



the REACTer

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

January/February 1996

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Florida REACT Teams attended their Fall Council Meeting in strength. Extra seating was required. FCC Field Office closures were a hot topic. Roger Robinson (left) will coordinate the Council's response to the FCC action. Pictured is some of the new officers conducting Council business before the Teams.

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In This Issue...

**Crest REACT
Takes the Field**

**FCC Offices
Slated for Closure**

**Productive Meetings -
Play by the Rules**

Caught in traffic again!



Standing Room Only!

Florida Council of REACT Teams had a problem when it met recently. So many attended, there was a shortage of seats!

That was quickly remedied and Teams from across Florida held a very successful meeting. Attendees reported on their Teams' involvement in a near-record hurricane season. Four major tropical storms tested their communication skills. One Team had even sent personnel to help in the aftermath of the hurricane that devastated the U.S. Virgin Islands in the Caribbean.

FCC office closures were a serious concern to Teams. REACT relies on FCC personnel for reinforcement of radio regulations. Manpower shortages have handicapped FCC offices in Florida and elsewhere for some time.

Now, Washington is shutting down the Vero Beach, Florida office entirely. It will also make further staff cuts at the Miami FCC office. Florida Teams dread the impact these moves will have on their ability to serve in the next hurricane season.

Incredible as it may seem, delegates told of renegade CBers deliberately mis-directing trucks loaded with relief supplies during Hurricane Andrew out into the Everglades. They rightly wonder what will happen when there is no FCC presence at all.

Teams re-elected their officers to serve another term. However, there were elections for some posts, another sign of a healthy organization.

Florida has faith in the future of REACT, too. It will bid for the International Convention in the year 2000. Good stuff!



Fun was had at the recent Florida REACT Council Meeting. Attendees could use their draw tickets on prizes they liked. Here they place tickets in trays holding the prizes they hope to win.



Florida REACT Council past President Jerry Rowton and REACT International past President Ron McCracken tally election results for 1996 officers with Janis Cohen of the host team. Keen interest meant elections for several posts. A healthy sign!

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Westchester County REACT #2240 moves into new communications center

by Charles Bessels, President
Westchester County REACT #2240

Westchester County REACT Team #2240, White Plains, New York, recently moved back into its' offices at the American Red Cross.

The twenty-two member team, in its' 22nd year of service, had to move three years ago when the Red Cross began a total renovation of their chapter. During that time the team used space donated to them by Ciba-Geigy in Ardsley, New York.

Westchester's new communications center is very well stocked with equipment. Two multi channel GMRS ra-

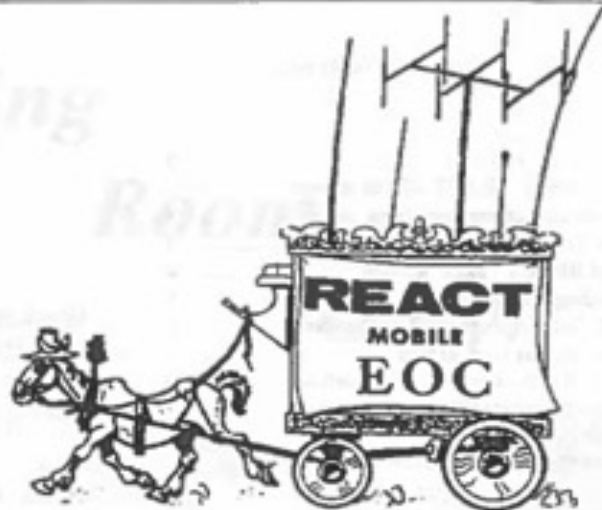
dios enable the team to monitor not only their own operating frequency, but surrounding teams as well. It is also equipped with a Red Cross radio, Ham radio, monitors of key frequencies in the county, a scanner, cable television, a computer with a computer aided dispatch program for their road patrol, and two multi line telephones. There are also chargers for GMRS portables, a refrigerator and a microwave oven. The entire system has a battery backup enabling the team to operate during a power outage.

New Teams Chartered

- | | |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| #4940 | REACT Saskatoon
Saskatoon, Canada (Saskatchewan)
November 13, 1995 |
| #4941 | Forest Ranch REACT
Forest Ranch, California (Forest Ranch)
December 4, 1995 |
| #4942 | Emergency Medical REACT
New York, New York (Queens)
December 12, 1995 |
| #4943 | Reach & REACT of Wellsville
Wellsville, New York (Wellsville)
December 26, 1995 |
| #4944 | Allegany County REACT
Friendship, New York (Allegany)
December 26, 1995 |
| #4945 | REACT Merrimack Valley
Hooksett, New Hampshire (Merrimack)
December 28, 1995 |
| | Correction - November/December issue |
| #4929 | Hancock County REACT
Kiln, Mississippi (Hancock)
July 3, 1995 |

Crest REACT Takes the Field

by Ken Collier, KO6UX
President - Team #4252



With an increasing number of ham radio operators among their membership, it seemed only natural that Corona, California's Crest REACT #4252 participate in the ARRL's Annual Field Day. On June 24th and 25th, team members set up field station KE6TZZ and used emergency power sources in an attempt to simulate disaster communications. The "field" in this case happened to be the Corona Senior Center, which had recently been offered to Crest as an EOC. The event proved to be an excellent trial for the building, and, because of its accessibility, the team caught the attention of many interested passers by.

Anyone who has worked it before knows that Field Day is never a simple event, and it certainly wasn't for Crest. Trouble began when the team found that they had another event scheduled during the contest period. The team had consented to work the local Girl Scout Olympics a month earlier. However, the event had been rained out and rescheduled for the morning of Saturday, June 24th. The public service minded Crest members worked both events, and the operators from the

Olympics rushed over to the Field Day sight as soon as they were able. They missed out on setup, a few hours of operating, and, together with a minor generator failure, gave the club president a few new gray hairs, but everything worked out just fine.

During a frenzied twenty-four hours, the team station, KE6TZZ, made over one hundred contacts, scored 1073 points, and passed NTS messages addressed to REACT International's Board of Directors, the local Red Cross chapter, and a few of the areas RACES/ARES leaders. The results of the contest, however, aren't nearly as important as the experience that the team gained.

Crest's members were able to work many different bands and modes, from 80 through Two Meters, expanding their horizons and gaining vital disaster communications training. As an added bonus, many non-ham REACTers got the opportunity to run "third-party", thereby getting their first taste of amateur radio. For at least one of these, Phillip Schonder, Unit 14, Field Day convinced him to pursue his own ham license.

Keeping in mind the purposes of REACT, Crest also monitored CB Channel 9, GMRS, and a local Two Meter emergency frequency, in addition to working the contest. They also managed to handle several real emergency calls during the Field Day period.

Although it was the first Field Day in their history, Crest is certainly at home on the amateur bands. Recent membership drives have focused on amateurs. Currently, more than half of the team's members have amateur licenses, several general class or higher (including two MARS operators). Amateur radio also plays a large roll in the future plans of the team. They soon hope to have a Two Meter and/or a 70 Centimeter repeater on which to handle traffic reports and motorist assistance.

For Crest, Field Day was a test of its growing amateur abilities, and a great chance to attract members by bringing themselves to the attention of local amateurs. John Seitz, Unit 44 (KA6RSY), characterized the operation as successful, "We should really be proud of the effort our first time out. We worked across the spectrum, all bands and modes, and we had a lot of fun." Indeed, everyone involved had a great time and went away with a better idea of what real disaster communications might be like. Solid CB and GMRS monitoring, and increased amateur activity all go to prove that, true to their slogan, "Crest is the best in the west."

Team Memberships are now due!

**Don't miss out on prizes in
the REACT Lottery Contest.**

Renew your members today!

BUILDING ENTHUSIASM

by Pam Hedden, International Director

How a volunteer is recruited and oriented has much to do with the enthusiasm with which he begins his service and the length of time he remains in the service of REACT.

The goal of orientation is to acquaint new volunteers with our organization, with the members of our organization, and to allow an opportunity for new members to ask questions.

Orientation can be done on an individual or group basis. Group orientation is indicated when there are several new volunteers at the same time, when group discussion and visual aids are utilized as a method of giving information, or there is a great deal of information to be given in a short period of time.

Since the purpose of orientation is primarily information giving, there is a danger that people may become bored or receive an overload of input. To avoid this use two or more presenters, utilize audio visual aids, allow sufficient participation through discussion and questioning, and distribute written materials and the agenda to the new volunteers before the orientation meeting. This way the new volunteers have time to familiarize themselves with the basic contents.

Information given at the orientation meeting should include:

1. A description and history of REACT.
2. A description of REACT programs and our clientele.
3. How REACT relates to the community and to other organizations.
4. A description of the organizational chart and an introduction to key volunteers in your Team.



5. A time line of major events throughout the year.
6. Introduction of the volunteer manual.

The volunteer manual should contain:

- a. agency description -- goals, history, programs
 - b. sample of agency publications
 - c. organizational chart
 - d. contact list of the Team Executives
 - e. volunteer job description
 - f. sample record keeping forms - time sheets, etc.
 - g. reimbursement policies and forms
 - h. termination procedures
 - i. dress code
 - j. methods for changing schedules or being absent
 - k. application and related forms
 - l. performance review process
 - m. grievance procedure
 - n. volunteer benefits
 - o. listing of technical terms and slang commonly used by the Team - 10 code, etc.
 - p. greeting letter from Team President
7. Outline of volunteer benefits.

It is becoming increasingly necessary for organizations to provide in their budgets for the reimbursement of volunteers for travel, parking, etc.

8. Notification of volunteer training schedule.

It is helpful to draw up, with the volunteer, an individualized plan for volunteer's training. Include in the plan personal contacts, on-the-job support and relevant literature.

Commitments for training and support must be made by both the volunteer and the person with whom he works. The better trained the volunteer, the more effective the service he can render - and the more secure he will feel.

9. Introduction of supervisory system and personnel.

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page)

10. Coverage of record keeping requirements.
11. Description of performance appraisal and review system.

It is important for the volunteer to be able to tell his supervisor or consultant how he feels about the service he is giving, and to suggest ways in which he feels the agency could be made a better place to volunteer.

12. Orientation to individual volunteer jobs.

The importance and necessity of all volunteer jobs

should be understood in context of the whole picture of Team service.

13. System for changing schedules or notification of absences.
14. Opportunities for growth and job development.

Offering a variety of jobs, opportunities for change and growth and a chance to move from one job to another - or even hold two jobs at a time - stimulates and energizes many volunteers.

15. Pleas to recruit more volunteers.

HOW TO TURN ON A VOLUNTEER

Place people in work using their skills and related to their interests.

Provide a continuous process of orientation, supervision, training and evaluation.

Collaborate on job description which legitimizes realistic expectations.

Give ample opportunity to share ideas, participate in problem solving.

Provide regular mechanisms for supportive feedback - "booster shots" - recognition.

Interpret the concept of meaningful service; consider needs of belonging, personal growth, creativity.

Provide advancement to higher levels of responsibility, learning, influence.

Encourage participation in training activities in the Team and in the community.

HOW TO TURN OFF A VOLUNTEER

Give people tasks they're not equipped to handle - or really don't like.

Don't explain the significance of the volunteer's task as part of the larger picture. In fact, don't explain much of anything.

Set unrealistic, misleading or false expectations of the volunteer.

Do not allow the volunteer to make any decisions, or to use any initiative.

Don't give credit for any ideas, learning or achievement. Don't reward.

Don't worry about their sense of worth or their needs; they're only there to do a job.

Do not promote. They're trained; let them do their job.

Once they're in their job, don't worry about stimulation or new ideas.

Listening is only half the fun. Popular Communications is the other half."



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Allow 6 to 8 weeks for delivery

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The Grassroots...

by Bonnie Zygmunt, REACT Field Director

FCC Field Offices Slated for Closure

Everyone knows that a lot of rumors come out of "The Government." Some from the politicians and some from the bureaucracies. One that has been heard lately is that the FCC is closing all their Field Offices. I wanted to check into this so I wrote an e-mail message to the FCC information area from their computer Web Page. This is the message I received the very same day. In fact, I received two answers in that same day from two different FCC courses. I believe this is a good indication that this is true and the employees at the FCC aren't particularly happy about it.

***Assure your voice is heard.
Write your Congress, Senate
and the FCC on the
closure of Field Offices.***

Subject: FCC Field Offices - Reply
Date: 95-12-01 15:47:56 EST
From: FCCINFO@fcc.gov
To: BSZ3866@aol.com

"It is true, by July of 1996 the FCC will close 18 of the field offices. If you feel this is unfair to the citizens, you can contact your elected representatives to the House and Senate. They are: Allegan, Michigan; Anchorage, Alaska; Baltimore, Maryland; Belfast, Maine, Buffalo, New York; Douglas, Arizona, Ferndale, Washington; Grand Island, Nebraska; Honolulu, Hawaii; Kingsville, Texas; Livermore, California; Miami, Florida; Norfolk, Virginia; Portland, Oregon; Powder Springs, Georgia; St. Paul, Minnesota; San Juan, Puerto Rico; Vero Beach, Florida; in addition the Commission has already closed three Regional Offices: Seattle, Boston and Atlanta. All monitoring stations will be closed except for automatic monitoring. If you feel this is a disservice to you, you may also wish to contact the Chairman of the FCC. His name is Reed E. Hundt."

Now the question to the REACT members is, is this a disservice to you? Is one of the Field Offices, slated to be closed, in your area and will that clos-

ing mean you will not get any response when you have a problem with someone blocking your attempts to answer an emergency call on CB Channel 9? If you or your Team believes this is unfair to you, the citizens, you need to act on this information.

The one letter coming from the REACT International Board is not going to make the same impression that a couple of hundred letters from individual REACT members, Teams or Councils would make. Writing to your specific Congress-person or Senator will hit them in their most prized possession, the ballot box. A flood of letters to the FCC may make them think twice about cutting their operations to the bone.

The address for the FCC is below. You will need to come up with the addresses of your own representatives.

Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554.

There is also a Consumer Assistance line at (202) 418-0200.

July 1996 is still a few months away. I present this information for your edification and enlightenment. Do with it what you will.

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**



21st Annual Convention - Held in the Great Pacific Northwest

Now that the holidays are behind us, we are looking forward to the 21st Annual International REACT Convention in the great Pacific Northwest with increased enthusiasm and anticipation.

The Washington/Oregon REACT Council is firming up all the exciting things we have planned for you to enjoy, along with the usual and exciting new business of International.

Speaking of business, we hope that you have already or are about to, send in your registration form(s). If they are in before April 1st (no fooling) you may be the lucky recipient of a drawing for: free hotel accommodations, free cruise and native dinner, free one hour flight over the Puget Sound, and maybe more during the convention.

If you are not an early bird, you will still qualify for the reduced cost of registration, if it's posted before May 1st, 1996.

By the way, you DON'T have to be a delegate to come to a convention. The more representation your team has from your area, the greater support your delegate feels. No one really wants to be the "Lone Ranger" at these things, the more the merrier.

One more practical item to remember if you are a smoker. Get your registration and reservations in early, the hotel has only 30 designated smoking rooms. And we are sorry laws and regulations do not allow pets. However, kennels are near by.

Be sure to be very clear on your registration forms as to what type of transportation and your destinations. This will help us arrange things on this end for your smooth, hassle free arrival.

Remember we offer a payment plan for those of you that can't make one big

payment all at once. Receipts will be issued with balance due after each payment to keep you informed of your balance.

We want you to have spirited competition among the Teams and Councils this year with the poster contest. (These aren't the voting placards, which will be furnished by the Council).

The rules are simple. They are to be on 12 inch by 24 inch (1 ft. by 2 ft.) white posterboard, done in what ever medium you choose that best represents your REACT service to your area.

Here are some ideas: a panoramic view of an interstate serviced with "REACT monitors Channel 9", or maybe a collage of team members on a Safety Break. Perhaps you could use a collection of pictures with members monitoring their radios.

Come on now, let your imagination run wild, and remember the guidelines. There are only three (3) rules:

Size: 12 inch x 24 inch
Material: White Posterboard
Theme: REACT at Work



A panoramic view of Puget Sound as seen from the convention hotel - Silverdale on the Bay, Silverdale, Washington, the site of the 1996 REACT International Convention.

***Remember: Come early - stay late -
and enjoy the Pacific Northwest***

A great way to spend your 1996 summer vacation...

- Visit an outdoor market providing items from food to crafts of all kinds - **Pike Place Market**
- Travel by ferry ride to visit a friendly city of 500,000 with all the amenities, including more espresso bars than anywhere else - **Seattle**
- Drive over bridges made of concrete that are floating on water - **Hood Canal and Lake Washington Bridges**
- Visit an area of the Earth that has been returned to a primeval state by a volcanic blast and has recovered - **Mount St. Helens**
- Experience a warm 80 degrees in the morning, then in the afternoon take a walk in snow - **Mount Rainer**
- Catch Pacific salmon or Dungeness crab yourself to eat or send home - **Puget Sound**
- See a waterfall higher than Niagara Falls nestled in the forest - **Snoquaimie Falls**
- Sample and obtain world renowned wines - **Snoquaimie Valley Wineries**
- Sample and obtain Northwest's unique local micro brewery products - **Red Hood and more**
- Visit an undersea and submarine museum - **Bangor Submarine Base or Seattle Aquarium**
- Walk from the hotel to a vast shopping mall - **Silverdale**
- Visit the reputed largest discount mall in the U.S. - **Auburn**
- Visit a town full of antique shops - **Poulsbo**
- Go international - take a trip - **Vancouver or Victoria, Canada**
- Tour the plant that manufactures the 747, 767 and 777 airplanes - **Boeing**

You can do and see all of these and stay at the convention hotel, and at convention rates. Simply plan a few days of family vacation before or after the convention, as part of the convention trip. Most are less than a two hour drive from the location of the 1996 REACT International Convention, Porthole to the Pacific Northwest, at Silverdale, Washington - July 22nd - 26th, 1996.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO REMEMBER...

Washington/Oregon REACT Council
1996 Convention Committee
P.O. Box 1786
Marysville, WA 98270-1786
(360) 659-8885

Silverdale on the Bay - Resort Hotel
3073 Bucklin Hill Road
Silverdale, Washington 98383
For Reservations Call - (800) 426-0670
Fax - (360) 692-0932

1996 REACT International Convention
Silverdale Washington
July 22 THROUGH 25, 1996

Send to: Washington/Oregon REACT Council, 1996 Convention Committee
 PO BOX 1786 MARYSVILLE WA 98270-1786 PHONE (360) 659-8885

SECTION I NAME/ADDRESS

Please print or type:

Please complete all information possible on this form.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE/PROVINCE: _____ COUNTRY: _____

POSTAL/ZIP CODE: _____ PHONE: (____) _____ - _____

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, CONTACT: NAME: _____ PHONE: (____) _____

Life Member Number: _____ Council Affiliation: _____

Team Charter #: _____ Team Name: _____

Forsake of coordination, number of persons in party:

SECTION II CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Convention Registration is \$55.00 (\$90.00 IF OFF SITE) per person. (JR. MEMBER \$30.00)
 After May 15 1996, Registration is \$70.00(\$105.00 IF OFF SITE) per person. (JR. MEMBER \$40.00)

Number REGISTERING: _____ @ \$ _____ = \$ _____

NW Hors d' Ocuvs (Get Acquainted Mixer) (NO HOST BAR)

NUMBER

Opening Breakfast [sit-down] _____ @ \$ 3.00 \$ _____

Additional Convention Pictures _____ @ \$12.00 \$ _____

Amateur Member's Breakfast _____ @ \$15.00 \$ _____

Amateur Member's Pictures _____ @ \$12.00 \$ _____

Convention Shirts S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____ XXXL _____

TOTAL SHIRTS _____ @ \$20.00 \$ _____

Life Member's Dinner _____ @ \$21.00 \$ _____

Life Member's Pictures _____ @ \$12.00 \$ _____

Additional Banquet Tickets _____ @ \$30.00 \$ _____

(for non-registered)

TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE PAID (INCLUDING TRIPS on back) \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

BALANCE DUE \$ _____

Dietary Requests or Requirements: VEGETARIAN _____ DIABETIC _____ OTHER _____

Medical Disabilities/Restrictions: _____

SECTION III TRAVEL INFORMATION

I/we will arrive by: Personal Vehicle: YES / NO Rental Vehicle: YES / NO

Air Line: _____ Bus Line: _____ Train: _____

Flight, or Route Number: _____ Terminal: SEA-TAC (or other) ? _____

ARRIVE: DATE _____ TIME _____ AM / PM

DEPART: DATE _____ TIME _____ AM / PM

TRANSPORTATION REQUIRED TO & FROM TERMINAL: YES / NO

LIFE MEMBERSHIP
Here Are The Requirements For
Membership In This Prestigious REACT Group

REACT Team members who after a minimum of two (2) years of participation and service wish to demonstrate their dedication and support for the ideals and objectives of the **REACT** program have the opportunity to become Life Members in **REACT** International. Life Membership has been established as a special class of membership in **REACT** International, Inc. An applicant for Life Membership must have been an active **REACT** Team Member for two (2) years or more. The applicant must be recommended by his Team and must submit Life Member Dues equal to the established fee set by the Board of Directors that apply at the time of application. Life members will have all the rights and privileges granted to the Regular membership category.

Several key policy interpretations should be noted with regard to Life Membership in **REACT**.

1. The Life Member must meet all Team membership requirements (duties) to remain an active member of his or her local **REACT** Team or when transferring to another Team. The Life Member must pay local Team dues (if such are required) but is granted free membership in **REACT** International for life.

2. The individual's recognition as a Life Member in no way is in conflict or contradiction of the concept that **REACT** membership is primarily through membership in a local **REACT** Team.

3. A Life Member is supportive of all concepts of the **REACT** program including the desirability of membership only through affiliation with a local **REACT** Team.

4. In those situations where an individual Life Member is located where a Team is not active, or becomes geographically separated from his or her **REACT** Team for whatever reason, in keeping with the goals and ideals embodied in Life Membership, he or she is to try to become affiliated with the appropriate local Team. Or where no local Team exists, to organize a new Team in fulfillment of his or her dedication to the ideals of **REACT**.

5. Life Membership in **REACT** International shall not prohibit the individual from participating as a member in more than one **REACT** Team should such membership be acceptable to the Teams concerned. Payment of additional **REACT** International dues should not be required for

this purpose. However, the computer record and membership card for Life Membership shall be issued through only one **REACT** Team. Furthermore, multiple membership in more than one **REACT** Team shall not be utilized to give an individual more than one Team vote at **REACT** Team Council meetings or meetings of **REACT** International, Inc. No individual regardless of their multiple affiliation shall be entitled to more than one vote at any **REACT** meeting.

6. A Life Member who, for whatever reason, is not a member of a **REACT** Team may monitor the Emergency Channel as a **REACT** monitor. However, a Life Member must not interfere in any way with the operations or activities of officially chartered **REACT** Teams. The Life Member must realize that the local **REACT** Team is the basic entity in the **REACT** organization. The Life Membership should also realize that **REACT** was founded on the Team concept and that its strength lies in adhering to the principle of local Team's meeting local needs.

7. Life Members may participate in Council activities only as official Delegates of their Team or under conditions that Councils of Teams may decide.

8. Life Members will be issued Life Member Numbers in ascending order according to the date of receipt of Life Membership application and dues.

9. Even though an individual has been recognized and identified as a Life Member of **REACT**, that membership may be revoked for cause should that individual bring discredit upon the **REACT** name.

10. One objective of Life Membership is to develop a form of obtainable recognition for all **REACT** members who have the dedication and devotion to the **REACT** objectives and ideals. Life Membership functions at **REACT** International Conventions, State Council meetings and other broad gatherings of **REACT** membership shall bring credit upon this group and a recognition of their achievement.

11. The use of Life Memberships as Council or Team awards for long and dedicated service is encouraged. The presentation of Life Membership to Past Presidents or key leaders who are moving out of the area would recognize their past efforts on behalf of the Team and would also serve to encourage continued participation in the **REACT** program by the new Life Member wherever he or she may go.



Publicizing REACT

by the Public Relations Committee

Here's your chance

Want recognition of your REACT Team's service to the public? "Opportunity Knocks"!

CB Radio, the first new CB magazine in two decades wants to honor REACT Teams and Councils.

The editor is reserving two full pages of each issue of *CB Radio* for REACT news. That's right! In addition, he is featuring a "REACT Council of the Month". Just what we always wanted, right?

Now the ball is in your court! Your Team and Council need to feed Headquarters news items like never before in REACT history.

Photos. *CB Radio* wants photos! We want photos too, for *the REACTER*. Carry your camera at all Team and Council events. Send us a copy of the photos you take (many photo shops offer double prints FREE).

Tips to help you? You bet

1. Type your story to help us get it right.
2. Add your name, address and complete telephone number with area code (indicate the best time) so we can contact you.

3. Give us the 5W's: Who (Team, Council), Where (Town, State, Province), What (Event, duties, number of members involved, time spent at event, vehicles and equipment involved, etc.), When, Why (Purpose, etc.) and How (communications equipment and frequencies used, etc.).
4. Show people in photos, preferably doing something. Still photos can show action.
5. On a separate sheet, tell about each photo you enclose. Avoid writing on the photos.

Double your PR!

Yes, your item and photo may appear in both *CB Radio* and *the REACTER* magazines. How about that for a bonus!

We need a strong steady supply of newsy items and photos to take full advantage of *CB Radio's* generosity. Send them to REACT Headquarters often. Thanks from the members of the Public Relations Committee.

Look the Part

Does your Team want respect? You have to earn it. Does your Team deserve respect? To find out do either a still photo or video members at a meeting or field event.

Critique the photo or video of your members. Ask your members, "Would I want to entrust my child to this group's care, dressed like that?" Be honest.

Uniformity is the key to earning respect and clean cut, simple, but professional looking outfits. This is vital in dealing with the public, police, etc. Just reflect on your own reactions to groups that have uniformity in their clothes: EMS workers, fireman, police and hobo's. Which three of the four groups would you trust. Get the point. It Pays!

Some Teams report being asked by police to assist them. Why? Their uniformity with their outfits! Police wanted identifiable personnel, who looked clean cut and professional, but were clearly distinguishable from police officers.

Consider white or orange shirts with

(Continued on next page)

Honor that special member with a Life Membership in REACT.

The cost is only \$300.00. A payment plan is available for your convenience. Application on page 13 of this issue.

dark pants. When you look professional, people tend to show your Team more respect. It's human nature. Make it work to your Team's advantage. Increase your members' safety in the bargain.

Want to Impress Those you Serve?

Try this one. The members of REACT Indian River of Florida have taken a dark tie and sewn a REACT patch on it. The patch shows at the center when you have it on for dress occasions or at events to impress the people they serve, the public and police. How clever!

Council Creativity

An attractive site, good facilities, a comfortable motel, a variety of dining places. They attract Teams to Council meetings. You know you have succeeded when you need extra seating. Recently, REACT Hillsborough County of Florida hosted its first REACT Council meeting. They used the right ingredients to attract many Florida Teams. It Pays! Our hats off to the host Team and Council. Well Done!

A reminder for the Councils and Teams

Now is the time to start contacting your legislators to request your "May is International REACT Month" Proclamations. And don't forget to stock up on your REACT supplies for the upcoming year. We would like to see all the current pamphlets used so we can do more new ones with current information on them. Thanks for your continued interest.

Have an interesting story to tell?

Send it to REACT International, Inc.
Be sure to mark it "Attention Editor."

Training Registration Form

Subject 102 Monitoring 201 GMRS (Includes FCC Rules)

301 Search Teams 401 Money Matters

GMRS FCC Rules - Part 95 A (ONLY)

Fill in your full name and address, your REACT Team Name, REACT Team Number and REACT Member ID Number (as found on your REACT Membership Card). Enclose \$7.00 for each Training Module, \$2.50 for each GMRS FCC Rules Part 95 A, and \$3.50 for 102 Monitoring for Members who have purchased the 101 Monitoring.

NOTE: When purchasing the 201-GMRS Training Module, the FCC Rules are included).

Name _____
 First Initial Last

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip Code _____

Team Name _____ 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 \$ _____



Productive Meetings - Playing by the Rules

by Larry Zygmunt, Chairperson
Training & Development Committee

What are your team meetings like? Dull, boring, and dry? Or are they fun for all who attend? Before you answer, I should warn you that this is a trick question. The correct answer is neither of the above. Meetings that are "all business" to the point of being dull and dry will soon have very few attendees, while the "fun" meeting can turn into a social occasion which everyone enjoys, but nothing gets accomplished.

The productive meeting is somewhere between the two extremes, and finding that middle ground is not an easy task. The person chairing the meeting has to chart the course for the meeting and lead the attendees just like a tour director. It's a difficult job, but you do have some good tools to help you, if you are willing to take the time to learn how to use them.

First, there are the "rules of the road". These are known as "Parliamentary Procedure" or "Robert's Rules of Order". You may feel that "we don't need to get that formal", but running a meeting without rules can be as disastrous as driving without traffic rules. It is not necessary for everyone to become an expert on Robert's Rules, but you should have an understanding of the basic principles behind them.

THE BASICS

Order: Only one subject can be discussed at a time, and only one person can speak at a time. In practice, this means that nobody speaks until recognized by the chair, and once recognized

they are assured of having their say without interruption, as long as they stick to the point. The chair has the responsibility of seeing that everyone has an equal chance to voice their opinion. The chair also has the job of keeping the discussion on track. This means that if the speaker begins to ramble or begins a personal attack on another member, the chair has the right, and the duty, to cut the speaker off and call on someone else.

Majority Rule: The final authority in the organization lies in the membership, not the leadership. A member who disagrees with the decision of the chair has the right to appeal to the membership. A vote must be taken on the appeal, and the majority decision is final whether the chair agrees or not.

Minority Rights: Although the majority rules, the minority has a right to be heard. The chair should never attempt to cut off discussion until ALL opinions are heard. A member may "call the question" when they feel they have heard enough, but this also calls for a vote. If the majority agrees, the discussion is over. If not, it continues.

Remember the basics for a productive meeting...

- *Order*
- *Minority Rights*
- *Equality*
- *Majority Rule*
- *An Informed Vote*

An Informed Vote: Before taking the vote, the chair should repeat the motion and, if necessary, explain to the membership exactly what their vote will mean. An example would be a "negative" motion, such as a motion to NOT do something. The chair must explain that a vote "for" the motion is actually a vote "against" the activity.

Equality: All members must be treated equally. They all have equal rights to make motions, to speak, and to vote. The chair must remain impartial in all issues. If this is not possible, the meeting should be temporarily turned over to someone else.

These are the basic principles behind the rules. If you remember them, your meetings will run smoothly even if you don't memorize the "proper" wording of a "point of order". Parliamentary procedure should be looked at as a set of tools to be used where they fit, and for the proper purpose. Don't

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be afraid of them, and don't allow them to be mis-used.

MAKING A MOTION

No, this doesn't mean to stand up and jiggle. A motion is a call for a decision or action by the group. It begins when a member asks for, and is given, recognition from the chair. This can be as informal as the raising of a hand, with recognition accomplished by the chairperson saying "Yes, Fred?" Fred then makes his motion: "I move that we have a team picnic this year."

Second: The next step is for someone to second the motion. Why? Well, if Fred is the only one who wants a picnic, why take the time to discuss and vote?

If there is a second, then at least two people want a picnic, and you may proceed with a discussion. Before asking for discussion, the chair should re-state the motion so everyone knows what we will be taking about. During discussion, there may be AMENDMENTS to the motion, such as when and where the picnic will be held. These amendments may also require discussion, and may be voted on separately. There may also be a motion to "TABLE" the original motion. For example, the motion may be to hold the picnic at the Village Park, but a final decision cannot be made until someone checks to see if the park will be available. In this case, someone is appointed to check up and report at the next meeting, and the motion is tabled until then. A motion to table also requires a vote, and if carried has the effect of suspending the original motion until the time specified.

Voting: Before voting, the chair should re-state the motion so the members know exactly what they are voting on.

Include any amendments that were made: "The motion is to have a team picnic on September 8th at Village Park." The chair then calls for the vote, or asks for a "consensus", or general consent. This is a valuable short-cut that can save a lot of time. If the previous discussion has indicated that everyone favors the motion, the chair can simply state "If there is no objection, can we consider the motion passed?" If there is no objection, you're done. If there is ANY objection, even one person, a vote must be taken. For small groups and uncomplicated issues, a voice vote can be used. This is the familiar "All in favor say aye,

opposed say no". For larger groups, or if it sounds like a close call, the chair should ask for a show of hands, and count the votes. Voting on controversial subjects, such as the removal or censure of a member or officer elections should ALWAYS be by secret ballot. And be sure to keep the secret! After the ballots have been counted, the chair should announce the results only, never the actual count.

Courtesy, common sense, and a basic knowledge of the rules can help you steer toward the goal of a smooth-running, productive meeting that begins on time, gets the job done, and ends before the membership gets sore seats.

REACT Medicine Hat #4864 finds a unique way to monitor



REACT Medicine Hat #4864, Alberta took part in several charity runs including the Multiple Sclerosis Run, Super Cities Walk, Red Cross Fun Run and the Head Injury Program run in 1995. Members also volunteered their services during the flood of June, 1995.

Pictured is REACT Medicine Hat member, Bob Schock's bicycle. The

CCM21 speed bicycle is equipped with a Realistic TRC 451 40 Channel SSB CB radio, a 4 foot Firestik with ground plane kit, a hand-held Realistic VHF-FM transceiver and a portable power pack. The specially equipped bicycle comes in very hand in their town. It covers trails, parks and many places that can't be reached any other way.



Life Membership Corner

by R.T. Gamble, Life Member Committee Chairperson

In this, the first article for 1996 I wish all REACT members a Happy New Year wherever they may be.

My database for the new Life Member Directory is ready except for verification of new addresses and membership status. That will be accomplished after membership renewals are completed at REACT Headquarters the first part of 1996. The new directory will be ready to hand out at the 1996 REACT International Convention this July.

We have not had many new Life Members sign up yet this year. With renewals coming in at this time, there

may be a few sign up.

Once again anyone with questions concerning Life Membership within REACT let me know. If I do not have the answer, I will try to get it for you.

REACTfully yours,

R.T. Gamble, LM #226
Life Member Committee Chairperson
11100 - 4th Ave. W. #35
Everett, WA 98204-7076
Phone/Fax (206) 514-8124
E-Mail rt_gamble@msn.com

New Life Memberships

LM #503
Marilyn J. Friend
Lake Washington REACT #4784
Kirkland, Washington

LM #504
Robert W. Matheson
Livermore Valley REACT #4111
Dublin, California

REACT Memorial Plaque Additions



Mary Murphy
Sedgwick County REACT, Inc. #4208
Wichita, Kansas
(Contribution made by the Team)

Larry Cannon
Spokane County REACT #2904
Spokane, Washington
(Contribution made by the Team)

The REACT Memorial Plaque is displayed at REACT International, Inc., Wichita, Kansas. A \$50.00 minimum donation to this fund is required to have a name placed on the plaque. Names added to the Memorial Plaque will be mentioned in *the REACTer*.

REACTWEAR

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Fax (214)713-2460



In Memory of...

Marlene Brandon of California

reprinted from The NEWSLINE
Southern California REACT Council

REACT has lost a great lady. On Saturday, December 9, 1995, Marlene Brandon left us to begin monitoring at a better place. She will be greatly missed and impossible to replace.

I know that everyone in Southern California REACT Council joins me in giving our heartfelt condolences to the family, friends, and team members of Antelope Valley REACT.

Marlene was always ready and willing to help everyone. She was a big backer of REACT and especially the team that she joined and loved so much. Words alone can never express the loss that will be felt by all of those who ever came in contact with her.

Marlene, you may be gone but you will never be forgotten!

Richard Gudridge of Minnesota

by Connie Reichensperger

A REACT member from 1979 to 1995, Richard Gudridge of Minnesota passed away in October of 1995. Richard was past President of St. Cloud

REACT, Inc. #3791, past President of the Minnesota REACT Team Council, past delegate to numerous REACT International conventions, and a recipient of the K40 Achievement Award.

In the sixteen years of service in REACT Richard monitored over 35,000 hours on CB Channel 9. He participated in all Team activities, taking a leadership role. His absence will be greatly noticed by all his fellow members.

Dorothy DePoe of New Jersey

by Dick Cooper

It is said that the world is not a fair place. On Monday, January 15, 1996, REACT lost a very good member when Dorothy DePoe, Life Member #368, passed away at the age of 68. Everyone knew "Dot" as a very friendly, cheerful person who seldom had anything bad to say about anyone and would do anything within her ability to help people.

Dot attended every REACT International Convention starting in Virginia in 1988. She even did a solo trip to Nebraska in 1995. Although skeptical at first, she passed with flying colors. She always loved to attend the Conventions because she would see old friends and make new friends as well as see different parts of the country. She was a member of REACT for over 20 years and during that time held several offices in Somerset County REACT and the Garden State Council of REACT Teams, Inc. She was also serving her second term as Chairperson of the Site Selection Committee

for REACT International, Inc.

Dot was also very active in her church and the Eagles. She held top offices in the local Aerie and was serving her second year as a state officer. During the 1990 Convention, Dot made arrangements for several of us to visit the local Eagles Aerie in Spokane, one of the largest in the country. Maybe some of you will remember that.

Dot always told everyone that she would go anywhere or do anything as long as someone would give her a ride. Dot never learned to drive and never had a drivers license, but she never stayed at home for lack of a ride. She was very instrumental in the planning and implementation of the 1994 REACT International Convention in New Jersey. For two years, she would make phone calls for me during the day when I couldn't. She loved being around people, therefore everyone loved being around her.

Yvonne Trout of Virginia

by Azella Tingler

Yvonne Trout, member of Herndon REACT and former Commonwealth of Virginia REACT Council President passed away on December 24, 1995. Her funeral was held December 29th.

Even though Yvonne had been ill for quite some time, her passion for helping and volunteering showed in her support of Herndon REACT and the Commonwealth of Virginia REACT Council.

Caught in traffic again!

by Lee Besing
San Antonio REACT #3622

San Antonio REACT members Alfred Fronefield and Lee Besing were returning home late on the night of December 4th, when they spotted an accident on the other side of IH-35. The accident had traffic completely stopped. Pulling over into the grassy median and turning on the amber lights, Alfred crossed over to the scene to check for injuries. Meanwhile Lee called in on the GMRS Radio for another REACT base. Bill Barton answered promptly and after taking the report, called the Schertz police department who had jurisdiction.

Alfred and Lee do not know the details of the accident. However, when they arrived the car had no trunk to speak of, and was facing south in the northbound lane with debris scattered across both lanes of the highway. What appeared to have happened was that the motorist stalled out in the northbound left hand lane of IH-35, just over the crest of the hill. A semi tractor-trailer crested the hill and rear ended the stalled four door sedan. Fortunately, the driver had bailed out before being struck, thus was not injured.

Lee grabbed the half dozen traffic cones and all the flares he could carry and ran to the scene of the accident. Cones were used near the scene due to a fuel spill from the car. Alfred spread kitty litter on the fuel spill to contain the flow. Lee set a line of flares across the highway to direct traffic to the shoulder of the highway. He remained at that point to warn traffic by waving a lit flare to get their attention. (Don't do this at home, done improperly, it can cause injuries.)

About this time, the police arrived, followed shortly after by the EMS and firefighters. The police officer asked Alfred and Lee to remain doing what

they were doing (traffic control) while the police investigated the situation and handled the paperwork. The firefighters were impressed by the quick thinking and use of kitty litter to cover the fuel, saying that was a cheaper solution than what they normally used. They quickly scooped up the litter and fuel and took it back with them. (Lee's cat would just have to wait for the next bag!)

After the scene was cleared up and the lanes opened, approximately one hour later, the police officer from Schertz asked for some identification from both Alfred and Lee. The identification was so that proper thanks could be given by the police department for the prompt actions of controlling the situation and the prevention of further accidents occurring.

An interesting point, is that this was the 3rd "good deed" performed by Lee and Alfred that very evening. Before departing their house, they were approached by a neighbor lady to help her get back into her own home after locking herself out. Then, on the way to their meeting at Canyon Lake REACT, they assisted a stranded motorist. The motorist, who spoke only Spanish, was stranded in the center median of IH-35, with her two children. Lee and Alfred used GMRS to contact another REACT base. The motorist's husband was contacted, but spoke only Spanish as well. Since all REACT persons involved in this case spoke only English, they simply transported her and the children to the nearest phone about 2 miles away. The woman was then able to call her husband for help herself.

Calendar of Events

March 2-3, 1996 - North Carolina State Council, Inc. Meeting, hosted by Alamance County REACT Team. For details call (919) 226-1425.

June 1-2, 1996 - North Carolina State Council, Inc. Meeting, hosted by Four Seasons REACT. For details call (704) 697-0232.

July 22-25, 1996 - 1996 REACT International Convention held in Silverdale, Washington. Further details in this issue of the magazine.

September 7-8, 1996 - North Carolina State Council, Inc. Meeting, hosted by Johnston County REACT, Inc. For details call (919) 934-4246.

November 2-3, 1996 - North Carolina State Council, Inc. Meeting, hosted by REACT of Cleveland County. For details call (704) 937-3542.

Editors Note:

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

Team responds to lost child search

reprinted from The Tower
Prince William REACT, Inc. #C109

At approximately 2015 hours, 8 October 95, Team #C109's Unit 58, Dick Lee, monitored a call on his scanner on the search for a lost child by the Prince William Police Department. After the description was transmitted, the dispatcher informed police units that the 7 year old child was afraid of police, and would run if he saw a cruiser. Unit 58 contacted the dispatcher and informed him that Prince William REACT could assist with manpower and communications, if needed. After

consulting the watch commander, the dispatcher apprised Dick that REACTers who could respond should report to the incident Command Post (CP).

Unit 58 advised Team President, Edgar McConnell of the situation and the Team's telephone number system was immediately activated. Frank San Pietro, Unit 26 designated as Net Control Base Station to coordinate REACT communications, relayed this info to all REACT units en route. David

Sandridge and Chuck Stein, Units' 47 and 51 served as alternate base stations to ensure area wide radio coverage.

Other members participating in the search included Unit 46 Jim Morris, Unit 53 Judith McConnell, Unit 59 Bob McCalley, Unit 65 Bruce Hill and family member Melanie Peterson. At approximately 2125 hours the child was located by police and all REACT units were directed to stand down. Lt. Casey of the Prince William Police Department thanked the members for responding.

100% Renewals for 1996

Alaska 3629	Illinois C733 4020	Mississippi C204	Oklahoma 2829	Virginia C705 2871 4896
Arkansas 4930	4714	Montana 3679	Oregon 4824	Washington 4258 4784
California C059 C241 3425 3973 4054 4933	Indiana C653 C697	Nebraska 4605	Pennsylvania C604	West Virginia C117
Colorado C422 2648 4817	Kansas 2800 4926	New Jersey C242 4738	South Carolina 2400	Wisconsin 3621 4364
Florida C610 2591 3490 4763	Kentucky 1583	New York 2371 4691 4834	South Dakota 4736	Canada 2627 4270 4664 4757 4853
Georgia 4623 4882	Maryland 2189 2833	Ohio C025 C260 C575 2413 2418 2624 4766 4845	Tennessee 2021	United Kingdom 5010
	Michigan C238 3301 3653		Texas C622 3022 4898	
	Minnesota 3791		Utah C505	

REACT Councils as of January 1, 1996

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Arizona State Council
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Colorado Council of
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NEW JERSEY

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WASHINGTON

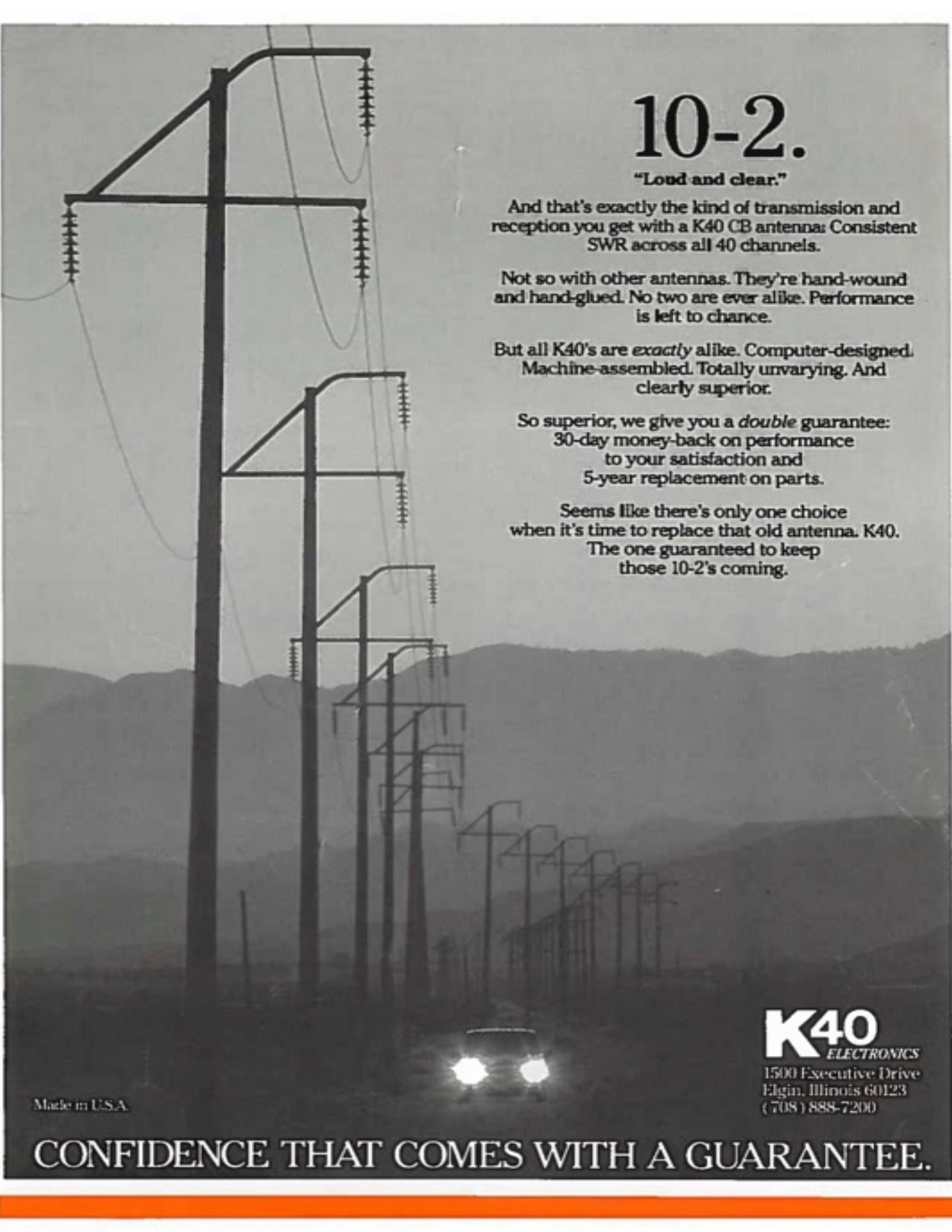
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