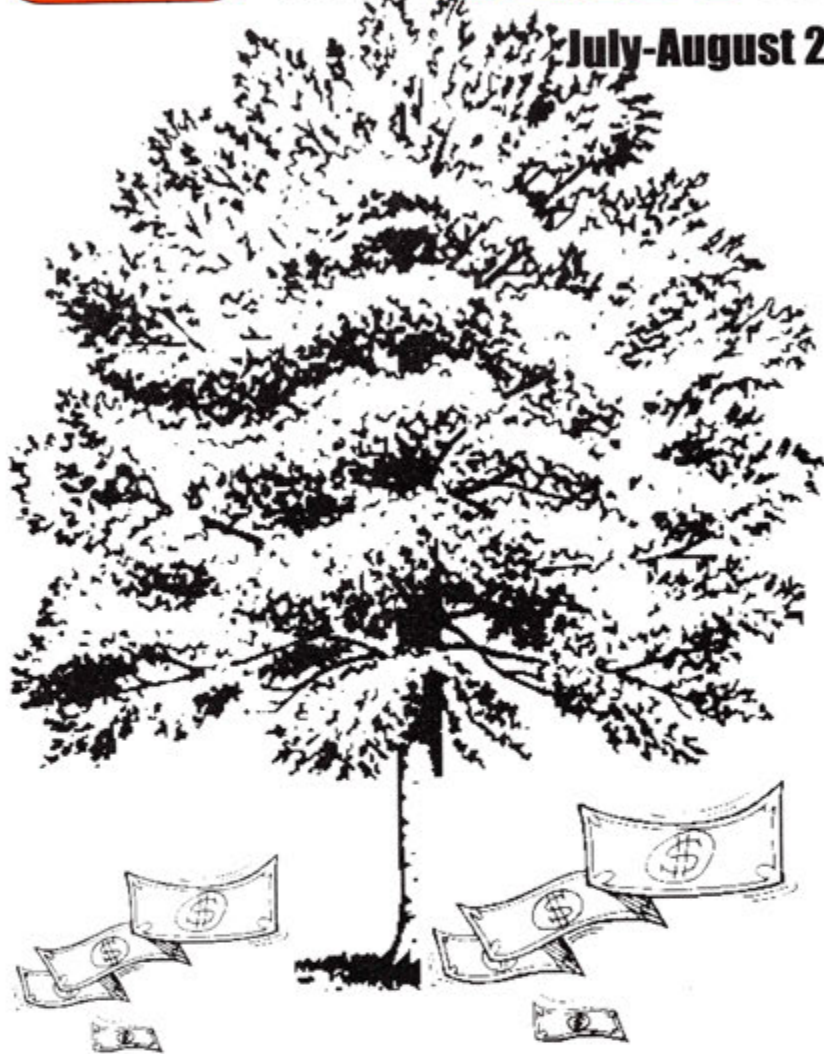




the **REACTer**

July-August 2000



Shaking the Money Tree

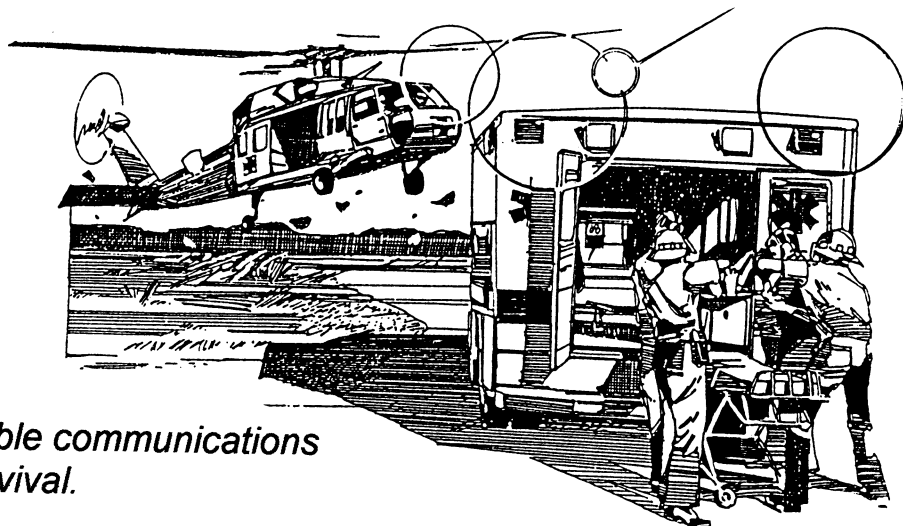
Raising Funds for Your Team

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A Special Gift

Page 9

When seconds count...



REACT is there

In emergencies, reliable communications are the lifeline for survival.

REACT is a public service organization comprised of private radio operators serving travelers and their communities alike with radio communications.

Purposes include: the correct usage of CB Emergency Channel 9. Developing the skilled use of the CB Radio Service, GMRS (UHF), Amateur with packet, BBS, Cellular and other radio services as additional sources of communications in emergencies.

REACT coordinates efforts with other emergency organizations including: Police, FEMA, NOAA, RACES, ARES, NOVAD, the Salvation Army and the American Red Cross.

Today's REACT Teams provide Safety Radio assistance for community events such as parades, runs, walk-a-thons, bike tours, boat races and even hot air balloon festivals. REACT Teams host "Safety Wake Breaks," on holiday weekends, along the highways.

For an exciting challenge in community service,



CONTACT:

REACT International, Inc.



5210 Auth Road, Suite 403
Suitland, MD 20746-4330
Phone: (301) 316-2900
Fax #: (301) 316-2903





The REACTer

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the REACTer

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Editorial Address:

The REACTer
 P.O. Box 180922
 Austin, TX 78718-0922

e-mail: <kc5cfq@texas.net>
 or: <REACTer@reactintl.org>

REACT International, Inc.
 Headquarters Office
 Dora Wilbanks, Ofc. Mgr.

5210 Auth Road, Suite 430
 Suitland, Maryland 20746

voice: 301-316-2900
 fax: 301-316-2903
 e-mail:

<react@reactintl.org>
 <www.reactintl.org>



Publicizing *REACT* by Bob Leef and Ron McCracken, Co-Chairmen Public Relations Committee

RI Proposed FRS "Calling Channel"

With the growing popularity of the Family Radio Service in the US, personal two-way radio use has increased tremendously. These non-licensed short-range hand-held devices are being carried everywhere. Although designed as a private convenience for the public, they are capable of contacting other users. However, such use is difficult if not impossible because most FRS units operate on only two or three channels, with a single tone-coded squelch frequency.

In an emergency, the FRS units are difficult to use since there may not be others in range using the same channels or tone frequencies.

REACT has proposed that FRS Channel 1 (462.5625 MHz) be adopted as an official calling channel, without tones. Radio manufacturers would be encouraged to sell the units with the designated calling channel, and instructions in the operator's manual.

We are also looking for partners, such as communications-oriented magazines and Web sites, to help promote the

idea, and we seek the support of agencies such as the National Park Service and other recreational facilities.

The idea was inspired by two recent incidents when lost hikers in Southern California and stranded, injured mountaineers in Oregon used FRS units to get help. In both cases, help was obtained only after calling on several different channels for as long as an hour. The calls fortunately were heard by youngsters using FRS radios around their homes. If the radios had been designed with a designated calling channel, help might have been obtained much more quickly.

-Bob Leef

E-mail: Gotta Have It!

You claim to be a 21st Century *REACT* Team – and you don't have e-mail? Let's get with the program!

REACT has an e-mail network that your Team should be on. Important information can be sent to all Teams on the network with the press of a computer key, in seconds, at essentially no cost.

Anyone on your Team who has a computer can be your Team's e-mail contact. Better yet, several people should be on the *REACT* network so

your Team never misses an important message.

Internet service and e-mail service are available free (if you don't mind having some ads on the screen).

Even if no one on your Team has a computer, most public libraries have them available free or at nominal cost, and you can have an e-mail account at the library.

Once you have an e-mail address, you can subscribe to the *REACT* e-mail list. Contact David Moore, the list manager, at <davmoo@mindspring.com>.

-Ron McCracken

10-9?

Two corrections to the May-June *REACT*er:

*Regional Director nominee Lee Besing assures us that he has three children, not four. We'll take his word for it.

*Convention chairman Walt Young, not the hotel, was the source of some misinformation about free bus service to local sites.

***REACT* and CNN:**

A Partnership Begins

by Bob Leef

In mid-October of last year there was an earthquake about three a.m. in Southern California. I turned on the TV but due to the early hour there was no news coverage on any local station.

However, in a short time CNN was on the air with several callers giving brief reports. One was from Norco. His information was sadly lacking in the kind of detail that as *REACT* monitors we are used to giving all the time – the Five W's: Where, what, when, who, and why.

This made me think that *REACT* could do a better job if we called in. The following day I wrote to the Public Information Officer (by name) at CNN Headquarters in Atlanta with a plan.

It took more than six months and a personal visit to CNN's Los Angeles offices, but finally in May there was a favorable response. The CNN office in Los Angeles will be the place for *REACT*ers to call from anywhere in the country, and they gave me an 800 number to use for the purpose.

What CNN is interested in is "any information you have during times of natural disasters, fires, floods, earthquakes, etc." These events

have to be major breaking stories in order to qualify. An expansion of "etc." would include major derailments, major (multi-vehicle) accidents on Interstates, plane crashes, major explosions, major collapse of a building, major hazardous material spills, and tornadoes.

There could be other incidents too, but by now we should have an idea of what they want – is it important to a lot of people?

Eyewitness reports by a *REACT*er are obviously the best. However, going to the scene to obtain an eyewitness report can be dangerous, illegal, and *not what we are suggesting that you do*. If you are already on the scene when the disaster happens, and are instructed by public safety officials to leave, do so; don't claim that you're a reporter!

If you are interviewed live, you do not need to say anything like "I'm Joe Smith, a member of Blank Valley *REACT*, etc." When and if the contact at CNN thinks it appropriate, a brief tag might be included by CNN. Eventually, when enough good reports have been received over a period of time, and our organization has a professional track record, we can expect to get something in return such as

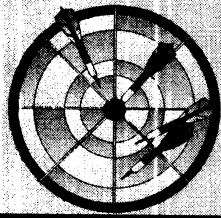
the regular mention of our name. We should do what we always have done – help the public with information. This is just another way to do that.

REACT members will not call CNN directly, but will call one of two "gatekeepers" who will judge the merits of the call as well as the capability of the caller to give an intelligent report. With that in mind, members should call me first (949)770-9501; if there's no answer, call Eric Hutchins of Seacoast *REACT*, the recently appointed Public Relations Chair for the Southern California *REACT* Council, at work Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. PT (760)724-2875 or anytime at (760)717-5983 on his cellphone/pager. One of us should answer 24/7.

In a short period of time all nine Regional Directors will be added as gatekeepers, as well as all officers of *REACT* International. You will be advised when this takes effect.

After hearing what the member has to report, it will be up to the gatekeeper to give out the 800 number so the member can call direct, or place the call ourselves. Once a *REACT* member has obtained the 800 number from a gatekeeper it can be used again by *that*

(Continued on Page 12)



PRODUCT REVIEWS

BY TOM CURRIE, TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

This issue's product review is on something a bit different, the Sheffield Crocodile. This is one of the many "multi-tool" type devices on the market today, but with some interesting differences.

What makes this particular tool of interest to *REACTers*? The Sheffield Crocodile is *not* a "complete tool-box in your pocket." In fact, it isn't even a good fit in your pocket – although it can be carried on your belt in its included nylon sheath.

This is more of a specialty tool than most of the pocket multi-tools. It doesn't have as many blades and other gadgets and it isn't nearly as compact as some other multi-tools. What does it have going for it? The primary tool is a locking needle-nose plier. Yes, locking.

My own Crocodile is in my car right alongside another more versatile multi-tool, but the Crocodile is the one I use more often. The tools I need most often, the plier, the wire cutter, and the knife blade, are instantly accessible without having to unfold some jigsaw puzzle.

The design and size of this needle-nose locking plier give far more leverage and gripping power than most conventional multi-tools. In addition to the obvious plier and knife jobs, the adjustable Crocodile multi-locking plier serves me as an electrical terminal crimper, a third

hand clamp, and a soldering heat sink.

Leatherman may have created the multi-tool market, but it was Kershaw that brought out the first locking plier version with their Kershaw Multi-Tool. The Sheffield Crocodile is nearly identical to the Kershaw (presumably differing just enough to keep everyone's lawyers happy). Both are stainless steel locking needle-nose pliers about 6 3/4" long with a single liner-lock drop-point half-serrated knife blade opening to the outside of the handle. Both have their other tools inside the handle, relying on a latch that holds the handles together to serve as a lock for these tools. Both have inch and metric rulers marked on the handle. Both have a single large slotted screwdriver blade, a single phillips screwdriver, a can opener, a bottle opener, and a file. blade. So, what is the difference between the Kershaw and this new challenger?

There are three differences that I can see. The Kershaw is a smooth finish stainless steel, the Sheffield is polished stainless steel with an engine turned finish. The Kershaw has a hacksaw blade that is lacking in the Sheffield Crocodile while the Crocodile adds a small pair of scissors that look like they belong on a Swiss Army Knife but really do work. Most important to me, the Kershaw lists for \$99 (it can be found for \$79 mail order and on the internet) while the Sheffield sells for \$14.99

at your neighborhood AutoZone. The Kershaw might outlast my Sheffield Crocodile, but I can buy five or six for the price of one Kershaw.

The Sheffield Crocodile Multi-Locking Plier is AutoZone item number 12025. With over two thousand stores in 40 states, there is probably an AutoZone near you.

Power in Your Palm!

For GMRS, and Conventional Land Mobile applications, check out the new PRYME MicroConnect line of radios by PREMIER Communications Corp. These units are built to last! They are very small (4.25" H x 2" W x 1.1" D) and fit comfortably in the palm of your hand! Easy operation and nice ergonomic design.



2 units or more:
\$199 each
\$210 single unit price
Plus Tax* and
Shipping

- 4-Watts Output
- 440 - 470 MHz
- up to 99 Channels
- CTCSS (38 tones)
- DTMF and Paging
- Includes charger and battery pack
- FCC Approved!
- License Required
- 5-Watt VHF and VHF-Low models also available

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* Inside California

Shaking the Money Tree

by *Stuart M. DeLuca*

Money. The bottom line. The indispensable resource for any ongoing activity. For a *REACT* Team, money is needed to purchase, maintain, and replace equipment, to replenish consumable supplies such as batteries, to pay the considerable costs of operating a mobile communications vehicle. Even such minor expenses as publishing a one-page monthly newsletter, to keep members informed of the Team's activities, can be a drain.

Where does the money come from? Apparently the majority of *REACT* Teams depend heavily on members' dues, over and above the dues paid to International. But there's only so much milk in that cow. With most Teams relying on advanced UHF-FM communications gear, including repeaters and other sophisticated accessories, the cost of keeping a Team functioning keeps going up.

And *REACT* Teams keep finding new ways to shake the money tree.

Avoiding the Hassle

Of course, it would be nice if you could just forget about money. At least one Team tries to do that. The president of a Florida Team writes, "[We] have opted to stay away from the financial paperwork so therefore all gear is member-owned, the Team itself owns nothing."

However, he adds, "We do take gifts." One gift, from the local amateur radio club, consisted of four racks of "high-dollar [radio] gear" that the hams decided they didn't need. The *REACT* Team didn't need the equipment either, so they sold it "and the money [was] split among the members with the



understanding it is to be used to buy field gear" (for use in Team operations). The Team president concludes, "All those involved were able to add some nice gear to their stockpiles. Taking the member-owned approach has given us one less thing to worry about, the IRS. The Team owns nothing, therefore we have less paperwork."

Well, maybe. Then again, maybe not. We asked *REACT* International Vice-president and General Counsel Charles A. "Chuck" Thompson to comment, based on his many years of experience as an attorney and nonprofit manager. His response may not be what the Florida Team wants to hear.

"This is a clear violation of Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) and the IRS regulation issued for Sec. 501(c)(3). No funds or property obtained by a Sec. 501(c)(3) [organization] may be distributed to an individual."

Reimbursement of actual, documented, out-of-pocket expenses, within reason, usually is permissible if the expenses were incurred entirely in connection with performing the charitable organization's purpose. And of course a nonprofit can employ paid staff with reasonable salaries.

Chuck adds, "All *REACT* Teams must include in their governing documents [such as their articles of incorporation, charter, or bylaws] specific language required by the Internal Revenue Service pertaining to the distribution of funds."

The IRS rules for nonprofit, charitable organizations are complex and voluminous. We've asked Chuck to prepare an article for a future *REACTer*

explaining some of the basic rules for *REACT* Teams under Sec. 501(c)(3), the section of the Internal Revenue Code that provides for tax exemption and the tax deductibility of contributions. We hope to have information in the future about similar tax code provisions in Canada and the other countries that have *REACT* Teams.

If It Don't Move, Sell It!

The good old All-American way to raise money, of course, is to sell something. Here too there is some confusion about the IRS regulations. Some members believe that, because *REACT* is a nonprofit organization, it's against the law to make a profit on anything their Team sells. Not so!

The IRS distinguishes between legitimate fundraising to support a nonprofit's basic charitable purpose, and operating a business under the cover of a tax-exempt charity. The latter isn't illegal, but the revenues are not tax-exempt. Here again, the rules are complex, and will be discussed in detail in a later article.

Meanwhile, at least one *REACT* Team has found an exciting way to raise money. Dave Carpenter, president of *REACT* of Greater Long Beach (Calif.) explains, "We sell fireworks. For the Fourth of July holiday. We are open approximately one week, and sell right up to midnight on the Fourth." Team members staff the site around the clock, using the Team's comm van as an on-site dormitory.

It's a highly lucrative business. Dave says, "We started with a new fireworks company, in a new location, about three years ago. We did fair there, a little better in the same location a year later. Then last year we were offered another location; we took it and did better. We cleared, after expenses, around \$4,500 to \$5,000." This year, they changed locations again, to the parking lot of a Sam's Club store with a new movie multiplex next door.

Unfortunately, possession of fireworks by individuals isn't legal in many cities and some entire states. Where it is legal, there may be strict regulation to ensure safety. Before your Team decides to give it a try, be sure to check with local authorities!

Not all sales operations are so successful. Apollo VII *REACT* in Deerfield, Ill., has had disappointing results in selling an entertainment coupon book. The book contains coupons that can be used at

local restaurants and other businesses for free or discounted meals and services. The Team first tried this fundraiser in 1995 and had fair success, raising about \$600. Since then, it's been pretty much a bust: \$40 in '96, \$10 in '97, and \$7 last year. They skipped 1998 and this year, but may try it again next year. The reason for the poor sales? According to president Joel Kogen, it's just hard to get the members to sell the books. It's a lot of effort for very little return.

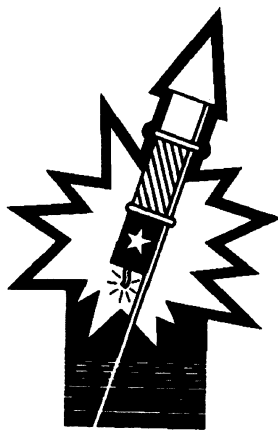
Bingo, Hot Dogs, and Flowers

Dallas County (Tex.) *REACT* knows about putting out a lot of effort for minimal returns. According to former DCR president Chuck Thompson, the Team "began sponsoring charitable bingo in July 1988, after a two-month application process for a license." In Texas, as in most other states, bingo games are legal only if the proceeds go to charity.

DCR's initial experience was not good. "The first 18 months were not profitable," Chuck explains. "Indeed, at one time paying off our bingo debt would have wiped out the bank account we had built up in 12 years of operating a concession booth at Texas Stadium. However, the business finally built up, and proceeds over the years have allowed the Team to acquire a lot of equipment, subsidize many operations, and create a significant cash reserve to keep it all going."

Chuck advises, "Bingo isn't for everyone." Usually the charity must obtain a license and pay some up-front expenses. The Team may have to staff the bingo operation until it begins producing enough revenue to hire a paid staff. Of course, there's no guarantee that it will ever turn a profit, or that the profits will continue indefinitely. "Careful investigation, written agreements, and caution are necessary," Chuck says.

Before getting involved in bingo, the Dallas Team's main source of funds was its Texas Stadium concession stand. DCR members staffed the concession stand for Dallas Cowboys games, college football games, and even some high school games, as well as a variety of other events at the "hole-in-the-roof" stadium in a Dallas suburb. The deal with the stadium, however, *required* the concession stand to be open and operating whenever the stadium management decreed — sometimes on very short notice. That, plus the long hours and very hard work, discouraged members from



contributing their time. Eventually, the Team decided that the operation, though highly profitable, wasn't worth the hassles.

Another Texas Team has found a somewhat easier way to raise some money: delivering flowers for some special holidays, such as Valentine's Day and Mother's Day.

San Angelo (Tex.) *REACT* member Barbara Jennison found that getting flowers delivered on those holidays was a real problem, mostly because the florists in town didn't have a dependable delivery service that could handle the rush. Barbara talked to the management of one florist and found them enthusiastic about using *REACT* members as extra delivery persons.

The Team provides a base station at the florist's shop, to keep in touch with the *REACT* members as they scurry around town delivering flowers. Barbara explains, "Our members are able to get in touch with the florist for assistance with phoning [customers] to ask them to come to the door." The delivery people also can get clarification of addresses or directions in an unfamiliar area.

The *REACT* Team is paid the entire delivery fee charged by the florist. When the Team began this service, the florist added just a dollar to the bill; this year, it's five dollars, and business is still booming. Last year, the Team made about \$1,200 from the delivery service.

Barbara adds, "Aside from the transfusion to our bank account, we get home-made cookies, hugs, and thanks from many wives, mothers, and other loved ones just for being the messengers of love!"

Can't beat that kind of reward!

Making the Breaks Pay

For years, *REACT* Teams have conducted holiday Safety Breaks as an important way to contribute to highway safety during periods when the roads are crowded with extra traffic and people are sometimes not as cautious as they ought to be. Traffic safety authorities consistently praise *REACT* and other nonprofit groups that provide this important service.

For some *REACT* Teams, holiday Safety Breaks are also a major source of revenue.

Ramsey Co. (Minn.) *REACT* operates a Safety Break on each of three holiday weekends at a rest area on IH-94 just across the border from Wisconsin. On Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day weekends, Team members staff the operation continuously from five o'clock the first morning until about six o'clock the last evening. According to Team

president Paul Oby, all of the supplies – coffee, soft drinks, doughnuts, and so forth – are donated. Visitors, according to Paul, "say they've stopped at similar areas and have never seen this type of setup." Grateful visitors keep the donations jar filled; the Team clears around \$300 from each Safety Break, or close to \$1,000 for the year.

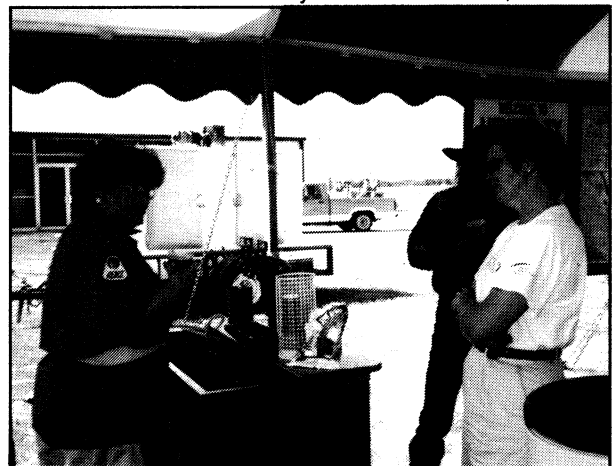
The Minnesota Department of Transportation not only permits the Team to collect donations at the state-maintained rest area, but supports the activity by providing large signs on the highway to attract visitors.

Not all state DOT's are so cooperative. In Texas, *REACT* Teams and other organizations may use state rest areas on Interstate and other highways, but may not solicit donations from the public, or even have a donations jar in plain sight. Thus, Teams that want to conduct Safety Breaks either must find another way to cover their expenses, or do as McLennan County (Tex.) *REACT* has done: move to private property off the highway.

The McLennan Co. Team started its Safety Breaks on Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends more than a dozen years ago, at a vacant lot next to a fireworks stand, on the frontage road for IH-35. The owner of the fireworks stand generously provided electricity. Two tables were borrowed from a church, and a tent was obtained from the National Guard. Most important: two portable toilets were donated. Doughnuts, cookies, and soft drinks were provided by the Dr. Pepper bottler.

For several years, the Team's two Safety Breaks each year drew 1600 to 2800 visitors. Five years ago, the Safety Breaks were moved to another location, south of Waco, where electric power and water are easier to obtain. Besides McLennan Co.

McLennan Co. *REACT* member Sherrie Roush serves visitors at the Team's Safety Break near Waco, Tex.



REACT members, the Safety Breaks are staffed by members of Bell Co. *REACT* and by Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts from the Waco area.

As in Minnesota, a donations jar is all that's necessary to produce enough money to pay all of the expenses of the Safety Breaks (including *four* portable toilets these days!), with plenty left over for the Team. In fact, according to McLennan County secretary-treasurer Wally Smith, sometimes the donations are so abundant that "we have made donations to the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. We have also made small cash donations to fire and tornado victims in the community. One time we made donations to a family that had lost the mother and a sister in a horrendous wreck on IH-35."

Turning to the Pros

With an estimated 650,000 nonprofit organizations in the United States, all seeking funds to support their charitable goals, there's a huge market for professional fundraisers. A few *REACT* Teams have turned to the pros for help.

Gary Thomas, president of Pinellas/Pasco County (Fla.) *REACT*, praises the professional agency that has helped his Team, Donationsmarketplace.Com. The Internet-based company approached PPC last year with an offer that was hard to resist. The company would create a Web site for the *REACT* Team, free of charge, and help in other ways to raise funds.

Gary says, "Kyle [Parker, vice president of Donationsmarketplace] asked me what I needed in addition to money, and I stated that a tent to house our members during various operations would be nice." In less than 24 hours, Parker had found a store willing to donate a ten-by-twelve-foot tent; later, the fundraiser found other stores that would donate supplies and equipment for the Team's field operations during hurricanes and other natural disasters. The company also produced signs that the Team gives to its donors, identifying them as *REACT* supporters.

One of the Team's major activities is providing communications and assistance to the 85 nursing homes in its area, especially when hurricanes threaten the Florida coast. Donationsmarketplace prepared a flier for the Team to send to the nursing homes, asking them to donate "surplus or distressed equipment, supplies, or products." The fundraising company then would sell the donated goods, generally using the Web auction site, E-bay, and turn the proceeds (less its expenses) over to the Team. Donationsmarketplace also helped Gary and his Team plan a fundraising event, a martial arts "kick-a-thon," in

cooperation with a local martial arts school.

In short, Gary wrote last March, Donationsmarketplace.Com had been a godsend to his Team.

However, today we attempted to check the new Web site that the fundraising company had promised to set up; the site apparently doesn't exist yet. We also checked Donationsmarketplace.Com's own Web site and were surprised to find that Pinellas/Pasco Co. *REACT* isn't listed among the company's charities.

Other Teams have had varying success with professional fundraisers. The basic problem is that the pros are in business to make money for themselves as well as for you. In most cases, they take a percentage of whatever revenues they raise; if they find that raising money for your Team doesn't give them enough income, they may lose interest.

Brazoria County (Tex.) *REACT* has had its ups and downs with professional fundraisers. The Team agreed to "sponsor" an annual dance to be organized by a fundraising company based in nearby Houston. Each year, the company arranged to rent the dance hall, hired the band (including some well-known rock and country bands), and sell the tickets. The ticket sales were done mostly by telephone solicitations of local businesses. The *REACT* Team wasn't required to do anything; in fact, usually they handled ticket sales at the door, and most members attended the dance.

The Team was guaranteed a minimum of \$2,000 from each dance. In most years, all they got was the minimum; according to Allan Tyler, former Team president, the highest amount they ever got was about \$2,700.

They also got a number of complaints from people who disliked being bothered by telephone solicitors, or who claimed that the solicitations misrepresented the event. According to Tyler, most of the complaints and questions were unfounded, but they were annoying.

Current president Karla Koch pointed out, "When you let someone else use your name, your *REACT* name, you don't always have control over what they're saying, but people think *you're* saying it." This year, the Team decided not to "sponsor" another dance, mostly because they weren't satisfied with the arrangements offered by the fundraising company.

Shaking the money tree is a major concern for all nonprofit organizations, including *REACT* Teams, Councils, and even International. In the next *REACT*er, we'll examine another way to provide the funds that are the lifeblood of any organization.

A Special Gift

**By Tony Duarte, President
Don Valley (Ont.) REACT**

Like most REACT Teams, we have developed very close contact with the Red Cross. Our executives are members of the Regional Emergency Preparedness Committee, and our members have received specialized training in Emergency Shelter Management and Registration/Inquiry, so we can provide effective and responsive services. We expect a call regarding some natural disaster or whatever might befall our surrounding communities.

Instead, last Spring we received an appeal to assist with refugees, temporarily housed on a Canadian Air Force base, from war torn Kosovo.

Over the course of several weekends we drove to the base hours from home to help out in whatever way we could. The Red Cross, local agencies, and the military had done a magnificent job of dealing with the necessities such as food, shelter, and housing, but there is still more to life. We aided significantly in the expected areas such as radio communications, providing transportation to medical appointments, performing safety and security walkabouts, and distribution of basic care packages and clothing. We even enlisted the services of our long standing contact Maloron Communications, who graciously provided a repeater and handheld radios at no cost. At one point we even found ourselves in the middle of an internationally renowned air show doing emergency runs for refugees suffering heat exhaustion and setting up an intermediary communications.



Don Valley (Ont.) REACT Junior member Melanie Jeffries surrounded by some of her Kosovar friends. (Photo: Sharon Lindsay)

All this had to be done remembering that these were people from a war zone so every activity had to be done with tact and sensitivity. They had to be given the feeling of security and support to give them the time to rebuild their lives. The base had been temporarily transformed into a small rural community. People skills were used and tested at every turn.

Activities such as unloading hundreds of bicycles or crowd control for distributing donated yo-yo's became the order of the day. No one could belittle such activity and dare to stand eye to eye with a child who had faced the horror of war and see happiness as they experience the joys of youth and play perhaps for the first time in a truly safe environment.

Each of us had our own special moments where we were truly touched, such as a young child holding a checkers board and the look in his eyes that said now was the moment to play a few games.

It was not just a matter of the gift we gave of our time but perhaps a much greater gift was being exchanged. We had been given the gift of having these people into our lives. A gift of unique perspectives and experiences which made us wonder if we could survive with the same hope and dignity through what they had just experienced.



REACTivities

News from Regions/Councils/Teams

Rainier REACT (Wash.)

Rainier REACT Radio Watch luckily has not had to respond to any major accidents or emergencies this year, but if and when it happens, we will be ready. On June 3 the Team will take the SkyWarn spotter training course. We are also taking some FEMA self-study courses to be even better prepared to work with the Emergency Services. We are getting ready for our Memorial Day Safety Break, one of the three that we hold each year.

-Paula Glovick

Oklahoma County REACT (Okla.)

We will have the first of our two Safety Breaks this year over the Memorial Day weekend. We will set up 45 miles east of Oklahoma City on westbound IH-40. Our trailer will be staffed 24 hours a day beginning around 3 p.m. Friday and continuing until 6 p.m. Monday.

We give out cookies and gouthnots, both donated by

area merchants; we purchase coffee and five flavors of soda pop to serve. The Oklahoma Highway Safety Office has given us all kinds of safety literature which we put, along with Oklahoma highway maps, in vehicle litter bags. We also have coloring books and crayons for children.

Should you be out this way, we'd love to have you stop in and say hi!

-Paul Deaver

Santiago Communications (Calif.)

On Saturday, June 10, members of Santiago Communications Team will conduct a live, hands-on exercise to locate a missing person. This drill will take place in Huntington Beach Central Park.

The purpose of the drill is to teach our members how to search an area and be on the lookout for any clues that may point to a missing person. The drill also will test our communications equipment during a live exercise, and further our skills in working with other agencies in a mutual-aid situation.

The drill will be con-

ducted with the Huntington Beach Police Dept. and Park Rangers.

-Peter Lent

Empire Central REACT (N.Y.)

We are set up to serve coffee and doughnuts for the July 4 weekend at the rest area on IH-87 in the town of Clifton Park. This year we are using our newly acquired 21-foot mobile communications center. The trailer is set up with CB, GMRS, 2 meter, and 70 cm. We are powered by a 4500-watt generator.

-Larry Zuravin

Nassau Co. REACT (N. Y.)

Nassau County REACT is activating a Safety Break for the upcoming Independence Day weekend. This is one of four annual Safety Breaks the Team conducts.

The Safety Break is located at the Long Island Tourist Information Center in the Southern State Parkway.

-Joe Spinoso



Amy Kogen of Apollo VII REACT provides security for the Deerfield, Ill., Suburban Arts Festival. (Photo: Joel Kogen)

Apollo VII REACT (Illinois)

Our members worked the Suburban Arts Festival in Deerfield, Ill. This was our second year for this event. Last year, the sponsors hired another security company for the morning and we provided security patrols in the afternoon. This year, we did it all.

Our role was to control traffic and patrol the fair site. We operated entirely on FRS radios.

-Joel Kogen

Ramsey Co. Plans Gathering

Ramsey Co. (Minn.) REACT invites all REACT Teams and members to a get-together in Bloomington, Minn., on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 21-22, 2000. A full slate of workshops both days, starting at 8 a.m., will include "Making REACT Grow," "Back the Badge," "Disaster Scene Communications," and "Where's the Beef?" Presenters will include the Minnesota Dept. of Emergency Management, Salvation Army, and Red Cross. For registration forms or information, contact Ramsey Co. REACT, 1600 Englewood Ave., Ste. 208, St. Paul, MN 55104-1226 or call 651-646-0259.

Letters We Like To Get

(A little background information: Waukesha Area REACT has worked with the Town of Waukesha and its fire department with many events for several years. The Team has three members who are firefighters or EMTs for the fire department. In return for our assistance, the fire department has provided CPR training at no charge to us, and first aid training is planned.)

Mr. Fred Bennett, President
Waukesha Area REACT

Dear Fred and Members:

As fire chief and on behalf of the Town of Waukesha Fire Department, I want to thank you for assisting us with traffic control during the Sunset Drive training burns.

It is a rare opportunity for any fire department to have abandoned homes to do live fire training in. It is even more difficult

to provide a safe environment for all the participants of this type of training and protect the public from accidental injury. The service you provided is greatly appreciated as personnel could work uninhibited without worry of some motorist

running over them. In addition to making traffic flow smoothly, your efforts to set up cones and barricades saved the department valuable time. Thank you again.

-Daniel C. Buchholtz
Town of Waukesha Fire Chief

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Lakehead REACT Thunder Bay, Ont., Canada	REACT - Ottawa Co. Picher, Okla.	Cullman Co. REACT Vinemont, Ala.
REACT of Edmond Edmond, Okla.	Tri-County REACT Warsaw, Ind.	Athens Area REACT Sweetwater, Tenn.
E.R.C. Monroe Co REACT Pittsford, N.Y.	Glass City REACT Fairfield, Ohio	Central Suffolk REACT Centereach, N.Y.
	Redding REACT Redding, Calif.	

REACT & CNN

(Continued from Page 3)

person by continuing to use good judgment in reporting. However, the number is not to be passed to any other member.

I will closely monitor results of calls by checking with my contact at CNN Los Angeles. This program will start immediately, and includes the entire country. Let's all be on the lookout for those "newsworthy" events, and notify me or Eric if you have first-hand information.

-Bob Leef

Hundred Per Centers

The following Teams have renewed 100% of their members for 2000. (This list does not include those Teams previously published.)

Alamance Co. (N.C.)	2083	Madison Co. (Ind.)	C697	Trinidad & Tobago	
Bristol Virginia-Tennessee		Great River (Ill.)	2125	(Trin. & Tob.)	2496
(Tenn.)	2021	Harrison Co. (Ind.)	4899	Suffolk Co. (N.Y.)	2371
Life REACT (Ga.)	4882	Trinity Co. (Calif.)	4893	Monterey Peninsula	
City REACT of Calgary		Tri-County (Ohio)	2624	(Calif.)	2192
(Albta.)	2627	McDowell Co. (N.C.)	2632	Bloomsburg Area (Penn.)	2602
Muskegon Co. (Mich.)	3880	Air Capital (Kan.)	4208	Daytona Beach (Fla.)	2194
Champaign Co. (Ill.)	C250	Tri-City (Calif.)	C071	Armstrong Co. (Penn.)	3920
Clinch Valley (Va.)	2148	Garden State (Ohio)	C242	Peoria-Pekin Metro (Ill.)	C310
Lake Washington (Wash.)	4784	Youngstown (Ohio)	C098	Porterville (Calif.)	2517
Charles Co. (Md.)	4656	Livermore Valley (Calif.)	4111	Darlington Co. (S.C.)	2400
Kitsap Co. (Wash.)	4700	Butte (Mont.)	3679	General Suburban Aid	
Barbour Co. (Ala.)	4990	Lincoln Co. (Neb.)	4605	System (Mass.)	3606
St. Cloud (Minn.)	2791	Hamilton-Mercer (N.J.)	4651	Winchester (Va.)	4751
Lakewood (Wash.)	4677	Metro (Calif.)	C085	Westchester Co. (N.Y.)	2240
South Gate (Calif.)	3897	Compupac (Calif.)	C069	REACT Co. Caroni	
Rancho (Calif.)	4873	Pawnee (Neb.)	3073	(Trin. & Tob.)	6005
Lake Co. (S.D.)	4736	Harlan Co. (Ky.)	4911	Ogallala Area (Neb.)	4894
Concord (N.H.)	4832	Tri-County (Mo.)	6003	McLennan Co. (Tex.)	4747
Front Royal (Va.)	C705	Response Team (Tenn.)	6012	Mendocino Coast (Calif.)	3425
Lake Co. (Ind.)	3330	Rose City Windsor (Ont.)		Lansing (Mich.)	C264
Sangamon Co. (Ill.)	4794	2060		Memphis (Tenn.)	4962
Frazier Mountain (Calif.)	4573	Fort Sutter (Calif.)	2260	Gateway Area (Mo.)	2001
United Valley (Penn.)	2141	Lee County (Fla.)	4997	Durham Co. (N.C.)	2457
LaHabre (Calif.)	C128	Lincoln Railsplitter (Ill.)	C733	Brevard C.A.R.E.S. (Fla.)	4743
Muskegum Co. (Ohio)	C324	St. Andrews/St. David			
		(Trin. & Tob.)	6008		

REACT Councils as of May 22, 2000

ARIZONA

Arizona State REACT Council
Gene McLemore
P.O. Box 2131
Mesa, AZ 85214-2131
(602) 956-4296

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

Central California REACT
Council, Inc.
Dan Snow
1626 E. Tyler Ave.
Porterville, CA 93257
(209) 784-5597

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Northern California
REACT Council
James J. Galbreath
P.O. Box 1492
Mountain View, CA 94042-1492
(650) 967-5374

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Southern CA REACT Council
Johnny Stowers
P.O. Box 2638
Garden Grove, CA 92842-2638
(858) 273-1268

COLORADO

Colorado Council of
REACT Teams
David T. Espinosa
1235 Berglind Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80920
(719) 338-1182

FLORIDA

Florida Council of
REACT Teams
John Knott
P.O. 540233
Orlando, FL 32854-0233
(407) 896-2953

ILLINOIS

Illinois REACT Council
Alfred Hansen
1848 Camden St.
Springfield, IL 62702
(217) 522-9747

INDIANA

Indiana REACT Council, Inc.
Jack Murrell
2937 N. Arthington Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46218-3113
(317) 547-1822

IOWA

Iowa REACT Council
Joe Hoepfner
1612 Scoggins
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 266-0270

KANSAS

Kansas State REACT Council
Ronald O. Mayes
1000 E. English Street
Wichita, KS 67211
(316) 291-0009

KENTUCKY

Kentucky State REACT Council
Tom Currie
P.O. Box 33244
Louisville, KY 40232-3244
(502) 459-0100

MAINE

Maine REACT Council
Jim Koritzky
42 Sunbury Ave.
Bangor, ME 04401-3353
(207) 942-8067

MARYLAND

Maryland State Council
of REACT Teams, Inc.
Wayne L. Lewis
116 Ormand Street
Frostburg, MD 21532-1612
(301) 689-8849

MICHIGAN

Michigan REACT Council
John Swaton, Jr.
5863 West Side Saginaw Rd.
Bay City, MI 48706
(517) 686-4991

MINNESOTA

Minnesota REACT
Team Council
Leland Johnson
Rt. 2, Box 276
Glenville, MN 56036
(507) 448-3911

MISSOURI

Missouri REACT Council
Lawson Smith
20876 Hampton Drive
Dixon, MO 65459
(573) 336-2459

NEBRASKA

Nebraska State REACT Council
Don Sjoström
1119 Grand Ave
Alliance, NE 69301-2757
(308) 762-1249

NEW JERSEY

Garden State Council
of REACT Teams, Inc.
Dick Cooper
P.O. Box 9898
Trenton, NJ 08650
888-886-3995

SOUTHERN NEW YORK

Southern New York State
REACT Council
Warren Deitz
PO Box 17
Holmes, NY 12531
(914) 228-1501

UPSTATE NEW YORK

Upstate NY REACT Council
Harold J. Grunewald
c/o Pauline Olsen
P.O. Box 545
Fallsburg, NY 12733
(914) 434-0784

NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina State
REACT Council
George Holmes
214 Queens Road
Jacksonville, NC 28540
(910) 346-2577

OHIO

Ohio REACT Council, Inc.
Dave Boone
P.O. Box 58
Brunswick, OH 44212
(330) 273-4671

PENNSYLVANIA

Pennsylvania Council of
REACT Teams, Inc.
Fred Lanshe
P.O. Box 8797
Allentown, PA 18105-8797
(610) 434-3235

PUERTO RICO

Puerto Rico REACT Council
Alfonso Ferrer Barbosa
Box 425
Yauco, PR 00698
(787) 856-4980

TEXAS

Texas State REACT Council
Sharon Grimm
1108 Avenue "W"
Brownwood, TX 76801
(915) 646-7042

VIRGINIA

Commonwealth of Virginia
REACT Council, Inc.
Carl Westfall
118 Jackson Ave.
Winchester, VA 22601
(540) 665-9749

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Pacific NW REACT Council
Orville Simpson
6608 56th Place NE
Marysville, WA 98207
(360) 659-8885

WEST INDIES

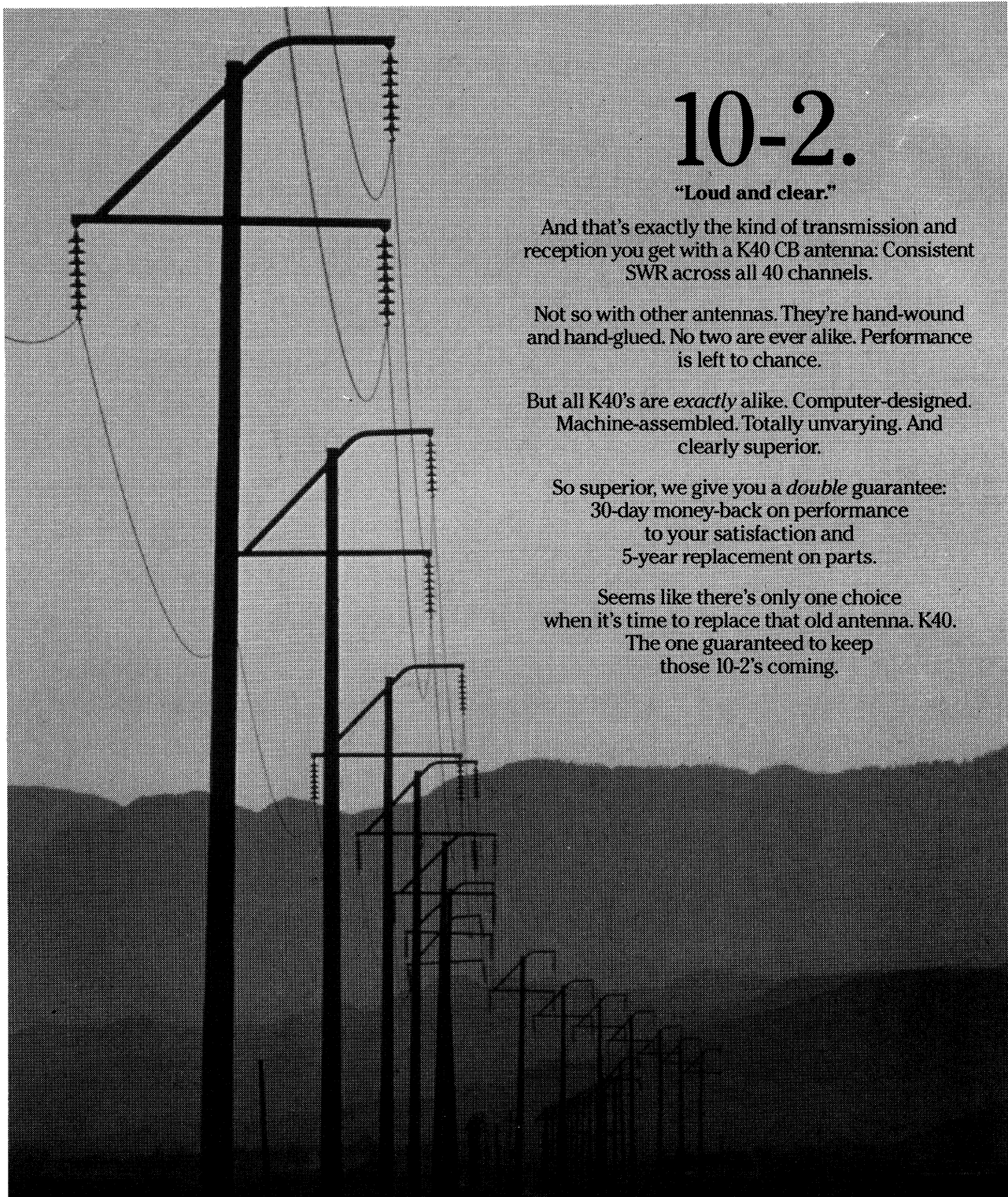
Trinidad & Tobago REACT Council
Deonanan Kenny Jagdeoosingh
P.O. Box 3062
St. James Post Office
Trinidad & Tobago, West Indies
(868) 628-2886

WISCONSIN

Wisconsin Council of
REACT Teams
Larry Fry
P.O. Box 228
Pewaukee, WI 53072
(608) 752-4547

CANADA

Ontario REACT Council, Inc.
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