



# the REACTer

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

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*Visitors from Oklahoma stopped at McLennan Co. REACT's Safety Break.*

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**2000 Convention Update**

## *From the Chairman*

Little did I know three years ago at our Council semi-annual conference, when we discussed restructuring, that I would be serving you as Chairman of the Board. It is a most humbling experience. I do not have all the answers nor do the other Board members. I can tell you that the entire Board, including Mr. W. R. Stone, has a great desire for GROWTH within *REACT* at the member, Team, and Council levels. Though Bob stepped down as chairman of the Board, he is with the Board offering advice and serving you – committed to GROWTH.

We have some great and dedicated chairpersons for our standing committees that will be assisting your Board and plan on providing the Board with ideas and recommendations that will assist you in helping the Teams grow. If it seems that you are seeing and reading the word GROW or GROWTH a lot, you are, because that is our goal as directors. We will be working together for growth and communicating together into the next millennium. As you review the minutes from the Convention in this issue of *The REACTer*, you will be able to witness a group of Convention goers and your Board's great desires to see that growth. Even if it is only in the exchange of ideas that have been tried or used in different areas, if it works try it; if it didn't work for them it might work in your area.

Let each of us set a goal and try to sign up just one new member. This would DOUBLE our membership. If each State or Council were to form one new team we would see an increase of 50-60 new teams. This is not an impossible task if we all put our shoulders together and work together to meet the goal. I challenge each and every one of you reading this article to do this. To all of you unattached Life Members, I present you with the same challenge. Our membership is at a critical stage. We barely have enough members paying their present dues to support the operational costs of our organization (insurance, rent, staff, supplies, and this *REACTer*). This issue, the July-August 1999 and September-October 1999, is combined to reduce the cost of printing and postage.

You now have four corporate officers (President, Vice President and General Counsel, Secretary, and Treasurer) who are responsible to the Board for routine day-to-day operations. Please address your calls and correspondence to the office and your President, Harry Hawkins, for their actions. Should you not receive a positive response after a respectable period of time, then address your Regional Director with documentation and explanations. Your Regional Director will address it or refer it to the Board for their consideration.

Please toot your own horn! No one else is going to toot it for you. There have been some changes in the K40 award rules that make the awards open to more members. The awards committee members are waiting for these applications. While you are at it TOOT your Team's and Council's horns. They are eligible for these awards. We need these applications and documented number of hours that you and your Teams/Councils monitor, attend meetings, work public service events, etc. We can use these hours combined for the entire organization that will show our efforts in helping our communities in time of need. Pass this information on to your Public Relations and Ways and Means Committee.

I am looking forward to one of our BIGGEST and most productive conventions at Kissimmee, Florida, the last week in July 2000, and "Communicating Into the Next Millennium."

We do not have bid packages for 2001 and 2002 conventions. We do have a letter of intent from the Iowa Council for 2001. So think about the future of *REACT* and commence thinking about those convention time frames.

I will close asking all of our members, Teams, Councils, and directors to put GROWTH at the front of your thoughts when you think of *REACT*. We can do it! Let us show the world that we can grow in members and Teams.

B. F. (Frank) Jennings  
Life Member C020  
Region 6 Director and Chairman



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**Attention Members**

The 2000 Team Renewal packets will be mailed by the end of October 1999. Please complete your renewal packet and return to REACT International before December 31, 1999. Remember, you may win an early-bird prize if you get that packet in early. Please review all the information and make sure everything is in order and correct before you mail the packet.



## *A Message from the President*

At our 1999 International Conference held in Grand Island, Nebraska, I was appointed to the position of president of this great organization. It was just one of several leadership changes. We have a new Chairman of the Board, Frank Jennings from Pacific Northwest *REACT* Council. We also have some new committee chairpersons and seven new directors.

I would like you to know more about your new president. Here is just a little about my background. I am 53 years old, born and raised in Saginaw, Michigan. I started my chain of awards with letters in intermediate and high school, and continued with the rank of Eagle in the Boy Scouts of America in 1965. I served three years in the United States Army from 1966-1969, graduating from the Seventh U.S. Army NCO Academy while I was stationed in Germany. The American Bowling Congress presented a perfect game award to me in December 1997.

I have spent the last 30 years with one of the major electric and gas utilities in the state of Michigan. The first eight of those years were spent doing office work and minor field design of electric distribution systems. The last 22 years, I have been an electric distribution dispatcher. I was promoted to my present position of senior dispatcher approximately 13 years ago. My primary duties are to maintain control of emergency and day-to-day field operation for Saginaw County. I am the current president of *REACT* Team 3653 in Saginaw, Michigan. I have also held the offices of vice president and operations officer for a number of years on that same team. I am the second vice president of the Michigan State Council. I have been a member of *REACT* for the past twenty years. I will be sending in for my Life Membership in the next few months.

I encourage anyone of you who think *REACT* is a dead or dying organization to please give the new board a chance. The new board and I need your support. We have many opportunities for growth and development ahead of us. Your participation and enthusiasm is a lot more important to the growth of *REACT* than you can imagine. You now have to start buckling down and making those Team meetings and projects. You have to start nagging that special person again. You know the one! That special person who says, "I would like to join *REACT*, but." Figure out a way to get them to come out to a meeting. Better yet, figure out a way to get them to a project. The Councils (if you have one in your state) are going to start working more with the Teams. The Teams within each state are going to start working more with each other. If we can drop all those petty personal differences we have, *REACT* can take its place in the sun, united and standing tall as one of the best volunteer organizations in the world.

I will now get down off my soapbox, and let you get back to reading the latest issue of *The REACTer*. Look for more of these little letters from me. I will also be trying to keep you abreast of which direction we are trying to go with the organization. The direction you should want us to be going is UP.

Harry J. Hawkins



## Public Relations

### Showtime and the REACT Exhibit

By Bob Leef

Public Relations Co-Chair

<kb6don@arrrl.net>

The May-June *REACTer* had articles on promoting our organization by having an exhibit booth at conventions, fairs, shows, etc. A sampling of times and locations was given of just a few places around the country where this type of activity takes place. There are many more of these promotional opportunities available to Teams and Councils everywhere. Should you decide to take advantage of this chance for public relations exposure, important contacts, and potential membership building, following will be some points to ponder.

Characteristics and features of your *REACT* display can vary as much as the kinds and sizes of shows to be found. Perhaps the first thing you think of is "can we afford it?" The cost of exhibit space will be out of reason for a volunteer organization in some cases. But don't automatically exclude any big show because of this assumption. There may be some provision for a much reduced rate for a nonprofit organization. And don't forget to mention *The President's Volunteer Action Award* when talking to a show promoter about arrangements. *REACT* even got a free booth space June 19th at a show in Ohio. This same promoter also offered to put local Team literature at his other displays around the country which he does on the average of two per month. (See schedule on page 9 of May-June *REACTer*.)

If you do display, consider what professional exhibitors have told us. Here are their comments: Probably the #1 mistake made by inexperienced people is putting too much into the exhibit. Be conservative. Put enough out to show your primary function, and include enough to draw interest. Too much results in a "too busy" message, and your booth can be skipped over. You need the backdrop scene to attract attention, then show your details on table displays. The backdrop scene could be a large banner, blowup photos or posters of

*REACTers* in action, etc. Portable panels are typically the backdrop material for the scene you create.

An L-shaped arrangement of two tables inside the standard 10' x 10' booth size would allow for the main attraction at the back, and radios and literature on the other table to one side. Sometimes tables, skirting, and electricity are furnished—ask! Plan carefully to see exactly what may be needed and what is supplied. Tables should be covered to the floor with a skirt, and may be used underneath for storage.

Don't have more than two chairs and then use them sparingly. To have members sitting in the booth, only to get up if someone approaches, is as bad as the other extreme of swooping in on any individual who comes close—a la used car salesman. The proven way is for the member to stand out in front of the booth watching traffic. If anyone stops or shows interest they should be approached and politely asked if they could be helped, or if anything in the booth was of interest to them. The real purpose of operating a booth at a show is to meet people as well as "sell" them.

Following is an actual case history. "At the last show where we displayed, our salesman spent almost all his time on his feet, out in the aisle in front of the open end booth. He didn't enter the booth much at all, except to get more handouts or to bring in a prospective client for more/better 'show and tell'. The booth directly across the aisle from us was from a competitor. Their two booth attendants sat on chairs at the back of the booth for two days (when they were there—they both left frequently at the same time, leaving the booth unattended). Our salesman was 'pressing the flesh' constantly for two days, and had lots of contacts throughout the show. Our competitors had TWO contacts in two days, one of which mistook them for something else."



Consider how the booth staffers are dressed. You never have a second chance to make a first impression. Do they have an identical Team appearance or do they dress differently? The first impression should be one of a simple message so the person who stops can focus on a single thought or two. This may not be a popular idea with some *REACTers*, but save all the medals, badges, logos, pins, emblems, etc., for another time and place. As the professional booth people say, it impairs the focus on what's really important. If you need to impress visitors with something, include it in the brochure that you hand them. (Remember mistake #1.) Flagler County Assist *REACT* has a simple white shirt with the large triangular orange and black *REACT* logo on front and back. Message delivered! (and remembered).

Speaking of brochures, what do you have? Is your Team handout an attractively printed item with some graphics, or simply an obviously photocopied sheet of information? I'll bet you have seen Team literature that runs all the way on the scale from terrible to excellent. Does it reflect today's *REACT*, or is it outdated in concept? Could you use some extra copies of *The REACTer* from RI? Good literature and publications are a subject in themselves.

Radio equipment should be operational but not a noisy intrusion unless you want to intimidate your neighbors. Loading up the table with all kinds of models and equipment is also a no-no, and against the KISS principle. (Remember mistake #1.)

A final note, again from those who have done dozens of shows. Put a huge bowl of small wrapped candies on the table in front, free for passersby to (stop and) take. Find them in the *REACT* colors of orange and black around Halloween, and stock up!

Thanks to Dave, unit 157 of Long Beach *REACT*, and Dennis, unit 18 of Poway *REACT*, for their input on this subject. If any other members have important details, photos, etc., on the subject please send for a possible update in some future issue.

### Manufacturers Matter

The March-April *REACTer* said "companies that make radios we use need to know about us, and we about them."

Some visits have now taken place with Yaesu, Alinco, Premier/ADI, Kenwood, and ICOM. We spoke to marketing representatives, customer support managers, sales managers, and engineering/R&D people. While all were interested in hearing about *REACT* and reading the material in our presentation folder, there were different degrees of understanding about what we are all about these days.

In order to supply some insight to these and other companies yet to be visited, we want to provide them with ideas you would like to see in future radios. For example, what features would be desirable for a handheld?

Would your Team brainstorm the subject at a meeting and send the results to the Public Relations committee? Thanks.

### Power in Your Palm!

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## Heartland REACT C662 Assists Red Cross in Flood Disaster

Rich Ryan  
Heartland REACT C662  
Omaha, Nebraska

It started on Friday, August 6, 1999, in the evening with moderate rain, thunder and lightning and continued throughout the night with rain becoming very heavy and extreme lightning. When it ended early Saturday, August 7, there was a record 10.7 inches of rain in less than 24 hours. This set a new record.

As a result of this storm, there was widespread flooding in the Omaha area. REACT was not involved in any flood watch for the city or the county on the rivers and creeks within the area. However, on Sunday, August 8, we were asked by the Red Cross Chapter to assist with damage assessment in the flood areas once the water began to recede. Our members had completed damage assessment training with the Red Cross but did need a quick refresher course as they had new forms and requirements for us to report. There were eight REACTers in the field doing the reports and three running control from our communications van.

Several businesses were damaged and a number of automobile dealerships actually had cars floating. These cars were floating into other cars because the water was high and running very strong. There was one death as the result of a basement wall (at a home) caving in on the person. The rush of the water was the cause of the accident. In the lower apartments of an apartment

house, two ladies had to be rescued by breaking in a door and swimming to them to take them out of the building (not by our REACT members). At least six cars at this apartment building were totally destroyed by high water. There were many homes where the water was six to eight feet in the basements. Everything in these basements was destroyed.

Our purpose was to complete the damage assessment reports for the Red Cross to determine the need when they came to the center for help and aid. It was very hard not to get involved with the homeowner, but we had to maintain a very professional attitude about why we were there and the need for the information. Sunday, August 8, proved to be a very long day.

On Monday, August 9, five of our members were at the Emergency Management Office answering the phone from people calling in requesting assistance. The needed information was documented for the director of the Omaha Emergency Management Office to be filed with FEMA for disaster assistance.

In the Omaha area, damage reports are in the \$30 million range.

The Team responded to the Red Cross request and worked in a very professional manner.







*Oklahoma Tornado Path*

*(Used by permission of Ace  
Aerial Photography, Inc.)*



# Tornado

By Robert Kaster, President

Dale Ellis, Vice President

Oklahoma County REACT 2620

It was a dark and stormy night. Sounds like the start of a bad story, and on Monday, May 3, 1999, for the residents of central Oklahoma, it was.

There was warm, moist air blowing in from the Gulf of Mexico, a cold front blowing in from the Rocky Mountains, and an intense dry line (a boundary between extremely moist air and extremely dry air) moving in from the west. This was the ideal weather pattern to produce severe tornadic storms. The dry line was expected to hit central Oklahoma during the late night, however it had picked up speed and was going to hit in the evening.

At about 5:30 p.m., the initial call went out from the Moore, Okla. Emergency Operations Center (EOC): "All weather spotters stand by on one hour call up." These weather spotters are the members of Oklahoma Co. REACT 2620 and University of Oklahoma (OU) REACT 3916, the two central Oklahoma REACT teams. Members of these teams have been trained by the National Weather Service in storm spotting. They are "spotters," not "chasers." The difference is that spotters do not chase the storms to photograph or study them. Spotters are normally placed in one location to advise the EOC what a storm is doing and which way it is traveling. When spotting, these individuals are working as volunteers for the City of Moore as part of the Emergency Management Department.

Before the hour was up, spotters had been activated and were on their way to their assigned locations. Soon after reaching their designated positions, spotters in the field observed a wall cloud and realized that it was rotating. Shortly thereafter, Richard Sack, Oklahoma Co. REACT Unit 183, seeing a funnel extending from the cloud and debris flying in the air, reported a "tornado on the ground." Spotters continued to track the storm and report its location to the Moore EOC. Shirley Kitch, OU REACT President and Moore's Emergency Management Volunteer Coordinator, received the information and relayed it to Gayland Kitch, Moore's Emergency Manager, also an OU REACT member. Upon receipt of the notification, the Moore emergency

warning sirens were activated and spotters in the field were advised of that action.

Spotters continued to track the storm, knowing that the damage was going to be tremendous. The wind speed, the width, and the size and amount of debris made even the most experienced of the spotters stand in awe. The tornado walked a path of destruction through Moore and then continued on to the eastern side of the Oklahoma City metro area, destroying parts of Oklahoma City, Del City and Midwest City before moving out of the area.

The spotters returned to Moore and started the long task of providing emergency assistance to the population. The Team's members provided site security, access control, emergency transportation of critical supplies and other duties as assigned. Some Team members were allowed to leave at about 3:30 a.m. Tuesday morning, while others stayed throughout the night. Volunteers returned later Tuesday morning and provided services as EOC liaison to the Operations Command Post, check in of supplies and equipment, answering telephones, site security to the Administrative Command Post, public assistance and directions and documentation.

Fifteen REACT volunteers worked a total of 336 hours during the spotting and recovery operations. Only seven people lost their lives in Moore because of the tornado. The mayor of Moore credited the advance warning provided by the REACT spotters for the low loss of life.





## *K40 Awards and Recognition*

*By Leland Johnson  
K40 Award Chairperson*

You sure get a great feeling when you receive recognition or an award. But you will have a better feeling if you recognize someone from your *REACT* Team or from your State Council. Now is the time to let your fellow *REACT*er know how you feel about all the work that they do for your Team or Council.

To give that special *REACT*er the recognition that they so greatly deserve, just fill out the K40 Award and Recognition form in the *REACT*er and mail to *REACT* International. Recognize those *REACT* members, Teams, and Councils that are worthy of this award.

Challenge yourself to submit that K40 Award and Recognition form. Your submission is needed in all categories so that we can keep the K40 Awards going. Take the time and fill out the form with copies and send to *REACT* International Headquarters. Then find out who won the awards.

Each quarter there will be a winner and one winner for the year. Let us do our part and send the nomination form in. Being recognized with the K40 Award gives that person a special feeling.

I will be waiting for those nomination forms.



## *Caledonia County REACT 2424*

*By Margaret McKee  
Vice President, Caledonia County REACT 2424  
St. Johnsbury Center, Vermont*

Caledonia Co. *REACT* 2424, headquartered in St. Johnsbury, Vermont, has just started its busy activities for this year. On April 10, we were involved in the Wellness Festival in the Middle School which ran from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.. Many organizations were there showing people how to stay physically and mentally fit. Our Team members were there parking cars that were entering and departing busy Vermont Route 2 from the festival. There were nine members who donated 23.5 man-hours.

Our next involvement was at the 45th Annual Northeast Home, Garden, and Recreation Show which ran from April 22 through April 25 at the Fenton Chester Arena in Lyndonville, Vt. This show was started 25 years ago in St. Johnsbury and then moved to the

Lyndon sport arena. Many people think of this show as the Northeast Kingdom's largest spring social event. A total of 105 exhibitors displayed their products while 16 *REACT* volunteers handled traffic for 106 man-hours.

The March of Dimes Walk-America, which takes place in many communities nationwide, was held on April 25. There were 260 walkers and four *REACT* members were there for safety precautions, donating eight man-hours.

On April 30, we assisted the Vermont State Police and area fire departments during a six-acre forest fire. State Police closed U.S. Route 5 for several hours. Five of our team members helped with traffic control using GMRS radios.

A request from Larry Fry and Linda Faulkner for teams that have **Junior** members bylaws to send a copy to each of these two and list their addresses.



## Publicizing REACT

By Ron McCracken  
Public Relations Co-Chair  
Titusville, Florida

### REACTing to Y2K

Could your Team handle Y2K today? You and your Team should be "Y2K-ready" right now. What is your status?

Never before have we had time-specific knowledge of a potential disaster to which REACT Teams might well be asked to respond. We know exactly when this one could hit.

Never before have we faced a potential disaster that could easily involve every REACT Team in the world. Think about that. It's staggering. We need to get used to the idea and its magnitude. This is the time to do it: well in advance.

### Personal Plan Priority

Teams first need to ensure that all their volunteers have a personal plan ready. REACTers won't be able to respond to a call-out, or won't be able to concentrate fully on their duties, if nagging concerns about their families' safety distract them.

Discuss personal disaster plans at a Team meeting. Use Red Cross, FEMA, or other good planning checklists. Help each member plan that his/her family will be safe, and as well prepared as possible to cope with the arrival of Y2K.

What's involved? Recall the ice storms of January 1998 in eastern Canada and the U.S. northeast. They may have been a wake-up call. Y2K will also hit us in January, the *coldest* month of the year. That could mean a repeat of the same severe hardships - but continent-wide this time. January has the *shortest* days of the year. It is also the *stormiest* month of the winter.

The timing couldn't be worse in terms of weather. These factors in combination mean that we could be coping with much more than just the Y2K "bug" itself. You've heard of "Murphy's Law"?

REACTers in most areas of North America and Europe will thus need to plan for alternate *heating* in

addition to usual disaster preparations. Teams in areas subject to tornadoes or hurricanes have the advantage over the rest of us of having been through this before. Those in earthquake regions also have the jump on those of us who live and serve in quieter zones. Contact these veteran Teams for some helpful pointers. You may be able to link up by e-mail or arrange a speaker if anyone from such a Team will be in your area soon.

Smoke detectors (battery-operated) are critical, especially if you are using an emergency heat source. Be sure to install new batteries in all smoke detectors at the time change this fall.

Speaking of batteries, secure a good supply of all sizes you require for your radios, etc, *now*. As Y2K nears, the usual run on such supplies is quite likely. He who waits may be lost.

Ensure that all your radio equipment is in top working order *now*. That includes broadcast radios to receive alerts, reports, etc. Be prepared to operate for a month, if required, on battery power. Include a weather-alert radio in your plan.

Gradually build up a month's supply of non-perishable foods. Freeze plastic bottles of fresh drinking water. In all of this you hope for the best, but plan as a smart REACTer for the worst.

The purpose of all the planning is to avoid panic. You need to be in a position to calm and help others who failed to plan.

### Team Plan Next

Once you've helped each other prepare personal plans to safeguard your families, turn your attention to Team planning for Y2K. Your REACT radio skills may well be in demand as never before come January 1. Commercial communications could well go down.

How well your Team handles this situation will determine its credibility and reputation into the early part of the twenty-first century. Preparation is pivotal. Your Team must be ready to respond and assist at the



drop of a hat on January 1. There won't be any room for excuses that day. You've had months to plan for this one. It's a unique event.

Y2K could fizzle completely, too — although that appears less and less likely. Regardless, all your Team's planning will be worthwhile. You can't lose by being ready, only by not being ready.

Y2K will either be one dandy "mock disaster" exercise for *REACT* Teams, and all other emergency services, or it will be the real thing on a scale we've probably never seen. Your alertness and readiness will stand your Team in good stead regardless of which way it goes.

### *Cover All the Bases*

Contact all the agencies with which your Team works, if you haven't already done so. Arrange speakers from each for a panel or for a series of Team meetings. Ask if there are seminars planned that a Team representative can attend. Explain that your Team wants to learn more and see where *REACT* can best benefit the agencies with its radio skills.

Ensure all Team equipment is in top running order. Hams may be happy to help your Team arrange back-up battery power for its GMRS repeater. Talk to them *now* since they, too, will be very busy as Y2K nears. Talk to them about how you may be able to work together for this one. Plan a joint meeting. Get to know them now.

Authorities may designate specific tasks to your Team in advance as part of their own preparations. That would be great because you would be able to rehearse, perhaps with them or on your own, before the big day arrives. You want as few surprises as possible when the real event occurs, so practice as much as you can.

Anything your Team can do to prepare, it should do. Councils likewise should review mutual aid agreements and encourage fuller participation. VOAD and FEMA meetings merit your Team's and Council's loyal attendance for the balance of the year. You need to be briefed on their plans in order to be most effective come Y2K.

### *Go Away Y2K*

Maybe we will be very lucky and it will. If not, your Team will need to use every kind of radio at its disposal,

and use it well. Remember, many citizens have only CB radios — so be sure your Team plan includes monitoring CB Emergency Channel 9 around the clock. Start monitoring now to build confidence in citizens who may need you later.

When *REACT* speakers address groups about Y2K, be sure they stress how to use CB Emergency Channel 9 correctly to get help. Issue copies of "Getting Help by CB Radio" so they can have it handy for reference when the big day arrives.

Y2K is serious business. Two airlines have already canceled all year-end flights for 24 hours. Many police and military leaves are canceled. They obviously take this matter very seriously.

*REACT* Teams should do no less. As airlines shut down for safety reasons, *REACT* Teams should gear up to full readiness for those same safety reasons. *REACT* now! Be certain that if your Team's radio expertise is needed on January 1, it will be ready and reliable.

Be prepared to make January 1, and perhaps the days that follow, your *REACT* Team's finest.

### *Y2K ... from the FCC (12-1-98)*

"When the new century arrives, computers could malfunction. Problems could range from nuisances to catastrophic situations involving safety of life and property.

FCC warns licensees that the problem is real and pervasive. Some early, cursory examinations appear to have underestimated the seriousness and extent of the problem.

Wise, well-prepared managers will find it prudent to have a Contingency Plan — for when even the best-laid plans go wrong."

(Excerpts from FCC memo of 12-1-98)

Check the FCC Website <[www.fcc.gov/year2000/](http://www.fcc.gov/year2000/)> for the full document and other Y2K information. Among other Websites to check are <[www.y2knewswire.com](http://www.y2knewswire.com/)>; and <[www.y2knewswire.com/news.asp](http://www.y2knewswire.com/news.asp)>.

### *PR Begets PR*

A tip-o'-the-PR hat to Tobacco Valley *REACT*, Connecticut. They gain precious TV exposure by



helping their PBS station during membership weeks, in full *REACT* uniform. Teams could work jointly on this to meet the manpower needs of the PBS station. Excellent!

### ***Fund-raising PR***

Doing a fund-raiser? Make it a PR event, too. Provide a copy of "Getting Help by CB Radio" with the candy bars, etc., you sell. That leaflet could save a life.

### ***Double Your PR Returns***

Whenever you issue a *REACT* safety leaflet, ask the recipient to "help save a tree" by passing it along to a friend after they read and memorize its life-saving CB emergency tips. Your Team's investment will benefit more people and environmentalists will love *REACT*.

### ***Truck Plaza (TP) PR***

Visit your local TP managers. Ask about their new role as staging areas for Red Cross in disasters. Alert them to your Team's communications role with Red Cross. Suggest a three-way meeting to coordinate planning now, before disaster strikes. TP's usually have CB on site for general use, so you're already to first base. (You may wish to talk to Red Cross first and make the same suggestion for preplanning.) Terrific opportunity! Thanks to Crest *REACT*, California, for this alert.

### ***Beating the PR Sagebrush***

Congratulations to Texas *REACT* Council. It participates in "Another Way Texas Shares," a program similar to United Way. Its *REACT* Teams will benefit to the tune of about \$1000 in the latest statewide campaign.

Additionally, *REACT* has had statewide publicity at some 30 major workplaces. More workers are designating *REACT* to receive their contributions as a result. Check for similar programs in your state/province and get involved.

### ***Newsletter Editors, HELP!***

We want to share your Team's ideas and successes with all the *REACT* family. You can help ensure we don't miss an amazing story or tip in your Team/Council newsletter.

On the copy you mail to HQ, just put a big asterisk (\*) in the margin beside any item you feel other Teams should hear about. Circle the star to help our tired eyes even more.

That will sure help us. We get a lot of newsletters each week and we check them carefully. It takes considerable time, so this little trick will benefit you and us. Thanks a bundle.



## ***FCC Approves Use of GMRS 462.675 Mhz/467.675 Mhz Channel Pairs for All Licensees***

The following are excerpts from the Federal Communications Commission—FCC 99-139 (RM 9107), adopted June 10, 1999, and released June 28, 1999, paragraphs 5.62, 5.63, 5.66, and 5.67 (background paragraphs of the history).

62. **Background.** In the *ULS Report and Order*, we adopted numerous changes to the General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) to eliminate rules that had become duplicative or otherwise unnecessary to our regulatory responsibilities, as well as to ensure that our streamlined licensing process collects the minimum information needed of GMRS licensees and applicants. More than sixty parties filed informal petitions and *ex parte* comments concerning portions of the new GMRS rules.



63. On January 13, 1999, the Personal Radio Steering Group (PRSG) filed a Petition for Stay of the effective date of the rules pertaining to GMRS until the issues raised in its petition for reconsideration were addressed. Several other parties filed similar pleadings in support of the PRSG Petition. On June 1, 1999, we adopted a partial stay order in which we determined that PRSG had demonstrated that it was in the public interest to stay the effectiveness of our new rule, section 95.29(e) -- which restricts the use of the 462.675 MHz/467.675 MHz channel pair to traveler's assistance and emergency use -- pending resolution of the petitions. However, we declined to issue a broad stay of all of the new GMRS rules.

66. In the *ULS Report and Order*, we adopted an "all-channel" usage plan, which authorized stations to transmit on any authorized channel from any geographic location where the FCC regulates communication, but restricted use of the 462.675 MHz/467.675 MHz channel pair to emergency and traveler's assistance use. PRSG and others argue that restricting the 462.675 MHz/467.675 MHz channel pair to emergency and traveler's assistance use will hinder the provision of these services. PRSG states that many licensees who operate repeaters on the 462.675 MHz/467.676 MHz channel pair conduct their routine personal (*i.e.*, non-emergency and non-traveler's assistance) communications through those facilities. PRSG argues that many licensees would permanently re-tune their repeaters to other channel pairs because the revised rules would require those licensees to use other channels for their routine personal communications. Similarly, Collier notes that if personal users re-tune their repeaters to other channels, the 462.675 MHz/467.675 MHz channel pair is likely to become unmonitored. Other petitioners claim the revised rule would result in inefficient use of the GMRS spectrum, and that we have not shown that an exclusive channel is necessary to serve emergency and traveler's assistance needs.

67. For the reasons stated in our *PRSG Stay Order*, we agree with PRSG and others that we should allow unrestricted use of the of the 462.675 MHz/467.675 MHz channel pair by all eligible GMRS licensees. Furthermore, we note that a large portion of the GMRS community previously self-selected use of the 462.675 MHz/467.675 MHz channel pair without apparent detriment to emergency and traveler's assistance communications, and that the "all-channel" usage plan will allow GMRS users to select the channel that provides the best operational environment for any communication need, including traveler's assistance. We conclude that allowing use of the 462.675 MHz/467.675 MHz channel pair in the same way that GMRS users may use any other channel pair will not hinder emergency and traveler's assistance communications. We therefore remove the restriction on use of the 462.675 MHz/467.675 MHz channel pair.

(a) For a base station, fixed station, mobile station, or repeater station (a GMRS station that simultaneously retransmits the transmission of another GMRS station on a different channel or channels), the licensee of the GMRS system must select the transmitting channels or channel pairs (*see* § 95.7(a) of this part) for the stations in the GMRS system from the following 462 MHz channels:

462.5500, 462.5750, 462.6000, 462.6250, 462.6500, 462.6750, 462.7000 and 462.7250

(b) For a mobile station, control station, or fixed station operated in the duplex mode, the following 467 MHz channels may be used only to transmit communications through a repeater station and for remotely controlling a repeater station. The licensee of the GMRS system must select the transmitting channels or channel pairs (*see* § 95.7(a) of this part) for the stations operated in the duplex mode, from the following 467 MHz channels:

467.5500, 467.5750, 467.6000, 467.6250, 467.6500, 467.6750, 467.7000 and 467.7250

(a) The licensee is responsible for the proper operation of the GMRS system at all times. The licensee is also responsible for the appointment of a station operator.

(b) The licensee may limit the use of repeater to only certain user stations.





# K40 / REACT International ACHIEVEMENT AWARD Nomination Form



Nomination Category is:  Individual     Team     Council    (Mark one only)

Nominee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone number: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Phone number: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Team / Council Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Team #: \_\_\_\_\_

**INDIVIDUAL NOMINATION:** (Based upon 12 calendar months prior to nomination.)

Nominee monitored \_\_\_\_\_ hours CB, \_\_\_\_\_ hours GMRS, \_\_\_\_\_ Other (\_\_\_\_\_)

Nominee attended \_\_\_\_\_ Team meetings out of \_\_\_\_\_.

Nominee attended \_\_\_\_\_ State Council meetings out of \_\_\_\_\_.

Attach any documentation which you feel relevant to this nomination for consideration by the committee.

**TEAM NOMINATION:** (Based upon past 12 calendar months prior to nomination.)

Team held \_\_\_\_\_ membership meetings, and averaged \_\_\_\_\_ members attending per meeting, out of \_\_\_\_\_ total members registered (during quarter preceding this nomination).

Team Delegates attended \_\_\_\_\_ State Council meetings out of \_\_\_\_\_ held.

Team  has  has not a scheduled monitoring program for one or more of:

CB-9     CB \_\_\_\_\_     GMRS     Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Total Hours: \_\_\_\_\_ (during report period)

Team volunteered at \_\_\_\_\_ Public Service Events (Parades, etc.)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Charitable Benefits (Bike-a-thons, Special Olympics, etc.)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Disaster / Emergency Operations

Please attach itemized list of events, including names, places, dates, man hours, # members working, and explanation of services provided by the Team. List everything you think relevant to this nomination.

**Please read the information on the back of this form before completing. Sign below as required to certify that the information submitted with this nomination form is true to the best of your knowledge.**

SIGNATURE OF 1ST PERSON SUBMITTING NOMINATION \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE OF 2ND PERSON SUBMITTING NOMINATION \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE/RELATION TO NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE/RELATION TO NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE NOMINATED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE NOMINATED \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL (IF AVAILABLE) \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL (IF AVAILABLE) \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail completed form to:**  
 (with copies of any documentation)  
**REACT** International, Inc.  
 c/o Awards Committee  
 5210 Auth Rd. Suite #403  
 Suitland, MD 20746

ALL NOMINATIONS BECOME THE PROPERTY OF REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC. AND WILL NOT BE RETURNED. JUDGING IS PERFORMED BY MEMBERS OF THE REACT INTERNATIONAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITION COMMITTEE.



## K40/REACT INTERNATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD NOMINATION INSTRUCTIONS

### General Rules:

1. Nominations must include any accompanying documentation when submitted. All copies should accompany this form and contain the nominee's name to identify them. If you wish to be notified of the winner's name in the category entered for the same quarter, include a stamped, self addressed envelope or postcard.
2. Nominations will be considered in the quarter in which it is received at the address listed on the form. Quarters for judging will be:

<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Deadline for receipt</u>
1st	March 31st
2nd	June 30th
3rd	September 30th
4th	December 31st

3. Failure to follow any of the requirements listed on this form for the specific category being nominated, may result in the nomination not being accepted.
4. All supporting documentation must have the name of the individual / team / council mentioned in order to be considered by the awards and recognition committee judges. Any documentation not meeting this criteria shall not be forwarded to the judges. The Awards & Recognition Committee Chair has final authority over the suitability of all documentation.
5. **NOTE:** Activities to be considered when making this nomination may include participation in monitoring of emergency radios (i.e. CB9), civic endeavors, civic projects, uncommon accomplishments, and public safety assistance.

### Individual Nomination:

1. List the accomplishments for which this individual is being nominated in date sequence, including month, day, and year.
2. Nomination form must be signed by two (2) persons, other than the nominee his/herself. Nominee must be registered with REACT International. **Individual nominations may be submitted by any two individuals whether or not members of REACT or the nominee's team.**
3. List the Nominee's participation history in the team for the previous 12 calendar months.
4. An Individual's nomination may be submitted in any quarter, but may only win ONCE during any award year.

### Team / Council Nomination:

1. List the accomplishments for which this team / council is being nominated in date sequence, including month, day, and year.
2. Nominations must be signed by two (2) REACT Members. They do not need to be members of the Team/Council being nominated on the form. A nomination may be submitted in any quarter, but may only win ONCE during any award year.
3. A Council's nomination may be submitted at any time during the calendar year, but this award will only be awarded once per year.



# Silent Mics.....

## Silent Microphone

By Gary H. Savary  
President, REACT of Aroostook County 4094  
Ashland, Maine



**William K. Savary, Sr.**  
1/15/1907 – 9/24/1998

REACT of Aroostook Co., Team 4094, regretfully reports the death of William K. Savary, Sr., who passed away September 24, 1998, at the age of 91.

Bill served REACT 4094 as second vice-president, and volunteered his services as notary public to the team.

He answered a call on channel 9 with the phrase, "Nice to hear your voice, may we be of some assistance?" His handle was \$2 Bill and Unit 2 has been retired in his honor.

Bill owned Ashland Motors, Inc., and operated the auto dealership for 25 years. He was also an insurance agent for many years.

He was a member of the Pioneer Lodge of Ashland, Maine, as a 32nd degree Mason and achieved 70 active years as a Mason. He participated in three different parade units in the Anah Temple Shrine.

His name is etched in our memorial plaque, and in our memories as well.

The Maine REACT Council has established the William K. Savary, Sr., Benevolent Fund to assist families touched by fatal auto accidents or house fires.

**Richard E. Pratz** passed away on June 16, 1999. He had been very active in REACT at all levels, as a founding member of Bell Co. REACT, president of the Texas State REACT Council, and field director and officer of REACT International. His name is inscribed on two memorial plaques at RI Headquarters.

**Louise F. Clark** was a member of Blue Ridge REACT Team, Inc., C142.

**Marie I. Hayward-Pace** passed away on February 9, 1999. She was a member of the original Deland REACT Team, the West Volusia Team and Daytona Beach REACT Team. She is survived by all the REACT members of Daytona Beach REACT, Team 2194, and a multitude of friends. She was an active member of REACT for 25 years. She will be missed.

**Peter Rubalcave**, Joliet Midwest REACT, Team C164.

**Mary Vest**, Richmond Metro REACT, Inc., Team 3968.

**Oliver Lewis**, Frostburg REACT, Team 4816.

**Paul Southworth**, L.E.M.A. REACT, Team C546. A memorial plaque, in his memory, is at REACT Headquarters.

**Betty Crampton**, Jackson Co. Wolverine REACT, Team C256.

**Zellie Compton**, Alamance Co. REACT, Team 2083.

**Cheyenne Starr**, Bay Area Emergency Radio Team 2609, passed away on January 20, 1998. She was the team president for three years and a member for seven years. She was very active in helping the City of Morgan Hill, including the Morgan Hill Police Department, and very busy monitoring several types of radios. She will be missed by the team.

**Robert Almond**, Richmond Metro REACT, passed away February 20, 1999.

**Leslie McKay**, North Eastern Trinidad REACT, Team 4994.

**Dorothy Deering**, REACT Lake Simcoe, Inc., Team 4270. A memorial plaque in her name is at REACT Headquarters.

**John D. Leist**, Pickaway County REACT, Team C199, passed away on September 25, 1998. He was a dedicated member of REACT and will be missed. A memorial plaque, in his memory, is at REACT Headquarters.



## A Volunteer at Work!

By Gary Thomas

Pinellas/Pasco County REACT 4985

Tarpon Springs, Florida

On June 10, 1999, David Willousby, a member of Pinellas/Pasco County REACT, was driving in St. Petersburg, Florida. He noticed that the driver of an oncoming gasoline truck was flashing his lights. The driver had seen the light bar on David's car and was signalling for help. David turned on his lights, and when the truck driver had managed to stop, pulled up and stopped.

This individual told David that he was having chest pains and that his arms were going numb. As luck should have it, David's wife was with him. With her nurse's training she recognized that he was having a heart attack. They both tried to calm him down and make him as comfortable as possible. David called 911 and they arrived to give medical attention. The medical personnel verified that the driver was having a heart attack and started medical treatment there. As this was going on, David was doing traffic control around the ambulance. The medical unit was unaware of our group, Pinellas/Pasco Co. REACT, and took additional information from David and thanked him. The medical personnel told him that he probably saved the driver's life and appreciated him and his wife trying to comfort him, calling for help, and doing the traffic control.

David talked to one of the neighbors in the area and received permission to park the driver's truck on their

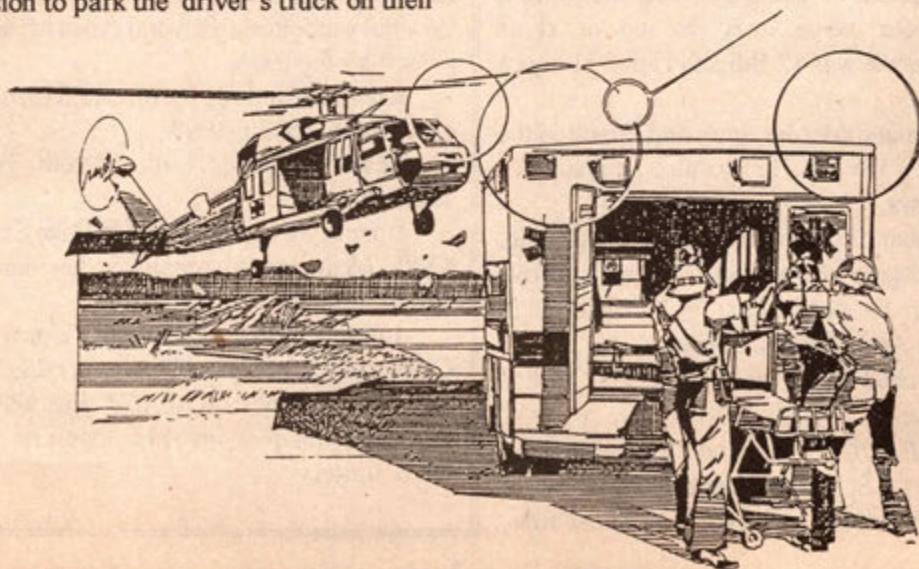
property until the driver's company could come and retrieve their vehicle.

Pinellas/Pasco Co. REACT is proud of this member, for only a month before that he assisted police in the same town over a disturbance.

Late at night there was a young woman in the street bleeding and acting abnormally. David stopped his car and again put on his lights for safety purposes. This bloody person wanted a ride and David refused this request. He did tell her that he could call for medical attention for her, the police or a taxi. After a few obscenities, this charming lady saw a pickup truck go by and grabbed onto the bed and hauled herself in. Can you imagine how scared these people were, especially since this was in a bad part of town?

David got back in his car and called the police while following this vehicle and giving directions. When the vehicle was stopped, medical attention was given to her as well as on the spot drug testing by medical personnel. It turned out that she was under the influence of drugs.

David, while trying to help, was wise enough to observe that something was not right and kept this bleeding lady at a distance. He helped the community and the lady, and made our group look good to the professionals in this community.





## *REACT Communicates with Kosovo Refugees*

*Ronald McCracken  
REACT Lake Simcoe, Inc., 4270  
Keswick, Ontario, Canada*

*REACT* Lake Simcoe was recently requested by the Canadian Red Cross to assist Kosovo refugees at Canadian Forces Base Borden near Barrie, Ontario.

*REACT*ers Art Heath and Ron McCracken responded to the request and headed for the air base to take an afternoon shift. The *REACT* volunteers monitored CB Emergency Channel 9 from the car as they travelled to the Barrie area.

At CFB Borden, the men learned that they would have little need for any radio equipment they had brought along. Salvation Army and Red Cross personnel were busy "processing" the new arrivals from Kosovo as they disembarked from buses after the trip from CFB Trenton, Ontario. The refugees looked weary and confused.

"None of these folk speak English that we know of," Red Cross co-ordinator Donna Chanda told the *REACT*ers. "Many are frightened and tired," she explained. "Your role is to help them feel at home. Communicate with them as best you can. Smile a lot!"

"Smile a lot we did," Art Heath recalls. "It's amazing how well a simple smile 'communicates'." The two radio operators found a friendly wave and other hand signals were effective tools on this unusual *REACT* assignment, too.

Soon, Kosovo youngsters were demonstrating their riding skills on bicycles that had been donated by generous Canadians, as the *REACT* volunteers showed interest. Kosovo teens commandeered the parade square for a soccer field to enjoy their favorite sport for the benefit of the *REACT* observers.

"Trust grows quickly when friendly faces share a smile," Ron McCracken noted. Before long, an entire Kosovo family agreed to a photo outside the dormitory that was their latest temporary home.

At the end of their shift, the *REACT*ers left CFB Borden feeling that they had done a lot of worthwhile "communicating" though they hadn't used their radios once.



*A Kosovo refugee family warms to friendliness of REACT volunteer Art Heath.*



## *Holiday Rest Stop*

*By Karen Smith, Rest Stop Co-Chairman  
McLennan County REACT 2746  
Hewitt, Texas*

We have just completed another successful Holiday rest stop and wish to say thank you for your help and donations, which made this project possible. We had over 2200 visitors stop by, sign our guest book and visit with us for a while before continuing on their journey. After a shaky start on Friday, the weather settled down and a nice weekend was had by all.

This year in addition to our own crew, we again had Boy Scouts on site and Explorers from Bellmead P.D. We also had three volunteers from the greater Waco community that stopped by to work a shift or two. We greatly appreciate this extra help.

Our job was made much easier this year by the members of Bluebonnet Girl Scout Troop 7694 who stuffed and labeled envelopes and delivered many of the request for supplies and thank you letters for this year's event. They also encouraged girls from four other troops

in the area to come out and work a shift. Thank you, girls.

The Hewitt area restaurants went all out this year to support our project by supplying meals for our workers. Hewitt VFW sent over some barbeque brisket for the workers and Midway High School sent fresh fruit and chips left from the all-night Senior Party to be given out to the public. They also sent breakfast burritos, which we heated and enjoyed along with our visitors.

The sign everyone sees when he or she enters our tent says WELCOME TO HEWITT and shows a list of our many sponsors. We ask everyone reading this letter to support the stores and restaurants along Hewitt drive as they have really supported us this year. We have support from all over Waco, but this area between I-35 and Highway 84 was really noticeable this year. Thank you, everyone.



*Member and truck driver Jo Schlottmann  
working one of many shifts.*



## Rescue Iris Campaign

By *Connie Reichensperger*

Secretary, St. Cloud REACT, Inc., 3791  
St. Cloud, Minnesota

St. Cloud REACT, Inc., 3791 has used its non-profit status to co-sponsor another fundraiser to assist our community service department. In 1996, they co-sponsored a fund drive called **Back the Badge** to raise over \$75,000 to purchase ballistic vests for the special response teams of St. Cloud Police Department and Stearns County Sheriff Department. The gratitude of the police officers was overwhelming.

In 1998, St. Cloud REACT was made aware of the Cairns Iris Helmet, a thermal imaging camera mounted on a fireman's helmet that allows them to literally see in the dark or the smoke. In cooperation with the St.

Cloud Fire Department, VFW Post 428 pledged to donate a substantial amount, and St. Cloud REACT conducted a new fund-raising campaign called **Rescue Iris** with a goal to purchase three Cairns Iris Helmets, one for each of the fire stations in the city. The community response was excellent and our goal was reached. Each helmet costs \$25,000. The St. Cloud Fire Department has used the helmets during many fire calls. The firemen who enter smoky and dark buildings during these calls express their gratitude to the community for their caring and concern.



## Tragedy in the Night

By *Gary H. Savary*

President, REACT of Aroostook County 4094  
Ashland, Maine

August 30, 1996. My Weather Watcher's entry is made on the calendar; 10:06 p.m. Wind NW 5, Partly Cloudy, Temperature 58°F, Barometer 30.00 in.

10:40 p.m. The alert tones bring my scanner to life. "All Ashland Fire and Ambulance personnel report to a 10-55 rollover on the [upper] Garfield Road." My REACT Highway Safety response vehicle sparks to life to respond and provide a much appreciated set of safety lights at the scene. Traveling at normal speed, I arrive on the upper side of the scene. My low-beam headlights flash a warning deep into the night. The flashing amber beacon sends its warning in all directions. The message they make is "SLOW DOWN, TROUBLE AHEAD".

Much of what I see and hear is shrouded in REACT's code of confidentiality. But, there is a red pickup that flew through the air at a high rate of speed after missing a small dogleg to the right and winding up on all fours in a field. The driver is in critical

condition; and a new mother will not see the face of the newborn child that she gave life to. A newborn child will never wonder at the beauty of a butterfly.

The REACT Flag is at half staff, the grandfather clock has stopped ticking and we reflect and wonder "Why?" But, next day, the sun casts its rays upon the Earth, the wind blows a friendly breeze, the bird is on the wing and life goes on.





## New Ham Radio Testing Website

Reprinted from Crest REACTivities  
Crest REACT 4252  
Corona, California

In the true spirit of amateur radio "elmering," PREMIER Communications, the makers of ADI radios and PRYME speaker mics, antennas, and battery packs, is pleased to unveil a new Website designed to help newcomers study for and pass the U.S. amateur radio license theory exams.

This new site, appropriately dubbed HamLet.com, gives prospective amateurs and those studying for an upgrade an easy resource for all of the U.S. amateur radio license theory tests. Users of the site have the opportunity to study the entire question pools, from Novice to Extra and can even gauge their progress by taking live, simulated exams using a Java based applet. And, when you are ready to find a test session in your area, we provide an easy link to the ARRL VEC homepage and the database of upcoming test sessions.

If you are struggling with an area on the test, you can even get help by posting a request in our interactive user forum, or get advice from experienced amateurs in our Elmer's Chat Room.

For the more advanced functions on the site, such as chat and simulated real-time testing a Java-enhanced browser is required. Users of Internet Explorer 4.0 or

Netscape 4.0 should be able to use the advanced functions with ease. The study material is available to users of all Web browsers.

In this time of license restructuring, HamTest.com is up to date with the current question pools and license classes. We will be watching the current license restructuring proceeding very carefully, and will take steps to keep our site immediately updated as soon as changes in the license structure takes place.

All materials on the site are provided free of charge for the good of the amateur radio community. We believe that the Internet represents a very valuable tool in the recruitment and training of new amateur radio operators, and we are very pleased to be able to further the cause of ham radio in this way.

The Website URL is <<http://www.hamtest.com>>. If you have any questions about this site please feel free to e-mail us at <[elmer@hamtest.com](mailto:elmer@hamtest.com)>. Remember also to check out our ADI/PRYME Amateur radio equipment homepage at <<http://www.adi.radio.com>> as our brand new land mobile equipment homepage at <<http://www.pryme.com>>.



## New Committees Formed

At the July convention a Ways and Means Committee was approved. The main task under Chair Sallyann Knott of Orlando Metro REACT in Florida will be seeking grants to assist in the operation of REACT International. If any member has suggestions that would help in this work please e-mail her directly at <[sck202@gdi.net](mailto:sck202@gdi.net)>. As you are aware, our financial situation is in need of improvement.

Another new effort will be the work being planned by the Publications Committee, which is being started by Chair Stuart DeLuca of Travis County REACT in Texas. The primary responsibility will be producing *The REACTer* in an improved version. Review and update of printed materials distributed from RI is the secondary assignment. The convention membership also expressed the wish to have audio and video tapes fall under the direction of this committee.



## REACT Convention Targets New Membership

By Bob Leef  
Public Relations Co-Chair  
<kb6don@arrl.net>

Nine new Regional Director offices were created and filled at the yearly convention of REACT International, Inc. According to newly elected Chairman of the Board Frank Jennings, this will promote a concentrated effort to rebuild membership in the volunteer organization.

The Regional Directors will assist any group of three or more people wishing to start a new team if none exists in their area. Although REACT originally monitored CB when it started as a nonprofit organization in 1962, members now also may monitor GMRS, amateur, VHF marine, or other frequencies for emergency or assistance calls from the public.

The July convention attracted approximately 100 delegates to Grand Island, Nebraska, from the U.S., Canada, and Trinidad-Tobago. A decision was also made to seek a well-known national sponsor such as General Motors was in the past.

REACT is the recipient of The Presidents Volunteer Action Award, and maintains its headquarters in the Washington, D.C., area. For an exciting opportunity in radio communications, obtain information today by writing to 5210 Auth Road, Suite 403, Suitland, MD 20746-4330, or at (301)316-2900. The Website is <www.reactintl.org>.



*RI's new officers and Board of Directors.*

*Front Row (left to right) – Pres. Harry Hawkins, Chairman Frank Jennings, W. Robert Stone, and Jack Murrell. Back Row (left to right) – George Holmes, Sec. Lee Besing, Treas. Fred Lanshe, Ron Faulkner, Dick Cooper, Larry Fry, and Jesse Mauk. (Not shown: V. Pres. Charles A. Thompson.)*



## 1999 REACT International Convention Highlights



(Top) – REACT members attending convention. (Bottom left) – Larry Fry and Linda Faulkner, Junior REACT Committee. (Bottom center) – Charlene Sahler (Wisconsin) entertaining the Faulkner children in the babysitting room. (Bottom right) – Julie Brendle, 1999 host, and Larry Fry, 1998 host.





(Clockwise starting top right) - Awards committee: Jim Koritzky (Maine), Bob Kaster (Oklahoma), Linda Faulkner (Ontario, Canada), Leland Johnson (Minnesota), Florence Hedges (Indiana). Jenny Jacobs (Nebraska) holds down a plant to keep from spoiling the photos, but ends up the subject of everyone else's camera. A group of amateur radio operators. The special event was a hay rack ride on a farm. Walt Young (Florida) enjoying the hay ride. Door prizes.





*(Clockwise, starting top right) - Chuck Hoffman, fire investigator, and his fire dog. Wally Serles' impersonation of Mark Twain was the entertainment. The banquet was enjoyed by all. Grand Island cadets at opening ceremonies. Linda and Ron Faulkner came with their children and Robert and Sherrell Palmer from Canada.*



**Summary of Proceedings of the  
Special Meeting of the Board of Directors  
of REACT International, Inc.  
July 13-16, 1999  
Grand Island, Nebraska**

Called to order at 10:25 a.m., July 13, 1999.

Present: W. R. Stone (Chairman), Jack Murrell,  
Lee Besing, Fred Lanshe  
Absent: Hall Duncan, Charles A. Thompson

Minutes of February 1999 meeting approved.

Mr. Thompson is absent due to death in family and has resigned effective when new Directors are seated. Mr. Duncan has resigned as Outside Director for personal reasons, but will continue to work with RI on an informal basis.

Election results: Region 3 elected George Holmes; Region 6 Frank Jennings; and Region 9 Ron Faulkner. All votes were unanimous. There were no invalid ballots, and the Board accepted the results. Mr. Jennings was present and seated. Mr. Thompson's resignation as Director was accepted.

Current policy and procedures are inconsistent with revised bylaws. Mr. Murrell will oversee necessary revisions.

Recessed 11:50 a.m.  
Reconvened 1:35 p.m.

Vacant Director positions (no candidates) were filled by appointing David Moore (Kentucky) Region 2, Larry Fry (Wisconsin) Region 5, and Jesse Mauk (California) Region 8. Mr. Mauk took his seat.

Report on FCC actions affecting GMRS radios. Non-emergency communications on 462.675 MHz have been reinstated.

Procedure discussed for processing Affiliate problems through Councils. Ad-hoc task group will study this issue during the Convention.

Junior *REACT* currently has 127 members. Thirty-seven did not renew in 1999. Methods to increase Junior membership discussed.

Director Fry was seated.

Minimum age of 14 for Junior members proposed, along with requirement that each Junior member either have a parent or a sponsor active in the Junior's Team. Responsibility for potential liability for Junior member behavior and actions considered. The idea was expressed that criteria for Junior membership should be established by each Team. An ad-hoc committee will study at Convention.

Recessed 3:20 p.m.  
Reconvened July 14, 9:00 a.m.

More discussion on Affiliates. A corporate affiliate program based on donations was proposed: Silver (\$100-\$500), Gold (\$501-\$1000) and Platinum (\$1000+). Current Affiliated Program discontinued as of end of 1999. New program of referring leads to Teams, Councils and Regional Directors.

Board discussed getting *REACT* information at truck stops, state rest stops, and in directories such as those found in Denny's restaurants.

Board reviewed three situations involving delegate credentials and approved the delegates.

The Board filled two officer positions. After considering various possibilities, Chuck Thompson of Texas was appointed Vice President and General Counsel, and Lee Besing of Texas as Secretary. Objection to Mr. Besing serving as both officer and Director withdrawn when no other candidate for Secretary was found.

Recessed 11:15 a.m.



Meeting with States without Councils 12:45 p.m.

States present: Hawaii and Oklahoma

Honolulu *REACT* C010 is joining the Pacific Northwest Council, as the other team in Hawaii isn't interested in a Council. Oklahoma is down to four teams, may lose another. Teams in Oklahoma City area have been working closely during recent tornadoes. Discussion of ideas to help form new teams, including recruiting amateur radio operators.

Meeting with Council representatives 2:00 p.m.

Thirteen Councils represented (Florida, New York, Southern California, Minnesota, Illinois, Pacific Northwest, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Indiana, Canada, Northern California, Texas).

Common problem is attracting new, younger members. Another problem is recruiting younger members or people who only wanted to use the repeaters.

Florida is bidding for the 2000 Convention.

Recessed

Open Session convened July 15, 1999 at 8:00 a.m.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Bob Stone. Discussed recent restructuring of the Board with Regional Directors, resulting in an increase of Directors from four to nine. Directors now have the following responsibilities:

- 1) Guide the Councils and the Teams, to serve them.
- 2) Provide Leadership to the Councils and Teams.
- 3) Help ensure that the Councils and Teams follow the applicable laws and regulations, including *REACT* International policies.
- 4) Provide substantive ideas that the Teams and Councils can use in their activities.

Board does not view itself as people who are going to run *REACT* personally. We have had enough of that in the past. The Board will serve as the guides to *REACT*'s future. Four operating officers will run the daily operations of the corporation and will report to the Board of Directors. President is ex-officio member of the Board.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Increasing membership has been the top topic by the Board, from Junior to Affiliates to other membership issues.

Amateur: Henry Sahler and Alfred Fronefield re-appointed co-chairs for the Amateur Committee.

GMRS: No report.

CB Radio: Jim Koritzky reappointed as CB Committee Chair. Wants to rebuild connections with the trucking industry and other agencies, especially in remote areas.

Life Membership: Richard Gamble reported there are 259 active members, 81 deceased, 48 dropped (lost), 6 removed for cause, 6 undecided (at time of update), 134 unattached. Three new candidates are pending. The total of all categories is 537. List of unattached members will be made available to State Councils.

Convention Site Selection: Florida Council developed a bid package in six weeks for the year 2000 convention to host the convention in Kissimmee, Florida, July 26-28, 2000. Convention theme will be "*REACT* Transmitting into the 21st Century."

Training: Chairman Alfred Fronefield is serving in Macedonia and unable to attend the Convention. He is scanning all current printed documents into electronic format for updating

Publicity: Bob Leef discussed plans reported in the last *REACT*er, such as obtaining a new spokesman and other membership oriented items. Looking for national sponsorships, equipment insurance, and a manufacturer to market a channel 9 priority scanning CB. Boston PBS to do a show, "Visionaries", and there is a *REACT* member in Boston to work with them.

Report that Hall Duncan has resigned as Outside Director, but will continue to work together with Mr. Stone and other Directors on public relations ideas. Plans include contacting Tandy Corporation.

Computers: Johnny Stowers of San Diego has converted the RI database to Access97, which is Y2K compliant. Many new fields have been added. The *REACT* Web site



now has an online member store which may be activated soon, and Team/Council information is being converted to a format which will allow automatic update from the database. Lee Besing's company e-commercial.com is now donating the space for the *REACT* Web site, and will soon be able to provide each Council space for a Web site.

Awards: K40 awards were selected for second and fourth quarters 1998 for the Team and member levels, plus first and second quarters during 1999. Also selected were the 1998 Member of the Year and Team of the Year.

Recessed 10:25 a.m.  
Reconvened 2:45 p.m.

The Board appointed Harry Hawkins of Michigan as President.

The Board appointed Marilyn Fields, CPA (Maryland), as Treasurer, if she will accept. (NOTE: she declined.) Mr. Lanshe will continue as Treasurer ad interim.

Bob Stone agreed to serve another year as an Outside Director, did not wish to continue as Chairman. Frank Jennings (Washington) elected Chairman of the Board, assumed the office.

Director-designee David Moore will be contacted to confirm his acceptance of appointment and willingness to meet the obligations of a director, including attendance at Board meetings.

The Board approved the concept of a recognition pin for individual K40 awards. Awards Committee to contact K40 for approval and funding.

Committee assignments for the next year were announced.

Target date for the Winter Board Meeting is February 18-21, 2000, at Suitland. Directors placed on notice that they may have to pay all or a portion of their expenses.

Report received on a Wisconsin Team which allegedly is running up charges based on fraudulent D&B report. Wisconsin Council asked that charter be revoked. Action is already in process, as the Team's charter and

membership fee check had bounced. Request for a procedure on handling matters like this while 45-day notification process is implemented. Matter referred to General Counsel.

Recessed 5:10 p.m.  
Reconvened July 16, 8:00 a.m.

Discussion of Florida proposal and open meeting agenda.

Open Session of the Board convened at 8:30 a.m.

Mr. Stone announced his retirement as Chairman of the Board. Successor is Frank Jennings. Mr. Stone presented Mr. Jennings with the official gavel, copy of *Robert's Rules of Order*, and a tape recorder (to help him with his memory). Audience gave Mr. Stone a standing ovation. Mr. Jennings assumed duties.

Announcement that Region 2 Director position isn't firm because of lack of contact with Mr. Moore.

New President Harry Hawkins of Michigan was introduced and made brief comments. Other officer appointments and committee assignments announced.

Details of proposed Rapid Response Team summarized; input of ideas from the field requested. Proposed to have two 15-member teams in each region, one for immediate response and one for backup.

Various matters affecting the Junior *REACT* program presented.

Announcement that the current *REACT* Affiliate program will be discontinued at the end of 1999, to be replaced with a program designed to emphasize forming new Teams where there are no Teams at present. Details are still being worked out. Ron Mayes, Kansas Council President, spoke in favor of keeping Affiliate program alive.

Proposed new Corporate Sponsorship program announced. It will emphasize three levels of financial support: Silver (\$100-\$500), Gold (\$501-\$1000) and Platinum (\$1000+).

Problems of the *REACT* magazine discussed - late delivery, poor quality, lack of paid advertising, etc.



Proposed a professional editor and an oversight committee for the publication.

Several Teams reported on Team success in obtaining community support.

It was suggested that it would be preferable that Director appointees be temporary until an election can be held, and that the Board should establish a "candidate committee" to find suitable candidates.

Recessed 11:25 a.m.

Reconvened 1:00 p.m.

Florida Council presented bid for the 2000 Convention, including a video from the Chamber of Commerce, description of facilities of the hotel and neighboring businesses, and airport to hotel arrangements. Registration \$60 for adults by May 15, \$75 after the date. Off-site registration \$90, but hotel prices are typically \$99/night. A \$25 fee for registering Junior *REACT* members will be considered. There may be other fees involved for special activities.

Open Board Meeting convened 2:00 p.m.

Credentials: 15 Councils, 39 Teams in attendance, 51 possible votes (3 Team delegates are also Council delegates).

Councils: Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Carolina, Northern California, Ohio, Ontario, Pacific Northwest, Texas, Wisconsin.

Teams: C010, C057, C143, C261, C412, C475, C546, 2503, 2515, 2620, 2718, 2736, 2983, 3073, 3310, 3625, 3653, 3880, 4094, 4208, 4252, 4364, 4365, 4552, 4577, 4651, 4700, 4714, 4759, 4778, 4784, 4794, 4813, 4853, 4894, 4899, 4928, 4950, 4971.

Computer Committee announced that the *REACT* Web Store is close to obtaining secure online payment arrangements, and may become active soon.

Awards Committee encouraged nominations for the K40 awards. Monitoring will be emphasized.

Site Selection Committee has blank packets for interested Councils or Teams.

Recommendation that a Ways & Means Committee be formed and added to the list of standing Board committees. Discussion on purpose and goals, sources of funding, corporate sponsorship methods of financially aiding the organization. Floor motion passed unanimously. Board unanimously approved.

Floor motion that a Publications Committee be formed and added to the list of standing Board committees. Primary responsibility administering the *REACTER*. Secondary responsibility to review and make recommendations to the Board for all printed items and video materials distributed by *REACT* International. Stuart DeLuca of Texas recommended to be chairperson. Passed unanimously. Board unanimously approved.

Awards Committee made several recommendations. After discussion, motion from the floor to restrict nominations so winners in one year are not eligible for nomination in the following year, to create a new category of award for Junior *REACT* members, and to reduce the Council award to an annual basis was unanimously approved. Board unanimously approved.

Recommendation that *REACT* International affiliate itself with the Sheriffs' Association, Troopers' Association and Association of Emergency Management Managers was forwarded to Voluntary Agencies Committee Chair for study and recommendation.

Proposal to change the period of awards back to the calendar year, to allow processing time to allow presentation of the awards at the following annual convention. Floor motion passed unanimously. Board unanimously approved.

Motion by Pacific Northwest Council, second by all delegates, to give a big round of applause for the newly-seated Board.

Suggestion from the floor that the Board reconsider its appointment of the Region 2 Director, due to Mr. Moore being unable to attend the convention. After discussion, the Board determined that an appointment is not completed until the appointee accepts and is seated, and then unanimously elected Dick Cooper of New Jersey as



Region 2 Director. He accepted and was seated. In view of this action, Mr. Moore of Kentucky was reinstated as Computer Committee Chair, replacing Mr. Cooper.

Motion from the floor to accept the Florida Council bid for the 2000 REACT Convention was passed unanimously. Board unanimously approved.

Recessed 3:50 p.m.  
Reconvened July 17, 8:00 a.m.

(The first part of the meeting was closed to discuss personnel matters. Separate minutes kept, in view of nature of discussion.)

Discussion of a proposal to merge *the REACTer* magazine with National Communications magazine. In the meantime, *the REACTer* must be published on a timely basis. Motion to ask Stuart DeLuca to supervise a combined July-August/September-October issue. Motion passed.

The Board asked for a report on actual costs involved in producing *the REACTer* compared to costs of being included in the National Communications magazine. Motion passed. Report to be furnished by September 1.

Mr. Stone admonished the Board to quit micro-managing the tasks that the operating officers should be performing. The Directors should set necessary policies

and guidelines for the operating officers and help rebuild the organization through interaction with their regional Councils and Teams.

Discussion on how each Director would contact the Teams and Councils in their region. Noted that in the past, if a Director was directed to visit a Team or Council, *REACT* International covered the expense. If invited, the party inviting would cover it. If the Director just decided to visit, the Director covered the expense.

The previous motions canceling the current *REACT* Affiliate Program and creating a different program were rescinded.

The Special Meeting of the Board was adjourned at 9:15 a.m., sine die.

(This summary was prepared by Vice President and General Counsel Charles A. Thompson from the minutes prepared by Secretary Lee Besing. Copies of the complete minutes are available electronically by addressing e-mail to <lbasing@reactintl.org>. Printed copies may be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope with 72 cents postage to *REACT* International, Inc., 5210 Auth Road, Suite 403, Suitland, MD 20746-4330.)

## *Welcome New REACT Teams*

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 6019 | <i>REACT</i> of Henry County<br>McClure, Ohio<br>June 16, 1999 |
| 6020 | Lay Lake Area <i>REACT</i><br>Shelby, Alabama<br>July 3, 1999  |
| 6021 | Old Pueblo <i>REACT</i><br>Amado, Arizona<br>June 14, 1999     |



## *A Wish Comes True!*

*By Thornton Williams  
College Park REACT 4921  
College Park, Georgia*

I was watching the news about the shooting in Colorado and I told myself, I wish I could play a part in helping school kids at an early age, before the big problems.

First, I could talk to teachers and students about radio and other communications. It is important that our teachers and students learn about communications that are for fun and safety. Second, I could have a way to call my kids at check-in time. I wished I was in charge of this school project. It would be fun and rewarding to

be in charge of this type of project. It would be fun and rewarding to be in charge of this type of project.

*Wow!* My wish has come true. The Youth Department, located in the Scitiek Museum in Atlanta, Georgia, has selected me to head this school project. I would like this idea to be a national *REACT* project. We want radio communications, emergency amateur radio stations, and even amateur TV in our middle schools, or grades 4 to 6 – the earlier the better. We want parents to have the buddy system of checking in on their kids by radio.



*Thornton Williams standing in a section  
of the Scitiek Station.*





REACT International, Inc.  
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Suitland, MD 20746

(301)316-2900 Office

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e-mail: <react@reactintl.org>

<http://www.reactintl.org>

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#### Title

President  
(ex-officio member of  
Board of Directors)

Vice President & General Counsel

Secretary

Treasurer

#### Board of Directors

Frank Jennings  
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#### Title/Region Assigned

Chairman of the Board  
Region 6  
AK, HI, WA, OR, ID, MT, WY  
Life Membership Committee  
Bylaws, Policies & Procedures

Fred Lanshe  
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Region 1  
ME, VT, NH, MA, CT, RI, NY, PA  
Public Relations Committee  
Voluntary Agencies Committee  
Rapid Deployment Teams

*(Continued on next page)*

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## OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 1999-2000 (Continues)

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### Title/Region Assigned

Region 2  
DL, NJ, MD, VA, KY, WV  
Membership Committee

Region 3  
TN, NC, SC, MS, AL, GA, FL  
Convention 2000 Committee

Region 4  
MI, IN, OH  
Amateur, GMRS, CB Committee

Region 5  
ND, SD, NE, MN, IA, WI, IL  
Junior REACT

Region 7  
AR, LA, NM, CO, KS, MO, OK, TX  
Computer Committee

Region 8  
CA, NV, UT, AZ  
Awards & Recognition Committee  
Site Selection Committee

Region 9  
Canada, W. Indies, PR, UK, Germany  
Highway Safety Committee  
Training Committee

Outside Director  
Government Relations Committee  
Ways and Means Committee

## 1999-2000 REACT International, Inc., Standing Committees

### Chairperson

Leland Johnson  
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Glenville, MN 56036

Johnny Stowers  
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### Contact

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HP (858)273-1268  
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### Committee

Awards & Recognition

Bylaws, Policies & Procedures

*(Continued on next page)*

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## 1999-2000 REACT International, Inc., Standing Committees (Continues)

<u>Chairperson</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Committee</u>
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Lynda Faulkner 189 Sydenham Woodstock, Ontario N4S-7B8 Canada	HP (425)210-5099 e-mail: <juniors@reactintl.org>	Junior Membership
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*(Continued on next page)*

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## 1999-2000 REACT International, Inc., Standing Committees

### Chairperson

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Northwestern Chair

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active study US Army in Europe

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### Committee

Membership

Public Relations

Publications Committee

Rapid Response Teams

Training & Development

Voluntary Agencies

Ways & Means

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**2000 REACT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION - July 26=28**  
**Kissimmee, Florida**  
<http://www.spacecenter.net/users/screact/conv2000.htm>

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY OR TYPE

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial/Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Country \_\_\_\_\_ (Area Code) Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ (Area Code) Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Number \_\_\_\_\_ Team Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 To Include you in our Booklet Contact Page, your Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**If you have been selected as TEAM or COUNCIL delegate or alternate, check the appropriate box below**

TEAM: Delegate \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate \_\_\_\_\_ COUNCIL: Delegate \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate \_\_\_\_\_

For the Banquet Check One Preference: Prime Rib \_\_\_ Chicken Cordon Bleu \_\_\_ Vegetarian: \_\_\_

Children: # \_\_\_\_\_ Ages \_\_\_\_\_

Check One of the Following if you are:

Reg Member \_\_\_ Family Member \_\_\_ Life Member \_\_\_ Junior REACT \_\_\_ Affiliate Member \_\_\_

Check any that apply: Amateur License \_\_\_ GMRS License \_\_\_ CB Operation \_\_\_

**REGISTRATION AND EXTRAS**

Registration: Before 5/15/2000:	\$60.00 (Off Site \$90.00)	\$ _____
After 5/15/2000:	\$75.00 (Off Site \$105.00)	\$ _____
Jr REACT/Children Registration:	\$25.00	\$ _____
Convention Shirts:		
Golf Type (S - XL)	\$18.00	Size _____ # _____ \$ _____
Crew Type: (S - XL)	\$18.00	Size _____ # _____ \$ _____
(XXL - XXXL)	\$1.00 ea extra	Size _____ # _____ \$ _____
Extra Convention Picture	\$8.00	# _____ \$ _____
Life Picture	\$8.00	# _____ \$ _____
Amateur Pictures	\$8.00	# _____ \$ _____
Junior REACT Pictures	\$8.00	# _____ \$ _____
Extra Banquet Tickets	\$28.00	# _____ \$ _____
Life Luncheon	\$11.74 (incl tax & gratuity)	# _____ \$ _____
Amateur Breakfast	\$10.56 (incl tax & gratuity)	# _____ \$ _____

Amount Forwarded from Registration Addendum: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed (Including Registration) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: 2000 RI CONVENTION FUND

All Payments in U.S. DOLLARS ONLY Please P O BOX 360292, MELBOURNE, FL 32936-0292

Arrival Information:	RADIO CONTACT FOR CONVENTION:
Arriving by Air: ___ Bus: ___ Train: ___ Car: ___	For information upon Arrival (Talk in):
Train Terminal/Airport Name: _____	Ham Frequencies: 145.350 Tone 103.5
Arrival Date (MM/DD): _____ Time: _____	GMRS: 462.675/467.675 Tone 141.3; CB Channel 11
Flight/Bus/Train Number: _____	In The Hotel Complex: Ham: 146.46 Simplex
	GMRS: 462.600 (Call Freq.) 462.550 (Talk Freq.); CB Ch 11

**Ramada Plaza Hotel Gateway Inn**  
 7470 Hwy US 192 West, Kissimmee, FL  
 Phone: 1-800-327-9170 (Direct # to Hotel) Fax: 1-407-396-4320  
 Room Rates: \$68.32 (Includes Tax) 1 - 4 Occupants

*REACT TRANSMITTING INTO THE 21ST CENTURY*



## REGISTRATION ADDENDUM

Your Name (in case this page gets separated from Reg Form): \_\_\_\_\_

**Medical Training.** If you've ever wanted to be trained and Certified, or Upgrade, or renew your Certification this is your golden opportunity. These courses will be offered at a reduced rate PROVIDED they get 20 or more per class. Normally \$25./class REACT Price: \$15/class Each class runs approx two hours. Courses are certified by the American Heart Association and the American Health and Safety Institute.

We MUST know IN ADVANCE if you want it. Register NOW and pay when you get here. Classes are not guaranteed if you wait until you arrive to register.

**Courses Available:**

CPR CLASS, Heartsaver, Heartsaver Plus, Heartsaver AED, Pediatric # \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
FIRST AID CLASS, Pediatric, Adult, Universal # \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Needs:** If you have a need for a wheelchair, an electric wheelchair or mobility scooter for use within the Hotel complex.  
Nationwide Wheelchair of Melbourne FL is discounting with reservations.  
Because these are coming from Melbourne (70 miles away), We MUST know IN ADVANCE to have them on hand for you upon your arrival.

**Rentals:**

Wheelchair # \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$25.00 per day

Elect Wheelchair # \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Mobility Scooter # \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ 40 one day \$100 for 5 day week \$150 for 7 or more days

Sorry, we cannot provide these for use at attractions due to various restrictions.  
You will have to rent them separately from the various attractions you visit.

**Non REACT Spouse 1-Day Shopping Trip**

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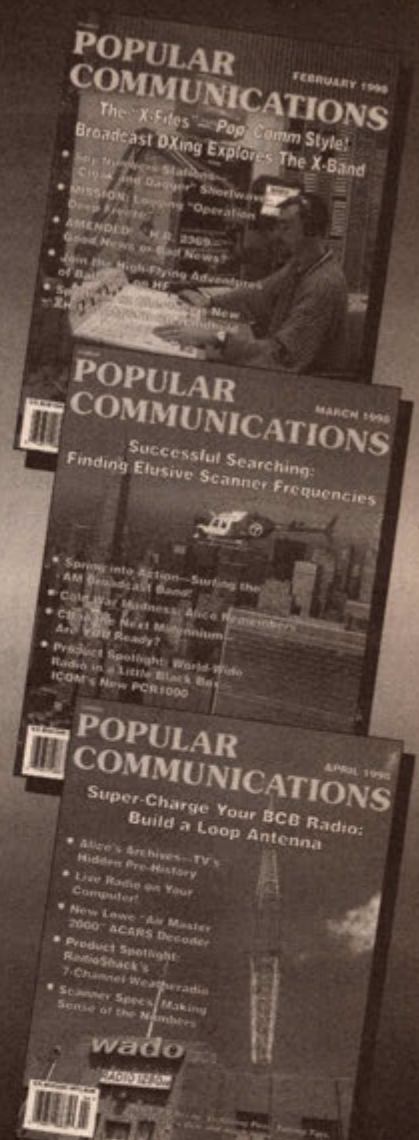


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## *REACT is Alive*

*Submitted by Larry Fry  
Pewaukee, Wisconsin*

You do not know me, my name is John Q. Citizen and I live in Anycity, USA, and have lived here all my life. I am married and have a wonderful wife. The family is grown and we have grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Good health has followed us all our lives and I have never been in the hospital. For 83 years everything has been good to me. What else could a man ask for?

This particular afternoon my wife asked me what time I would like supper and I replied "the usual time," which was 5 p.m. I returned her question with one of my own. "Since it is only 3 p.m. would you mind if I went to the store?" and she answered, "No problem, there is a lot of time."

The trip to the store was like any other day but at that time of day the store was busy. Hurriedly, I went down the aisles that I knew by heart trying to keep out of the way of the other people in the store. Luck was with me and I took no one out.

The check-out was just as busy so finding a checkout counter with the least number I got in line, in hopes that it would not take long. A quick check of my watch told me that time was no problem and shortly it was my time to be checked out.

On the way to the car I took a deep breath of fresh air and thought about how wonderful a day it is. The sky was so blue and the temperature was such that you had to work to develop a sweat. On a scale of one to ten it had to be a ten.

There seemed to be a lot of traffic but again at that time of day there should be. "Oh well, part of city living," was the comment I made to myself. Pulling out of the parking lot and onto the main drag, I found the traffic very heavy but manageable.

It wasn't long before my back and shoulder started to hurt. My stomach started to feel funny and the sweat started to break out on my forehead. Must have lifted wrong when I bent over to put the groceries in the car. The trip is about half over, about a mile and I will be home. Things are not right and I don't know what is happening so I had better stop.

Stop I did, right in the middle of the road, and turned the ignition off. Memorial Drive is a very busy arterial and is considered to be one of the busiest in Anycity but I don't care. I can't help it and I only hope that people won't be upset.

What I didn't know is that I was having a heart attack and my heart had stopped. I had small pains in my chest before but they would pass and I didn't say anything to my wife because I didn't want to cause her to worry. Now I guess the price of silence had come due and it was now my turn to pay.

Two people walking down the street saw my car stop in the middle of the street and yelled to one another about the man slumped over the wheel. I didn't hear them at all. One of them called out, "call 911," and again only louder "call 911." A woman passing by heard the call from the man and placed a call.

George, the man on the corner, stopped watering the lawn. The people had started to gather to see what was going on, so George also crossed the street to get a better look. It isn't often that George crosses the street so it had to be something out of the ordinary.

Then another man at the other end of the block saw the commotion and decided he would walk down and see what was going on. The man upon reaching the end of the block saw a dozen or so people standing around and a man dragging me out of the car and over to the terrace.

The man that dragged me out of the car was going to give me CPR but my body relaxed and I vented what little air was left in my lungs and he didn't give me CPR. The man that had come from the end of the block took my wrist and couldn't find a pulse so after a few seconds he started CPR. My lungs expanded and he compressed my chest. I didn't feel a thing but the people standing around watched him do this. Again, again, and again.

While the man was doing CPR, a woman a short distance away was on a cellular phone calling 911. Off in the distance you could hear the wail of the paramedic unit on its way. I didn't know that either, I didn't hear a thing.



Shortly, a paramedic knelt down and told the man he would take over. He took a pair of scissors and cut my shirt, spread it open and proceeded with CPR. As he was doing this another man was getting a machine ready to shock my heart into starting. The man said "ready clear" and again the words "ready clear."

A policeman spoke to the man that had given me CPR. He asked for his name and address, and asked if he had seen what happened and the man answered "no."

My heart responded and stabilized. The paramedics put me in the ambulance, the sirens started once again and we were on our way to the hospital. We live on the route to the hospital and my wife later told me she had heard the sirens while she was preparing supper. She never gave it a second thought that it could be me this time on the way to the hospital.

My wife was asked many questions by the doctor. "Who was the man that gave CPR? How long was your husband not breathing? Has he had heart problems before?" and more. The doctor said it was important that the time period of not breathing be determined because that would dictate the treatment that would be given. Not knowing the name of the man that gave CPR

seemed to make the task of gathering information for the doctor next to impossible.

The search for the man who gave CPR finally ended at George's home and they found that the man was Larry Fry and that he lived at the end of the block. My wife, son, and daughter-in-law went to his home to meet him.

He was asked for the time period that my heart had stopped and as best as he could figure, it was about five minutes. The time period was about what the doctor had figured so the first question had been answered. The man was told by the doctor that the only reason that I am alive is that he REACTed when seconds counted.

This is a true story and happened in Janesville, Wisconsin. I put this article together so you would know that because of REACT and the training I received through Team funding this man is still alive. The prognosis is the man will make a full recovery.

People, remember that REACT works when you respond and if you don't respond John Q. Citizen will suffer.



## Alarming Increase in Illegal 2-Way Radio Use

*Bob Leef*

*Public Relations Co-Chair*

*<kb6don@arrl.net>*

Got a radio? More and more people do. Sales of handheld two-way radios are way up but some users don't realize they need a license from the Federal Communications Commission to operate them. At your friendly neighborhood electronics store there has been a run on the compact and inexpensive FRS (Family Radio Service) models. These and CB units do not require a license but other similar looking radios do.

FRS is great for – as the name indicates – all kinds of communications for activities around the neighborhood, staying in touch at large events, camping, at the shopping mall or wherever family members are within a mile apart. Because of this short range coverage there is no need to fill out a license application and send it to FCC. But there is a problem. Also available, at a higher price, are more powerful handheld

models called GMRS – General Mobile Radio Service, which can operate on the same frequencies.

Some buyers choose GMRS because they are a step up, and cover considerably more distance. Both the licensable and non-licensable radios are usually right next to each other on the store shelf or in a catalog. Not all sellers are telling customers about the difference. In some cases manufacturers are including information to that effect in with the radio, which is a surprise to the buyer when he gets home and opens the box. At that point the attitude can easily be "Oh well" and then forgotten. The result is interference with the legally licensed users. GMRS even has a priority frequency for emergency and travelers' assistance (462.675 MHz) that is suffering. In several parts of the country REACT knows about illegal and unidentified radio transmissions



from users who have never been told about the license requirement.

The General Mobile Radio Service is designated by the FCC as a service for messages between personal licensees. Illegal operations are investigated, and users may be fined or lose their radio equipment. Earlier this year, a ground crew at an airport started using GMRS radios without a license. When contacted the manager said the units had been supplied by their home office and he had no idea anything was wrong. Shortly thereafter they weren't heard anymore. The home office must have belatedly found out the information that should have been known beforehand.

Users frequently depend on sellers and radio providers to inform them, although the primary responsibility is on the part of the buyer. In another case, a college was found to be using GMRS radios rented from a large well-known national company. When the college found out they had been using a frequency illegally they were somewhat less than happy with their supplier, who quickly put them on a proper frequency with a license.

Stories have been received from different areas of the country, indicating widespread misuse. California, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Texas are only a few samples. In one state even the Capitol staff is operating on the priority frequency of 462.675 Mhz for routine business

communications to the extent of running off the legal users to another channel.

From this and other instances it will be seen that there are cases that don't get resolved so easily. In another instance a large warehouse in California has been using GMRS radios throughout their facility and grounds. They can be heard for miles, and are blocking legal personal communications. When one of the affected users tried to explain the situation, the response was one of disregard and refusal to do anything about it. Reports to the FCC have been made some time ago but enforcement action has been delayed, perhaps due to higher priorities and/or a shortage of resources.

In the final analysis it becomes an issue of responsibility to educate the buyer on the part of the seller before the sale. One good example of this is the Radio Shack catalog which has consistently advised "FCC license required" on appropriate models. *REACT* suggests all radio providers set the proper example in order to maintain a radio service that is useful to the public.

Questions regarding radio use and personal communications may be directed to Public Relations Committee, *REACT* International, Inc., 5210 Auth Road, Suite 403, Suitland, MD 20746-4330 or by e-mail to: <publicity@reactintl.org>.

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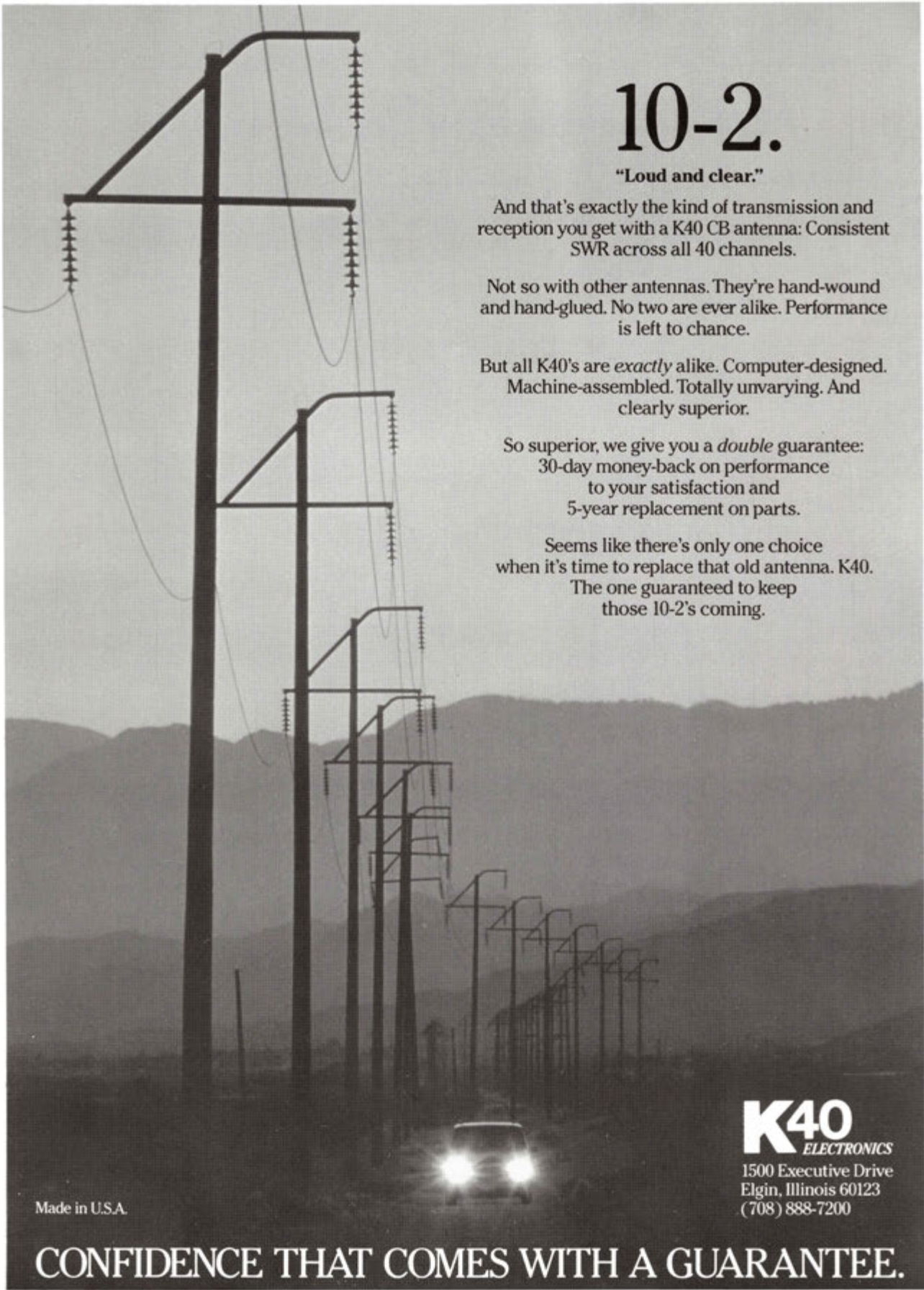
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