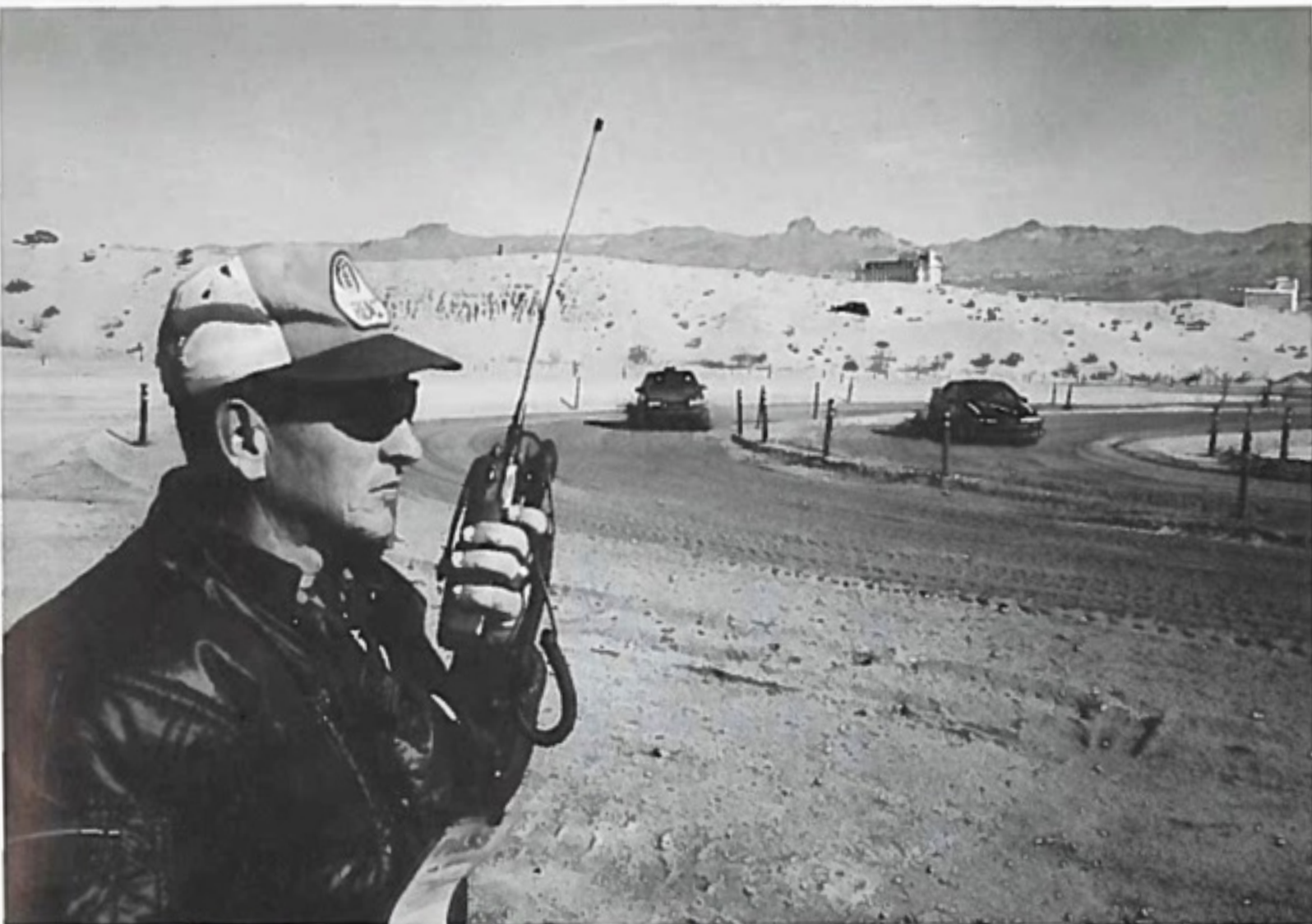


Ed Greany  
1742 Spring Ln  
Corona CA 92882-5157



# *the REACT er*

**January-February 2001**

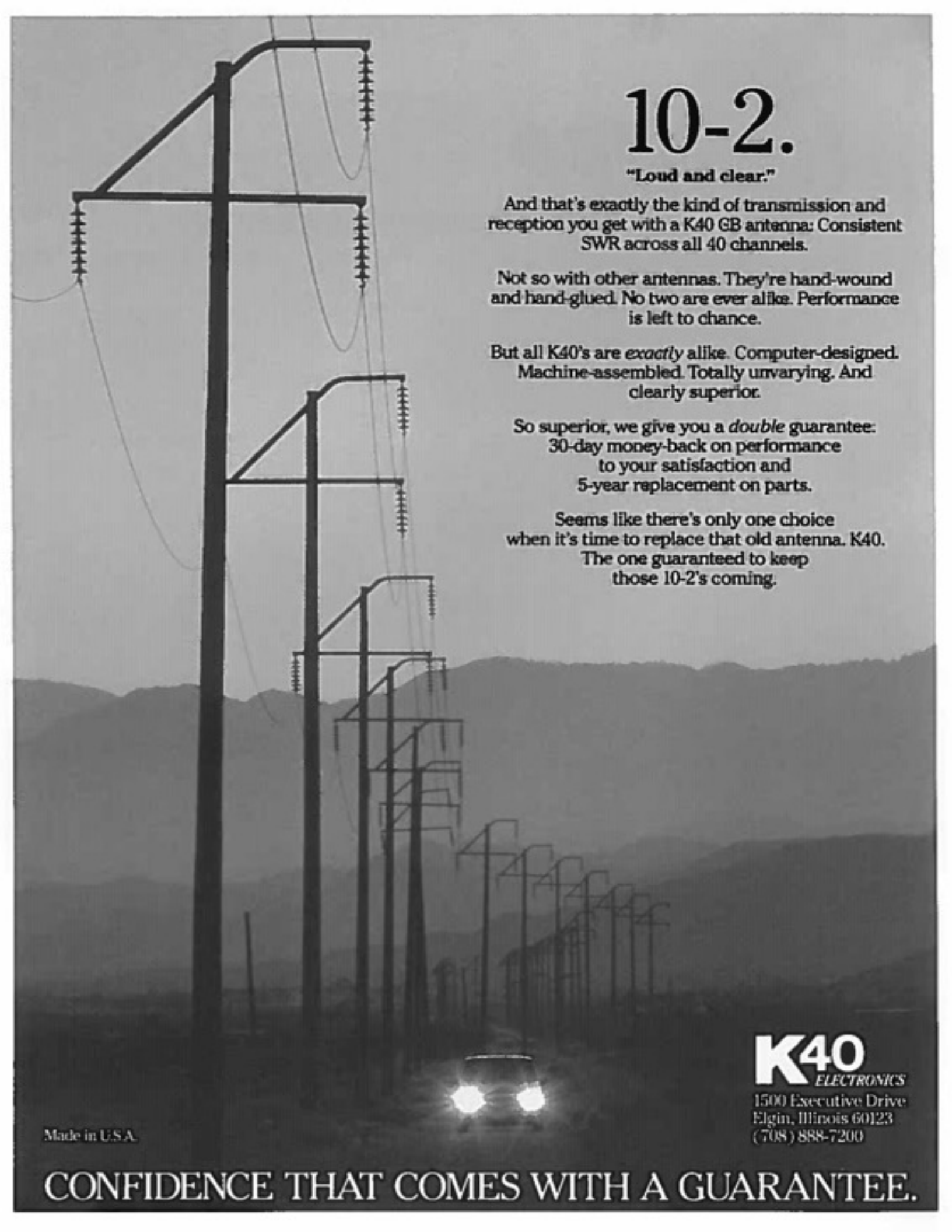


**5 Teams Join Forces for Rally**

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**2001 Convention Preview**

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# 10-2.

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# The REACTer

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Mike Collins, Riverside Co. (Calif.) REACT, Keeps an Eye on Racers (see Page 8). Photo by Bob Leef.

## the REACTer

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# Getting **HERE** from **THERE**

by Stuart M. DeLuca

This is the first issue of my second full year as editor of *The REACTer*. That seems like a good opportunity to look back over what we've done in the past, and what we'd like to do in the future.

We've made a few changes in this bi-monthly magazine. We adopted new typestyles that we think are easier to read, and we added "standing heads" to some regular features such as the *REACTivities* column containing news about the Teams, Councils, and Regions. We've arranged the content of each issue with columns and articles from committees and officers "up front," main feature articles in the middle, and brief articles about Teams and members in the back. We even changed the paper on which *The REACTer* is printed, and we've changed the way it's mailed to reduce expenses and – we hope! – improve delivery.

Most of these changes have been welcomed by our members. I've received quite a few unsolicited compliments – and was surprised and delighted to receive the President's Award at the Convention last July for my work as editor.

Of course, we haven't pleased everyone; there've been a few complaints along the way. I take the criticisms as seriously as I do the compliments, perhaps even more so. I can't promise to prevent every problem in the future, and some of the complaints have concerned matters that are simply beyond my control. However, we will continue to make every effort to provide our members (and the non-members who read *The REACTer*) with a useful and informative magazine.

## Putting Words in my Mouth

Many of the criticisms have concerned what we publish and how it's prepared. Let me try to answer some of the questions that have been raised.

### *Why Didn't You Publish the Article I Sent You?*

My first responsibility as editor is to select the articles that I think will be most useful and interesting to our readers. Most of our readers are, of course, *REACT* members active in their own Teams. In addition, *The REACTer* is sent to a number of individuals and organizations with whom we have an ongoing relationship, such as officials of NVOAD.

The number of pages in each issue is limited mainly by budget considerations. Our basic budget this past year provided for twelve pages per issue, but in fact we published more pages than that in four of the six issues, to make room for material that simply had to be published. I doubt that we will ever have enough space to print everything that is submitted.

I give the highest priority to official announcements and notices from the Board of Directors or officers, and important material such as the minutes of Board meetings. The next-highest priority goes to information that our members need well in advance, such as announcements about the next Convention.

Some of the feature articles are written at my request, and I

don't like to ask someone to write something and then not use it. Other feature articles are submitted by members (and sometimes by non-members). When I have more feature material than there is room, I try to choose the articles that I think will be most useful to our members; those that I don't have space to print, I keep for some future issue.

Most of the material submitted is in the form of brief articles about Team or Council activities. I apply the same standard to this material as I do to feature articles: Is the material useful and interesting? Articles that say nothing more than, "Our Team held its regular meeting. We are very busy these days, but looking forward to slowing down," almost always will not be published. Every Team has regular meetings (or should!), and most Teams are busy and looking forward to slowing down; that's not very useful or interesting to anyone.

### *Why Did You Change My Article?*

My second job as editor is to make sure that everything we publish conforms to a high standard of quality in its writing and presentation. That means, among other things, maintaining a consistent style in the way information is presented. One of my first acts as editor was to develop a Style Manual (with the help of other members of the Publications Review Committee); the Manual is available on the RI Web site.

## About Your Subscription

All Regular, Junior, and Affiliate members in the U.S. and Canada automatically receive a subscription to *The REACTer*; the subscription price is included in the annual RI dues.

If for any reason you do not wish to receive *The REACTer*, just let us know. Send a note or e-mail to RI headquarters. However, your dues will *not* be reduced.

All Life Members also automatically receive a subscription to *The REACTer* but may discontinue their subscription if they wish.

Members outside of the U.S. and Canada may subscribe to *The REACTer* but the subscription fee (US\$6) is not included in their dues. To subscribe, send your name, full address, and payment to RI headquarters.

Non-members may subscribe for \$7.50 per year.

Members may order an extra subscription for a family member at a different address, a friend, a local library, or anyone else, at the same rate as members' subscriptions: \$4 per year in the U.S., \$5 in Canada, or \$6 anywhere else.

**REACT International, Inc.**  
5210 Auth Rd., Ste. 430  
Suitland, MD 20746-4330  
<react@reactintl.org>

Most of the changes I make to material involve fitting the available space. Almost everything we publish (including *my stuff!*) winds up being shortened somewhat.

On the other hand, occasionally we get a very brief and incomplete article; in that case, I will try to contact the source of the article and obtain more information, which I will then add to the piece. Sometimes, too, I will make changes to improve the readability of a sentence or phrase. Whether I'm shortening, lengthening, or rewriting something, I do make every effort to preserve the writer's original intention. When possible, if I've made substantial changes to an article, I will send the revised version to the original writer for approval before it's published. However, I rarely have time to do this for the brief articles in *REACTivities* or committee columns.

### *How Can I Get More Publicity for My Team?*

That's easy: Just send me useful, interesting articles about your Team's activities.

Maybe I should put that last word in boldface or all caps. I want articles about activities, especially anything that is unusual. Most Teams monitor, so the fact that your Team monitored several thousand hours isn't especially interesting. Most Teams provide communications for foot races and walkathons and bike races; the fact that your Team does, too, isn't very interesting unless there was something unusual about the event (or something unusual happened during the event). We will always try to publish articles about your members' activities that involved saving a life or preventing property destruction, and we will almost always have room for articles about public recognition that your Team or its members have received.

And don't forget pictures! Good, clear photos, either mailed to *The REACTer* or sent to me by e-mail, always help make a story "come alive." The best pictures, again, show *REACT* members' activities – not just standing against a wall staring blankly into the camera. And don't forget to tell me who the people in the picture are (with all names correctly spelled) and who took the picture!

## Official Notices

The Board of Directors of *REACT* International, Inc., will meet for its annual Winter Board Meeting on February 17-19, 2001. The meeting will be held in the Headquarters office, 5210 Auth Road, Suite 403, Suitland, Maryland.

The full agenda for the meeting was not available at press time, but it is expected to include the adoption of the budget for the current year, review of all operations, and plans for the coming year.

The Board meeting is open to all members. If you wish to attend, please contact the Headquarters office, so that appropriate arrangements can be made to accommodate everyone.



# Publicizing *REACT*

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

## New FCC License For All Teams

In addition to GMRS, some Teams are licensed on a VHF or UHF business frequency. Over the years each Team that wants this capability has borne the expense and complexity of obtaining a license, usually requiring frequency coordination.

Last November, a license was obtained in the name of *REACT* International, Inc., at no cost to our organization, thanks to an anonymous donor. Now Teams will no longer have this expense, and all Teams can use the frequencies covered by the license.

The license is for the frequencies of 151.625, 464/469.500, and 464/469.550. Simplex and repeater operation is covered on UHF; simplex only on 151.625 MHz.

These frequencies can be used in addition to – or alternates for – GMRS or others your Team may currently utilize. Having frequencies common to every *REACT* Team in the U.S. also makes for better coordination and mutual aid.

As of mid-January, 2001, the license had not been finally issued by the FCC. It is expected to be issued by the

end of the month. As soon as it is received, it will be posted on the RI Web site, from which it can be downloaded by Teams. Teams that don't have Web access will be able to obtain a copy of the license from the RI office.

These new frequencies may be used by any *REACT* Team in the US and may be used by anyone (such as event volunteers) operating under the direct control of *REACT* members. The new license gives us much more flexibility than GMRS.

---

## Award Name Change

A proposal has been made to change the name of one of the ten awards made each year to *REACT*ers by the K-40 Company. It would be from "Yearly Achievement Award for Member" to "Call of the Year Award for Member".

The current award is based on overall performance of a member such as monitoring, attending meetings, taking part in events, and being an overall outstanding asset to the organization. The Quarterly Individual Achievement Award will continue to be given; so will the quarterly and annual awards to Teams and Councils.

A "Call of the Year Award for Member" would sin-

gle out a particular radio call taken that resulted in saving a life or preventing major injury or property damage.

This change has been suggested because there would be a better opportunity for public relations by making a media release giving an account of a call that clearly illustrates our mission. The proposed change also would encourage and recognize members' countless hours of monitoring.

When approached about this possible change, a K-40 representative said, "The spirit of the award is really the same, but I think your idea might generate a little more excitement and get more people involved in the process."

The proposal will be discussed at the Winter Board Meeting in February and a decision will be made by the Board.

---

## Have You Called CNN?

A special arrangement has been made with the Cable News Network (CNN) for *REACT* members to report significant news, such as a local disaster. If you are on the scene or have direct knowledge of a newsworthy event, call me at (949)770-9501, or call any Regional Director or RI Officer.

# Who's Listening to YOUR Repeater?

by Bob Leef, Co-chairman, PR Committee

While we tend to think of an amateur, GMRS, or other repeater as a piece of communications equipment, it also has another function – that of public relations. Using it with this in mind can do a lot to enhance the image of REACT.



erage sooner rather than later.

Weather alerts and traffic reports are good activities that illustrate the REACT interest in public service. Two Teams mentioned situations where their repeater provided a vital communications link during an emergency when other means failed.

“During Hurricane Floyd it was one of the only things that was still working,” according to Bob Pickering of Flagler County Assist in Florida.

Dale in Oklahoma said, “After the May 3 tornado our radio system was one of the few means of communications that was not affected.” Three of the six Teams have portable repeaters to take to the scene of an event or disaster. These situations are long remembered by agencies and officials.

Opportunities for public relations to impress officials don't occur just during emergencies and disasters. Dennis Baca in California says his Seacoast Team conducted a demonstration for police and city officials during the annual Neighborhood Night Out which occurs in late summer

Since a lot of non-members can listen on scanners, what they hear should be interesting and informative to them as well as to REACTers. Some agencies and news media also monitor our repeaters.

legal, intelligent, and frequent enough to attract or retain a regular body of listeners.

We checked with six Teams around the country to see how they use their repeater as a public relations tool as well as a piece of equipment. Here is what we found:

Half of the Teams conduct a regularly scheduled net that in some cases is publicized by a sign in radio stores. Information is passed among members and Teams about REACT activities and events, such as meeting locations and dates, and a phone number for inquiries. For mobile members it also provides an opportunity to check various locations for cov-

We discovered this recently in an informal survey of REACT Teams that operate repeaters. In various communities, emergency medical services, Red Cross, fire/rescue, police dispatch, the National Weather Service's Skywarn, TV and radio news departments, and newspapers were among the agencies listening in to REACT repeaters. With so many listeners, it's especially important for communications to be

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**R.K. Leef**

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\* Inside California

throughout the U.S. On his handheld GMRS, he called an Antelope Valley REACT unit about 100 miles north. That member used another long range repeater to relay his message, and reached the San Francisco area for a total distance of over 400 miles. "The city officials were amazed that our volunteer group could do this, and we received a lot of positive comments. The city still cannot accomplish this with their normal communications system," according to Dennis.

Repeaters are installed at mountain tops, water tanks, high-rise buildings, homes, and anywhere else where the price is right and good propagation is available. Space rent can vary from nothing to several hundred dollars per month. The equipment can be Team-owned, individually owned, or leased from the space provider. It is important to have a written agreement specifying who

provides insurance, who has access, who is responsible for maintenance, and who is the official repeater operator.

In Dallas, as well as California and other locations, a separate entity has been created to manage the Team's several repeaters. Otherwise Teams and Councils perform the necessary functions. Some uniform operating procedures have been made available from REACT International, while others are established on the local level. FCC regulations require that there be a designated control operator; most Teams have a backup control operator as well.

Charges to use GMRS repeaters vary a great deal among Teams. One in California has a yearly fee of \$3 per member which allows use of three GMRS repeaters. All communications are under one callsign, under a "grandfathered" group license, and must relate to business of the organization. This team allows personal use on a separate tone to members at no extra charge, or non-members for \$5 per month. Personal use requires users to have their own callsign.

Regardless of how your Team's repeaters are managed, always remember that anyone with the proper equipment can listen – and probably will! Your repeater can be a powerful and effective way to show the world what REACT is all about.

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# Regional Directors: Who and Why?

by Dick Cooper, Director,  
*REACT* International Region 2

The adoption of new Bylaws by *REACT* International in 1999 created a new governing structure for the organization. The previous structure consisted of a Board of Directors comprised of Field Directors and At-Large Directors. The Field Directors were *REACT* members and one of their primary purposes was to represent *REACT* concerns to the rest of the Board. However, many *REACT* members felt that the Field Directors were more concerned about the business of the Board rather than helping to promote membership within their own geographic areas of responsibility.

The Regional Director format was developed to change the existing trend. Nine regions were established to represent all of *REACT*'s membership. The Regional Directors are also members of the Board of Directors. The primary focus of Regional Directors is the promotion of membership within their respective regions. Following is a brief list of Regional Director responsibilities:

1. Assist in the formation of Teams and Councils
2. Point of contact between RI and their Teams, Councils, and members
3. Assist Teams with ideas and programs to assist in membership efforts
4. Provide training, support and encouragement to region Teams and Councils
5. Work with agencies, promoting *REACT* within their respective region

In summary, a Regional Director's function is to "serve and provide leadership for Teams and Councils, not to command them."

The nine *REACT* International regions and the current Regional Directors were listed in the Directory in the November-December *REACT*er. They are also listed on the RI Web site, <[www.reactintl.org](http://www.reactintl.org)>.

Regional Directors, as members of the Board of Directors, are responsible for the

operation of the corporation in addition to membership development. So that the Regional Directors aren't overwhelmed with their responsibilities, the Regional Director format also prefers that the officers of the corporation be "non-director" personnel, thereby reducing the Directors' workloads. When fully achieved, this separation of Directors and officers will provide for more efficient operation of *REACT* International.

Another way of reducing Regional Directors' workload is to increase the reliance on RI committees, which has already started.

The Regional Director format is viewed as a major step toward the accomplishment of the goal of increased membership. Remember that each Director needs the support of existing Teams and Councils to accomplish this goal. Since *REACT* is a membership organization, the entire *REACT* membership must partner with their respective Regional Directors to place a larger emphasis on membership recruitment and retention as well as forming Teams and Councils.

As of the 2000 RI Convention, the double-digit membership decline had been reduced to 2% when current (July 2000) membership was compared to the membership at the end of 1999. This is a very positive change and is a sign of the new direction of *REACT*.

# 5 Teams Join Forces for a Road Rally!

by Bob Leef, Crest (Calif.) *REACT*

What could be more important than good communications at a road rally covering over a hundred miles of rugged and beautiful country where there is dust, rain, snow, mud, cold weather and darkness? For



Some cars fared better than others in the Ramada Express Road Rally. No one was seriously hurt.

residents from the Hualapai Indian Reservation (accidentally?) driving on the race course, no one was seriously hurt. This third annual event was covered by media helicopters and is scheduled to appear on the Speedvision and ESPN cable channels on February 9, 2001, at 9 p.m. Eastern time (6 p.m. Pacific time) and again at midnight Eastern time (9 p.m. Pacific time).

One reason for the success of communications was the use of *REACT*'s portable GMRS repeaters on hilltops. This and amateur operation on simplex provided the safety net much appreciated by everyone.

four full days in December, fifty-five volunteer communicators handled messages on GMRS and amateur frequencies, providing assistance to the Ramada Express Road Rally. Over fifty cars were entered from various parts of the U.S. and foreign countries.

Members from Crest, Industry Hills, Poway, Riverside County, and Seacoast *REACT* (all in California) made the 600 mile round trip, and received well-deserved recognition for outstanding efforts under the direction of Mike Greany (Crest 210) and Dean Chambers (Crest 59).

In spite of some overturned and damaged cars, and the intrusion of local



Mike Greany, Communications Officer for Crest *REACT*, with the Team's comm van.

(All photos by Bob Leef)

# When the Phones Went Down in Schenectady...

by Larry Zuravin, Empire Central (N.Y.) REACT

When a water main broke, flooding the central exchange of the Verizon telephone company, more than 60,000 phones in a four-county area of upstate New York went dead. Immediately, Schenectady County ARES Coordinator George Chapek called on the local ARES/RACES members and Empire Central REACT. They knew exactly what to do – thanks to Y2K!

Almost exactly a year before, at the end of 1999, ARES/RACES and REACT members (including some people who are members of both organizations) had prepared for the possibility of disrupted telephone communications when the clocks struck midnight on December 31. The plan was simple: Radio communications would be set up at critical points, such as the 911 Center and local hospitals. The REACT and ARES members would be stationed at various points around town, in their homes and in mobile units equipped with signs that read:

**EMERGENCY REPORTING  
IF YOU DO NOT HAVE PHONE SERVICE  
AND HAVE AN EMERGENCY  
CALL 911 HERE**

Of course, as in every other place where elaborate Y2K precautions were made, nothing happened on New Year's 2000. But the plan had worked, and the signs were saved – just in case.

"Just in case" turned out to be Dec. 28, 2000, when the Verizon system went down. Chapek contacted Empire Central REACT and



Empire Central REACT's 21-foot communications trailer made an appearance as a mobile emergency communications station when the local phone system was flooded. (Photo by Larry Zuravin)

we placed a GMRS base in the Emergency Operations Center, which also was equipped with amateur radios.

REACT and amateur operators were deployed to fifteen different locations around Schenectady, with the leftover Y2K signs. The mobile stations were staffed for more than ten hours until Verizon was able to get its system back in operation.

Fortunately, the outcome was not unlike the Y2K experience: Nothing happened. There were no emergency calls handled by the REACT members or hams. A quiet night was had by all.

But the signs are still being kept – just in case.

---

**Are YOU Online?  
Join the Conversation!  
REACT-L@GIBBOUSMOON.COM**

# On the Way to Trinidad!

## If you're going to Convention 2001, it's time to get started!

This year's *REACT* International Convention will be held July 25-28 in Tunapuna, Trinidad. It will be the first RI Convention ever held outside of North America. Trinidad and Tobago is an island nation in the eastern Caribbean, just off the coast of Venezuela. If you plan to attend this once-in-a-lifetime event, you'd better start now!

The T&T Convention Committee of the host T&T *REACT* Council is facing a serious dilemma: In order to arrange for air transportation from the U.S. mainland, at the lowest possible fares, they need to know how many people are planning to attend. They need to know *right now!*

Previous Convention host committees have found that as many as half of the attendees wait until the last minute to decide to attend, and often show up without registering in advance. That won't work this time!

Not only must air transportation be arranged months in advance, but anyone planning to attend the Convention will need a passport, which takes a minimum of five or six weeks to obtain.

Special arrangements also must be made well in advance for any members who have special needs. The Convention hotel is nearly brand-new (it was built in 1998) and beautiful, but it's not very large; the host committee needs time to make sure everyone is comfortably accommodated.

### How to get a passport & other things you need to know

*(NOTE: The following information applies to U.S. citizens. Members in Canada, the United Kingdom, and Germany should consult with the appropriate authorities.)*

A passport is a legal document that establishes your identity and citizenship. It is issued by the U.S. Department of State and must be carried with you whenever you travel abroad. *Every member of the family* must have his or her own passport; there is no minimum age!

To obtain a passport, you must complete an application form and submit it at a passport office. The State Dept. operates Passport Agencies in 13 major cities; these offices operate on an appointment-only basis. However, there are more than 4,000 Passport Acceptance Facilities (PAFs) across the country, in post offices and local government offices, that can help you get a passport. The State Dept.'s Web site has a searchable database that can provide a list of PAFs near you.

There are also private passport agents that guarantee faster service than the PAFs, but at a price: service charges of anywhere from \$25 to \$100.

An adult passport costs \$45 plus an "execution fee" of \$15; for children under 16, the fee is \$25 plus the "execution fee."

The application form can be downloaded from the State Dept.'s Web site, or obtained at any Passport Agency or PAF, or from many travel agents. In addition to the form and the fee, you will need *proof of citizenship* (a birth certificate or the equivalent), *proof of identity* (a photo ID such as a driver's license), and two identical 2-inch-square photographs. (Note that vending-machine photos are *not* acceptable.) Finally, you must have a Social Security Number for each person.

For more information, go to the U.S. State Department Web site: <[travel.state.gov/](http://travel.state.gov/)>

**2001 REACT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION - July 25-28**  
 Tunapuna, Trinidad, West Indies  
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**Check any that apply:** Amateur License \_\_\_\_\_ GMRS License \_\_\_\_\_

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Convention Shirts:			
Golf Type (S — XL)	\$12.00	Size _____ # _____	\$ _____
(XXL — XXXL)	\$13.00	Size _____ # _____	\$ _____
Extra Convention Picture	\$ 6.00	# _____	\$ _____
Life Member Picture: 8" X 10"	\$ 6.00	# _____	\$ _____
5" X 7"	\$ 5.00	# _____	\$ _____
Amateur Member Picture: 8" X 10"	\$ 6.00	# _____	\$ _____
5" X 7"	\$ 5.00	# _____	\$ _____
Junior REACT Picture: 8" X 10"	\$ 6.00	# _____	\$ _____
5" X 7"	\$ 5.00	# _____	\$ _____
Extra Banquet tickets	\$15.00	# _____	\$ _____
Life luncheon	\$ 8.00	# _____	\$ _____
Amateur breakfast	\$ 5.00	# _____	\$ _____
<b>Total Amount Enclosed (Including Registration)</b>			<b>\$ _____</b>

**Make Checks Payable To: 2001 Ri Convention Fund / P O Box 3062 / St. James, Trinidad, W.I.**  
*All Payments In U.S. DOLLARS ONLY Please.*

**Convention Site:**

Le Sportel Inn, Centre of Excellence  
 Macoya Road, Tunapuna, P.O. Box 4959, Trinidad, W.I.  
 Phone: 1-868-663-3904 Fax: 1-868-646-7996  
 Room Rate: \$50 (includes Tax) 1 —4 Occupants



# REACTivities

## News from Regions/Councils/Teams

### Emergency Medical REACT of New York City

Two REACT Teams – Emergency Medical REACT of NYC and Nassau Co. (NY) – had their hands full last May 7, providing medical support for the Five-Borough Bike Tour. With more than 35,000 riders involved, the two Teams fielded five response vehicles staffed by ten members. Numerous minor injuries were handled, including 75 people at one location who experienced heat-related problems.

-L. Carlos Veron

### Upshur Co. (W.Va.) REACT

Upshur Co. REACT held a four-day Safety Break at the rest area on I-79, near Buckhannon, W.Va., over the Labor Day weekend. The concession trailer was staffed on a 24-hour basis and over a thousand hungry travelers were served. Congressman Bob Wise and state Attorney General Darrell McGraw both stopped by and expressed their appreciation to the Team for their efforts.

-Mary Sutton

### Champaign Co. (Ohio) REACT

When a call for help is received, you never know what is involved. For Champaign Co. (Ohio), a call from the Urbana Police Dept. turned out to be a plea for help in directing traffic away from a downtown building demolition. Team members spent six days on the job.

Their efforts did not go unrecognized. Urbana Police Chief Frederick W. Brown sent the Team a letter saying, "I would personally like to thank [you] for the assistance provided to the Urbana Police during the demolition of the

Main News Building in downtown Urbana. The support your Team provided with the direction and rerouting of traffic in and around the City of Urbana was truly beneficial. Without your efforts, the demolition and subsequent cleaning up on the area would have been far more arduous than they were."

Urbana Mayor Thomas J. Crowley also thanked the Team: "I would like to take this time to thank your organization for the support you gave us during our recent crisis with the demolition of the downtown building. I realize that this is within the scope of your duties, but thought we should express how greatly we appreciated your efforts."

-Randy Daniels

Upshur Co. (W.Va.) REACT members relax for a minute between serving travelers at their Labor Day Safety Break.



## Salem (Wash.) REACT

Fletcher Wold, 8, and his brother Parker, 5, were honored by the Yamili Co., Ore., Sheriff

Salem (Wash.) REACT members congratulate young heroes Fletcher and Parker Wold of McMinnville, Ore. REACT members are Dave Birch, RI Chairman of the Board Frank Jennings, Rick McCann, Ted Minden, and Sheryl Forrest.



Norm Hand for their part in helping to rescue two hikers stranded on Mt. Hood last Fall. Frank Jennings, Chairman of the RI Board of Directors, and members of his Salem, Wash., Team also gave the two boys awards, as did the Yamili Co. Search and Rescue Team.

The boys were playing with their FRS radios at home when they heard a distress call from one of the hikers. They alerted their parents, who contacted the authorities. After a brief search, the hikers were found and returned to safety.

The Mt. Hood incident was one of three recent events in which children playing with FRS radios have helped lost or injured people in remote areas.

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## **OH-KY-IN (Ohio) REACT**

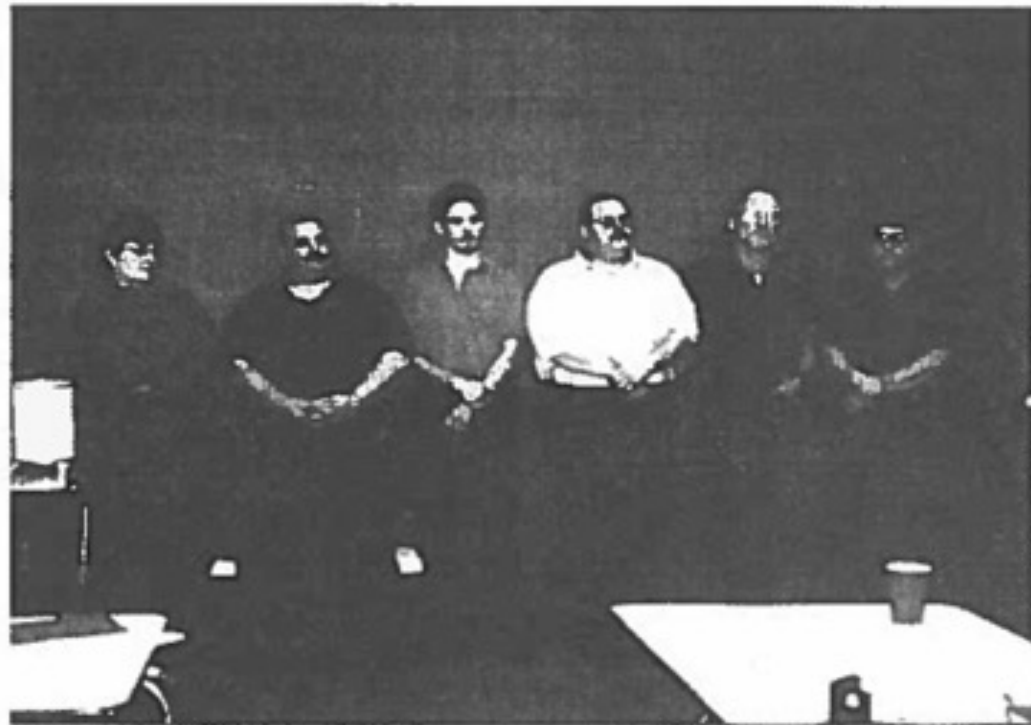
Oh-Ky-In REACT members provided emergency medical services for Sluggerfest, a two-weekend softball tournament held at four sites in the Cincinnati area last June. The Team also provided first-aid services for the Cincinnati Junior Olympics Metro Championships the weekend of July 14-16. All told, Team members contributed more than 850 hours to these two events.

## **Oklahoma Co. (Okla.) REACT**

On Sept. 23, 2000, Oklahoma Co. REACT member Jeff Porter was on his way home after completing a shift at the Oklahoma State Fair, where he and other REACT members control the parking lots, direct traffic, and assist with crowd management.

Porter saw a vehicle hit a pedestrian – and keep going. The pedestrian was a young woman, seven and a half months pregnant.

Porter secured the scene, called for help, and began basic first aid. Five other REACT members, also just leaving the fairgrounds, responded and helped with traffic control and first aid. Later, REACT members scoured the fairgrounds for the hit-and-run vehicle.



Oklahoma REACT members Donna Sack, Keith Borque, Jeff Porter, David Gallagher, Richard "Rick" Sack, and Gayland Kitch were honored for helping to save the life of a hit-and-run victim and her unborn child. Photo: Karen Ellis

The young woman was transported to the hospital with serious but not life-threatening injuries, but the main concern was her unborn child. Fortunately, the baby girl was born, safe and healthy, a week later; at last report, mother and child are doing fine.

The six members of both Oklahoma Co. and Oklahoma City REACT were honored at the Central Oklahoma REACT Christmas dinner with Lifesaving Awards.

-Dale Ellis

## **Waukesha (Wis.) REACT**

The Carson Pirie Scott Foundation has awarded a \$1,000 grant to the Waukesha (Wis.) REACT Team. Foundation representative Michael MacDonald wrote, "It

is apparent from your [application] that you are willing to do whatever is necessary to help make REACT successful. Your impressive list of leadership positions is especially noteworthy."

-Wisconsin State Council

## **Triple "C" (Calif.) REACT**

When you work at getting publicity for your Team, sometimes it comes in a form you didn't expect.

Triple "C" REACT, in Contra Costa Co., Calif., tried repeatedly to get the local newspaper to use the Team's press releases, to no avail. Then one day last Fall, a 4.5-inch-square "ad" appeared in the Contra Costa newspaper – complete with artwork! The



"ad" reads, "Triple 'C' REACT Thanks Sponsors for their continuing support," and lists several sponsors who have contributed to the Team. The "ad" continues, "Triple 'C' REACT [Marine], a division of Triple 'C' REACT Team 4054, responds to requests covering the Delta's 1,000 miles of waterway, assisting U.S. Coast Guard, Sheriff's Marine Patrol, and the Contra Costa County Emergency Service."

The Triple "C" Team's marine division operates a 45-foot yacht and several smaller boats. The Team's services include marine rescues and towing of disabled pleasure craft.

-Bob Gromm

**United (Penna.)  
REACT**

Starting a new Team is hard enough, but re-starting a Team that dissolved nearly a decade ago presented a major challenge to James Polster. With the help of some strong publicity, he has succeeded in reorganizing United REACT of Lackawanna Co., Penna.

The Scranton *Times* and *Tribune* both ran long stories about James's plans to revive his former Team, which had operated from 1975 to 1993.

The new Team will concentrate on monitoring CB and will work with other community organizations, such as Downtown Crime Watchers.

-James Polster

# Welcome New Teams!

*The following new Teams have been awarded Charters by REACT International:*

Angelina Co. (Tex.) 6032  
 Howard Co. (Md.) 6033  
 U.S. Search and Rescue  
 Elkins Park, Penna. 6034  
 Southern Tier New York  
 Owego, N.Y. 6035

Rio Grande Valley  
 Albuquerque, N.M. 6036  
 Chatham-Kent  
 Chatham, Ont. 6037  
 Dakota Co. (Minn.) 6038  
 United  
 Scranton, Penna. 6039  
 SMARTSAR  
 Neptune City, N.J. 6040  
 Orange/Ulster Co. (N.Y.)  
 6041

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*Duties:*

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*Compensation, if any, on a commission basis only.*

If you're interested, please contact by e-mail:  
**REACTer@reactintl.org**

## Web Site Adds Search Page

The Computer Services Committee of REACT International has made an important addition to RI's WorldWide Web site.

A search page has been added, enabling site visitors to locate contact information for all REACT Teams, even if only partial information is known.

Previously, locating a Team's contact information required the visitor to know the Team's full name and Team number. The new search capability allows a Team to be found even if the

only information available is the Team's location.

The RI Web site is maintained on a server donated by Lee Besing, Region 7 Director and Secretary to the Board of Directors. Lee recently upgraded his server, making the new service possible.

The "home page" of the RI Web site can be found at [www.reactintl.org/homepage](http://www.reactintl.org/homepage), and there is a link to the search page; or the search page can be reached directly at [www.reactintl.org/search.htm](http://www.reactintl.org/search.htm).

## Officer Killed by Fugitives Was Former REACTer

Aubrey Hawkins, the Irving, Tex., police officer who was shot to death on Christmas Eve, was a former member of Dallas Co. REACT and was an active amateur radio operator and Explorer Scout leader.

Hawkins dropped out of the REACT Team when he became a police officer, due to time constraints, but he continued to stay in touch with his REACT friends.

Hawkins apparently was killed when he tried to stop an armed robbery of a sporting goods store. The assailants are believed to be the seven men who escaped from a South Texas prison earlier last December; they are still at large as of this writing.

## Charlie Morgan, Thousand Island REACT

Charlie Morgan, a member of Thousand Island Radio REACT (Kingston, Ont.), died Sunday, Jan. 14, 2001.

Charlie had been a member of the Team for ten years. Team Secretary Marie Kuriychuk said, "He was a very dedicated member who attended every function."

Charlie is survived by his wife and daughter.

### Silent Mics

*(Please note: In most cases, the only information we have is that a member is deceased. We would be pleased to publish more information if you will provide it to us.)*

Patricia J. Chapple, Johnstown Area REACT  
Alice Irene Shearer, Johnston Area REACT  
Leona Weeks, Simi Valley REACT  
Richard H. Bornder, Harrisburg Area REACT  
Mae Ritchie, Harrison Co. REACT  
Edgar Williamson, Martin Co. Rescue Squad  
Warren E. Wrenn, Alamance Co. REACT  
Fred F. Fuqua, Alamance Co. REACT  
Edward Leon Hammons, Dallas Co. REACT  
Walfred V. Hill, Butte REACT  
Bob Fisher, REACT of Clark Co.  
Ella C. Chandler, Shenandoah Valley REACT  
John L. Dilley, Jr., Champaign Co. REACT  
Eugene E. Mahoney, Superstition REACT

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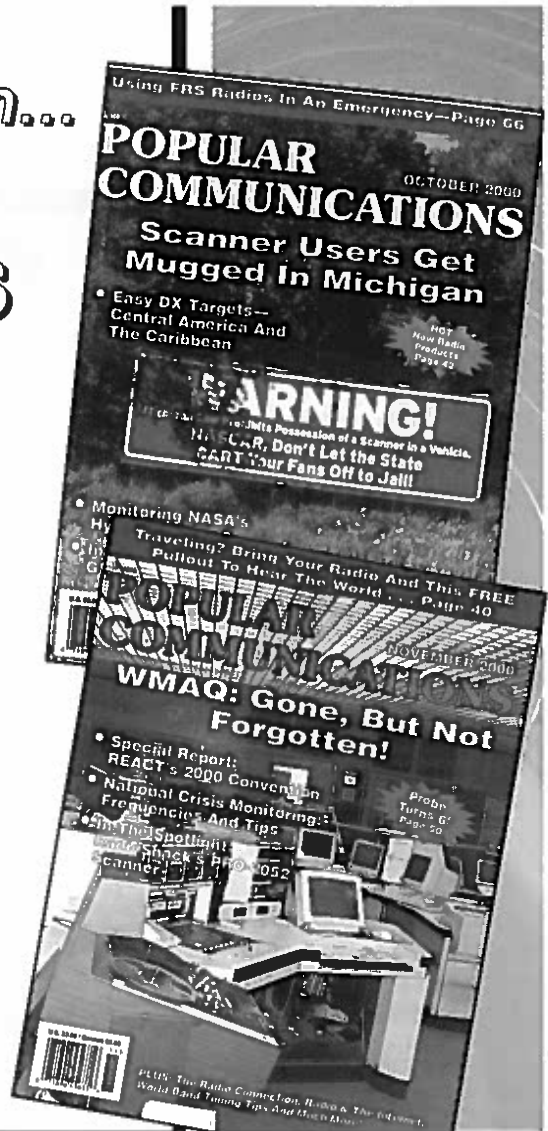
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