



the REACTer

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

September/October, 1996
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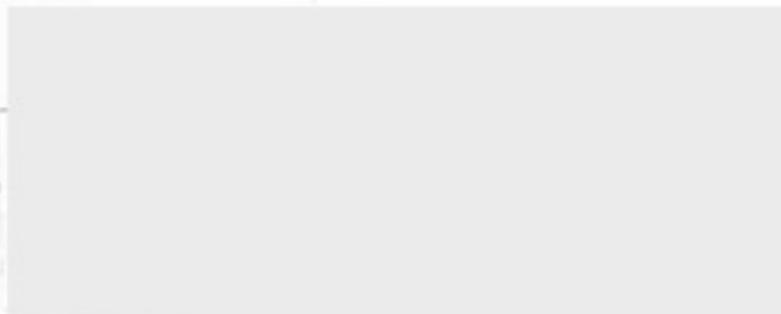


Attendees at the 1996 REACT International Convention hosted by the Washington Oregon REACT Council and held in Silverdale, Washington.

REACT International, Inc.
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In This Issue...

**1996 REACT
Convention Highlights**

**REACTing with Toys
for Tots**

Making New Friends

Hands Across the Border

REACT Mission Statement

The missions of REACT International is to provide public safety communications to the general public, volunteer organizations, and government agencies to save lives, prevent injuries, and provide assistance wherever and whenever needed.

REACT Core Values

The core values of REACT International are:

Selfless Service - to the general public and our own organization.

Cooperation - with our fellow members, other Teams, other Councils, other users of the radio spectrum, and the agencies we serve.

Mutual Aid - to other Teams, Councils, and other public safety organizations in meeting operational needs.

Technical Expertise - in our own communications procedures and our use of radio services.

REACT Vision

REACT International is a volunteer public safety organization whose members, Teams, and Councils work together with the common purpose of serving our fellow citizens.

REACT's capability to use trained teams of communicators and all available means of communications to get the message through makes us unique as a volunteer service.

Future State 2001

REACT International will be the leading international citizen based public safety communications organization. A strong and vibrant organization will be positioned to move forward using the most current technologies.

REACT Mission Statement-Core Values-
 Vision-Future State 2001..... 2
 1996 Convention Report..... 3
 Field Director State/Country Assignments..... 4
 REACT International - Board of Directors..... 4
 Board Election Ballot Results..... 5
 1995 Yearly Monitoring and
 Activity Reports..... 6
 Additional Updates on Convention..... 6
 Publicizing REACT..... 7
 Well Done, REACTers!..... 9
 New REACT Teams Chartered..... 9
 Junior REACT member goes for the
 gold... Girl Scout Gold..... 10
 Ontario Years to Discover..... 11
 REACTing with Toys for Tots..... 12
 Calendar of Events..... 13
 Life Membership Corner..... 14
 When Things Go Wrong - Convention
 Highlight Photographs..... 16
 More Convention Highlights..... 17
 That "C" in REACT... Computer
 Committee Report..... 18
 Remarkable REACTers!.. Training &
 Development Committee Report..... 19
 REACT Interstate Highway Emergency
 Cellular Phone Director..... 20
 K40 Achievement Awards - 2nd Quarter..... 21
 Making new friends..... 22
 Hands Across the Border..... 22
 1996-1997 REACT Committees..... 23

Advertisers

Police Call Plus..... 4
 ADI/Premier Communications..... 6
 Recording for the Blind, Inc..... 11
 Communications Specialists, Inc..... 13
 Popular Communications..... 15
 Adventures in Marketing..... 22
 K40 Electronics..... 24



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1996 Convention Report

By Pam Hedden, International Director

Lynda and Deanne asked me to write an article for the REACTer about the convention in Silverdale, Washington. I decided this would be the perfect opportunity to say thank you to some special people.

Thank you to Irene Copher for being the first friendly face I met at the airport.

Thank you to the wonderful volunteers of the Washington/Oregon Council for hosting the 1996 Convention. I had a wonderful time. I always feel it is the little extras which make a person feel special like the bowl of fruit in my room and the vintage bus which took us to the ferry. I really enjoyed the trip to Tilicum Village, thanks to the courteous and comedic crew, the gorgeous weather, the delicious salmon dinner and the Indian dancing.

Thank you to the hotel staff for making me comfortable.

Thank you (and a big hug) to the folks in Operations who were so helpful and just smiled every time I came in and said I just need one more thing... They even provided

me with my own secretary, an enthusiastic Junior. Thank you to Junior REACTer Candice, who helped me with the mountains of paperwork involved in days of Board meetings.

Thank you to the attendees for your friendliness and joy at being together. Thank you for all your input and ideas. And especially thank you for agreeing to disagree when necessary to keep the convention friendly and positive. Thank you for many companionable evenings by the water.

Thank you Ron McCracken, for stepping in to present the program for the 1997 Convention in Toronto and attending the Convention Critique for me.

Thank you to Lynda for being a good friend and buying me ice cream when I needed it.

Welcome to Chris White. I look forward to working with you.

I hope everyone enjoyed themselves as much as I did. Congratulations Washington-Oregon Council for a wonderful week.



The 1996-1997 Board of Directors, pictured from left to right: Christine White, Bonnie Zygumt, Ken Green, Pam Hedden and outgoing Field Director Dick Pratz, standing in back is Jim Bear.

Field Director State and Country Assignments

Jim Bear
Connecticut
Delaware
Maine
Massachusetts
Maryland
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New York
North Carolina
Ohio
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
Vermont
Virginia
West Virginia

Ken Green
Alaska
Arizona
California
Colorado
Hawaii
Idaho
Kansas
Montana
New Mexico
Nevada
Oregon
Utah
Washington
Wyoming

Pam Hedden
Canada
Germany
Trinidad & Tobago
United Kingdom

Christine White
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Florida
Georgia
Louisiana
Mississippi
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South Carolina
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Tennessee
Puerto Rico

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Iowa
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Michigan
Minnesota
Missouri
Nebraska
North Dakota
South Dakota
Wisconsin

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Board Election Ballot Results

The four candidates for the 1996 open Field Director position were: Lee Besing, Texas; Michael Chuyen, Florida; Craig Hoephner, Iowa; and Christine White of Oklahoma.

There were 184 ballots received. Of those 184 ballots 13 were spoiled and were not counted.

Congratulations to Christine White, on being elected to the open board position.

Alaska 3462	Florida (Continued) 3490	Indiana (Continued) 2914	North Carolina 2457 3032	Oklahoma 4892	Vermont 2424
Arizona C320	3720 4577	4899	North Dakota 4299	Oregon 4397	Washington 2503 2869
California C040 C057 C071 C075 C128 C267 C373 C399 C475 C556 2517 2609 2642 2725 3425 3429 3973 4111 4573 4702 4802 4941	4694 4763 4778 4909 Georgia 4882 4921 Hawaii C010 Iowa 4748 Illinois C001 C164 C250 C310 2125 2947 3310 4020 4534 4794 4815	Kansas 3135 4208 4951 Kentucky 1583 3221 Maryland C022 2106 2388 2515 3202 4650 4673 Michigan C238 C256 3301 3653 3880 4848 Minnesota C143 2538 Missouri C336 Mississippi C204	Nebraska 2736 2983 3073 4894 New Hampshire 3265 New Jersey 4259 4651 4738 4895 New York 2202 2278 2371 2386 3030 4552 4739 4765 4805 4834 4953 Ohio C081 C098 C187 C199 C260 C282 C333 C480 2102 2413 2601 4948 4954	Pennsylvania C161 C445 C546 2141 2647 2785 3522 3850 Puerto Rico 4027 Rhode Island C102 South Carolina C614 Texas C446 C622 2988 3022 3622 4047 4098 4747 4804 4950 Utah C505 Virginia C052 C109 C490 C705 2356 3968 4751 4896	Wisconsin 2904 3283 3366 4258 4677 4700 4784 West Indies 3866 4089 4364 4365 4730 4813 Spoiled Ballots C149 C176 2314 2620 2800 2802 2829 2833 2867 3038 3552 4583 4933
Canada 2627 4270 4760 4853	Indiana C100 C261 C296 C375 C653 2314 2446				
Florida C610 2194 2562 2591					

1995 REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC. Yearly Monitoring and Activity Report

• Total Hours Monitored	3,631,668
• Total Hours for Community Events	585,312
• Total Hours for Training	164,016
• Total Hours for Disaster Assistance	53,064
• Total Calls Taken	170,989
• Savings to Taxpayers per year	\$39,906,540

Road Related Incidents:

• Accidents	28,064
• Reckless/Impaired/DUI	13,432
• Stalled/DAVs	36,335
• Traffic Hazard	17,215
• Traffic Jams	3,056
• Traffic Control Malfunction	2,830
• Request for Road Info	30,578
• Vehicle Fire	1,469

Other Incidents

• Boating Emergency	426
• Crime Activity	2,197
• Flood/High Water	1,143
• Medical Emergency	2,349
• Missing Persons	410
• Severe Weather	4,677
• Non-Vehicle Fire	1,513
• Relay Personal Call	6,839
• Other	18,458

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Additional Updates On Convention...

Thank you to Chuck Frensley from Greater Anchorage REACT, Inc. #3462 for his help at the recent REACT International Convention. Many members were able to save their memories on film due to Chuck's knowledge of cameras and attachments. And being the great REACTer Chuck is, his services were free!

Joseph L. Nadeau, Jr., President of Tobacco Valley REACT #3625 of Connecticut has put together a video of the convention highlights for those members who could not attend as well as for those who did. For convention attendees the cost is \$15.00 and for those unable to attend the cost is \$35.00 (U.S. Funds). Please make checks payable to Tobacco Valley REACT, P.O. Box 568, Broad Brook, CT 06016-0568.



Publicizing REACT

By Pam Riechel, PR Committee Member

The Public Relations Committee wishes to thank the Convention Committee and all the contestants for their superb entries in the 1996 REACT Newsletter Contest.

The committee also wishes to

thank judges: Pam Riechel, Golden Gate REACT, California; Chuck Frenley, Anchorage REACT, Alaska; and Dawn Dressler of the Bremerton Sun, Washington.

Dawn Dressler has been in the newspaper business for 20 years as a reporter and editor. She also taught journalism for 3 years and has worked

in corporate communications and as a public relations person for 6 years.

Dawn went beyond the normal judging responsibilities and provided REACT Teams and Councils, present at the Convention with written tips to consider from a professional viewpoint. These tips are reprinted on page 8 for all newsletter editors.

The 1996 REACT Newsletter Contest Winners

Category A - Teams with 3 to 21 members

- | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| 1st Place | Bexar County REACT, Texas |
| 2nd Place | Federal City REACT, Washington, D.C. |
| 3rd Place | Travis County REACT, Texas |

Other entries were: Bell County REACT, Texas
Porterville REACT, California

Category B - Teams with 22 to 31 members

- | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------|
| 1st Place | Prince William REACT, Virginia |
| 2nd Place | Middle George REACT, Georgia |
| 3rd Place | Waukesha Area REACT, Wisconsin |

Other entries were: Evergreen REACT, Washington
San Fernando Valley REACT, California
Seattle REACT, Washington

Category C - Teams with more than 32 members

No submissions were received for this category.

Liberties were taken and this category was changed to Convention Category and presented to the editors and reporters of **The Daily Porthole**.

Category D - Councils

- | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| 1st Place | Southern California REACT Council |
| 2nd Place | Texas State REACT Council |
| 3rd Place | Wisconsin Council of REACT Teams |

(Continued on next page)



Pam Riechel presents Lee Besing of Bexar County REACT, Texas with the 1st Place Category A Newsletter Contest Award.

Comments and Tips for Producing a Quality Newsletter

Newsletters should include:

- ❖ A way for non-members to contact the organization, i.e., a listing of officers; editor, etc.
- ❖ A clear indication of the group producing the newsletter and the date.
- ❖ Advance information on upcoming events, meetings, etc., including time, place, date and who to call for more information.
- ❖ Information to assist new members in improving their understanding, awareness and education of the organization and its purpose (a way to become better/smarter members).
- ❖ An awareness of audience: members may be at various levels of development. "Outsiders" may be reading material, can they understand what is written or is it too filled with jargon, "inside", talk.
- ❖ Highlights of accomplishments; achievements of the group and/or its members.
- ❖ Does the newsletter further the aim/purpose of the group?

A good newsletter will:

- ❖ Inform members and non-members.
- ❖ Educate members.
- ❖ Entice action by readers.
- ❖ Create unity of members.
- ❖ Recognize achievements.
- ❖ Give non-members a way to join/contact/get more information.
- ❖ Dates, times, etc., should be apparent in meeting notices.
- ❖ A brief mission statement of group and purpose of organization.
- ❖ Update members on changes in group, i.e., new officers, dues, etc.
- ❖ Offer ideas, suggestions, tips for improved performance or betterment of members.

Newsletters are NOT a place:

- ❖ To air dirty laundry.
- ❖ Fight group battles.
- ❖ Tell personal stories that have no bearing on the group or its purpose.
- ❖ Lecture members.
- ❖ Whine.

Visually, newsletters should be:

- ❖ Readable: type must be large enough to comfortably read.
- ❖ Material should be packaged in "bite-size" chunks.
- ❖ The reader should be able to quickly and clearly scan the newsletter for most important stories and information.
- ❖ Use headlines to guide the reader's eye, interest.
- ❖ Remember, if a newsletter can't be easily read, even the most valuable information will become worthless.
- ❖ Use bold type to draw attention and to add emphasis. Use it sparingly...remember, if everything is bold - nothing is bold.
- ❖ Avoid printing newsletters on colored paper.
- ❖ Sentence width (column width) should not exceed 2 1/2".
- ❖ Layout a newsletter in a logical format. The reader should be able to "drive" through your newsletter like a well-marked road.
- ❖ Use headlines as road signs, indicating both direction (of story) and a reason to stop.



Pictured left is Larry Luebben of the Southern California REACT Council showing off the 1st Place Newsletter Contest Award for Category D - Councils.

Pictured right is Pam Riechel presenting the 1st Place Newsletter Contest Award in Category B to Al Hanger on behalf of Prince William REACT, Virginia.



Well Done, REACTers!

Although *CB Radio* magazine is now history, REACT Teams and Councils can feel proud.

REACT featured prominently in each of the six *CB Radio* issues published. Harold Ort, editor of the magazine, is a strong supporter of the volunteer efforts of REACT Teams. He proposed the extensive REACT coverage *CB Radio* contained.

Teams and Councils came through for the REACT Public Relations Committee. News stories, and especially photos, flooded Headquarters. Profiles of front line REACTers serving their communities encouraged readers to join our ranks. Council histories outlined for readers how REACT Teams cooperate and support one another state-wide.

Unequaled Publicity

The six editions of *CB Radio* highlighted well over 100 REACT Teams and their varied contributions to safety. Never before have so many REACT Teams received media attention for their work in such a short period. Hopefully, your Teams was one of them.

If you missed an issue, copies may still be available. Call 1-800-853-9797 to inquire or order. Issues were dated March through August.

On The Alert

Keep sending photos and stories on events your Team or Council supports with safety radio. Photos especially! They are absolutely vital to REACT's publicity efforts.

Magazines always want photos. Sometimes they only want photos if space won't permit a story.

Rush Job

REACT Headquarters has to have photos and stories at the ready. Often, magazines want Headquarters to courier material to them overnight. Unless the material is on hand, ready to go, a terrific opportunity for excellent publicity can easily be lost.

Copy the "REACT News Report" form to help make reporting easier. It was in your *Team Topics*. A camera should accompany your Team on every community event and emergency response. Make it standard Team equipment.

One Team member may write the story. Another can type it, if necessary. Try always to type reports. It

benefits everyone to do so. Others can take photos to help. BE SHARP!

Your Team can make multiple copies of a story. Give the extra copies to local media. Get all the mileage possible from your reports. That's just being smart.

Councils can help Teams by offering workshops on news reports at Council meetings. Tap expertise in member Teams or invite a local reporter to brief attendees. Plan such a seminar for your next Council gathering. Help Teams learn to score on more publicity.

Make us just as proud of our REACT Teams the next time an opportunity for publicity knocks.

New REACT Teams Chartered

- | | |
|-------|--|
| #4960 | Kankakee Valley REACT
Kankakee, Illinois (Kankakee County)
June 6, 1996 |
| #4961 | Western Massachusetts REACT
Chicopee, Massachusetts (Hampden County)
June 21, 1996 |
| #4962 | Memphis REACT
Memphis, Tennessee (American County)
July 11, 1996 |
| #4963 | Rio Hondo REACT
La Mirada, California (Los Angeles County)
August 5, 1996 |
| #4964 | Scotland County REACT
Gorin, Missouri (Scotland County)
August 5, 1996 |

Junior REACT member goes for the gold... Girl Scout Gold

By Karen Smith

McLennan County REACT Team #4747, Texas



McLennan County REACT Team #4747 recently hosted their 6th Annual Memorial Day Rest Stop in Hewitt, Texas. The community really supports this Team for their 2 rest stops each year. Volunteers from McLennan County REACT, Bell County REACT, Reicher Catholic High School and the Bluebonnet Girl Scout Council spent a total of 273 hours manning the rest stop for Memorial Day. About 1,400 people

stopped over the weekend, representing 23 states and 3 foreign countries. The next rest stop is scheduled for Labor Day weekend.

Most of the supplies, drinks, snacks, and state and local maps and other handouts are provided by community businesses and organizations. The Department of Public Safety and State Department of Transportation are great supporters and provide a great deal of material for this Team's rest stops each year. Local businesses pay the few expenses which remain: port-a-potties, soft drink machines, tent rental, etc.

This year's chairman was Junior member, Allison Smith. Allison was

born to REACT in Glendale, California and has been an official Junior member for several years. She serves as Sgt-at-Arms for Team #4747 and participates in most of the Team's activities with her parents Wally and Karen Smith. The task of putting this rest stop together took Allison several months, and qualified her to receive the Girl Scout's Gold Award. This award is the highest award a girl can receive. Allison is a senior honor student at Reicher Catholic High School in Waco, Texas. She plays trombone in the Cougar Varsity Band, runs on the varsity track team, coaches junior high volleyball, works part time and is Girl Scout Troop Assistant for Troop 7980. After graduation she plans to study computer engineering at Texas State Technical College.

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Junior REACT member, Allison Smith helps during Memorial Day weekend rest stop.

Ontario Yours To Discover...

That's right, discover Ontario at the 1997 REACT International Convention in Toronto, Ontario July 14-17, 1997.

The Ontario REACT Council cordially invites you to a truly Canadian Experience at the 22nd REACT International Convention and the 35th Anniversary of REACT International, Inc.

We hope to present a true learning experience with workshops on Membership Recruitment and Retention, Self Defense, Disaster Preparedness, Radio Selection and Maintenance,

Public Relations and Stress Management as well as a Round Table.

The "official" tour will be of magnificent Niagara Falls. Several mini excursions to sights and shopping in the Toronto area will also be offered. A special program of activities and fun are being planned for our Junior attendees.

Start planning now to attend the 1997 REACT International Convention in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. A convenient pre-payment plan is available.

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**

Details for the 1997 REACT International Convention will be included in upcoming issues of the REACTer as well as Team Topics. So mark you calendar now!

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or call for information (316) 263-2100**

* Shipping charge will cover up to two Promotion Kits.
For orders of more than two, call REACT for shipping charges.

REACTing with Toys for Tots

By Bob Leef
Crest REACT #4252, California

As the story goes, visions of sugar plums occupy children's heads around Christmas time. Realistically, there are probably more visions of toys than plums or anything else. Dolls, games, sports equipment, and much more are the stuff dreams are made of. The bad news is not all parents can afford to put what they want under the Christmas tree. The good news is Toys for Tots.

For 47 years the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve at 191 locations throughout the United States have collected toys. They start in November, and by December 25th have delivered to hundreds of thousands of needy children. This is often done with the assistance of a distribution network of local charities and volunteer workers. Did the word "volunteer" get your attention? As a REACTer you could help in this effort through a team project!

"We strongly encourage community support, and we look to local

organizations" says Colonel Jim Whitson, public affairs officer for the Marine Reserve who oversees Toys for Tots. "When you look at the happy faces it just makes your day" adds Staff Sgt. Walli Armsted.

In December of 1995, members of eight Southern California REACT Teams participated for the first time with the Reserves in their Toys for Tots program. The Teams were Crest, Golden West, La Habra, Long Beach, Orange County, Saddleback, Southcoast, and Tri-City. Here are some notes and ideas relating to our activity:

1. We drove our own vehicles, and trucks that were rented, to distribute barrels and posters to pickup points such as fire stations, business offices, etc. When barrels were filled we picked up the toys and took them to a warehouse. The Marine Reserves do not

have an inexhaustible supply of military vehicles to do the job, so they need this kind of assistance.

2. Vehicles needed constant communications with the base office for additions to the route, changes in plans, and general coordination. When rental trucks are used, there are no two-way radios, and most of the available military vehicles will not have them either.

3. Good quality office coordination is absolutely essential. If REACT members are involved in this by helping to route and dispatch vehicles by radio, careful planning should be done. Lacking this, there will be needless duplication, missed locations, and criss-crossed routes. Also, know what hours and days the location you are going to will be open.

4. If military drivers are used and you are the co-pilot/communicator, much will depend on your knowledge of the area since some personnel may not be familiar with the city.

5. It may also be advantageous for REACT members to know traffic bottlenecks and avoid them. At this time of the year the situation can be especially contentious. The REACT office or dispatcher might want to monitor scanner information about tie-ups and pass it on by radio.

6. Returning to office organization, a computer-wise REACTer may be able to help by putting the route information in program form and maintaining it. This function should be close to the dispatcher. The job could be an excellent opportunity for a physically chal-



Volunteers assist the U.S. Marine Corps with Toys for Tots.

lenged REACT volunteer.

7. Enjoy the publicity! Newspapers and TV typically do the story at least once. Wear your REACT cap, shirt, jacket.

8. Above all, remember you are there to help - and do it their way. Take advantage of any opportunity to suggest possible improvements but be cool!

It all started in 1947 with one home-made doll. In 1995, 8,100,000 toys were distributed to 4,200,000 children. Many celebrities, including John Wayne, Brooke Shields, and Johnny Carson have worked to increase public awareness of the program. Professional athletes, business leaders, and entertainers generously give of their time to support the Marine Corps Reserve and encourage toy donations. Perhaps the most important, however, are the thousands of volunteers at the local level who assist.

Not enough volunteers in your REACT Team to do this? Consider contacting another volunteer group such as a 4WD club and asking them to work with you. Many jeep-type vehicles already have two-way radio. Working together with these people might even interest some in REACT membership.

We invite you to contact your local Marine Corps Reserve office at once if your Team is interested in this public service communications work. National Headquarters may also be contacted at (703) 640-9433 or FAX at (703) 640-0917. The address is: Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, P.O. Box 1947, 715 Broadway Street, Marine Corps Base, Quantico, VA 22134. The Reserve makes a fantastic effort to handle this event every year, and deserves a lot of support.



Calendar of Events

September 28, 1996 - Ontario REACT Council Meeting. Contact a council representative for further details.

October, 1996 - Illinois REACT Council meeting. Location and date pending. For further details please contact a council representative.

October 20, 1996 - Missouri State REACT Council Meeting. For further details please contact a council representative.

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

November 3, 1996 - Southern California REACT Council Meeting. Hosted by REACT of Orange County #C399.

November 9, 1996 - Maryland State Council Meeting. For further details please contact a council representative.

November 16, 1996 - Arizona State Council Meeting. For further details please contact a council representative.

November 23, 1996 - Ontario REACT Council Meeting. Contact a council representative for further details.

July 14-17, 1997 - 1997 REACT International Convention, Toronto, Ontario. Further details in upcoming issues of *the REACTer* and Team Topics.

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

- DIP switch programmable
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Life Membership Corner

By R.T. Gamble, LM#226

Yes, once again I have been elected by the Life Members, at this Convention, to be your Chairperson for another year. Thank you once again for your support and confidence.

I now would like to thank Larry Luebben, LM #153, for his assistance in the publication and donation of funds for the printing of the 1996 Life Member Directory.

The Convention is now over for this year, and I will not dwell on that, as I am sure it is covered throughout this REACTer. I will mention though that we had 39 Life Members in attendance, at this annual convention, of which 36 were at the Life Member Banquet/Meeting. We discussed the Life Member endowment funds and what proce-

dures should be followed in their placement in mutual funds and other sources of interest bearing accounts. We also discussed how much control we, as Life Members, should have over how or when these funds should be used by the Board of Directors along with how they are to be paid back and at what interest rate it should receive. This was presented to the Board in open session, at which time they tabled the matter until they could look it over a bit closer.

The 1996 Life Member Directory will be mailed to those Life Members not in attendance at the Convention. There being over 300 to be mailed, we found that to mail them First Class Mail, cost would be prohibitive. I am first sending letters with a self ad-

ressed envelope enclosed and a couple of questions in this regard. Hopefully, I can get answers back post-haste, so I can mail the directories either by bulk mail or third class to save the extreme cost of mailing.

New Life Members

Connie R. Hull
Life Member #507
Crest REACT #4252 - California

Alfred M. Fronfield
Life Member #508
Reading REACT #C604 - Texas



Life Members at the 1996 REACT International Convention held in Silverdale, Washington.

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When Things Go Wrong

*When things go wrong, as they sometimes will;
When the road you are trudging, seems all uphill;
When funds are low and debts are high,
When you want to smile but you have to sigh,
When cares press you down a bit; rest, if you will,
But don't you ever quit!
Success is failure, turn it inside out;
And with the silver clouds of doubt,
You can never tell how close you are,
You may be near when it seems so far.
So, stick to the fight when you're hardest hit.
It's when these things seem worse,
that REACT must not quit!*

Pictured right is Junior REACTers taking a break from the action at the 1996 REACT International Convention.

Pictured below is Frank Jennings and Orville Simpson showing off the Washington Oregon REACT Council's Convention Host plaque. Members of the council are to be commended for doing a superb job on the 1996 REACT International Convention.

*Of course, we cannot forget the voice behind the phone, the one that keeps REACT operating smoothly every day...
Lynda Stafford, REACT International, Inc.
Office Manager addresses the convention attendees, pictured far right.*

Editors Note: The author of the poem to the left is anonymous. Ben Drew, Administrator for the Washington DEM felt that this poem, with a few minor adjustments, really fit REACTers worldwide. The poem and Mr. Drew was well received at the 1996 REACT International Convention held in Silverdale, Washington.



More Convention Highlights



Outgoing Field Director, Richard Pratz receives a standing ovation from attendees while Ken Green presents a gift of appreciation from REACT International, Inc.



Above photo: sign at entrance of hotel welcomes REACTers.



Left photo: did anyone else know that when Frank isn't REACTing...he's entertaining?

Left lower photo: Junior REACTers show off placards.

Attendees at the 1996 REACT International Convention listen intently at the Open Session.





Convention Report:

Search engines, free e-mail, nifty web pages to visit, and a free Web Chat Room!

REACT International may be reached by e-mail at "react@wichita.fn.net". For the addresses of Field Directors and Committee Chairpersons, visit the REACT International home page "http://www.reactintl.org" for this information.

This was written following the 1996 REACT International Convention. At the convention, for the second time in REACT convention history, we had on-line computers accessing the Internet during the convention, allowing attendees to retrieve their e-mail remotely and to send messages from the convention.

Joe Skaggs did a wonderful job of keeping the Web Site for the convention updated daily, and giving one on one demonstrations to those who came by the East Bay Room. Joe just e-mailed me to let us know that the Washington Oregon Council's web site will remain alive even after the convention. The space is being donated by Silverlink of Silverdale, Washington. Silverlink was formerly known as Olympic Net, but the Olympic Committee asked them to change, giving them the domain name of Olympic.Net for the US Olympic Committee. Our thanks go to Silverlink for providing 2 connections during the convention for Internet Access, plus allowing REACT to have the web page up 4 months prior to the convention.

On Wednesday, we conducted seminars to explain and demonstrate

That "C" in REACT...

*By Lee W. Besing, N5NTG
Computer Committee Chairperson
Internet:react@texas.net*

the Internet to about 25 attendees. This was done in a series of three classes ranging from Novice to Intermediate to Advanced.

One of the bits of information was about a free e-mail service called JUNO. Call 1-800-654-JUNO for your free copy of their software and to open an account with them, if all you want to do is send and receive e-mail. There will be an advertisement attached in front of every message sent through this service, and you cannot attach files to a message or surf the Web. This is for messages only.

Searching for information on the Web can be time consuming, but if you know a few tricks, you can be more accurate in your efforts. All searching is done by "Key Words". That's right, so don't search for "under construction", "and", "or", etc., unless you want a large number of matches. Use key words that don't mean other subjects if you can, or tie them together in a phrase like "Amateur Radio". Don't use capitals unless you intend to match only that type of word in the database.

As I mentioned in an earlier column, search engines are varied in purpose and in sponsors, but most of them are still free. There are some which search only web sites, and others that do news groups. My favorite starting point is <http://www.search.com> where you can pick from multiple search engines. There are others which provide the same multiple service.

For free software, visit www.tucows.com, www.shareware.com, www.software.com, or

www.jumbo.com. There are many others as well.

Looking for phone numbers, try checking out 222.555-1212.com or www.switchboard.com. On-line US phone directories searchable by name, city, state, etc., for free.

Wanting to look up Amateur Call Signs in the USA? Check out www.qrz.com or www.ualr.edu/doc/humualr/callsign.html. Each are updated direct from the FCC's database on a daily basis. Remember, that a new amateur can get on the air once they know their call signs, and these databases usually have them posted within days.

For a list of CB resources on the web, visit www.ultranet.com/~bellvill/cb/ or www.telport.com/~tybrooks/. Visit Maverick's Repair Shop at www.maverickcomm.com/mavshop.html or Grove Link at www.grove.net.

Want to visit France to find out about CB in France? Visit <http://users.mwei.net/~mksales/fcb/fcb.html> for "France CB Magazine", or www.geocities.com/WallStreet/2413/ for "CB 27 Mhz Radio SWL Francais! Un must!".

We have a new Web Chat Room courtesy of Monty Gearheart with WCES. You can access this by using your web browser to go to www.lionet.com/newchat/mainchat.htm. You have to register and give a "handle" and password, which will be confirmed by return e-mail, the first time only.



Remarkable REACTers!

By Larry Zygmunt, Chairperson
Training & Development Committee

that point who has purchased and passed all the current training packages will then be awarded their own bonus medallions. Any member that purchases

and passes all the training packages during this year will receive a medalion in 1997 for each certificate they receive in 1996.

The Training & Development Committee wishes to applaud and recognize these members who have dedicated themselves to the goal of improving their skills through training. The following members have obtained all the training packages available through REACT International and have passed all the tests to receive certificates.

Gold foil bonus medallions have been sent to these members for each of their certificates. Next year the files will be analyzed again and anyone at

Congratulations to these outstanding REACT members

Name	Team	State	Name	Team	State
Monroe Corwin III	9700	AR	Ralph Gibson	4259	NJ
Pam Hedden	4760	Canada	Jose Ruiz	9700	PR
Thomas Morelli	3625	CT	Charles Jackson, Jr.	C614	SC
Joseph Nadeau, Jr.	3625	CT	Robert Wilson	C614	SC
Kurt Burggraff	4812	HI	Herbert Gehring	9700	TX
Patti Burggraff	4812	HI	Crystal Geiszler	3366	WA
Alfred Darling	4812	HI	Cathleen Fry	4365	WI
Michael Kano	4212	HI	Larry Fry	4365	WI
Myron Coy	C273	IN	Mark Fry	4365	WI
Bruce Talanian	9700	MA	Shayne Seger	4813	WI
Bobbie Carroll	C336	MO	Henry Sahler III	4813	WI
Edward Neil	C663	NE	Roger Trzebiatowski	4908	WI

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 \$ _____

REACT Interstate Highway Emergency Cellular Phone Directory

These cellular phone numbers are for emergency contact of the state police while traveling on highways in the United States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Canadian provinces.

Keep them handy while traveling throughout the United States and Canada. Remember, your call on the cellular phone could just save a life.

REACT International wishes to

thank Life REACT #4882, Georgia for compiling this directory. Any additions should be mailed to Life REACT #4882, 849 Main Street, Ste. B., Forest Park, GA 30050.

State	Phone Number	State	Phone Number	State	Phone Number	State	Phone Number
Alabama	*47	Louisiana	911	North Carolina	*47	Wyoming	*HELP or 911
Alaska	911	Maine	*77	North Dakota			
Arizona	911	Maryland	*123 or *77	Ohio	*DUI or 911	Puerto Rico	911
Arkansas	*55	Massachusetts	*677	Oklahoma	*55	U.S. Virgin Islands	911
California	911		or *77	Oregon	911		
Colorado	911	Michigan	911	Pennsylvania	*12	Canada	
Connecticut	911	Minnesota	911	Rhode Island	911	Alberta	911
Delaware	911	Mississippi	*47	South Carolina		British Columbia	911
D.C.		Missouri	*55	South Dakota		Manitoba	
Florida	*347 or *DUI	Montana		Tennessee	*847	New Brunswick	911
Georgia	*477	Nebraska	*77	Texas	911	Newfoundland	
Hawaii	911	Nevada	*647	Utah	*11 or 911	Nova Scotia	
Idaho	*477	New Hampshire	*77			Ontario	*677 or 911
Illinois	*999 Chicago	New Jersey	911	Vermont	911	Prince Edward Island	
Indiana	*11	New Mexico	911	Virginia	911	Quebec	911
Iowa	*55 US Cel *69 Centel	New York	*47 911 NYC *DWI (Drunk Driver)	Washington	911	Saskatchewan	911
Kansas	*55 or *47			West Virginia	*SP or 911	Yukon	911
Kentucky				Wisconsin	911		



John Boyer, K40 Electronics presents the Individual Annual K40 Award to Don Perry, Salem Area REACT of Oregon (left photo) and the Council Annual K40 Award to Jim Green, representing the Pennsylvania State REACT Council (right photo).



K40 Achievement Awards - 1996

2nd Quarter

INDIVIDUAL

Jacki MacDonald of Waukesha Area REACT #4089, Wisconsin monitored a total of 2,500 hours and attended all of the past 11 Team meetings and 4 Council meetings.

A member of Waukesha Area REACT #4089 since 1986 and a REACT member since 1978, Jacki has been active in all levels of leadership and service. This earned her the REACTer of the Year Award from the Wisconsin Council of REACT Teams in 1995.

Jacki has been president of the Team. Currently she serves as special projects chairperson, leading the team through many different events. With her husband, she is editor of the team newsletter which took first place for their division in the 1995 International competition.

Jacki has served the Wisconsin Council as secretary, 1st vice president, 2nd vice president and president. Currently she is secretary. She is also chairperson of the Awards Committee and of the 1998 Convention Site Selection Committee. With her husband, she is editor of the council newsletter. The Wisconsin Council of REACT Teams newsletter has been in the top three in International competition since 1988, winning it three times including in 1995.

She has attended every convention since 1980 and has served on several International committees. She served on the Board of Directors from 1990 to 1994. Most recently she was chairperson of the membership com-

mittee. Unfortunately, Jacki had to resign the committee this year due to health.

TEAM

St. Thomas REACT, Inc. #4760, St. Thomas, Ontario held 11 membership meetings in the past year and averaged 15 out of 20 members at each meeting. Team delegates attended the last two Ontario Council meetings.

This Team is actively involved in helping their community during emergencies and in times of disaster. Within the past year, Team members have volunteered over 50 hours, utilizing 26 members in search and rescue for young children.

Members also helped in traffic control, fires and power outages volunteering a total of 34 hours with 17 members in the past year.

Team members also provide security at the Eastway Ford dealership during the warmer months. From July to October members volunteer on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings at the dealership. St. Thomas REACT members volunteered over 400 hours and had a total of 94 people volunteer on those weekends.

NOMINATIONS RECEIVED

Individual

Shawn Claridge
St. Thomas REACT #4760
Ontario, Canada

Mary-Ellen Hicknell
St. Thomas REACT #4760
Ontario, Canada

Jacki MacDonald
Waukesha Area REACT #4089
Waukesha, Wisconsin

Fred Satterley
St. Thomas REACT #4760
Ontario, Canada

Team

Southern MN Albert
Lea REACT #C143
Albert Lea, Minnesota

St. Thomas REACT #4760
Ontario, Canada

Waukesha Area REACT #4089
Waukesha, Wisconsin

Submit that special individual or your Team for the K40 Achievement Award.

*Applications are in the Team Management Notebook, past Team Topics as well as past issues of the magazine.
Or call REACT Headquarters for a form.*

Making new friends

By Pam Hedden,
International Field Director



Do you remember back in the "good old days" of school when pen pals were an important part of our education? We made new friends and learned about a country much different than our own. I had pen pals in

Australia, Italy and Scotland. My Scottish friend and I still write although it is pretty rare with our grown-up responsibilities and busy lives.

She told me all about the Bay City Rollers long before they ever hit North America. Do you remember the Bay City Rollers? Now I know how old you are!

REACT International, Inc. would like to introduce the Team Match Program.

This is our way to help establish new relationships and networking opportunities between Teams in different areas. You may even wish to participate in some friendly competitions or exchange programs with your "Match". Our goal in offering this program is to promote closer ties between previously unrelated Teams and increase communications and idea-sharing opportunities.

Participation in the Team Match Program is very simple.

If you would like to learn more about this program or volunteer to participate call your Field Director or REACT International, Inc.

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Hands Across the Border

We all agree that one of the major hurdles we face as an organization is falling membership. **Hands Across the Border** is a program devised to combat this hurdle.

The purpose of this program is to encourage existing Teams to start new Teams in under-serviced areas. Teams interested in participating in this project will be provided with any leads for their area which are received at Headquarters. They are also encouraged to make their own contacts. REACT International will provide the resources and advice ("*How to form a REACT Team in 14 simple steps*"), for example, to the sponsoring Team. At the first anniversary of the new Team both Teams will receive a special commemo-

orative certificate thanking them for their support of this project.

Hands Across the Border benefits us all. You will develop a special relationship with the new Team which can be very beneficial if an emergency or disaster should strike. The new Team may be able to avoid the difficulties and pit falls which can cause a young Team to fold. We all benefit from the increased membership. And, most importantly, the community benefits from having a vital, active REACT Team serving them.

If you would like to learn more about this program or volunteer to participate call your Field Director or REACT International, Inc.

1996-1997

REACT Committees

Executive Committee

Christine White, CEO/President
313 W. 18th Street
Tishomingo, OK 73460
HP (405) 371-9461

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

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

Awards & Recognition Committee

Christine White - Director

Don Perry, Chairperson
4724 Avens Street NE
Salem, OR 97301
HP (503) 363-2850

Computer Services Committee

Kenneth Green - Director

Lee Besing, Chairperson
7022 Glendora Avenue
San Antonio, TX 78218-3615
HP (210) 656-7657
FAX (210) 637-6611

International Affiliations

Pam Hedden - Director

Position Vacant

Communications Committee

James Bear - Director
Walter Green III - Director

Henry Sahler, Amateur Chairperson
2608 Elim Avenue, Apt. 2-E
Zion, IL 60099
HP (708) 926-8237

Jack Murrell, CB Chairperson
2937 N. Arthington Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46218-3113
HP (317) 547-1822

Bill Simpson, GMRS Chairperson
12766 Tyler Ave.
Waukegan, IL 60087
HP (708) 926-8237

Convention Site

Selection Committee

Pam Hedden - Director

Jesse Mauk, Chairperson
3630 Armitage Street
San Diego, CA 92117
HP (619) 545-9824

Government Relations

Committee

James Bear - Director

Al Hanger
10403 Hunt Country Lane
Vienna, VA 22182
HP (703) 938-7138

Junior REACT Task Group

Pam Hedden - Director

George Criswell, Chairperson
306 W. Ertel Ave.
Lima, OH 45801-2712
HP (419) 222-8092

Life Membership Committee

Christine White - Director

Richard Gamble, Chairperson
11100-4 Avenue W #35
Everett, WA 98204-7076
HP (206) 514-8124

Training & Development Committee

Bonnie Zygmunt - Director

Larry Zygmunt, Chairperson
5925 Donegal Road
Hubertus, WI 53033-9769
HP (414) 628-0218

Public Relations Committee

Kenneth Green - Director

Fred Lanshe, Chairperson
630 Washington Street
Allentown, PA 18102
HP (610) 434-3235

Membership Development Committee

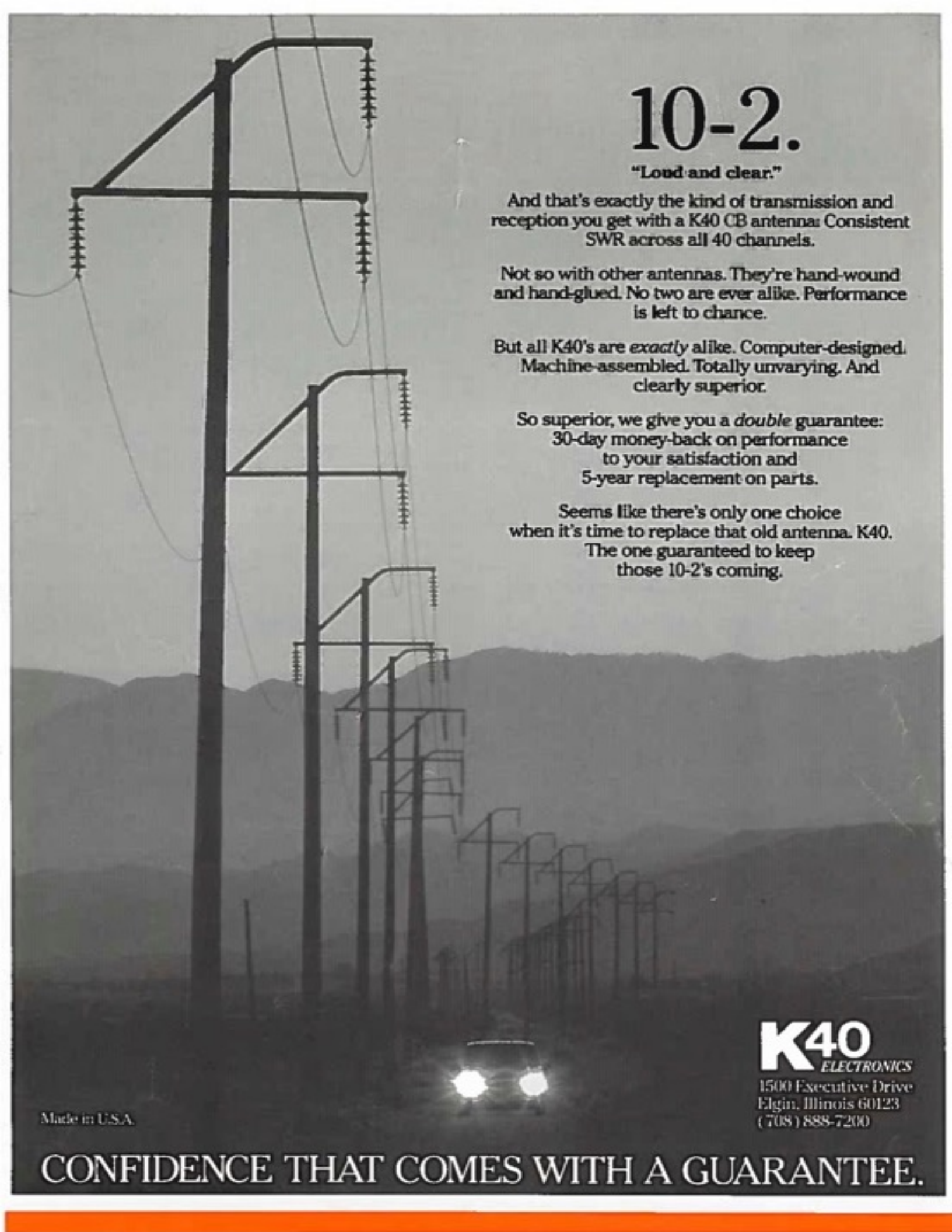
Bonnie Zygmunt - Director

Position Vacant

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