

Public Service Through Communications



The REACTer

July-August 2006



From Headquarters – 2

***REACT* News – Teams and Team Members – 3**

Training – 5

News From ARRL– 13

National SOS – 6

Ideas and Information – 9

Silent Mics – 11

Listening is only half the fun...

**POPULAR
COMMUNICATIONS**
is the other half.

The World's largest, most authoritative monthly magazine for Shortwave Listening and Scanner Monitoring. Read by more active listeners than all other listening publications combined!

If you enjoy radio communications, you'll love

**POPULAR
COMMUNICATIONS**

Get fast home delivery of Popular Communications and save \$30.93 a year over the newsstand price. Save even more on 2 or 3 year subs.



FOR FASTER SERVICE FAX 1-516-681-2926

Name _____ Call _____

Email: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

1 year 12 issues....\$28.95 2 years 24 issues....\$51.95 3 years 36 issues....\$74.95
(Save \$30.93) (Save \$67.81) (Save \$104.69)

Canada/Mexico—one year \$38.95, two years \$71.95, three years \$104.95. U.S. Dollars.
Foreign Air post—one year \$48.95, two years \$91.95, three years \$134.95. U.S. Dollars.

Check Money Order MasterCard VISA AMEX Discover

Allow 6 to 8 weeks for delivery

Popular Communications

25 Newbridge Road, Hicksville, NY 11801 Telephone (516) 681-2922 Fax (516) 681-2926

www.popular-communications.com

REACT International

Officers

President: Dick Cooper, N2LMK
Executive Vice-President:
Ed Greany, KB6DOL
Secretary: Lee W. Besing, N5NTG
Treasurer:
Norman Kaplan, N3LDM
General Counsel:
Charles A. Thompson, N5IAG

Board of Directors

Chairman:
L.O. "Larry" Fry, K9FRY
Vice-Chairman:
Robert Kaster, K5MIE

Region 1: Vacant
Region 2: Don Manlove
Region 3: John Knott, KG4WQ
Region 4: Vacant
Region 5: Larry Fry, K9FRY
Region 6: Crichton "Rob" Roberts,
KH7MW
Region 7: Robert Kaster, K5MIE
Region 8: Rob Clark, KG6DTL
Region 9: Kenny Jagdeosingh
Ex Officio: Dick Cooper, N2LMK

Publications Review Committee:
Eric Hutchins, K7ELH
R.K. "Bob" Leaf, KB6DON

Editor: Don Tarbet, KD1XU
Advertising Manager: Ron McCracken,
KG4CVL

Editorial Address:
The *REACTer*
5210 Auth Rd., Ste. 403
Suitland, MD 20746-4393
editor@reactintl.org

Circulation Address:
5210 Auth Rd., Ste. 403
Suitland, MD 20746-4393
react@reactintl.org

REACT International
Dora Wilbanks, Office Mgr.
5210 Auth Rd., Ste 403
Suitland, MD 20746-4393
Voice: 301-316-2900
Fax: 301-316-2903
react@reactintl.org



The REACTer

Volume 39, 4* Special Year-end/July-August 2005

From the President	Dick Cooper	2
Apologia	Chuck Thompson	3
Calendar.....		20
Advertiser's Index.....		3
Convention 2005		12
Minutes from Board of Directors June Meeting.....		5
Year in Review.....	Don Tarbet	16
Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation		15



The logo for the 2005 *REACT* convention was designed by Wayne Barringer, KB6UJW
Convention report page 12

The REACTer (ISSN 1055-9167) is the official publication of *REACT* International, Inc., a nonprofit public service corporation. © 2005 RI. All rights reserved.
Mailed at Periodicals Rate at Suitland, MD, and other mailing offices. **POSTMASTER: Send address changes to REACT, 5210 Auth Rd., Suite 403, Suitland, MD 20746-4393.**

The REACTer is published bimonthly (six issues per year). The subscription price is included in members' dues. Subscription rate for nonmembers is \$7.50 per year (U.S.).

REACT Teams or Councils may reproduce articles in their publications if proper credit is given.

Articles and photo submissions are welcome, but cannot be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed envelope with sufficient postage. We are not responsible for unsolicited materials. Please see our **Publication Guidelines** at www.REACTintl.org for more information.

For information regarding advertising, please contact the Advertising Manager at the e-mail address or the Suitland office address shown at left.

The REACTer is available on-line, in full color, at www.REACTintl.org.

Photo Credits: Photos from CREST *REACT*, Team #4252 unless otherwise specified



FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Dick Cooper

The 2005 REACT International Convention in Corona, California was eventful and uneventful both at the same time. It was uneventful in that there were no earthquakes during the week of the convention (That happened the week before the convention.), but it was eventful in that there were a lot of very interesting speakers and presenters on many interesting and pertinent topics. Anyone who did not attend the convention missed a very unique opportunity to get some first hand knowledge on important subjects such as NIMS, public relations, and especially membership. Hats off to the California delegation that organized the convention into a memorable event.

One of the more interesting topics concerned NIMS (National Incident Management System). I'm sure that many REACT members have heard of NIMS but the presentation by Lynn Mata of the Corona Fire Department explained much of the NIMS program and how it works. Basically, NIMS was developed by Homeland Security to "provide the framework for interoperability and compatibility" during local and national disasters that occur every day. Many

times outside assistance is needed and often there are problems communicating among agencies as well as organizational difficulties. The ICS (Incident Command System) was developed in the 70s and 80s to give some organization to combined incident response. The ICS was not universally accepted by all agencies so in many disaster responses the problems of interoperability still existed, even when the ICS was standardized regarding terminology, organizational structure and procedures. NIMS will not only standardize all phases of emergency response for all responding agencies, but it will use the ICS as an integral part of its system. I would encourage all REACT Teams and members to contact your local emergency management agency or Homeland Security center to become trained in NIMS ICS. The program is scheduled to be effective in 2006 and will affect everyone. If you are not trained in the NIMS ICS systems, it is likely that you will not be included in responses do disasters and emergencies.

Subsequent to the RI convention, Ed Greany, RI Executive Vice President, appointed new chairpersons for the Public Relations Committee as well as the Membership Development

and Retention Committee. In the last issues of *the REACTer* you saw some articles from these committees and I'm sure that you will see more articles and information in coming issues. If you have any suggestions or thoughts about what you would like to see from these new committees, I'm sure that they will welcome your input. If you want to be part of any committee, please contact Ed Greany EVP for more information. These very important committees join the other vital and functioning committees of REACT International. Again, if you are interested in working on a committee, please call Ed Greany. If you are not sure how to contact anyone connected with the committees, call REACT International and Dora will be glad to help you. Remember that much of the work of REACT International is achieved through the hard work and dedication of committees.



APOLOGIA

By Chuck Thompson
General Counsel,
REACT Intl.

For the *REACT*er, 2005 wasn't a very good year. There were five different editors (to one degree or another) in 2005. The late Stuart DeLuca got out the January-February issue on time before, untimely, he left us.

The replacement editor appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors quit before she even started. An "Acting Editor" got out the March-April issue very late, and the May-June issue was even later. They were good issues, just late. The July-August issue, however, became stalled, so yet another "Acting Editor" agreed to get it and the remaining 2005 issues published, but that didn't work either. In late October, current Editor Don Tarbet was appointed and approved by the Board. Originally, he was supposed to start with the January/February 2006 issue, but it quickly became apparent that he should start sooner.

And, he did. Don has done a great job in playing catch up, with the September/October and November/December issues in the hands of our avid readers. This "Yearend Summary" contains material (like the June Board minutes summary) which should have been in the May-June (or perhaps the July/August) issue plus some additional matter. We

felt we needed something to get out the promised six issues for 2005 for *REACT* members and to fulfill our obligations to our valued advertisers.

Thanks to everyone for your patience and understanding while your officers and the Board of Directors struggled with the problem of getting the *REACT*er out. Despite a few claims to the contrary, we were always trying to get the *REACT*er out, but sometimes you just have to wait a while before you learn promises aren't being kept.

We have great confidence in our new editor and urge everyone to keep an eye out for good material for upcoming issues and, most importantly, to send it to our editor at: <editor@reactintl.org>.

Emergency Communications Training

The Level I *REACT* Emergency Communications training manual is available online for members to download free of charge. This program is similar to that offered by ARRL to its members, but has been expanded to include additional materials regarding other radio services (including GMRS, CB, FRS, and MURS, in addition to Amateur Radio) due to the wide variety of radio services often used by *REACT* Teams.

The *REACT* EComm program is available only to *REACT* members. See the EComm Flyer at <<http://www.reactintl.org/committees/EComm%20Flyer.pdf>> for more information about the Emergency Communications Training and Certification Program. *REACT* Members should send e-mail to <IWantEComm@REACTintl.org> for information about downloading the manual online. * * *

If you have more training ideas and want to volunteer to help the training and development committee, contact Tom Currie, the committee chairman, at <training@REACTintl.org>.

Advertisers Index

Barbara Jennison, Sparks Flew	4
Cook Towers.....	4
Icom America.....	Back Cover
K40.....	Inside Back Cover
National Communications.....	4
Popular Communications.....Inside Front Cover
R.K. Leef.....	14
R.K. Leef Special... ..	2
The Coaxman.....	14

Life Membership

Did you know that *REACT* life membership is a great way to honor a member who has served your Team or Council with great dedication? Life membership applications can be downloaded at <<http://www.REACTintl.org/pubs/lifeapp.PDF>>, or you may request one from the RI office.

About Your Subscription

All Regular, Junior, and Affiliate members in the U.S. and Canada automatically receive a subscription to *The REACT*er; the subscription price is included in the annual RI dues. All Life Members also automatically receive a subscription to *The REACT*er but may discontinue their subscription if they wish.

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

Members outside of the U.S. and Canada may subscribe to *The REACT*er but the subscription fee (\$6 U.S.) is not included in their dues. To subscribe, send your name, full address, and payment to RI headquarters. Nonmembers 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. 403
Suitland, MD 20746-4393

NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

An every other month magazine devoted to the entertainment and education of those interested in Scanners, CB radios, and other electronic means of communications.

As a subscriber to **National Communications**, you will be able to:

- Access over 4 million frequencies for your scanner
- Toll free "help line" for your programming questions
- Opportunity for FREE classified advertising
- Learn new and interesting ways to use your scanner, CB and FRS radios
- Keep up with the "latest and greatest" happenings within the industry
- 40 colorful pages in each issue

To subscribe to **National Communications**, call toll free 1-800-423-1331, log onto our web site at www.nat-com.org or mail to: PO Box 291918, Kettering, OH 45429
A full year's subscription (6 issues) is only \$21.



Every issue is packed with articles, interviews and stories of how to get more out of your scanning, monitoring, and CB radios. There are product reviews and product announcements of interest to those of us who enjoy the hobby of using the radio waves. And of course, advertisements for making your equipment better!

We accept:



For a free preview of **National Communications** log onto www.nat-com.org

NO TESTING REQUIRED!

Ham radio type repeater operation for the whole family without taking a test! A simple FCC part 95 GMRS license covers everyone in your household. No testing required, just a simple form that may be completed on the internet.

Complete GMRS (UHF) repeater packages at discount prices. Also mobiles, handy-talkies, base stations as well as commercial lines and antennas all available at discount prices. Licensing assistance available. Beldon coax, hard line, repeater and base station antennas.

Communications of all types -- amateur, police, fire, EMS, business and SWL.

Please give us a call or drop us an email today!

COOK TOWERS, INC.
877-992-2665
cooktowersinc@aol.com

Sparks Flew!



Barbara Jennison

By Barbara Jennison

Sparks fly between a rancher and a REACT female dispatcher as they battle grassfires consuming his land south of San Angelo, Texas. Based on actual events and composites of people and equipment, a love story ignites.

The novel is dedicated to individuals who volunteer during times of disaster, especially to the late Hon. Jerry Jennison.

Available at:



also at Hastings and www.BarnesandNoble.com

REACT members may purchase this directly from the author for \$10 (regular price \$13.95) at: barbij@wconline.net
Fundraiser/bulk pricing available



Barbara autographs book at Texas State REACT Council meeting



Summary of the Minutes of A Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of *REACT* International, Inc.,

Held at Corona, California, 21-24 June 2005

Directors Present

Larry Fry (Wis.), Region 5, Chairman
Frank Jennings (Wash.), Region 6
Bob Kaster (Okla.), Region 7
Rob Clark (Nev.), Region 8
Dick Cooper (N.J.), President (*ex officio*)

Directors Absent

Region 1 (Vacant)
Don Manlove (Va.), Region 2
Region 3 (Vacant)
Paul Jackson (Ohio), Region 4
Kenny Jagdeosingh (Trinidad & Tobago), Region 9

Officers Present

Dick Cooper (N.J.), President
Ed Greany (Calif.), Executive Vice President
Lee Besing (Tex.), Secretary
Norm Kaplan (Md.), Treasurer
Charles A. Thompson (Tex.), General Counsel

Officers Absent

None

Visitors Present:

Robert J. Leef (Calif.)
C.C. (Rob) Roberts (Hawaii)

- 1. Call to Order.** Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, 21 June 2005, by Chairman Fry.
- 2. Quorum.** Secretary Besing announced there was a quorum with five Directors out of eight (including the President) present. Four non-voting officers are present.
- 3. Opening Remarks.** Chairman Fry welcomed the Board to Corona, offered some housekeeping items, read guidelines from President Cooper asking that all try to stay on topic, follow the agenda, and expedite the meeting. Chairman Fry reminded everyone that the General Counsel was an officer of *REACT* International.
- 4. Approval of Minutes and Agenda.** All Directors had received the minutes of the Annual Special Meeting in February. There were no changes. Minutes were approved.
- 5. Officer Reports.**

a. Secretary. No report

b. Executive VP. No report.

c. Treasurer. Mr. Kaplan previously mailed copies of the latest financial report to each officer and Director; 2004 Annual Report was distributed.

d. President. No report.

e. General Counsel. RI is not involved in any litigation or other legal matters.

6. Director Reports.

Region 1 – Vacant

Region 2 – Mr. Manlove - absent

Region 3 – Vacant

Region 4 – Mr. Jackson - absent

Region 5 – Mr. Fry lost 2 of 37 Teams in region, mostly due to older age of Team membership. Team growth has been stagnant.

Region 6 – Mr. Jennings - Pending new Teams have not materialized yet, but has new lead in Washington State. He purchased 20 copies of the new PSA to distribute. Mr. Roberts has pending inquiry from two hams in Hawaii.

Region 7 – Mr. Kaster - summarized Teams renewing/merging/dropping.

Region 8 – Mr. Clark - Has been receiving inquiries from hams taking ARRL EmComm Level 3 course. Dealt with inter-Team problems in Nevada. Approved 2 new Teams in California. Lost some Teams during renewal process.

Region 9 – Mr. Jagdeosingh – hopes to have new Team in Australia soon, working on other islands in the Caribbean.

7. Assistant Director. Discussion held about allowing Directors to appoint assistant Directors to aid different areas of a region, reporting back to the Director. Mr. Thompson said the Bylaws did not prohibit and he thought this action would be proper, especially in the International Region and perhaps Region 6. **Consensus** of the Board was that any Director was authorized to appoint assistant Directors as needed. Each Director will be responsible for the actions of any assistant Directors appointed.

8. Election Results. RI's CPA firm received and counted the ballots for Region 3, 6, and 9 Directors. Winners were C.C. (Rob) Roberts in Region 6 and Kenny Jagdeosingh in Region 9. No ballots were received from Teams in Region 3. John Knott previously reported that his Team didn't receive a ballot. Mr. Kaplan reported that ballots were mailed to all Teams in Region 3 and that Mr. Knott was the only nominee filed for that Region. Mr. Roberts was seated as Region 6 Director, replacing Mr. Jennings. Discussion held about possible reasons for the lack of participation from Teams, and lack of any returned ballots from Region 3. General Counsel Thompson stated that the Bylaws require only that nominees complete the specified application not later than a deadline set by the Board, and that an election be held. Since no votes were received (24 ballots were sent out), it could be held that the candidate was not elected. **Motion** Mr. Cooper, 2d Mr. Kaster, that if a nomination is properly submitted for a region, there is only one candidate, ballots are properly mailed to the region, and no ballots are received, the single candidate will be considered as not elected. **Unanimous.**

9. Report on Grants. Mr. Jennings personally paid \$500 to hire a grant writer in Washington (mentioned during the February 2005 meeting) to do research on possible grant sources. He emailed the findings and recommendations to the Board prior to the meeting. They point to the need for local Teams to work local sources, state/region levels to work at that level, and for RI to work national level

organizations such as Homeland Security. The grant writer listed some potential categories and sources.

Discussion held about governmental grants versus private corporate sources or foundations. Mr. Roberts offered an example of possible foundation source in Hawaii. **Motion** Mr. Roberts, 2d Mr. Kaster, to approve policy statement that grant applications should be worked primarily at the local level, and the Board will fund the development of grant application templates and guidelines for Team use. **Unanimous.**

10. Corporate Committee Reports. Mr. Greany furnished several committee reports.

a. Convention and Site Selection Committee (Chairman Paul Oby). Mr. Greany reported a lack of support from the committee in organizing this year's convention.

b. Publications Review. Need to reorganize this committee with additional members and a designated chair. The new *REACTer* editor should be a member.

c. Public Relations. Mr. Kaster reported that Eric Hutchins is interested in serving on the committee. He said that the new *REACTer* editor should be a member of this committee. He reminded all that all PSAs intended for release outside a Team area must be cleared through the RI President.

REACT Month (May) was discussed, including techniques for getting proclamations from local and state officials. Mr. Greany showed the convention proclamation from Corona, Calif.

Mr. Besing reminded that the capability exists to notify a number of *REACTers* by email of developments. Mr. Kaplan stated about 40% of the registered Teams did not have email addresses listed with RI. **Consensus** was to use the *REACTer* and completed renewal packets emphasize that Teams need to keep RI informed of Email addresses for their members and Team, plus their Team's website.

Mr. Cooper announced that he had approved a new ad rate schedule for the *REACTer* in conjunction with Ron McCracken and Pat Knight. Test marketing is being conducted to ensure the rates are competitive.

d. Membership Retention and Development. Bob Hoban (Nev.) is chairman, Mr. Jackson Director Liaison. Mr. Jackson reported to Mr. Clark that he had received no response to his inquiries, and recommended a new chairman be appointed. Mr. Clark has been in contact with Mr. Hoban and agrees. Mr. Greany has candidates in mind.

Mr. Kaplan said 675 members from 2004 were unrenewed. The bulk of these were members of renewed Teams. Some were deceased, others moved out of Team's area. Mr. Clark said he has been in contact with "dropped" Teams within his region in an effort to get them back in the family.

Mr. Greany will work with this committee and new members to choose a new chairman.

e. Ways and Means. Mr. Jennings discussed having letterhead stationery that includes RI's affiliations with other organizations. Mr. Kaplan said that ARRL developed a poster with logos and names of affiliates that we can adapt to our use.

f. Awards and Recognition. No report.

g. Communications. No report.

h. Computer Services. Chairman Johnny Stowers (Calif.) is working with David Perry (Baltimore, Md.) to develop a "new look" for the RI Website. Work is still in the conception phase but a mock-up example is available on-line. Mr. Besing stated that the committee needs more new material, press releases, and other items to keep the website fresher.

11. Review of the Corporate Committee Structure and Operation. Current system needs improvement or change to make it work better. Much discussion about getting the right person in the right po

sition to make each committee move forward productively. Many committees have only one person, rather than an active group working as a committee. It is essential that committees operate year round, not just during conventions.

12. Team Management Handbook Revision. Mr. Thompson discussed the level of work to not only take the work previously done by former office staff and others, but to convert, adapt, and update. He reported that there are 60-70 sets of the old style dividers on hand, but recommended revising structure of handbook and making electronic version available.

13. Discuss Business To Be Conducted At The 2005 Convention. Various items discussed. Mr. Cooper will emphasize volunteering for various committees.

Meeting recessed for Lunch 12 noon, returned 1:30 p.m. No change in attendance.

14. Complaint filed Against Former Director. Tom Currie (Ky.) filed a detailed complaint regarding alleged “spam” received from former Director Lanshe. President Cooper investigated and presented a written report on Mr. Lanshe’s activities and possible violations of the U.S. CAN-SPAM Act of 2003. Discussion about why unsolicited bulk email messages violate this Act. Mr. Lanshe will be counseled by President Cooper in an effort to eliminate future violations. Long-range implication for other *REACT* members, Directors, and officers is the need for them to become familiar with and comply with this law. It was noted that when sending Email that has *REACT* in the address or signature line, the sender is representing *REACT* with that message.

15. Personnel Work Schedule at RI Office. *Closed session discussion.* Board accepted, with thanks, Dora Wilbanks’ voluntary offer to reduce her work week by two days during July-September to help with budget deficit. Office will be open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday (Mr. Kaplan will probably fill in either Monday or Friday most weeks).

16. REACT PSA DVD Status – Mr. Kaster reported that the price to reproduce the BetaCamSP PSA tapes in small quantities was around \$30 each, plus shipping. He said he was told that all of the major commercial TV stations required the use of this format, rather than a DVD.

17. New REACTer Editor Position. Millie Thornton, *REACTer* editor selected in February, resigned prior to her first issue. Acting Editor Pat Knight (Texas) edited the March/April issue, will do the May/June issue, and will remain “acting editor” until a permanent replacement is located. Several candidates were mentioned. Mr. Kaster recommended advertising the position in the next issue of the *REACTer* magazine before making a decision. He wants to see resumes from the candidates and samples of their writing and work to be assured they can handle the job while keeping to the high standards established by the late Stuart DeLuca. President Cooper appointed Mr. Thompson as Chairman of an Editor Selection Committee to review applicants and make a recommendation to the President. Committee members will be Ms Knight, Mr. Kaster, and possibly Elaine Kaplan (Md.)

18. REACTer Publication Frequency and Mode. Acting Editor Pat Knight presented a spread sheet report on prices for various sized issues (16,20,24,32 pages), postage costs, and frequency of distribution. Changing number of issues per year would require obtaining a change in the mailing permit. She recommended increasing each issue to 24 pages, and changing frequency to quarterly, starting in 2006. Mr. Greany felt the increased size would justify the frequency change. Mr. Besing reported that some members had emailed him asking if they could receive web only (PDF) versions of the *REACTer*. No decision made.

19. 2005 Budget Review. Mr. Kaplan, prior to the meeting, distributed a spreadsheet projecting a \$18,500 shortfall for 2005 if no major changes are made. Original budget called for a \$14,500 deficit. Discussion followed.

20. New RI Procedure Requested by Insurance Company. Mr. Kaplan reported that the insurance carrier has requested that RI survey the membership to verify what percentage of members of each

Team who own automobiles also have auto insurance (*i.e.*, 10 out of 10, 8 out of 10). Failure to implement this could cause premium to increase 15% or could even cause policy cancellation. Discussion held on privacy issues, difficulty of surveying each member of the Team before reporting back an aggregate report (no personal info) to RI. **Motion** Mr. Roberts, 2d Mr. Cooper, to establish an RI policy requiring Teams to report the number of members owning motor vehicles who do and do not have insurance on the Team annual membership renewal form, providing such action is not determined a violation of privacy. **Unanimous.**

21. Privacy Policy. Topic was discussed during the 2005 Annual Board Meeting. Mr. Kaplan and Mr. Greany wrote a proposed privacy policy. The proposed policy covers web access, web orders, emailed orders to the office, membership info kept in the office, donor information, what is done to protect this information and for how long. President Cooper appointed Mr. Greany, Mr. Thompson, and Mr. Kaplan to a privacy policy committee. **Motion** Mr. Cooper, 2d Mr. Roberts, that RI adopt a privacy policy as recommended by the privacy policy committee. **Unanimous.**

22. Logo Issues, Proper Use, etc. Ron McCracken submitted proposed changes to the silver *REACT* “MEMBER” decal. He recommended that the registered trademark symbol be larger and very black, followed by “org” and that the “Member of” at the top be changed to “Ask Me About”. Consensus of Board to approve change when a new supply is ordered.

23. Director Responsibilities. Mr. Kaplan reminded the Directors of their need to follow-up on each application and respond back to the office in a timely fashion whenever Team charter packets are mailed to persons within their regions. Mr. Thompson reminded Directors that the policy specifies a different process depending on whether there is, or is not, a council involved. Discussion held on current procedure. Mr. Besing asked that email addresses be included for all persons copied or addressed in the letters. If a council is involved, the council is required to forward its recommendation within 30 days after it is mailed from RI.

24. Amateur Disaster Frequencies. Mr. Kaplan discussed sharing the knowledge of current ARES emergency disaster frequencies with the general membership and discuss training so that the hams in *REACT* Teams know what frequencies to turn to during what conditions.

25. East Coast Drill. Mr. Kaplan is working with a group to plan a mock region wide, coastal wide, disaster drill using various modes of communications (local and HF) to respond. Details are still being worked out. Teams would need to get info out of their areas to the Council, Region Director, and/or RI Officers.

26. Publication Review Committee. Mr. Cooper reminded the Board that this committee is required to review any materials being distributed at the RI level to ensure high quality and accuracy.

27. Corporate Donation or Similar Funding Program for RI. Mr. Cooper showed a structure to set up corporate sponsors based upon various levels of donations to RI – Platinum, Gold, Silver, etc. **Motion** Mr. Roberts, 2d Mr. Kaster, to adopt the program in principle (*i.e.*, develop a corporate donation schedule and use web based donation pages to allow donations with designated areas to apply the funds) and direct Mr. Cooper to implement once developed. Ways and Means Committee to be involved in the planning stage. **Unanimous.**

28. Paperwork Reduction for Renewals. Mr. Cooper asked for a review of the forms used during the renewal process with an aim to reducing them. Mr. Thompson stated that while he was President, he had reviewed and combined many forms then in use, and had reduced the requirements by about 50%. It was suggested that the ARRL’s renewal system be examined, but it was noted that the ARRL has two systems – one for individuals and one for affiliated clubs. Mr. Besing stated the Computer Services Committee is working on a method to allow members to review their personal or Team data online. This would allow data to be more accurate at renewal time.

29. Report on Better Business Bureau Giving Alliance. This was discussed at 2005 Annual Board Meeting, and all requirements except having three Board meetings a year will have been complied with when the privacy policy is adopted. Mr. Thompson suggested holding an electronic meeting could adversely affect in-person attendance at other Board meetings. **Motion** Mr. Roberts, 2d Mr. Cooper, that the Board hold a special electronic meeting in October or November to handle any urgent matters that cannot wait until the Annual Board meeting. **Unanimous.**

30. American Truckers Association. Follow-up from 2005 Annual Board Meeting – no report or progress.

31. Liability Insurance Premiums. Mr. Kaplan reported the policy year starts 24 June 2005, and the premium went up to \$10.50 per member. He anticipates the next year's increase will be up to at least \$12 per member. He recommended that the annual Team insurance fee be set at \$11 per member, an increase of \$5 per member from the current level assessed for 2005. This fee applies to each member including Life members. **Motion** Mr. Roberts, 2d Mr. Clark, to set the 2006 Insurance Charge to be paid by each Team at \$12 per member. **Unanimous.**

32. Proposed New Member Award from RI. Mr. Kaplan followed up on his presentation at the 2005 WBM to send awards to members who have achieved certain levels of volunteer service to *REACT* during their time of membership in *REACT*. Discussion held on methods of measuring types of service, *e.g.*, monitoring time, working events, meetings, support time, etc.) in support of *REACT*. Mr. Kaplan said he was open to suggestions on how fairly to measure and compare volunteer time spent.

33. Radio Hero Award. Discussion held about original criteria established with Cobra Radio and possible expansion to other modes of communications using radios that may or may not meet the current criteria (CB, GMRS, and FRS only). Mr. Thompson read from the 2001 Summer Board minutes that the original criteria included all legal bands and types of radios. The criteria were changed when presented to Cobra, but the Board's approval was for "all-band" activity.

34. Board Meetings and Board Communications of the future. Mr. Besing reported on the various options using the Internet to conduct meetings. He is continuing to investigate options. Mr. Thompson recommended that the Board hold an electronic "chat room" meeting in October to test this option and that Mr. Besing be appointed, with others, to pre-test. Methods he has investigated so far include **Ventrilo** <www.ventrilo.com>, **Groove Virtual Office** <www.groove.net>, **Microsoft Live Meeting** that works with Office 2003 and 2003 Server, **Microsoft Messenger** <www.Microsoft.com>, **AOL Instant Messenger (AIM)** <www.aol.com>, **Communicate** <www.manchesterdda.com>, **Echolink** <www.echolink.net> (licensed Amateur use only). **Motion** Mr. Cooper, 2d Mr. Roberts, to hold an electronic Board meeting at 3 p.m. Eastern Time on Saturday, 22 October 2005, using the "chat room" technique. **Unanimous.**

35. Director Absences.

Paul Jackson (Ohio) (Region 4) has missed two consecutive non-electronic Board meetings and is deemed to have resigned by the Bylaws. Mr. Jackson suffered leg/hip injuries last winter causing an absence at the 2005 Annual Meeting, while complications causing an inability to travel long distances prevented him from attending this meeting.

Kenny Jagdeosingh (Trinidad and Tobago) (**Region 9**) has now missed two consecutive non-electronic Board meetings and is deemed to have resigned by our Bylaws. **Motion** Mr. Roberts, 2d Mr. Cooper, that Mr. Jagdeosingh's resignation not be accepted by the Board because he has just been re-elected by the Teams in his region for a three-year term. **Unanimous.**

Former **Region 1** Director Fred Lanshe (Penna.) became ineligible to serve as a Director because of his failure to be a member of a Team in the region he represented. His Team's charter lapsed on April 1, 2005 (no renewal forms or dues being filed by the Team). The Team complied with renewal re

quirements in June, immediately prior to the convention, and in accordance with current administrative policy, was reinstated. There is no “grace” period stated in the Bylaws to cover this situation, and Mr. Lanshe ceased being a Director on 1 April 2005.

Region 3 Director position was previously vacant. John Knott (Fla.) filed for election to the position but received no votes from the Teams in his region, and the Board ruled that this constituted “no election.” Mr. Cooper had discussed with Mr. Knott the reasons for his numerous absences. Mr. Knott is willing to serve as Director for Region 3 should the Board approve. **Motion** Mr. Cooper, 2d Mr. Kaster, to appoint Mr. Knott to the remainder of the unfilled 3-year term for Region 3. **Unanimous.**

Mr. Cooper announced that he planned not to run for another 2-year term as RI President when his term expires in February 2006.

Region 6 Director – Mr. Roberts will resign as Life Member Chairman because of his election as Region 6 Director.

35. Location and Date of Next Board Meeting. Electronic Special meeting 22 October 2005 at 3 p.m. Eastern Time; Annual Board Meeting on 3-4 March 2006 in Suitland, Maryland.

36. Administrative Items. Mr. Fry presented Mr. Kaplan with a replacement corporate seal to be placed in the office and not to be removed from the office. This replaced the original seal misplaced by a former Director.

Motion Mr. Cooper, 2d Mr. Kaster, to appoint Mr. Kaplan to the position of Assistant Secretary in addition to his position of Treasurer. **Unanimous.**

Motion Mr. Cooper, 2d Mr. Kaster, that the Board of Directors issue a proclamation to the 2005 Convention Planning Committee. **Unanimous.**

Meeting recessed at 6:40 p.m. until the open Board meeting session on Friday, or until otherwise called to order by the Chairman. Meeting called to order at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, 24 June 2005. No change in attendance.

37. Open Board Meeting. Mr. Cooper made some announcements and read a summary of actions taken by the Board during its meeting. There were no items presented from the floor.

Motion Mr. Cooper, 2d Mr. Kaster to adjourn the meeting. **Unanimous.**

Meeting adjourned sine die at 2:45 p.m., Friday, 24 June 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee W. Besing

Secretary

(General Counsel Charles A. Thompson prepared this summary from the extensive minutes submitted by the Secretary. The complete minutes are available electronically by sending e-mail to <secretary@reactintl.org> or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope with \$0.85 U.S. postage (for U.S. delivery) to REACT International, Inc., 5210 Auth Road, Suite 403, Suitland, MD 20746-4330.)

CONVENTION 2005: CORONA, CALIFORNIA

Commentary by Ron McCracken, Past *REACT* President



(Photo from *REACT*Intl website)

The 2005 Corona convention was excellent. Keynote speaker Gordon West set the tone for our time together. The sessions that followed were packed with information that we could take home and put to work for the communities we serve.



Michael Greany, Convention Planning Committee Chair
(Photo – Hiroko Barringer)

I can't remember so many spot prizes in recent years. They made for a lot of fun and high attendance. No one wanted to miss a draw. It was a delight to see many familiar faces, mingled with a lot of new ones. Junior *REACT*ers were present and working long hours to help make the convention a success. To me, they were a very encouraging sign.



(Photo – Wayne Barringer)

Convention planners had arranged for amateur exams. A number of attendees took advantage of the opportunities, returning home with ham licences or upgrades. Amateurs present helped candidates to prepare for the exams in the wee hours after workshops concluded for the evening.



(Photo – President Dick Cooper)

Spouses were able to enjoy tours that departed directly from the hotel. We dined like kings. Several meals were prepared by the host Team and friends. They were served outdoors, giving all a chance to escape the confines of meeting rooms and banquet halls. Excellent breakfasts served by hotel staff got our days off to a great start. The pace was relaxed, yet we accomplished a good deal in our short time together.



(Photo – Dick Cooper)

We left Corona looking forward to 2007. I wonder who will invite us? We are experienced and quite well-behaved, keen to learn and enthusiastic.



(Photo – Hiroko Barringer)

Thanks to so many for so much hard work on our behalf.

TRAFFIC WATCH – 24/7



(Photo – Rob Roberts)



(Photo – Wayne Barringer)



(Photos – Rob Roberts)



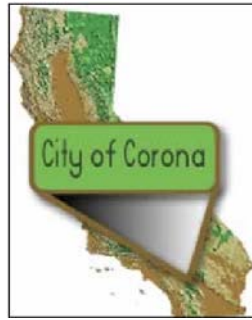
Rob Clark, Life Member



(Photo – Hiroko Barringer)

LOCATION:

The Key Element Ayres Suites at Corona-West



From Host CREST Communications *REACT*
Team #4252 Convention Report:
<<http://www.r-e-a-c-t.org/e-pubs/convention.2005/e-pubs.convention.2005.htm>>

“*REACT* Teams and Councils who have previously hosted one know the most important ‘key to success’ is the location (site selection). Although Team CREST looked at many sites and reviewed several other options, in the end, they selected a site ‘right in their own back yard’.

Other sites, like those closer to LAX (Los Angeles International Airport) or Disneyland, one of the major attractions in Southern California, were too ‘cost prohibitive’ and offered few (almost none!) amenities. So, the team chose to select the option that resulted in attendees using LAX and John Wayne (Orange County) having to travel a little further but being able to offer much, much more once they arrived and got checked in.

The Ayres Suites went ‘out of their way’ to throw down the welcome mat and provide all guests with a memorable experience. And, more

importantly, they allowed the Convention Planning Committee to make ‘alterations’ in the room design when we created our ‘hospitality suite’ which was largely open 24/7 throughout the Convention.

Our goal was to provide attendees with an environment that would allow them to focus on the ‘real issues’ of *REACT* and still be able to relax



at the end of the day. Our entire focus at the Convention was ‘information and education’, and, if we were even marginally successful, it is largely because of Roberta Espinosa and the staff at the Ayres Suites – Corona-West.”

Roberta Espinosa & Michael Greany.
(Photo – Wayne Barringer)



**Icom, Midland, Maxon, Tekk
GMRS, ham, business use
Handhelds from \$109
Mobiles from \$239
(949) 770-9501
www.rkleef.com
*REACTer since 1966***





“The COAXMAN”
Magnet Wire • Accessories
Wireman Coax • Baluns
www.coaxman.com
wire@coaxman.com
405-745-WIRE (9473)

**Clear Signal Products, Inc.
toll free (866) 745-WIRE (9473)**

Annual Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

as provided to the United States Postal Service on Form 3526

1. Publication Title: The *REACTer*
2. Publication Number: 1055-9167
3. Filing Date: Sept. 6, 2005
4. Issue Frequency: Bi-monthly
5. Number of Issues Published Annually: 6
6. Annual Subscription Price: \$4 - \$6 members, \$7.50 non-members
7. Corporate Mailing Address: 5210 Auth Rd. Ste. 403, Suitland, MD 20746
Contact Person: Dora Wilbanks; Telephone: 301-316-2900
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office:
REACT International, Inc., 5210 Auth Rd., Ste. 403, Suitland, MD 20746
9. Full Name and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor:
Publisher: Dick Cooper (Pres., *REACT* Int'l, Inc.)
24 Thropp Ave., Hamilton, NJ 08610
Editor: Don D. Tarbet
144 Atkinson Rd.
Bradford, ME 04410
Managing Editor: (NONE)
10. Owner:
REACT International, Inc. (not-for-profit corporation)
5210 Auth Rd., Ste. 403, Suitland, MD 20746
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders: None
12. Tax Status: The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes has not changed during preceding 12 months.
13. Publication Title: The *REACTer*
14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: Sept-Oct, 2005 (Vol. 39 No. 5)

15. Extent and Nature of Circulation	Ave. No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 months	No. Copies Single Issue Published Nearest Filing
a. Total Number of Copies (press run)	2,640	2,700
(1) Paid/requested outside county	2,400	2,529
(2) Paid in-county	0	0
b. Paid and/or (3) Sales through dealers requested copies	0	0
(4) Other Classes Mailed thru USPS	96	79
c. Total Paid or Requested Circulation	2,551	2,608
d. Free (1) Outside County distribution (2) In-County	89	92
by Mail (3) Other Classes of Mail (1st Class)	0	0
e. Free distribution Outside the Mail	0	0
f. Total Free Distribution	89	92
g. Total Distribution	2,640	2,700
h. Copies Not Distributed	0	0
i. Total (Sum of 15g & h)	2,640	2,700
j. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation	96.7	96.6

16. Publication of Statement of Ownership:
Will be published in Year-end., 2005 issue of this publication.
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner:

/s/ Norman L. Kaplan, Business Manager

Date: September 6, 2005

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

By Don Tarbet

2005 got off to a bad start for REACT with the death of *REACT*er editor, Stuart DeLuca. The March-April *REACT*er says, “In January 2005 we lost a great editor of The *REACT*er and a valued member of the Travis County *REACT* Team (Austin, Texas). Stuart DeLuca served *REACT* with tireless dedication for twenty-eight years, probably more than any other member we know. He truly will be missed on the home front.” And around the *REACT* world. See also Chuck Thompson’s comments in this issue.



Stuart DeLuca (Photo – Lee Besing)

But there were high notes, too. The 2005 convention in Corona, California went off well (See p 12 this issue.). Workshops, vital information exchange, camaraderie – all the elements were there – including hosts and their families.



(Photo – Dick Cooper)

There were new Teams to welcome, and existing Teams kept busy with wildfires, hurricanes, public service events, and man-made disasters. Let’s take a journey in photos through *REACT*’s 2005.



REACT Squid Team (Photo – Eric Conrad C. Epie)



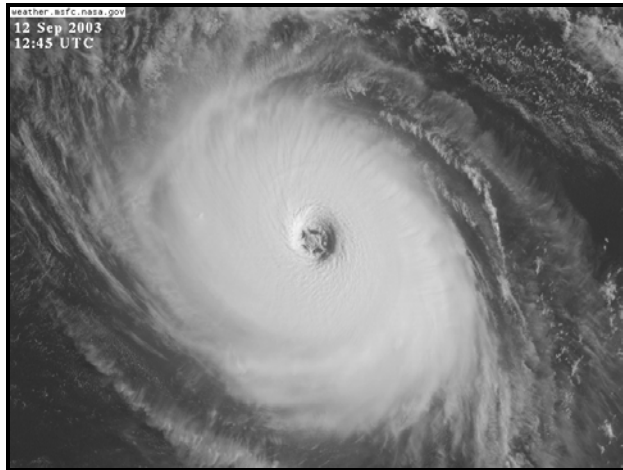
Dr. Henry Kissinger visits Dutchess/Putnam County (New York) *REACT* Safety Break (Photo- Dutchess/Putnam County)



St. Cloud *REACT* President Charles Reichensperger, Minnesota *REACT* Council President Roberta Ernston, and Ramsey County (Minnesota) *REACT* President Paul Oby in front of the Benton C. Mobile Command Center (Photo – Lis Nistler photo)

Be it public service events, demonstrations, or disaster response, we were there when we were needed. We also began – or rather continued formally – a series of stories on the types of disasters we might face and what to do about them. If your team faces disasters we haven’t covered,

or if you have some particular knowledge or expertise, write about it for us. <editor@reactintl.org>



(NASA photo)

Hurricanes were big news in 2005, as they have been for several years and may be again.

REACT volunteer Keith Hosman, KC8TCQ (Henry County, Ohio) writes of his experiences:

“Well when I first got here [the Gulf Coast] I was doing facility support, i.e. making sure the shelters and kitchens had everything they needed. I drove thousands of miles in the first three weeks, all over Alabama and Mississippi. Then as the facilities were closing I did the same thing again – this time to make sure everything was packed up and that the facilities were returned to original condition. From there I was reassigned to the long term disaster supply warehouse in Montgomery, this warehouse continues to support the remaining parts of the operation still going on. This includes not only the hurricanes, but we have been sending supplies to the wild fire areas as well. This warehouse will be in operation for 2 years that we know of at this point. Once we have last years operations closed down we will be stocking up and preparing for the next hurricane season.

At the beginning of the operation I was using amateur radio, and satellite communications systems to keep in contact with the HQ. Cell phones were at a premium as we had more staff in the field than we had phones available for. This shortage combined with the loss of the cell tow-

ers in the hurricane areas to make for poor communications. The American Red Cross set up a network of linked repeaters across the effected areas to facilitate communications. These systems were set up for the amateur radio bands as well as for the 47.42 MHz radios on the ERVs (Emergency Response Vehicles) used to carry prepared meals into the area from the kitchen sites set up.”



(Photos above – Hoff.org)



(Photo – Bob Pickering)

It wasn't all disasters. There was public service as well in the *REACT* tradition. Flagler County Assist *REACT* (Florida) helped at the annual Home Show and Service Fair, among other things securing the landing zone for the emergency helicopter.



(Photo – Dale Ellis)

Oklahoma County *REACT*, Team 2620 and University of Oklahoma *REACT*, Team 3916, provided a ground safety perimeter for New Year's celebrations in Oklahoma City.

And, of course, not all disasters were the fault of nature. Human beings caused their share.



(Photo – Lawson Smith)

Mark Twain *REACT* (Missouri) assisted at a recovery after an 18-wheeler accident on I-44.

REACT Teams from Ohio got their share of action with a train derailment in Perry Township.



“*REACT* was able to meet a need that had to be filled and that would have severely tapped the resources of the local police and fire personnel,” wrote Stark County EMA Director, Tim Warstler.

(Photo – Glenn B. Dettman, The Independent)

And other folks died. Jim Coker, KB5EHP of Travis County (Texas) *REACT* died in May. Below he is seen with actor Robin Williams at the Lance Armstrong Ride for the Roses in Austin, Texas.



(Photo – Lee Besing)

And there was more public service. Crest *REACT* of California doesn't just do conventions and fires. Here they support the 5K Labor Day Walk/Run in Rancho Santa Margarita, California. Turned out that *REACT* support was vital to providing public safety here, too.



And they took the opportunity to put in a word for *REACT* with the community.



At the other corner of the country (and in between) *REACT* was busy too. Here Penobscot *REACT*, Team 6088, provides support for the Veteran's Day Parade in Bangor, Maine.



We even tried to explain the role of volunteers in providing emergency communication. Here editor Don Tarbet discusses the issue with Jon Ford from the office of Senator Susan Collins, chair of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee.



Penobscot *REACT* president Jim Koritzky.
(Photo – Penobscot *REACT*)

Below: Kids watch...
(Photos – Stephen Lagueux)



(Photo – Al Cormier)



... while veterans march (top, next column).

And now, a last look at the 2005 convention.



(Photo –Wayne Barringer)



(Photo – Wayne Barringer)



(Photo – Dick Cooper)



(Photo – Dick Cooper)



(Photo – Wayne Barringer)



(Photo – Dick Cooper)



(Photo – Dick Cooper)

Calendar Spring 2006

- March 3-4: Annual REACT Board Meeting in Suitland, Md.*
- March 15: Deadline to File for Director*
- April 8: Deadline for May-June REACTer*



10-2.

"Loud and clear."

And that's exactly the kind of transmission and reception you get with a K40 CB antenna: Consistent SWR across all 40 channels.

Not so with other antennas. They're hand-wound and hand-glued. No two are ever alike. Performance is left to chance.

But all K40's are *exactly* alike. Computer-designed. Machine-assembled. Totally unvarying. And clearly superior.

So superior, we give you a *double* guarantee: 30-day money-back on performance to your satisfaction and 5-year replacement on parts.

Seems like there's only one choice when it's time to replace that old antenna. K40. The one guaranteed to keep those 10-2's coming.

K40
ELECTRONICS

Made in U.S.A.

CONFIDENCE THAT COMES WITH A GUARANTEE.



ICOM RADIOS

Count on us!

As a member of REACT, you are part of a team. Others count on you. And in turn, you need equipment that you can count on. Count on Icom — the professional radios people. Built tough and tested to overcome any obstacle you might encounter in the field. When you want reliability, you want Icom.

IC-R20 Dual watch • Audio recorder • Wide band receiver, 150kHz - 3.36MHz*

IC-M88 Submersible IP-X7 construction • Li-Ion battery allows for up to 24 hours of operation**

IC-F21GM Simple operation • Built-in signaling (CTCSS & DTCSS) • Lightweight & rugged

IC-V8 5.5 Watts of power • Weather alert • Great audio • Military rugged construction

IC-A4 Receive 108.000 to 136.975 MHz (all 760 channels) • Backlit, alphanumeric display

*Collator frequency blocked on US version **Typical operation: 5% TX (10), 5% RX, 90% standby.

BC-121 MULTI-CHARGER (not shown)

Minimize downtime with the BC-121 MultiCharger, for rapid charging of up to 6 battery packs at one time. Charging time: approx. 1.5 to 2 hours.



See your authorized Icom dealer!

AMATEUR | AVIONIC | LAND MOBILE | MARINE | RECEIVER | SYSTEMS | WWW.ICOMAMERICA.COM

©2005 Icom America, Inc. The Icom logo is a registered trademark of Icom, Inc. All specifications are subject to change without notice in a magazine. 7034

ICOM