



# the REACTer

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

January/February 1995  
Price \$2.50

"The Volunteer Town Watch -- Philadelphia's Original Police Department," was the theme of a four-week Town Watch certification program recently completed by twelve members of Suburban REACT #3410.



Pictured above is Edward "Ned" Smith, Unit 14 & GMRS Chairman of Team #3410 receiving his Certificate of Achievement from Captain James Gallagher, Head of Community Relations, Philadelphia Police Department. Article on page 3 of this issue.

## REACT International, Inc.

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Wichita, KS 67201

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## In This Issue...

### Update From the Board

**Cobra Electronics Corporation "An Official Sponsor" of the REACT Program**

**Twenty Below and Nowhere to Go!!!**

**Motivating your Volunteers**

# Update from the Board

by James E. Bear, CEO  
International Board of Directors

Someone once said that time is the one thing that never stands still. In becoming Chairman, I have realized that there is only so much time left in my term on the Board; so, time is becoming of the essence. We must continue to move. The goals which we have set for the current and upcoming years are intended to keep us abreast of the dynamics taking place in the various modes of communications of interest to this organization. Those goals are:

First, to ensure that **REACT's** leadership, the Board of Directors and Executive Committee work as partners in setting the future direction of the organization.

Second, work toward increasing our membership, realizing that our membership will change with the diversifying and rapid advances of technology.

Third, expand the educational offerings of the organization with additional training modules.

Fourth, to be financially accountable to our membership.

Fifth, with the inputs of the Board, refine and prepare a strategic plan that will enhance the overall organization.

Sixth, with the support of, and appointments of personnel, begin the base planning for a self sustaining financial plan and implementation forthwith.

This will be **REACT's** thirty-third year. During these years, we have seen many changes in the face of the organization and its membership. That is the key to our continued success, remembering that change is what drives this organization. While we manage the day to day affairs of **REACT**, we must continue to look to the future and move in the directions which will serve our membership. Focusing on the future and having an adaptable strategic plan to get there will ensure our continued success.

May I also take the time to encourage your participation in organizational affairs. We can only be as good as our individual member. Get involved, help recruit new members, volunteer for a committee, write an article for *the REACTer*.

There are many opportunities for your participation. We need your help too. An association is just that - a group of individuals dedicated to a common cause, assisting each other to realize their goals. That happens only when persons step up and do something.

I am please to advise you of some of the happenings in your organization since our last communication.

- a. Several policies have been initiated and distributed through Team Topics.
- b. Our investment program has been completely reviewed, and with assistance from Dr. Jerome Bricker, we are now involved in securities without front or rear loads and have the opportunity for better growth financially.
- c. Councils will not be paying the liability insurance as in the past, and if you paid it last year, it will be reimbursed to you at the 1995 Convention.
- d. Teams will benefit from lower insurance fees and the membership will pay a little less for 1995. Our goal is to continue these reductions in the future if possible.
- e. Our Field Director positions are now full with the appointment of Dick Pratz, Texas to fill the remaining term of Vince Kern.
- f. We have added one At-Large Director, Mr. Norm Goldberg of Cobra Electronics Corporation.
- g. We have agreed to a partnership in promotion and support of the **REACT** program with **Cobra Electronics Corporation**. See article on page 4.
- h. We have initiated a membership contest where Teams and Councils can benefit financially depending on their depth of involvement.
- i. We have initiated a like contest in Canada and are pleased to announce the formation of the first Canadian Council and already they have a 8.5% increase in membership.

With the Canadian increase, now, what can you do for us in the United States?

From the entire Board, thank you for your trust and the honor of serving. Let's move together toward another year of renewed success.

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# Suburban REACT 3410 Train For Town Watch

by Christy McCabe

"The Volunteer Town Watch -- Philadelphia's Original Police Department," was the theme for a four-week Town Watch certification program recently completed by twelve members of **Suburban REACT 3410**. Sponsored jointly by the Philadelphia Police Department and the city's Office of the Managing Director, the certification program covered such topics as neighborhood safety, home security, observation skills, equipment use, communications systems, member recruiting, and planning and organization.

Some 100 Town Watch participants from all over the Philadelphia metropolitan area were trained during the November session. Speakers included representatives from the Philadelphia Police Department, the Mayor's office, the District Attorney's office, and the Office of the Managing Director as well as several members of Philadelphia's City Council.

Assistant District Attorney George Mosey was among the speakers. "The

police don't prevent crime -- they respond to crime. You, being out in the community, knowing your neighbor and watching the goings-on, are better able to prevent crime than the cop on the beat," he emphasized to the session participants.

Mosey also stressed that while being involved in local Town Watch organizations does not mean that participants "become law enforcement," Town Watches can play an important part in law enforcement's success.

"We have always had a strong working relationship with Philadelphia's 19th Police District, says Paul Schulz, Unit 29 and Director of Town Watch activities for the **Suburban REACT 3410 Team**. "This training will only strengthen the mutual respect and understanding between the District and REACT's Patrol Activities."

Jerry Shoaf, Unit 19 and Team President, agrees. According to Shoaf, the

*(Continued on page 4)*



From Left to right: Officer Darryl Hardy, Community Relations Officer, 19th District of the City of Phila., Rosevelt Hunter, President, Police Advisory Board, and past member of Suburban REACT #3410, Gerald Shoaf, Unit 19 and President of Team #3410, Paul Schultz, Unit 29 and Patrol Activities Director of Team #3410 and Captain James Moriarty, Captain of the 19th Police District of the City of Philadelphia.

(Continued from page 3)

members of **Suburban REACT** are committed to working with governmental agencies to improve safety in their local communities. "Town Watch is one way for members to help out their neighbors on a one-on-one basis, and Town Watch can help lower taxes by reducing the demand on already overburdened government services," Shoaf observes.

**Suburban REACT's** membership straddles the county line between the City of Philadelphia and Delaware County, Pennsylvania. **REACT Patrol**

(Town Watch) is one of the seven service programs sponsored by the Team. Other programs include CB Channel 9 Monitoring, Field Events, Scanning, Amateur Radio, GMRS and Traffic Reporting.

According to Unit 14 GMRS Committee Chairperson Ned Smith, Town Watch is a natural extension of **REACT's** other programs. "**REACT** started with assisting the highway motorist. But, **REACT** members equipped with two-way radios have the capability to reduce the emergency response time to any emergency -- be it a highway accident or a crime in progress," Smith

explains. "By serving as participants in community-sponsored Town Watch programs, we can be assured that there are trained observers on the scene serving as eyes and ears for the police department."

Other **Suburban REACT** members participating in the training included Bob Campbell, Sal Campisi, Frank D'Agostino, Kevin Dixon, Pat Hoban, Joe McClellan, Floyd Schoenberg, and Nan and Bernie Simon.

*Editors Note: Christy McCabe is a freelance writer in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.*



## 1994-1995 **REACT International, Inc.** **Board of Directors**

### **States of Responsibility**

#### **James Bear**

Connecticut	Delaware	Indiana
Maine	Massachusetts	Michigan
New Jersey	New York	New Hampshire
Ohio	Pennsylvania	Rhode Island
Vermont		

#### **Richard Gamble**

Alaska	Arizona	California
Colorado	Hawaii	Idaho
Montana	Nevada	New Mexico
Oregon	Washington	Wyoming
Utah	All Foreign Countries	

#### **Kenneth Green**

Arkansas	Illinois	Iowa
Kansas	Louisiana	Minnesota
Missouri	Nebraska	North Dakota
Oklahoma	Texas	South Dakota
Wisconsin		

#### **Richard Pratz**

Alabama	Florida	Georgia
Kentucky	Maryland	Mississippi
North Carolina	South Carolina	Tennessee
West Virginia	Virginia	Puerto Rico

## Calendar of Events

**February 18, 1995** - Illinois REACT Council meeting. Hosted by Lincoln-Railsplitter REACT in Logan County. For more information call Archie Hawley, PV North at (708)430-2923.

**February 18, 1995** - Arizona State Council meeting. Hosted by Tucson REACT in Tucson. For more information please call (602)889-8923.

**February 24-27, 1995** - Disaster '95 - the 16th Annual International Disaster Management Conference to be held at the Hyatt Orlando, in Kissimmee, Florida. For further details please contact the Disaster '95 Registrar - Florida Emergency Medicine Foundation at 3717 S. Conway Rd., Orlando, FL 32812-7607 or call (407)281-7396 or (800)766-6335.

**March 5, 1995** - Kentucky State REACT Council meeting. Hosted by Nelson County REACT Team, Bardstown, Ky. Contact your council representative or Tom or Sue Currie at (502)935-5113 for further details.

**April 1, 1995** - Deadline for article and advertising submission for the May/June issue of the REACTer.

**April 8, 1995** - Wisconsin Council of REACT Teams meeting to be held in Portage, Wisconsin. Contact any Wisconsin Council board member for directions and details.

**April 11-14, 1995** - 17th Annual National Hurricane Conference to be held at the Trump Taj Mahal, Atlantic City, New Jersey. For further details phone (904)561-1163 or fax (904)561-1172.

**May 7, 1995** - Ohio REACT Council meeting. For meeting time and location please contact Gerald Jarvis, President at 45651 TR 285, Coshocton, OH 43812 or phone (614)829-2514.

**May 20, 1995** - Arizona State Council meeting. Hosted by Superstition REACT. For further details call (602)956-4296.

**May 20, 1995** - Kentucky State REACT Council meeting to be held at the Walnut Meadow Campground, Berea, Kentucky. Contact your council representative or Tom or Sue Currie at (502)935-5113 for further details.

**June 1, 1995** - Deadline for article and advertising submission for the July/August issue of the REACTer.

**July 17-20, 1995** - The 1995 REACT International Convention to be held in Omaha, Nebraska. Registration form in this issue of the REACTer and upcoming issues of Team Topics and the REACTer.

**August 1, 1995** - Deadline for article and advertising submission for the September/October issue of the REACTer.

**August 4-6, 1995** - Wisconsin Council of REACT Teams Campout in Merrimac, Wisconsin. Contact any Wisconsin Council board member for directions and details.

**August 6, 1995** - Ohio REACT Council meeting. For meeting time and location please contact Gerald Jarvis, President at 45651 TR 285, Coshocton, OH 43812 or phone (614)829-2514.

**August 19, 1995** - Arizona State Council meeting. Hosted by Cochise REACT. For further details please call (602)459-7700.

**September 9-10, 1995** - Kentucky State REACT Council Meeting and Convention to be held at the Walnut Meadow Campground, Berea, Kentucky. Contact your council representative or Tom or Sue Currie at (502)935-5113 for further details.

**October 1, 1995** - Deadline for articles and advertising submission for the November/December issue of the REACTer.

**October 14, 1995** - Wisconsin Council of REACT Teams to be held in Waukesha, Wisconsin. Contact any Wisconsin Council board member for directions and details.

**November 5, 1995** - Ohio REACT Council meeting. For meeting time and location please contact Gerald Jarvis, President at 45651 TR 285, Coshocton, OH 43812 or phone (614)829-2514.

**November 18, 1995** - Arizona State Council meeting. Hosted by Maricopa REACT. For details call (602)943-4723.

**Editors Note: Mail your meeting dates to Headquarters for inclusion in this column.**

# Cobra Electronics Corporation

## "An Official Sponsor" of the REACT Program

by Bonnie Zygmunt

The best kept secret in Volunteer Emergency Services has been **REACT** - now **Cobra Electronics Corporation** wishes to reveal this fact to the public. November 4th Bill Simpson and I met with two executives from **Cobra Electronics** and discussed plans for a future association between **Cobra** and **REACT**. Bill and I were asked by the REACT International Board to be **REACT's** liaisons.

**Cobra** is the only US based CB manufacturer and has a 40% market share of all the CB radios sold. They see a steady trend in increased CB radio sales and find that the reasons people are purchasing them is, in part, for the security they offer. **Cobra's** new marketing push will be safety and security, and much of their three CB lines will be geared to that theme. Radios will have weather channel access on base stations, mobiles, and handhelds. **Cobra's** radar detectors are called highway safety

systems, and will be able to detect construction zones and/or emergency vehicles, as well as laser and radar waves. Cordless phones will be digitally secure. The possibility exists that **Cobra** will enter the GMRS market in the not-too-distant future and may be willing to listen to **REACT's** ideas on design and features.

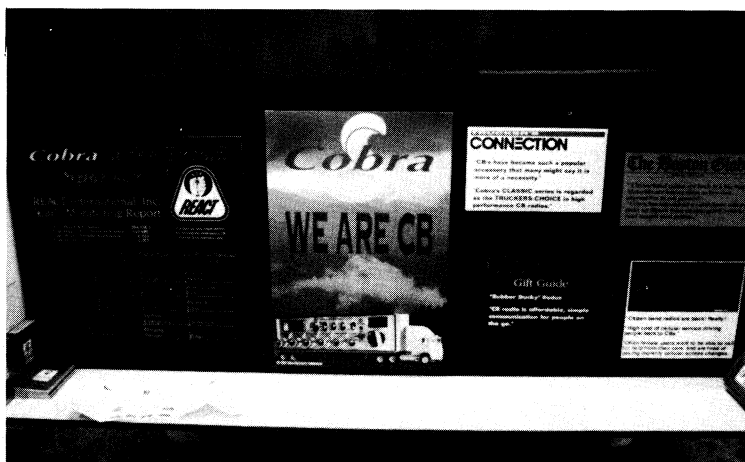
**Cobra** wants to sell "peace of mind" with their CB radios. **REACT** is the missing piece in that puzzle. Without the **REACT** volunteers monitoring Channel 9, the safety and security offered by the **Cobra** advertising is gone. To accomplish this symbiotic relationship, **REACT** membership has to expand and continue to grow to provide the consumers who buy the **Cobra** products a way to get help when they need it. This is why **Cobra** is willing to spend their time and money to increase the **REACT** membership base.

It should be noted that **Cobra** was

scheduled to meet with the **REACT** International Board at the 1994 winter board meeting to propose this support of **REACT**. That board meeting was canceled and rescheduled to a date that **Cobra** could not make. It is to their credit that they continued to pursue this goal despite the extreme passage of time since the initial contact.

### Cobra offers:

- To become "An Official **REACT** Sponsor".
- To distribute **REACT** literature in their boxes of products along with the **REACT** logo on the outside.
- To sponsor and promote **REACT** membership drives.
- To start programs that allow discounts on **Cobra** equipment to **REACT** members.
- To attend our annual **REACT** Conventions bringing radio displays and discussing the future of CB radios.
- To have either their National Marketing Communications Manager or Marketing & Sales Vice President, serve as an At-Large Board member on the **REACT** International Board of Directors.



The **Cobra Electronics Corporation** display at the recent CES Show in Las Vegas, Nevada. A detailed article on the show and additional photographs will be in an upcoming issue of *the REACTer* magazine.

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

**This appointment  
would give REACT:**

1. Access to the FCC.
2. Access to the CEO of Cobra who is also the Vice-Chairman of the Electronics Industry Association.
3. Access to Marketing expertise.
4. Someone willing to serve as an ACTIVE participant on the REACT Board.
5. Someone who owns, understands and uses CB radio.
6. Someone who is enthusiastic about REACT and what its members can do it help the public.

Cobra is offering to include REACT in a \$1,000,000.00 advertising campaign at no cost to REACT. They estimate that 600,000 people will see the REACT pamphlets when they purchase Cobra products. Even if only 5% of those consumers write in to join REACT, that is 30,000 NEW REACT MEMBERS. And that is for only ONE YEAR. It is possible to continue to add that many new members each year. Think of all the projects, training and benefits REACT could offer its members if the REACT funds that are currently budgeted for recruitment could be used elsewhere. The REACT International Board has accepted Cobra's generous offer and has invited Norm Goldberg, the National Marketing Communications Manager for Cobra to become an At-Large Director.

In summary, this is a win-win proposition for REACT. There is no financial outlay or risk, yet REACT could conceivably double membership within the first eighteen months.



Pictured above is Norm Goldberg, National Marketing Communications Manager for Cobra Electronics Corporation and At-Large Director of REACT International, Inc., with Bonnie Zygmunt, Training & Development Chairperson and Ken Green, President of REACT International, Inc, at the recent CES Show held in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The Board extends a special thank you to both Bonnie Zygmunt and Bill Simpson of Wisconsin for taking the time to meet with Mr. Goldberg and other Cobra representatives. The Board of Directors asks that you extend a warm welcome to our newest Director, Mr. Norm Goldberg.

## REACT Board of Director Listing

**Chairman**

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P.O. Box 126  
Lancaster, PA 17608-0126  
HP 717-872-4303  
FAX 717-872-0857

**President**

**Field Director**

Kenneth I. Green  
4901 E. Harry #101  
Wichita, KS 67218  
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FAX 316-263-2118

**Vice President**

**Field Director**

Richard T. Gamble  
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**Secretary/Treasurer**

**Field Director**

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FAX 817-939-5709

**At-Large Director**

**Alan Hansel**

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Waseca, MN 56093  
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BP 507-835-5518  
FAX 507-835-7864

**At-Large Director**

**Norm Goldberg**

Cobra Electronics Corporation  
6500 West Cortland Street  
Chicago, IL 60635  
BP 312-889-8870



# Amateur Radio News

by Steve Gobat, Chairperson

Well you have renewed my confidence in my fellow **REACTers**. After my last article when I asked for your renewed involvement in the REACT Amateur Radio Club. I have been pleasantly surprised with the response in your sending a QSL card or paper telling me you would like to join. I have received a good number of responses so far so keep it up.

If you would like to participate just send a QSL card or facsimile with name, call, address, license class, and if you hold any ARRL appointments to: KA3PDQ, 1160 Old Trail Rd., Etters, PA 17319.

In the next few months any of you that browse the classified ads in Ham

magazines will start to see ads for **REACT**. Yes, it is a humble start but, it is one that has given us results in the past. *Amateur Radio Trader* and *World Radio* are the first two publications that we will run ads in with more to follow.

Speaking of *World Radio*, this publication has a fine feature in it call Search and Rescue. Even if you are not involved in Search and Rescue there are many good tips on Emergency Communications in this column. This one column alone is worth the price of the subscription.

In my articles I will try to express my views about Ham Radio and **REACT**. From time to time I will try to have some technical matter but it will probably be just my own opinion rather than 100% proven fact. I believe there are many very good Ham magazines out there and I hope you are at least receiving one of them. So I don't want to take up too much space with information that you can find elsewhere. I will however tell you about my experiences with equipment I purchased for my own use and what I like and don't like but again I am not a radio expert but a fellow **REACTer** with a typewriter.

If you have something you would like to see or hear about drop me a line

at the above address and I will do my best to fulfill your request. If you find I make a mistake (which I often do!), please drop a line to me. I hope the day doesn't arrive that I can't learn something.

So if you are not a Ham yet and have gotten this far I can tell you are almost hooked! In this column I do not have enough room to teach how, but there are many very good license preparation courses out there. I think the new ones out there with the video tapes are quite informative and if my 14 year old son gets his ticket with the one we bought I will let you know. There are NO EASY short cuts out there except for study and perseverance to get you that much wanted Ham ticket. Just do us both a favor and don't say its too tough for me and give up before you start. You have to want to do it!

For those of you that collect wall paper there is a KEYSTONE Award for 100 PA State contacts. No need to send QSL's just a list of PA stations worked. For information contact: Mark Robinson, WB3JIS 1235 Middletown Rd., Hummelstown, PA 17036-8929. Sponsored by The Harrisburg Radio Amateur's Club, W3UU.

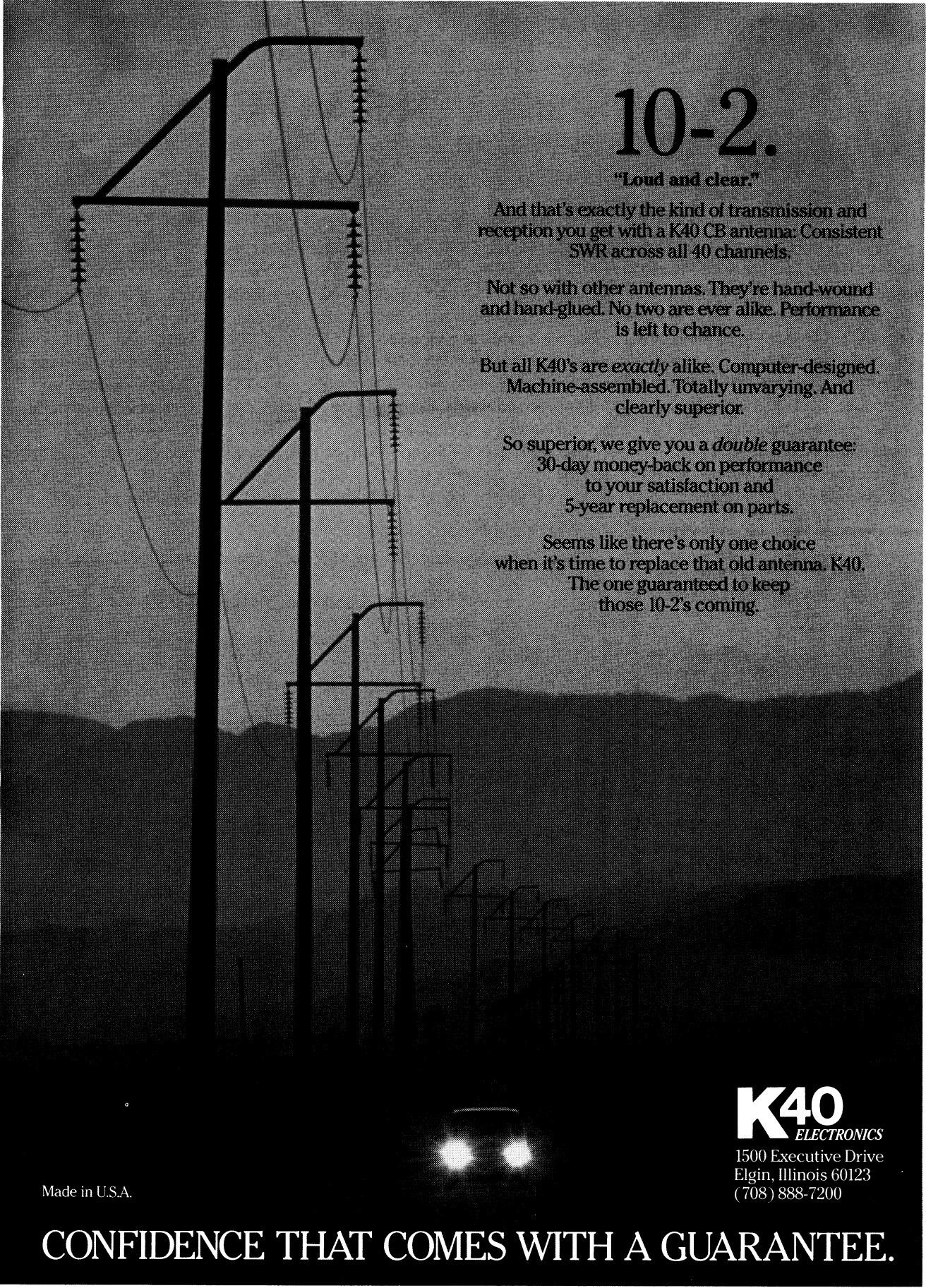
73 KA3PDQ

*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**

*Editors Note: If you have your Amateur License, please send your call sign to Headquarters for inclusion in the membership database.*





# 10-2.

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# Help REACT Rate

Could your Team use some contributions to help it purchase radios, etc.? Just about everyone could, right?

Funds are out there, looking for ways to help. Donors want to be sure, however, that their gifts will be used wisely for worthwhile purposes by the non-profits they choose to support.

Better Business Bureau issues a guide to help donors select charities they will contribute to. BBB lists the non-profits it receives the most inquiries about.

Members of your Team and their friends can help REACT to appear on the BBB list. Here is how you can get involved.

Just drop the BBB a short note. Ask them for information on REACT as a possible choice for a donation. As they receive increasing requests for donor information on REACT they will consider including it in their guide.

Make this a Team project. Encourage friends and supporters of your Team to help by sending BBB requests about

REACT too.

Your letters need to go to: **Better Business Bureaus, 4200 Wilson Blvd., Suite 800, Arlington, VA 22203.**

If you'd like a copy of the guide, include an SASE (business size) and ask for "Giving Wisely". With your help REACT may very well appear in future editions.

Thanks for getting your Team mates interested in this endeavor. It can benefit us all in a number of ways.

## GMRS Radios & Accessories



**Finally!!** A radio has been made just for the serious GMRS and REACT user! Maxon has developed a 2 to 5 watt, 10 channel, repeater capable radio with CTCSS included at a reasonable price! This unit has features you would normally expect to find only in commercial radios.

- high/low power setting
  - Scan function
  - Programmable CTCSS
  - 2 ch. are user programmable!
- Plus many other features to numerous to mention here.

**Maxon GMRS-210+3 10 ch. 2-5 watt-----\$239.00**

**Many accessories available:**

WTA-13G VOX headset-----\$ 48.90  
 WTA-4GM 1/4 wave mobile antenna-----\$ 28.90  
 Maxrad 5/8 wave mobile antenna-----\$ 49.00  
 Miniature speaker mikes, throat mikes and ear mikes also available for added privacy and convenience.

Many models of **ICOM & Yeasu HT's & mobiles** in stock. Call for prices and further information!

Shipping info: Orders shipped in 24 hours with cert. ck. or money order. COD's shipped via UPS in 24 hours. \$7.50 for pkgs. to 3 lbs.

## Sports Communications Dist.

**P.O. Box 36, Scott Mills, OR 97375  
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## 100% Team Renewals

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 C241  
 2200

### Florida

2591

### Georgia

4623

### Hawaii

C010

### Illinois

C164  
 C733  
 4534

### Indiana

C149  
 C653  
 2314

### Kansas

2800

### Maryland

4650

### Michigan

2403  
 3880  
 3791

### Minnesota

3791

### Nebraska

4605

### New Jersey

2416

### Oklahoma

2829

### Rhode Island

C102

### Canada

2060  
 4664

# REACT MODULE TRAINING WINNERS

<b>101 MONITORING</b> AK Glenn Olson 11/15/94 CO William Neal 01/27/94 IL Matthew Medlen, Sr. 08/04/94 MD Josiah Elliott 03/30/94 MD Shirley Elliott 03/30/94 MI Randall Shiemke 08/24/94 MN E. (Gene) Hess 03/03/94 MN Phillip McDonald 03/03/94 MO Micheal Gibbens 03/03/94 NJ Steven Biczak 10/10/94 PA James Bear 08/03/94 SC David Richardson 03/30/94 WI Darryl McIntire 01/27/94 WI Cherish Dukowitz 05/10/94 WI Steven Van Boyen 05/10/94 WI Rick Van Horn, Jr. 05/10/94 WI Barbara Kirby 05/10/94 WI Evelyn Griffith 01/27/94 WI Ronnie Griffith 01/27/94	<b>201 GMRS BASICS</b> AK Glenn Olson 11/15/94 CO William Neal 11/15/94 CT Thomas Morelli 11/15/94 FL Jeffrey Abrams 05/10/94 IL Matthew Medlen, Sr. 08/04/94 MA Bruce Talanian 09/16/94 NJ Steven Biczak 10/10/94 PA James Bear 08/24/94  <b>301 SEARCH TEAMS</b> AK Glenn Olson 11/15/94 CA Lonnie Trammell 05/10/94 Canada Ward Kennedy 05/10/94 CO William Neal 09/16/94 KS Joseph Fehrenbacher 03/30/94 MA Vincent Mattera 01/27/94 MA Diane Mattera 01/27/94 MO William Miller 08/03/94 NY John Soto 09/16/94	NY Douglas Rumsey 09/16/94 OH Bill Elliott 08/24/94 OH Richard Rhodes, Sr. 08/24/94 PA James Bear 08/03/94 SC David Richardson 03/30/94 WI Henry Sahler 09/16/94 WI Judith Simpson 01/12/94 WI Michael Behrendt 03/30/94  <b>401 BUDGET &amp; FINANCE</b> Canada Ronald McCracken 09/16/94 MD Terry Smith 09/26/94 NY Charles Rousselet 09/26/94 NY Douglas Rumsey 09/12/94 PA James Bear 07/22/94 VA Walter Green, III 08/02/94 WA Richard Gamble 08/15/94
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## Training Registration Form

Subject     101    Monitoring                       201    GMRS (Includes FCC Rules)

301    Search Teams                       401    Money Matters

                     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 membership 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 are included).**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

First    Initial    Last

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Team #

Team ID #

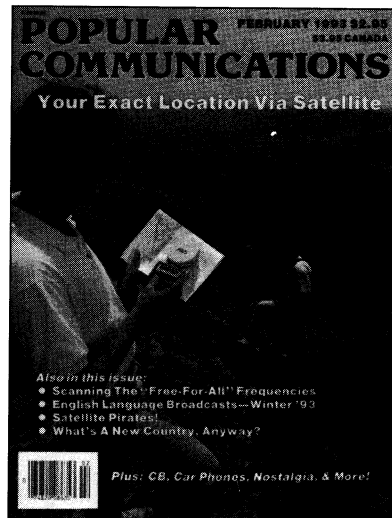
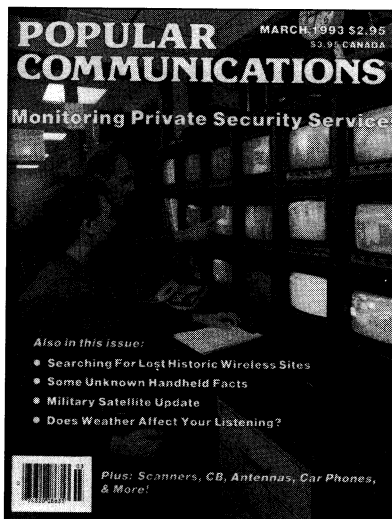
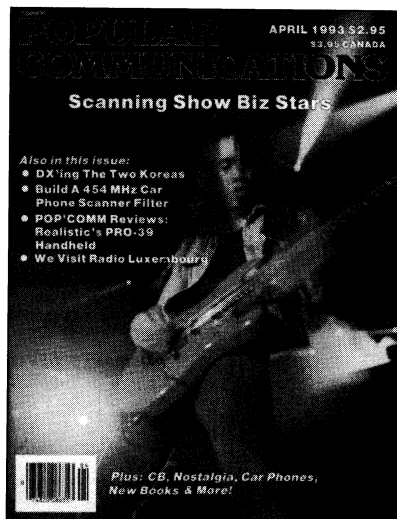
**MAIL TO:**

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

Monitoring Module    (\$7.00)  
 GMRS Module    (\$7.00)  
 Search Teams Module    (\$7.00)  
 Money Matters Module    (\$7.00)  
 GMRS FCC Rules Only    (\$2.50)

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

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

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1 year 12 issues ....\$19.95     2 years 24 issues....\$38.00     3 years 36 issues ....\$57.00

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1995 REACT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION  
 OMAHA, NEBRASKA  
 July 17 - 20, 1995

**SECTION I. NAME/ADDRESS**

Please print or type

NAME _____		
(Last)	(First)	(MIDDLE)
ADDRESS _____		
CITY _____		ST/PROVINCE _____
POSTAL/ZIP CODE _____	PHONE _____	- _____ - _____
LIFE MEMBER		
# _____	TEAM# _____	
Frequencies: Omaha repeater is 462.700 141.3		
Convention is 462.675 141.3		
Amateur (to be announced)		
CB Channel 9 monitored		
<b>Send to: Nebraska REACT, P. O. Box 6482, Omaha, NE 68106 (402) 342-5731</b>		

**SECTION II. CONVENTION REGISTRATION AND HOTEL INFORMATION**

**OMAHA MARRIOTT, 10220 Regency Circle, Omaha, NE 68114, (402)399-9000**  
**(402) 399-0223 fax number; or 1-800-228-9290 ask for reservations**

Convention Registration per person \$55.00	\$ _____
<b>After May 15, 1995, \$65.00</b>	

Name of person: (circle one) Single Double Twin Triple Quad @ \$54.00 a night =	\$54.00
_____	plus per room occupancy tax \$ 2.23
_____	sales/hotel tax \$ 6.21
_____	Total per night \$62.44
_____	

**GRAND TOTAL.....(one to four people).....\$62.44**  
*Hotel reservations MUST be made by May 15, 1995 for guarantee or space available and rate may change.*

If you are not using the Pre-Payment Plan and are making your own hotel reservations, complete and return this form to us.

**SECTION III. TRAVEL INFORMATION**

I/we will be arriving by CAR _____ PLANE _____ TRAIN _____ BUS _____			
My flight information is: Airline _____ Flight # _____			
Arrival _____	Date, Time _____	a.m./p.m.	
Train _____	# _____	Arrival _____	a.m./p.m.
Bus _____	# _____	Arrival _____	a.m./p.m.
I will need transportation from the airport _____, train _____, bus _____			

**SECTION IV. TRIPS/PACKAGES**

There are a number of trips and tours being made available to convention attendees. The Tuesday activity will be a trip to the Henry Doorley Zoo/Lied Jungle or the SAC Museum. The Lied Jungle is the world's largest indoor jungle and rain forest. It is expected that the new aquarium will be open by then so you're in for a treat! After the trips have been completed, we will participate in an outdoor bar-b-que and entertainment. Other trips could include a Wild West Tour, Belle of Brownville, Western Heritage Museum, Old Market, plus many more. More details will be in the REACTer magazine!

**SECTION V. PRE-PAYMENT PLAN**

The Nebraska REACT Council recognizes that most members would like to attend a REACT International Convention. We have reviewed the success for the New Jersey Council "Pre-Payment Plan" and would like to offer it to you. By sending "installments" against a pre-determined amount (pre-determined by the member choosing the Plan), members can budget for the '95 Convention.

The "Pre-Payment Plan" details are explained below:

- \* Registration \$55.00 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - add \* Hotel Room \$62.44 (No.of nights x room rate) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - add \* Trip(s) Package (if chosen) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - equals \* Total (Registration + Room x nights + Trip(s)) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*\*
  - \*Amount divided by No. of months = Suggested payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- (Additional payments welcome!)

*Must be paid upon arrival at the convention. No refunds after June 20, 1995)*

\*\*\* (First payment applied toward Registration Fee, hotel and then trip(s))

Payments must be in U. S. currency

There will be a \$25.00 charge for Non-Sufficient Funds (NSF) checks returned.

Make payments to: 1995 REACT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION  
P. O. Box 6482  
Omaha, NE 68106

**SECTION VI. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Prior International Conventions you have attended:

1976 \_\_\_ 1977 \_\_\_ 1978 \_\_\_ 1979 \_\_\_ 1980 \_\_\_ 1981 \_\_\_ 1982 \_\_\_ 1983 \_\_\_  
1984 \_\_\_ 1985 \_\_\_ 1986 \_\_\_ 1987 \_\_\_ 1988 \_\_\_ 1989 \_\_\_ 1990 \_\_\_ 1991 \_\_\_  
1992 \_\_\_ 1993 \_\_\_ 1994 \_\_\_

**ACCESSIBILITY:**

Do you need an accessible room? \_\_\_\_\_

Any special accommodations? \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary Information: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Medical Information: \_\_\_\_\_

Pets? Describe. \_\_\_\_\_

# of Children \_\_\_\_\_ Age(s) \_\_\_\_\_



# REACTWEAR

Jackets and Caps by Horizon  
Presented by Adventures In Marketing



Quantity Ordered	Description	Cost Each	Small 34-36	Medium 38-40	Large 42-44	XLarge 46-48	XXLarge 50-52	XXXLarge 54-56	XXXXLarge 58-60
	Unlined Jacket	\$39.30					(+\$3.50)	(+\$5.00)	(+\$6.50)
	Lined Jacket	\$47.85					(+\$3.50)	(+\$5.00)	(+\$6.50)
	Summer Cap	\$ 6.00							
	Winter Cap	\$ 6.30							
	Long Sleeve Shirt	\$28.00					(+\$3.00)	(+\$3.00)	
	Short Sleeve Shirt	\$25.50					(+\$2.75)	(+\$2.75)	

[ ] Personalization on jackets - add \$3.00. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Subtotal: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Sales Tax: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Freight: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Call Adventures In Marketing for total with applicable sales tax and freight.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

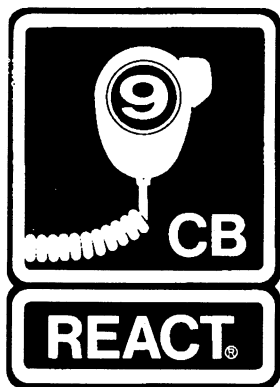
Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone Number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX Number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Check payment is enclosed.

ADVENTURES IN MARKETING . 1117 Timbercreek Drive . Allen, TX 75002  
1-800-727-0779 . FAX (214) 713-2460



# Publicizing REACT

by Public Relations Committee

## PR Begins at Home

Gotten a new member? A new prospect? Find him or her a job. FAST!

Put him to work. Let him know your Team needs him, and values him. Why else is he there?

Assign him to help someone with an easy task. He will get to know another Team member. He will enjoy success and contributing to a Team project. You will have a chance to see where his skills lie and how he can benefit the Team.

Recently a newcomer asked how he could help. "Oh, everything's under control, thanks," came the reply. Wrong answer. Terrible PR.

Be alert to ways you can involve a newcomer quickly in small ways. Plan how you can use him. Plan who you partner him with. Look for friendly, outgoing members who will be good role models. Have several up your sleeve for this important PR.

You want it to be a good experience for both.

## Wide Open Spaces

How roomy is the meeting place used by your REACT Council?

Does it welcome attendees by being large enough for all those expected to attend, plus a number of visitors? It should.

Is it bright, to encourage attendees to take notes and report to their Teams? Are there tables attendees can sit around to see one another as they discuss Council business? These things matter.

This is all part of PR. Councils meet only a few times each year. It's important to make attendees feel welcome and comfortable. Help them concentrate on the agenda, not poor seating, inadequate light, or crowding. Help them accomplish more.

Some must travel long distances to attend. Is there hot coffee brewing and cookies or doughnuts to nibble when they arrive? Throughout the meeting? Show attendees you care. Make them want to be Council meetings. Cover little details like these that mean so much. It's terrific PR.

"Creature comforts" affect the mood and the outcome of your Council meetings. Be sure you have done everything possible to make attendees feel glad they came. Congratulations to Councils and Teams that do.

You owe it to them. You owe it to yourself.

## Five Common Myths about Advertising

### Myth 1

Advertising is what you have to do to get business.

### FACT

Advertising is only one of the many ways to get business. Advertising promotes a product or service. There are many other marketing methods available to you. On the other hand, advertising may be the best method for you.

### Myth 2

Advertising is too expensive for small business.

### FACT

Advertising doesn't have to break your budget. There are many creative promotional alternatives, some using techniques similar to advertising.

### Myth 3

There is one best advertising method.

### FACT

Advertising always begins as an experiment. Using a shotgun approach seems best. Starting with a few classified ads while simultaneously experimenting with trade shows or networking. This works in less time and avoids a financial disaster.

(Continued on page 17)



(Continued from page 16)

#### Myth 4

One shot will do it.

#### FACT

Advertising requires repetition. The average American being exposed to hundreds if not thousands of promotional messages every day. As a result, people have learned to screen out all but those that claim their attention. Advertising works on the Rule of Seven, which asserts that a message typically needs to be noticed by any given customers seven times before he or she will take action.

#### Myth 5

Advertising does the work for you.

#### FACT

You can't sit back and wait. Many people think they can simply put some ads in the proper place and sit back and wait for the business to come rolling in. Rarely does that happen. The more active you are in promoting yourself through a variety of marketing activities, the better results you will get from any advertising you do.

Extracted from the book "Getting Business to Come to You" by Paul and Sarah Edwards and Laura Clampitt Douglas. Available at most office super stores; e.g., Staples, Office Max, etc.

## Adopt a Grandparent or Child

A great idea for the holidays. One Team's efforts, brightened a lot of people and their spirit during this holiday season. Santa's Helper, Team President, Mable Purcell, asked for support and some sponsorship from the stores in the Chester Brook Shopping Center in the Valley Forge area. With the help of the team members and store staff, Christmas trees were placed in several stores with the names and ages and a brief description of a requested item from area underprivileged children and seniors from area senior citizen homes. As the holidays drew near, the requests were filled and the team members along with store staff presented the presents.

## Have a Car Show!

Valley Forge REACT of Pennsylvania sponsored a Car Show to promote REACT and generate food for the local Food Bank. Team President Mable Purcell contacted several area show car associations and an area shopping mall to participate. A local DJ donated time playing 50's music. There were many types of show cars; Antiques, Corvettes, Street Rods. The admittance fee was one canned good of food. It was an overwhelming success for all involved. For more information call or write; Valley Forge Area REACT, 527 Berwyn Baptist Road, Berwyn, PA 19312, (610)644-3311.

The Valley Forge members receive a tip of the hat!

## Three Sister New York REACT Teams,

## Team Up Against Cerebral Palsy

Thanksgiving Weekend heralds in Nassau County Long Island, New York's United Cerebral Palsy's most successful fundraiser: The Festival of Trees. Forty members of Bronx REACT, RELI REACT and South Shore REACT combined to work over one thousand hours, as one allied body to service as the Festival of Trees: traffic control, crowd control, communications, security and medical support for this major three day event.

At this years Festival, REACT assisted over 25,000 visitors plus 1,800 other volunteers in all aspects of their visit to the Festival from parking their cars, protecting their health, finding lost children and families and overseeing their safety.

This was the largest and most successful event United Cerebral Palsy had conducted in the prior six years that it has held this Festival. Proudly we can say that this is also our Sixth year of support for this popular Long Island event.

Each year since the inception, local REACT Teams banded together as one unified group taking direction from Roger S. Feingold, UCP Chairperson and liaison with the REACT Volunteers. REACT has once again shown that teams can work together successfully, unified under one REACT banner, for the benefit of the public we serve.

**TIME IS RUNNING OUT!!!  
SEND IN YOUR  
MEMBERS DUE NOW!!!**

**Regular Members      \$20.00  
Family Members        \$18.00  
Junior Members        \$18.00**

# Twenty Below and Nowhere to Go!!!

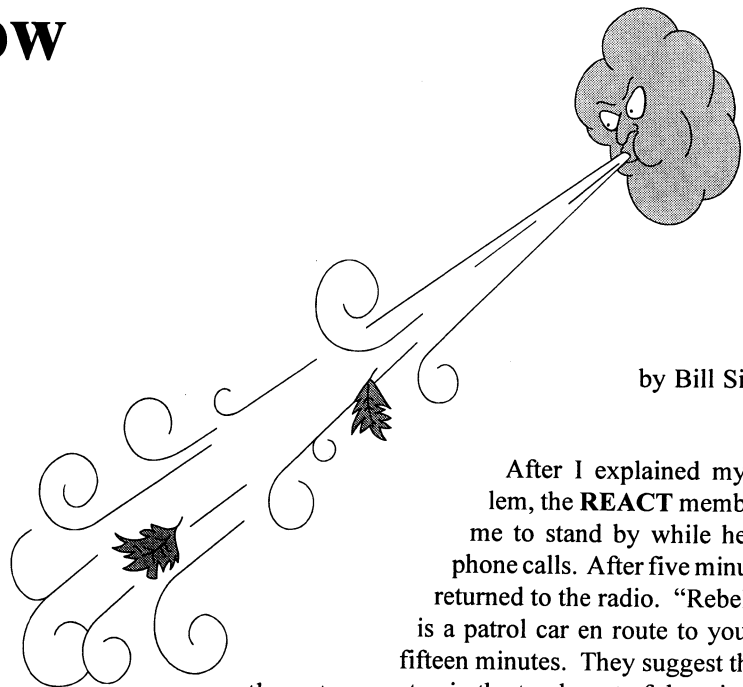
Twenty below zero is no picnic for anyone, but for a southern boy driving a truck across Minnesota, it is absolutely a nightmare! While driving for a Georgia based private trucking firm, in 1976, I received brutal lessons that my pre-trip truck inspection and preparation had not been complete.

I was simply not aware that diesel fuel turned into a gel during extremely cold weather, and had NO idea that there were additives available for cold weather that other drivers used. As I left Minneapolis in the early evening, I heard a weatherman say, "It's fifteen below zero, and will drop another ten degrees by morning."

"Wow," I thought to myself, "I'll have a new story for my fishing buddies when I get home!" Little did I know that



**REACTers do make a difference!**  
Please send us your stories  
for *the REACTer* Magazine.



by Bill Simpson

the story would be about people helping people.

After driving for almost an hour, I noticed that the truck was running rough, and at times, did not have any power. Suddenly, the motor coughed, sputtered, and quit! As I pulled to the shoulder, I thought about the CB radio. I had always thought of the CB as a kind of a toy...something to use for "smokey reports" and to use to stay awake. I had heard that help was available on Channel 9, but had never needed to use it.

I picked up the radio, switched to Channel 9, and called... and called... and called. Suddenly I received an answer!

*STATION CALLING, THIS IS A REACT BASE. COULD I BE OF ASSISTANCE?"* Boy, oh boy! Cold he ever!

After I explained my problem, the REACT member told me to stand by while he made phone calls. After five minutes, he returned to the radio. "Rebel, there is a patrol car en route to you, ETA fifteen minutes. They suggest that you stay in the truck, out of the wind. The squad will take you to a motel, and arrange for a tow truck tomorrow morning."

Well, I sure wasn't going anywhere. I had never even heard of a wind chill factor, but found out later that it was the equivalent of forty-two below, and that I would have frozen to death in a very short time, had it not been for my CB radio, and an alert REACT monitor. I later joined REACT, and since then, I've added GMRS and Amateur licensing and equipment to my vehicles, but I never forget to turn the CB to Channel 9 while in the car. I have never been able to thank that REACT member, so I have to pass on the assistance to other motorists in need. While none of my "saves" ever made the newspapers, I know of at least three individuals whose life I very probably saved.

*Ed. Note: Bill normally monitors between 5,500 and 6,000 hours per year, and has amassed in excess of 60,000 hours since joining REACT in 1982. In 1987, he was the recipient of the Individual K40 Achievement Award. He is a Life Member of REACT; for three years, wrote a column for the REACTer; and presently serves as President of the Wisconsin Council of REACT Teams.*



# Motivating your Volunteers

by Pam Hedden, Canadian Chairperson  
Membership Retention and Recruitment Committee

There is no great trick to motivation...It's simply finding out what people like to do -- and can do well -- and then letting them do it.

**Motivation is like a watch -- it takes a few minutes to wind but then it can run by itself for days.**

People are motivated when they understand and value the payoffs. Four methods of motivating people are:

1. Provide a reason for people to participate in your Team.
2. Provide recognition.
3. Provide goals that are clearly defined and communicated.
4. Conduct stimulating meetings.

**Motivation is like a shot of adrenaline -- it picks you up when your energy is low and gets you over the hurdles.**

Motivation is a very individual and internal concept. It's a person's drive to satisfy one of their needs.

It's very much a two-way street. When volunteers and the Team are highly motivated, the Team accomplishes: goals, short term plans, teamwork and payoffs for the Team. In return the volunteer receives: recognition, interesting jobs, responsibility and achievements.

You can't force people to do something they're not interested in. A volunteer needs to know what to do, how to do it, to be able to do it and to agree to the task. Work given to a volunteer must be work that the volunteer wants to do.

**Motivation is like a flower -- it blossoms with care and dies with overworking.**

Help volunteers discover their uniqueness and then help them move from one comfort level to another comfort level. Help them through the discomfort level. You want to keep morale and motivation in high gear at all times. Some ways to do this are:

1. Try to be available.
2. Let the volunteer know they can contact you.
3. Involve volunteers in your meetings.
4. **NEVER** belittle your volunteer.
5. When you do need to correct or reprimand, time it carefully. Reprimand as soon after the problem as possible. Choose a neutral location. Be specific in telling the person what they did wrong. Shake hands, touch them and tell them how much you value them. Build back their self-confidence and self-esteem by praising their good qualities. Realize when the reprimand is over.
6. Don't play favorites.
7. Be sensitive to people.
8. Give honest and sincere praise.
9. Listen to others' viewpoints and ideas.
10. Delegate but don't dump.
11. Continually keep your volunteers and yourself growing.

(Continued on page 20)

(Continued from page 20)

**Motivation is like a ball -- it needs help to keep it bouncing.**

A manager of volunteers is one who establishes and maintains a creative climate. Within this climate, volunteers choose to work cooperatively toward the accomplishment of goals and objectives which are compatible with personal and

Team values. The failure to perceive what people really want and need is the biggest motivational problem. Be sure to use supervision or the buddy system regularly to be a source of support, assurance and redirection for yourself.

Because you, the manager of volunteers, truly care about others, you have a responsibility to care for yourself so that you will have energy, strength and resources to be there when they need you.

## 1994-1995 REACT Committees

### Executive Committee

James E. Bear, Chairman  
P.O. Box 126  
Lancaster, PA 17608-0126  
HP 717-872-4303  
FAX 717-872-0857

Kenneth I. Green, President  
4901 E. Harry #101  
Wichita, KS 67218  
HP 316-651-0757  
FAX 316-263-2118

Richard Pratz, Treasurer  
Rt. 7, Box 7296  
Belton, TX 76513-9106  
HP 817-939-8404  
FAX 817-939-5709

**Awards and  
Recognition Committee**  
Richard Pratz - Director

Don Perry, Chairperson  
4724 Avens Street N.E.  
Salem, OR 97301  
HP 503-363-2850

**Computer Services Committee**  
Kenneth Green - Director

Walt Young, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 360408  
Melbourne, FL 32936  
HP 407-254-1202

### Communications Committee

Alan Hansel - Director

Steve Gobat, Amateur Chairperson  
1160 Old Trail Road  
Etters, PA 17319  
HP 717-938-6943

Walter Green, CB Chairperson  
P.O. Box 799  
Glen Allen, VA 23060  
HP 804-264-8161

Paul Jones, GMRS Chairperson  
1225 Buena Drive  
Lakeland, FL 33805  
HP 813-688-1080

**Convention Site Selection Committee**  
Richard Gamble - Director

Dorothy DePoe, Chairperson  
100 N. Richards Ave.  
Somerville, NJ 08876  
HP 908-218-9760

**Government Relations Committee**  
James Bear - Director

Norman Kaplan, Chairperson  
2605 Loma Street  
Silver Springs, MD 20902-4841  
HP 301-649-7021

**Life Membership Committee**  
Richard Pratz - Director

Christine White, Chairperson  
313 West 18th Street  
Tishomingo, OK 73460  
HP 405-371-9461

### Membership Committee

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James Bear, Field Director  
Kenneth Green, Field Director  
Richard Pratz, Field Director

### Membership Retention & Recruitment Committee

Richard Gamble - Director

Pam Hedden, Canadian Chairperson  
5-209 Ross Street  
St. Thomas, ON Canada N5R 3Y4  
HP 519-631-3129  
FAX same as above

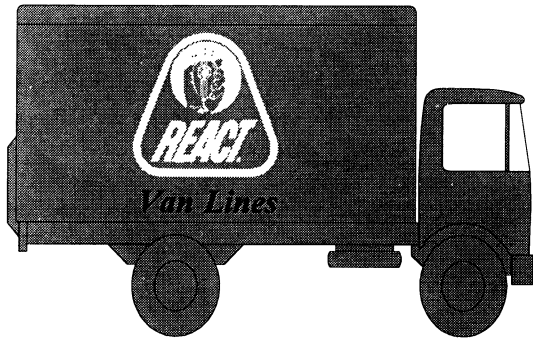
Jacki MacDonald, US Chairperson  
N29 W27520 Peninsula Drive  
Pewaukee, WI 53072  
HP 414-691-3977  
FAX 414-691-9490

**Training and  
Development Committee**  
Kenneth Green - Director

Bonnie Zygmunt, Chairperson  
5925 Donegal Road  
Hubertus, WI 53033  
HP 414-628-0218

**Public Relations Committee**  
James Bear - Director

Fred Lanshe, Chairperson  
630 Washington Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
HP 215-434-3235  
FAX same as above



# REACT

## on the

# Move

Is your Team making moves to be ready for the 21st century?

Teams that have decided to be leaders in preparing for the REACT world of tomorrow are reaping some surprise yields. What they are experiencing, your Team can experience too.

New enthusiasm among Team members as they plan for, or get their first chance to use, new GMRS and amateur radios is one nice benefit. It shouldn't surprise us. A new radio, like a new car or a new outfit, will excite most radio types.

New members are another spin-off bonus Teams are reporting. Working with more complex radio equipment in various radio services appeals to some. Others enjoy the opportunities to work in radio bands that are more strictly regulated. Some are excited at the prospect of REACT's increasing role in disaster communications.

### CO-OPERATION KEY

REACT Councils and Teams are establishing mutual aid agreements to ensure efficiency and effectiveness in disaster situations. Teams and Councils are co-operating with amateur emergency radio services too, for the same purpose.

International is hard at work laying the foundation to help Teams be successful in their added role. The agreement with NWS is one example.

Have your read it? Has your Team contacted the local NWS office? Has your Council contacted the state NWS headquarters?

Have your Team and Council invited an NWS speaker to address them? Now is the time. Get in on the ground floor. Establish and maintain regular contact with your NWS counterpart.

REACT agreements with Salvation Army and Red Cross are in the process of being updated. Meanwhile, your Team and Council should take the same steps locally as outlined above for the NWS.

Next, contact the local amateur emergency groups, FEMA, and your emergency planning official for speakers. Let them meet your Team, let your Team get to know them. Do it now, well before you have to meet in a disaster.

### ROLE FOR CB

Reassure your members that CB radio has an important place in REACT's growing disaster function. Your Team will need every available radio and every qualified operator when an emergency occurs.

Plan now how your Team's CB operators will contribute in a disaster situation. Some may be unable to afford a GMRS radio just yet.

They need to know now how the Team intends to use their radio skill and experience. You need to know too.

CB Channel 9 will be very busy in an emergency. It will require some of your best Channel 9 monitors to handle the extremely heavy traffic you can expect. Just ask California REACT Teams that worked the Oakland earthquake disaster. Plan for it.

As REACT gradually shifts with the times to ease into important new responsibilities, two things are becoming clear. One, there will be more than enough work for everyone operating in various radio services. Two, our fresh emphasis on disaster communications is helping Teams both recruit and retain members.

If you've enjoyed the last 30 years of REACT, hold onto your hat. Prospects for the next 30 are looking more exciting with each passing day.

## Classified Advertising

**GMRS EQUIPMENT** - 675-600 Mgz., antenna, repeater, coax, handhelds, mobile, batteries, chargers. Package deal only \$2,600.00. Call (614)394-2082.

**AVS COMMUNICATIONS**- The GMRS Specialists. Call for recent list of New and Used 2 Way Radio Equipment. New Motorola/Radius now available. Mention this ad for Special Savings when placing order. Call (510)471-3167.

## Volunteers REACT to area needs

# County chapter reaches new heights with use of Houston firms tower

by Linda Formet-Heath  
The Brazosport Facts

The next time you are attending a festival or civic function - such as the recent Fishin' Fiesta or upcoming Mosquito Festival - and someone carrying a handheld radio directs you to a parking space or shuttles you to your destination from the parking area, react positively. You have just met a member of the Brazoria County chapter of **REACT**.

If there is a natural or man-made

disaster, or your house catches fire, you will also meet the men and women of Radio Emergency Associated Communications Teams, because in addition to the fun times, they also work closely with the American Red Cross and law enforcement to provide communications.

Now the local chapter has a new tool in its help chest. Thanks to the generosity of Bowen and Smith Company of Houston, which owns a 460-foot com-

munications equipment tower off Highway 523 north of Oyster Creek, **REACT** can now reach not only all of Brazoria County, but as far away as NASA, Bay City, downtown Houston and the Highway 6 - Highway 59 intersection, says Allan Tyler, a past president of the organization [current President of the **Texas State REACT Council**].

"We were looking for a new, longer distance location, and Doug Irving (of

### West Germany Team Solicits Help

(Continued on page 23)

**REACT Funkhilfe e.v. Team #5038**, of Germany celebrated their 2nd anniversary on December 19th, 1994. Team President, Hans J. Hoffman tells International that members of #5038 has struggled this last two years to assure the survival of their new team. Without corporation sponsorship in Germany, members perform functions to help the local police department with traffic and accidents and set up a radio help service at Volksmarches and Motorsports events.

Hans hopes that someday his members are able to attend a **REACT** International Convention and visit with other **REACTers**.

Members of Team #5038 would enjoy hearing from other **REACTers** around the world on tips to promote membership growth and gain sponsorship within their community. Suggestions can be forwarded to Hans J. Hoffman, President, OP: Hansi, Postfach 1243, 55478 Kirchberg, Germany.



## New Teams Chartered

- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| #4915 | Southern Utah REACT<br>Cedar City, Utah (Iron)<br>December 9, 1994        |
| #4916 | REACT Thunder Country<br>Thunder Bay, Ontario Canada<br>December 12, 1994 |
| #4917 | Sciota County REACT<br>Portsmouth, Ohio (Scioto)<br>December 12, 1994     |
| #4918 | Gulf Coast REACT<br>Gulfport, MS (Harrison)<br>January 11, 1995           |

(Continued from page 22)

Bowen and Smith) said he was impressed with our work and made us an offer we couldn't refuse," Tyler said.

All the group had to do was put in their own helix cable to reach their antenna and they were ready to talk.

The funds for that were raised at last year's dance at Bobby Jo's Community Center, so that equipment is fully paid for, Tyler said.

That means that Friday night's repeat performance by Johnny Dee and the Rocket 88's can go to buy even more radio equipment for the volunteers, who otherwise would have to purchase their own.

The system is what is known as a repeating transmitter, receiving radio signals from handheld radios and mobile unites at rates as low as five watts and then retransmitting them at 40 watts.

"The height is critical in range. The key factor is that we are now over the trees and buildings," Tyler explained.

The original location atop Angleton-Danbury General Hospital will be retained as back-up so that the antenna equipment could be moved farther inland in case of a hurricane.

It was another type of natural disaster that forged the link between REACT and the Red Cross - the floods of 1991-92, when they provided the communications between the main Red Cross office in Angleton and the shelters set up in the stricken areas.

A grant from the National Red Cross gave the local Red Cross chapter the funds for radios and base stations and REACT members decided to expand their capabilities to match.

"Our radios are the police-type of ultra-hi frequency," Tyler said, explaining why equipment costs are so high.

It is money well spent, however, says new local Red Cross Director Toni Hodges.

"When we are operating the shelters, it really saves wear and tear on our volunteers, because if they need something and the phones are out, they can

just radio in, since not everyone has a cellular phone."

"It is also a big help when we are out doing damage assessments," she said of the system, adding it is one she "would be thrilled if I never had to use."

The system also comes in handy when the Red Cross is staffing First Aid stations at such events as the Quintana Beach Festival, or even in handling single family fires. "It's just a matter of being able to stay in touch," she said.

REACT has been reaching out to touch someone since it was established

in Chicago, Ill., in 1962. In the beginning, corporate sponsors financed the group, but now it is entirely supported by local communities.

*(The article above appeared in the Brazosport Facts on July 20, 1994. REACT International was given special permission to reprint the article in its entirety for this issue of the REACTer only. Credit for this article goes to The Brazosport Facts, Linda Formet-Heath and Robert J. Reed, Photographer for the picture shown on the back cover.)*

**Brazoria County REACT #2988** assisted the Brazoria County Chapter of the American Red Cross with the floods of 1994 from October 18, 1994 through November 2, 1994. The Team provided support in shelter management, damage assessment, mass care, EOC, and in staff support. From Team membership, 12 people (52%) assisted with flood relief through the Red Cross. Total local volunteer man-hours for the flood relief were 2,582 hours. From the total volunteer man-hours, **Brazoria County REACT** put in 1,151 man-hours (44.6%) towards the relief. **Brazoria County REACT** provided support in the following areas:

635 hours	shelter management
300 hours	staff support
75 hours	emergency operations center
50 hours	mass care
<u>91 hours</u>	damage assessment
<b>1151 hours</b>	

GMRS was used for the communications for the relief. Radios were located in the following areas:

- Shelters (3)
- EOC (1)
- Red Cross Office Staff (3)
- Key Red Cross Volunteers
- REACT Volunteers

The Red Cross housed 260 people that were displaced by the floods in three shelters. One was located in Pearland (north part of the county) and two were located in Angleton (central part of the county). The last shelter was closed on November 2, 1994 in the Angleton area. The Baptist Men from Tennessee, Family Services of the ARC, and FEMA were located in Angleton to assist with the flood relief.



Members of the **Brazoria County Chapter of REACT** and the American Red Cross gaze down from the new communications tower they are using near Oyster Creek. At left and far right are Carla Koch and Allan Tyler of **REACT**, with Red Cross volunteers Randy Ryle and Bill Hammick in center. In back is Toni Hodges, Red Cross director.