992), Lucille Wolfarth, Balcones Heights Mayor Pro Tem and George Moellering, Balcones Heights City Council Member and fellow *REACT*er. Photo taken by a member of the Balcones Heights Police Department.

*Editors Note: On May 2, 1992, Lucille Wolfarth was elected as Mayor of Balcones Heights and the city council then appointed George Moellering as Mayor Pro Tem.*



## PREPAREDNESS EXERCISES FOR CB EQUIPPED TEAMS

by Walter G. Green III  
CB Task Group

One of the challenges for any **REACT** Team is to develop a real capability to respond to community disasters. Being effective communicators in a major disaster results from having the right equipment, enough operators to do the job, good basic training, and being ready to meet the specific requirements of disaster response. To get there one of your best preparedness tools is an active Team exercise program. Exercises let you test your plans and your equipment, and find out what you can actually do before you have to do it.

Teams that rely on Citizens Band radios as their main method of communications have to be better at communicating than those equipped with more sophisticated radios. The limits of CB performances make exercises particularly important in identifying what you can and can't do. They also help you polish your skills to get the most out of your people and your radios.

An exercise program should start simple and then work up to more complicated tasks and scenarios. Simple to complicated lets your people build up their skills and correct specific problems. Starting with a scenario of 4 overturned school buses, 112 injured children, a hazardous materials spill caused by the aircraft that crashed into the school buses, all in the middle of a tornado does no one any good. Exercises should also be carefully tailored to meet one or two specific objectives each time. If you have objectives you can identify how well you met them and learn lessons each time.

The Colorado Council is developing a book of simple training exercises CB equipped Teams can do to build skills

and readiness. Try the following, one a month, and see if your Team doesn't get better in responding as a Team:

### **C-1: Team Telephone Callout**

**OBJECTIVE** - How quickly can a disaster alert be spread to the members? **HOW** - Give members a general time window ("Wednesday night between 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m."). During this period the President starts the callout by calling the people below him on the alerting roster. Each person calls the next person (or the two people below him on a tree roster). The last person calls the President back confirming the time the callout was completed.

**POSSIBLE LESSONS** - Actual time it takes to make the phone calls, bad phone numbers, approximate number of members you could reach under the best conditions.

### **C-2: Base Station Coverage**

**OBJECTIVE** - How quickly can Team base stations be brought up on the air; can we pass messages between the base stations? **HOW** - Run a callout exercise but instruct all base stations to come up on a specific channel. Each station will either call the President direct or relay the time they became operational to another station for relay to the President. The exercise is terminated by message from the President when all stations have been accounted for. **POSSIBLE LESSONS** - Actual time it takes to get all base stations operational under good conditions, which stations can talk to which other stations, which stations cannot contact another station under typical conditions.

### **C-3: Mobile Callout**

**OBJECTIVE** - How long will it take Team mobile units to stage at a design-

ated location ready for disaster assignment? **HOW** - Run a callout exercise with instructions for all Team members with mobile units to respond to an assembly area one block from a possible disaster site. Members are instructed to be in Team uniform with their standard equipment loaded in their vehicles. The first member to arrive is designated as the staging officer, and will report the units' arrival by radio to a designated base station. If needed, the Staging Officer may have to use one mobile unit as a relay station to the base station. The exercise is terminated after a set period (i.e., 1 hour). **POSSIBLE LESSONS** - Actual time it takes for members to respond as an organized unit with proper equipment, how quickly can communications be established from a staging area, what percentage of Team resources can respond within a period in which they would be useful.

This is only a start, but these three scenarios illustrate some important lessons. Each builds on the one before it. For example, we keep using the alerting system to keep it working, and we start integrating base and mobile stations to control our resources. None of the scenarios are very difficult, and each is within the capability of a CB-only Team. The scenarios start to introduce members to the way responses are run - for example, the use of a staging area. And everything done is a real task that might have to be done in a real emergency - train like you will have to respond.

Colorado's initial set of scenarios is available from the Colorado REACT Council, 3624 Citadel Drive North, Suite 309, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80909.



**REACT MONTH**  
**"ORANGE LITE SPECIALS" (RM/93)**  
**LIMITED OFFER GOOD THROUGH**  
**APRIL 30, 1993**

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, 1993. 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/93." Shipping weights and prices are on the back of your regular pricing lists.

**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 the front. Two-color logo. Special \$2.20 per 100 (weight is 9 oz. per 100 ordered.)

**REACT "Getting Help By CB Radio" 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 drive, CLIP instructions as well as information on **REACT**. Room for Team name and address on the 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 the **REACT** logo in full color. Flag has grommets for hanging. Special \$42.00 each (weight is 19 oz. each.)

**REACT CB Channel 9 Decal** - A full sheet of 36 decals, in various sizes, of the CB Road Sign in the distinctive highway blue and white. Use them on all your Team letters and envelopes and place them on your vehicle windows. Pass them out to interested people at your next Team event. Special \$1.30 each (weight is 2 oz. each.)

**REACT Window Decals** - Four 3" x 5" decals done in orange, blue and black. These decals give the popular "EMERGENCY" message and are great for promoting **REACT** in retailers windows throughout your community. The price is \$1.00 for 4 decals (weight is 1 oz. per deal.)

**REACT Team Contact Directory** - Contains all the information travellers need during the busy vacation season. This directory is a smart pocket, or glove box size and easy to read. Buy several for yourself, your loved ones and to offer to travellers at your next Safety Break. The price is \$1.85 each (weight is 10 oz. each.)

**REACT Safety Break Guide** - Over 15 pages of valuable information on how your Team can set-up a successful Safety Break in your community. This guide lists all the steps involved in providing a Safety Break. Special price is \$4.00 each (weight is 3 oz. each.)

**CLEARANCE**

**REACT 30th Anniversary Decal Sheets** - Get these while supplies last! Headquarters will not be placing another order. These are the popular anniversary edition **REACT** logo. Use them on all your Team correspondence...let people know that **REACT** is alive and strong after over 30 years. Clearance price is \$.50 each for a sheet of 27 logos (weight is 2 oz. each.)

**REACT Services**  
**Diversified #4813**  
**Recognized**

This call is to thank **REACT Services Diversified** (Wisconsin) for monitoring emergency channel 9 on the CB radio. You saved my wife and little girl in an accident over the holidays during a snowstorm. Unit 969, Texas Kid thanks you very much. You deserve an accommodation for what you've done. Keep up the great work.

*(Reported in the Kenosha Bulletin, January 25, 1993)*

*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**

## Belmont County *REACT* Team #2373 Honored

Belmont County *REACT* Team #2373, Ohio members were recognized for their outstanding assistance to the local law enforcement and disaster officials that they serve at a special banquet held on May 8, 1992, in observance of "May is *REACT* Month."

Several local officials, as well as *REACT* International Field Director John Leist attended and were guest speakers.

Lt. Gary Weldon, Commander of the Ohio State Highway Post at St. Clairsville, praised the team of over 50 members for their nearly two decades of public service. Lt. Weldon said "*REACT* is dedicated to making things better and safer for the people of Belmont County. Never have I met a more dedicated group of people. You have the finest radio equipment around, and you are always available, and ready to help us when needed."

County Sheriff Tom McCort said "it always seems like I'm thanking *REACT*. Every time I turn around, *REACT* is there." Harlan Bell, Hazardous Materials Coordinator and *REACT* member said, "The L.E.P.C. is very fortunate to have people like you trained and equipped, ready for any type of emergency situation."

"*REACT* has proven its worth many times. You are a dedicated group of hard-working people" said Belmont County Disaster Services Coordinator and *REACT* member Dick Quinlin. Quinlin told guests that were in attendance, "to those of you present who are thinking about joining *REACT*, I urge you to do so. You will be associated with a group of people whose value to Belmont County can't be measured."

Ohio Valley Red Cross Disaster Coordinator Ray Braddock also thanked *REACT* for their efforts.

Team #2373 was recognized for its efforts during the Shadyside Flood Disaster of June 14th, 1990, which claimed the

lives of 26 residents. Over \$6 million dollars of property and memories were swept away in just a few moments.

Upon learning of the mass devastation of the flash flood, Disaster Coordinator Quinlin immediately activated the services of *REACT*. Phone service was out at the command center, public services radio frequencies were highly congested, creating major problems. *REACT* provided the cellular phone equipment and personnel to contact the National Guard and other emergency assistance agencies. A total of 331 official phone calls were made by the Ohio State Patrol, governors offices, Sheriff's Department and Disaster Services personnel using the phones. *REACT*'s 6 frequency GMRS system worked non-stop for the next 36 hours...communicating vital and somewhat confidential information during the situation.

Confident that *REACT* could handle the situation without supervision and in a very professional manner, local law enforcement personnel left the duties of traffic control in the Shadyside area solely the responsibility of Team #2373. Calls on CB Emergency Channel 9 were intercepted by *REACT*, as hundreds of volunteers from several states came to the disaster stricken area to assist. A total of 490 man hours on the scene, were logged by Team members helping with communications, traffic control, rescue recovery, transportation of Red Cross personnel and supplies. The true dedication of Team members was evident during this very tragic time. Many worked diligently over 20 hours a shift, and returned to the scene after just a few hours of sleep, ready to pitch in again.

Team Coordinator Bob Blair states, "our success and recognition in the communities that we serve have been due to 'our close family like' relationship within our organization. Every member can say they are proud to be a part of Belmont County *REACT* Team #2373."



**A WINNING TEAM!...**In observance of May is *REACT* Month 1992...Belmont County *REACT* Team #2373 was honored at a special banquet by the local law enforcement and disaster services agencies that they serve. Shown above are some of the "Winning Team" players.