



The REACTer



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The REACT involvement list



We provide:

Communications support for community activities

Communications support for agencies and organizations

- Marathons
- Fairs
- Halloween patrol
- Walkathons
- Parades
- Cart races
- Bike rides
- Chili cook-off
- Tractor races
- Hot air balloons
- Triathlons
- Drag races
- Air shows
- Motorboat races
- Road rallies
- Radio classes
- Fireworks displays
- Safety breaks
- Canoe races
- Radios for Mexico
- Animal evacuation
- Traffic reports
- Amber alerts
- Neighborhood Watch
- National celebrations
- Easter Seal run/walk
- Special Populations Programs



- American Red Cross
- Salvation Army
- Missing person searches
- March of Dimes
- Emergency Operations Centers
- News media
- Fire watch
- Special Olympics
- Toys for Tots
- Red Flag Patrol
- Sheriff's Department
- City Police
- Sky Warn and NWS/NOAA
- Accident reports
- Flood watch
- CERT
- School Districts
- Park Departments
- Disaster emergency drills
- Ministry of Transportation
- National SOS
- U.S. Coast Guard
- Hurricane Watch
- Emergency Rescue Unit Fdtn.
- Cancer Society
- M. S. Society
- Audubon Society

THE REACT (Radio Emergency Associated Communications Teams) MISSION

We will provide public service communications to individuals, organizations, and government agencies to save lives, prevent injuries, and give assistance wherever and whenever needed.

We will strive to establish a monitoring network of trained volunteer citizen-based communicators using any and all available means to deliver the message.

Communications volunteers needed. Information at: www.reactintl.org and (301)316-2900

REACT International Officers

President: Dick Cooper, N2LMK
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 Ed Greany, KB6DOL
Secretary: Lee W. Besing, N5NTG
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 Norman Kaplan, N3LDM
General Counsel:
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 John Knott, KG4VVQ
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 Don Manlove

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Region 4: Paul Jackson
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Region 6: Crichton "Rob" Roberts, KH7MW
Region 7: Robert Kaster, K5MIE
Region 8: Joseph Toth
Region 9: Kenny Jagdeosingh
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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dick Cooper



Fellow members: The Annual meeting of the RI Board of Directors is history, and the board made some changes that you should know about. When you look at the summary of the RI Board minutes in this issue, note that one of the changes was the deletion of the inactive RI committees. The committees that were deleted could be very useful to *REACT* if they had a chairperson and operated as they should. The fact is that the *REACT* Board has spent a lot of time and effort on these committees in an effort to fill the chairperson positions, and nobody will take those positions. The revised list will appear on the website soon. The committees that remain are those that are most important to the betterment and future of *REACT*. Please take a look at the following list of committees and volunteer your assistance today: Awards and Recognition, By-laws, Policies and Procedures, Computer Services, Convention and Site Selection, Five Year Planning, Membership Development and Retention, Public Relations, Publications Review, Training and Ways & Means.

At the RI board meeting the regional directors were once again reminded that *REACT*'s membership is in need of help. While 95% of the directors' responsibilities concern membership, you the members, are the most important link in helping RI grow. Remember that when you help RI increase membership you are also helping your own Team's membership. I am reminded of one of the evangelism methods used by many churches. It consists of simply inviting a non-member to a Team meeting or Team event such as a training seminar in which you may be instructing other citizens on the correct use of 2-way radio, telling them about various types of radios available or telling them of your Team's capabilities in the local community. What better ways to show someone what your Team is all about? Make sure that you ask the non-members if they have any questions about *REACT* and answer them promptly and completely. As a matter of fact, your Team can help membership and recognition in the local community if you schedule some events like those listed above. Not only do they help keep your members' sharp regarding communications but local agencies and organizations can hear about you and find out what you do as well as what you know. Contact the local police departments, fire departments, neighborhood watch (or similar group), emergency management and other groups and agencies to schedule meetings and ask how you can help them and what type of additional training your Team needs.

If you will look at the name of the Membership Committee as shown in the first paragraph, you will note that the full name is Membership Development and Retention. I have briefly described membership DEVELOPMENT in the previous paragraph but Teams must always remember the RETENTION part of membership, which is just as important as DEVELOPMENT. Current members need to know that they belong to a Team and that everyone counts, and all members need to be included in Team activities. Current members have already decided that *REACT* is for them and are willing to work for the Team, but the Team needs to acknowledge that and create conditions that will make each member want to remain as part of the Team rather than quit and find something else to do with his/her volunteer time and efforts.

From Headquarters
By Norman Kaplan



The following Regional Directors are being elected this year: Region 2 and Region 8. Don Manlove is running for Region 2, Region 5 has no candidate, and Joseph C.A. Toth is running

for Region 8. (Ed. note: See statements this issue.) Under *REACT* International, Inc., rules, at least one vote is needed to elect a Regional Director. If your Team is in one of the two Regions, please vote. The ballots will be mailed back to *REACT* International where a team of three people will count the votes. The ballots are due back no later than Friday, June 29. The ballots will be counted Monday, July 2, and the results given to the Board of Directors later that day. The new Directors will take office at the end of the Summer Board Meeting.

As I am writing this on March 29, headquarters has received renewals from 182 Teams and drop letters from 8 Teams out of 214 Teams at the end of 2006. There are 4 newly chartered Teams, with a couple of charter packets sent out and not returned. Since many Teams have filed a second or later renewal packet, I am including all renewing Teams that have 100% or greater in the following list: Alabama: 6030; Arizona: C320; California: 4054, 4965, 6060, C059, C069, C085, C412, C128; Florida: 4577, 4778, 4800; Georgia: 4623; Hawaii: C010; Iowa: 6081; Idaho: 4956; Illinois: 2125, 3310, 4815, 4987, C310, C345; Indiana: 3330, C292; Michigan: 3880, 4848; Minnesota: 3791; MO: 6003; Mississippi: 6114; North Carolina: 2632, 2651, 2718, 2802, 2804; North Dakota: 4299; Nebraska: 2983, 3073, 6111; New Hampshire: 4105; New Jersey: 4651, 4738, C242; Nevada: 4096; New York: 2240, 4552, 4975, 6024, C047,

C576; Ohio: 2373, 2418, 2624, 4995, 6068, C260, C282, C322; Oklahoma: 3232; Pennsylvania: 2785; Rhode Island: C102; South Carolina: 3153, C614; South Dakota: 4736; Texas: 3022, 3387, C622, C446; Virginia: 2148, 3968; C332 Washington: 2869, 4784; Wisconsin: 4364, 4755, 6116; West Virginia: 2599, C117; Canada: 2627, 2114; Puerto Rico: 4566; Philippines: 6118.

Due to the generosity of Don Manlove and Larry Fry, headquarters now has two new computers in the office. This brings the office computers up from pre-1997 era computers to 2006 era computers. With the new DSL line in the office, Dora and I are reviewing the changes in office procedures to allow for electronic renewals for 2008.

For those who have internet access, you may update any changes: address, e-mail address, telephone number, amateur call sign, GMRS call sign or courses taken using e-mail or the information change page on <www.reactintl.org>. Under the new postal rates, the charge for returned *REACT*ers is going up to close to \$1.00 each return. By cutting down on the returns, you cut down on the expense at headquarters. Last year, *REACT* International ran a deficit. There was still money remaining from previous year cost cutting to make up for the deficit. If we cannot keep expenses in line with income, the dues will need to go up. By cutting costs where we can, the Board of Directors has kept the dues the same for several years. We would like to

continue to do so with your help.

One Life Member and 18 Teams (6114, C149, C320, 6109, C296, 4960, C273, C128, 2141, C575, 4816, C102, 2538, 6030, 3420, 3232, C057, 6115 and Life member 197) have turned in the Annual Monitoring Report. From their reports, members have monitored CB: 104,174.5 hours, GMRS: 43,495 hours, Amateur: 19,397 hours, FRS: 9,229 hours, MURS: 528 hours, Marine: 240 hours, Red Cross: 60 hours, SATURN: 159 hours, Weather: 1517 hours, Police/Fire: 48,738 hours and other 19,613 hours for a total of 246,692.5 hours. This total is close to the number of hours reported last year by 34 Teams. *REACT* Teams spent 8,268.5 hours working events, 7,316 hours at disaster activities, 154.74 hours working with groups and 2,096.5 hours in meetings and training for a grand total of 287,950.5 hours in *REACT* activities of one type or another. If you translate that to dollars at the minimum wage, we are talking about over a \$1,000,000 that communities would not have spent. Please file your Team's Annual Monitoring Report if you have not already done so.

Let us know about any 45th anniversary plans your Team is working on or has completed

**Statement of Don E. Manlove, Jr.,
Chester, Virginia:
Candidate for Director,
Region 2**

Don Manlove is 48 and is an Engineering Development Analyst; he has been a member of Prince William REACT since 1986. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Commonwealth of Virginia REACT Council and the Richmond Metro REACT Team. Don is a graduate of Richfield High School in Waco, Tex., and attended McLennan Community College there. He has been Region 2 Director since March 2004.

He has submitted the following statement:

I am asked all the time what *REACT* means to me, and I tell everyone what I am telling you all now; it is doing the little things that get the big things done. I am not in it for the glory or glamour, or to get my photo in the paper.

I believe in *REACT* International, Inc., and its member Teams across Region 2, and around the world. We each need to look forward into the future for *REACT*. We need to look into all types of communications as being one of the focal points of *REACT*. It came as a real shocker how unprepared we are for some of the natural and man-made disasters that have happened in the world. I would like to see what future roles

REACT International could play in a major crisis. However, to do this, some type of Emergency Plan in Disasters needs to be developed on the Team level and shared with other Teams in the Region. I believe that the same action would help *REACT* International. And, as with anything in life, having a plan makes things a whole lot easier.

In assisting other organizations active in disaster response, we need to grow. You all must remember it cannot be done with one; it must be a team effort. If elected I plan on assisting all states in Region 2 to grow. Without members, there is no *REACT*. I do plan on continuing presentations on *REACT* to the public and to prospective members. I am willing to travel to all the Teams within the Region to assist them in expanding *REACT*. I am very much “pro-*REACT*,” but I am only one person. Are you ready to help the cause of *REACT*? Bring a friend to one of your meetings, and show him or her what we are about. Sign your friend up as a member of *REACT*.

We will provide public service communications to individuals, organizations, and government agencies to save lives, prevent injuries, and give assistance wherever and whenever needed. We will strive to establish a monitoring network of trained volunteer citizen-based communicators using any and all available means to deliver the message.

Thank you for your time
Don E. Manlove
Director, Region 2

REACT Intl, Inc.
804/439-3017

CALENDAR

May - June 2007

- May: *REACT* Month
- June 5: Deadline for July-August 2007 *REACT*er.
- June 29: Director Ballots due at RI Hq.
- All Year: *REACT*'s 45th Anniversary



**Statement of
Joseph C. A. Toth,
Apple
Valley, California:
Candidate for Director,
Region 8**

Joseph Toth was appointed by the RI Board of Directors at their March meeting to fill the vacant seat for Region 8 pending the coming election.

He has submitted the following statement in support of his candidacy for a full term seat on the Board:

If elected to the Board of *REACT* Intl. representing Region 8, I will bring with me 45 years of experience in the communications field, As I began in *REACT* about 1963, I feel that I know what *REACT* is about. Today, we all need to understand who we really are. We at *REACT* are a truly volunteer force, and our history should make us proud. But we now need to stress more and more, both within the organization and within the community, what *REACT* is about.

I also have been involved with several other organizations such as police department communications and NASA communications. At the present time I am also with the Civil Air Patrol in California. My job there is as Director of Communications, Inland Empire Group-3. I have many years of experience in communications, as technician and as supervisor I also have been appointed to the High Desert Chapter of the American Red Cross as Communications Supervisor.

We as *REACT* need to get ourselves more actively involved with other organizations. We need for them to understand who we are and that *REACT* Teams benefit the entire community.

Joseph C. A. Toth
High Desert *REACT*
Director for Region 8

**In Recognition of Long Term
Members
By Norman Kaplan**

This is the third article in our series honoring long term members. In recognition for their long service, I will be listing their names and Teams in a series of articles tending toward the current year. The information is from the current *REACT* database and may not be complete since it was developed in the 1990's from then current Team information. A member may not be listed after leaving *REACT* and then returning to the same Team after two years, forming a new Team or joining a different Team after one year. The member's starting date can be reset for any of these reasons and any other reason. In this case, please let *REACT* Inter-

national, Inc., know so we can reset the database with your correct starting date. Of course, the fact that members have been around for more than 20 years indicates that their Teams have been around for many years. Each Team should be congratulated for their longevity.

Corrections – our apologies for errors and omissions:

Morris Dassa, 1974, Reli *REACT*, Inc.
Selma Dassa, 1974, Reli *REACT*, Inc.
Paul Oby, 1973, Ramsey County *REACT*
Wayne Lewis, 1965, Frostburg *REACT*
Ernie Sotirake, 1974, United Valley *REACT*
Terry W. Allen, 1974, Dallas County *REACT*
Richard Tyler, 1970, Rose City Windsor *REACT*
James Galbreath, 1972, Blackberry *REACT*
John H. Riley, 1976, Dallas County *REACT*, Inc.

As always, I would like to see articles on how they have managed to last. The third set of members following their starting year:

1977:

Jack L. Oslund, Bay County *REACT*, Inc.
Vincent J. Mattera, Unattached Life Member
Carole Hoeh, Punxsutawney Radio Emergency
Neal Liming, Unity *REACT* Inc.
Zelma Brown, Clinch Valley *REACT*
Robert L. Loftis, McDowell County *REACT* Team
William E. Murray, Punxsutawney Radio
Emergency
Susan Stewart, Unattached Life Member
Marshall Spear, Unattached Life Member
Paul E. Huckleberry, Circle City *REACT*
Cliff E. Tubb, Brazoria County *REACT*, Inc.
Charles Hoeh, Punxsutawney Radio
Fred Form, Reli *REACT*, Inc.
Sherry D. Oslund, Bay County *REACT*, Inc.
Sharon L LeVesconte, City *REACT*-Calgary 2627
Nancy Bahr. Lema *REACT*
Temp Campbell, Greater Anchorage *REACT*, Inc.
Karen Robbins, Muskingum County *REACT*
Phil Williams, Cascade *REACT*, Inc.
Ronald O. Mayes, Air Capital *REACT*
Troy Burton, Unattached Life Member
Ray Herrington, Unattached Life Member

Stanley Andersen, *REACT* of the Golden Gate Area
Sheryl Herrington, Unattached Life Member
George Erb, Nashua *REACT*
Harley Morath, *REACT* of the Golden Gate Area
Alan S. Fields, Montgomery County *REACT*
Walter Wallenborn, Southwestern *REACT* of San Diego
Chuck Frensley, Greater Anchorage *REACT*, Inc.
Norm Fournier, Nashua *REACT*
Dena Willis, Madison County *REACT*, Inc.
Gil Gross, Unity *REACT* Inc.
Judy Myers, Grand Island *REACT*
Michael Myers, Grand Island *REACT*
Gary A. Fishburn, Antelope Valley *REACT*
Bettie M. Heape, Unattached Life Member
Jim Krawiec, Reli *REACT*, Inc.
Ronald S. Cheney, Dixie *REACT* Team, Inc.
Daniel French, Durham County *REACT* 2457
Daniel L. Pelletier, Nashua *REACT*
Leland Johnson, So. Minn. Albert Lea *REACT*, Inc.
J. L. Riley, Dallas County *REACT*, Inc.

1978:

Stanley Hopkins, Punxsutawney Radio Emergency
Carrie Kasper, Pawnee *REACT*
Ron Rick, Mendocino Coast *REACT*
Dennis G. Douthitt, Punxsutawney Radio Emergency
Edwin Flores-Rosa, Unattached Life Member
David B. Gordon, Unattached Life Member
W. Wayne Stanley, Unattached Life Member
Jess Collier, Heartland *REACT*, Inc.
Ron Phillips, Mendocino Coast *REACT*
Lois Smith Nulty, Unattached Life Member
Carol Phillips, Unattached Life Member
James Purcell, Valley Forge *REACT*, Inc.
Mike Mikesell, Dallas County *REACT*, Inc.
Claire Harris, Unattached Life Member
Marty Chambers, Chillicote Twin City *REACT*
Alladean Clouser, Pulaski County *REACT*
David Harris, Unattached Life Member
Elvin Schmidt, St. Cloud *REACT*, Inc.
Bill Morton, Porterville *REACT* Team
Rolland Kasper, Pawnee *REACT*

John Swaton Jr., Bay County *REACT*, Inc.
Bill Michaud, Dodge County *REACT*
Sylvester P. Guzdzial, Bay County *REACT*, Inc.
Ronald W. McCracken, *REACT* Lake Simcoe
James J. Galbreath, Blackberry *REACT*, Inc.
Norman L. Kaplan, Federal City *REACT*, Inc.

1979:

George MacDonald, Waukesha Area *REACT*, Inc.
Gabriel Dassa, Reli *REACT*, Inc.
Wally Smith, McLennan County *REACT*
Lois W. Kline, Hagerstown *REACT*
Fred Moroun, Rose City Windsor *REACT*
Michael Chuyen, Unattached Life Member
Larry D. Petrovsky, Armstrong County Area *REACT*, Inc.
Clarence J. Loveland, Unicorn *REACT*
Dennis Baca, Poway Valley *REACT*
Jim B. Mullins, Unattached Life Member
Melvin Rothschild, Unattached Life Member
Ruy H. Moore Jr., Unicorn *REACT*
Jacki MacDonald, Waukesha Area *REACT*, Inc.
Carl E. Brumage, Unattached Life Member
William Cote, Lansing *REACT*, Inc.
Andy Hetz, Shenandoah Valley *REACT*, Inc.
Mae B. Mullins, Unattached Life Member
Richard Dierlam, Reli *REACT*, Inc.
Mary Haschel, Pulaski County *REACT*
Carol Harrison, Unattached Life Member
Xavier Martin, Honolulu *REACT* Team, INC.
Cheryl Baca, Poway Valley *REACT*
Larry Petersen, St. Cloud *REACT*, Inc.
Gary Fleeson, United Valley *REACT*, Inc.
Charles Reichensperger, St. Cloud *REACT*, Inc.
Bruce Wagner, Bloomsburg Area *REACT*
Connie Reichensperger, St. Cloud *REACT*, Inc.
Jerry Runion Jr., Dixie *REACT* Team, Inc.
Cary Wiener, Nassau County *REACT*, Inc.
John Kile, Medina County *REACT*
Kenneth Hadley, Phillips County *REACT*
Patricia Klimkewicz, Saginaw *REACT*, Inc.
Harvey Barnes, Christmas City *REACT*, Inc.
Richard A. Blessing, Hawkeye *REACT*
A. W. Rice, Unattached Life Member
Vern E. Ziesch, Air Capital *REACT*
John E. Spessard, Unattached Life Member
Charles Burton, Unattached Life Member
Gerald Bogear, Unattached Life Member

Rebecca Beran, Houston Metro Emergency, Inc.
 Jenny Burton, Unattached Life Member
 June Kearns, Phillips County *REACT*
 Robert Matheson, Unattached Life Member
 William Andrick, Christmas City *REACT*, Inc.
 Donald W. Hayes, Phillips County *REACT*
 Irene Brumage, Unattached Life Member
 Ben T. Kessler, Marion County *REACT*, Inc.
 LaVada Thomas, CBA Potter County *REACT*,
 Inc.
 Robert Beran, Houston Metro Emergency, Inc.
 Harry Hawkins, Saginaw *REACT*, Inc.
 Jerry Henry, Travis County *REACT*
 Kenneth M. Farris, Bell County *REACT*
 Roger Wines, Travis County *REACT*
 David H. Bortzfield, Unattached Life Member
 Mark Byrd, San Angelo *REACT*, Inc.
 Melvin Hentschel, Muskegon County *REACT*
 Nash Hayes, Marion County *REACT*, Inc.
 William Barnett, Armstrong County Area
REACT, Inc.
 James F. Penn, Bay County *REACT*, Inc.
 Frank Tillman, Saginaw *REACT*, Inc.
 Peggy Barnes, Christmas City *REACT*, Inc.
 Gayland Kitch, University of Oklahoma *REACT*
 Keren Pratz, Bell County *REACT*
 Debby Dodge, Unattached Life Member
 Terry L. Smith, Hagerstown *REACT*
 Mary Kincaid, Fayette County *REACT*
 William Korr, Westchester County *REACT*
 Jack Arneson, Southwestern *REACT* OF San
 Diego
 Elaine Korr, Westchester County *REACT*
 Joseph Namer, Westchester County *REACT*
 Trent L. Wilkie, Unattached Life Member
 Bruce Endicott, Martin County *REACT* Rescue
 Squad
 Harold Weeden, Garden State *REACT*, Inc.
 Betty S. Ralston, Shenandoah Valley *REACT*,
 Inc.
 Donald Rhoades, Wayne County *REACT*
 Thomas Crown, Coshocton County *REACT*, Inc.
 Gerald M. Kincaid Sr., Fayette County *REACT*
 Walter E. Roahrig, Coshocton County *REACT*,
 Inc.
 Harry Juris, Westchester County *REACT*
 Robert N. Lumpkin, Federal City *REACT*, Inc.
 Robert M. Riechel, *REACT* of the Golden Gate
 Area
 Stew Nelson, La Habra *REACT*

John Gifford, Wabash Valley *REACT*, Inc.
 Burl Hewitt, Upshur County *REACT*, Inc.
 Thomas Gibson, Upshur County *REACT*, Inc.
 Jane Gibson, Upshur County *REACT*, Inc.
 Jerry W. Rowton, North Brevard County
REACT, Inc.
 Clifford Julian, Wabash Valley *REACT*, Inc.
 Sue Baumann, North Brevard County *REACT*,
 Inc.
 Joyce Julian, Wabash Valley *REACT*, Inc.
 Nancy Gatzke, Crest *REACT* / Crest Comm.
 Phil Henderson Jr., Blackberry *REACT*, Inc.
 Donna Cosby, Colorado West *REACT*
 Lillian Pickering, Colorado West *REACT*
 Sylvia A. Sherman, Unattached Life Member
 Mary Blanche Hutcheson, Santiago Comm
 Team, Inc.
 Wilma M. Bessler, Gateway Area *REACT*
 Robert W. Hoover, Wayne County *REACT*
 Rhodena Morrow, Dixie *REACT* Team, Inc.
 Sol D. Ortner, Charleston *REACT* Emergency
 Team
 Ron Witherwax. Grand Island *REACT*
 Ulrich Kroll, Unattached Life Member
 Barbara Murrell, Unattached Life Member
 Larry Wilkins, Garden State *REACT*, Inc.
 Richard Murrell, Unattached Life Member
 Reuben Johnson, Unattached Life Member
 Robert Klokkenga, Lincoln-Railsplitter *REACT*,
 Inc.
 Dee Young, Abington *REACT*
 Phyllis Denison, Unattached Life Member
 John Blaker, Unattached Life Member
 Barbara L. Chasey, Garden State *REACT*, Inc.
 C. Frederick Johnson, Prince George's County
REACT
 Bobby Lovelace, Rutherford County *REACT*
 Albin Chupcavich, Bloomsburg Area *REACT*
 Betty Schweikhardt, Unattached Life Member
 Tony Kopitsky, Bloomsburg Area *REACT*
 Edward D. Miller, Bloomsburg Area *REACT*
 R. J. Savage, Bloomsburg Area *REACT*
 Reba R. Moseley, Unattached Life Member
 Douglas Rumsey, Unattached Life Member
 Nicholas A. Stegall, Unattached Life Member
 Teresa Lovelace, Rutherford County *REACT*
 Harold Miller Jr., Reading *REACT* Team, Inc.
 Millard Delauder, Wayne County *REACT*
 Clayton Turner, Rutherford County *REACT*
 Harlon Turner, Rutherford County *REACT*

Betty Witherwax, Grand Island *REACT*
Katherine M. Runion, Unattached Life Member
Raleigh Donald Shortt, Clinch Valley *REACT*
David P. Behrend, San Angelo *REACT*, Inc.
Gerald H Shoaf, Unattached Life Member

1980:

Julian L. Kaufman, *REACT* of the Golden Gate Area

Earnest Jackson, Bell County *REACT*
Edward J. Beltz, Fond du Lac County *REACT*
Helen Phipps, Clinch Valley *REACT*
Rosa Compton, Clinch Valley *REACT*
Leo Rhoda Indi, Circle City *REACT*
Pete D. Moore, Martin County *REACT* Rescue Squad
John P. Runion, Sun Coast *REACT*
Billie J. Shortt, Clinch Valley *REACT*
Joyce M Moore, Unicorn *REACT*
C.C. Roberts, Honolulu *REACT* Team, Inc.
Tiburcio K. Coria, Honolulu *REACT* Team, Inc.
D. Dick Cooper, Hamilton-Mercer *REACT*
Phillip Forelli, Nassau County *REACT*, Inc.
Mary C. Cooper, Hamilton-Mercer *REACT*
Peter Gerber, Hamilton-Mercer *REACT*
Jesse L. Griffin, Northern Tier *REACT*, Inc.
Terry Smith, Rutherford County *REACT*
Diane K. Stanley, Dodge County *REACT*
David Rondinelli Sr., Abington *REACT*
Fern Perry, Salem Area *REACT*, Inc.
Hal Swaim, La Habra *REACT*
James F. Hogadone, Centinela South Bay *REACT*

Richard Tufteland, Evergren *REACT*
Suzanne Morton Porter, Porterville *REACT* Team
Richard Roby, Bay County *REACT*, Inc.
David C. Klingler, Coshocton County *REACT*, Inc.

Raymond Sullivan, Unattached Life Member
Richard T. Gamble, Lake Washington *REACT*
Charles E. Beckmeier, Lake Washington *REACT*
James Cuddy, Unattached Life Member
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Mark R. Henry, Unattached Life Member
William R. Kofron, Colleton County

REACT

Irene S. Berg, Unattached Life Member
Carl Berg, Unattached Life Member
Arthur A. Lantz Sr., Comanche County *REACT*
Robert W. Hall Sr., Unattached Life Member
Greg Shuffett, Marion County *REACT*, Inc.
Ernest G. Lynch, Unity *REACT* Inc.
David L. Klingler, Coshocton County *REACT*, Inc.

1981:

Estelle Riemer, Montgomery County *REACT*
Phyllis Gobat, Harrisburg Area *REACT*, Inc.
Melissa Purcell, Valley Forge *REACT*, Inc.
Jamie Chuvon, Unattached Life Member
Gary A. Payne, Dallas County *REACT*, Inc.
Deborah Hadley, Phillips County *REACT*
Allan Tyler, Brazoria County *REACT*, Inc.
William T. Salter, Unattached Life Member
Harold Reed, Circle City *REACT*
John K. Eubanks, Bell County *REACT*
Norman E. Musk, Tobacco Valley *REACT*
George Schrieber, Reading *REACT* Team, Inc.
Steven V. Gobat, Harrisburg Area *REACT*, Inc.
Linda Schrieber, Reading *REACT* Team, Inc.
Henry Boltz, Unattached Life Member
Richard Johnson, *REACT* of Greater Long Beach
Wally Britten, Bay Area Emergency Radio
Philip H. Klimkewicz, Saginaw *REACT*, Inc.
Ruby Ellen Larson, Unattached Life Member
Fisher Forrest, *REACT* of the Golden Gate Area
Robert A. Hughes, Minn. Albert Lea *REACT*, Inc.

Vada Thompson, Unattached Life Member
Lucky Thompson, Unattached Life Member
William M. Vickers, City *REACT*-Calgary 2627
James W. Spinks, Montgomery County *REACT*
Michael Greany, Crest *REACT*

To all of our long term members a hardy and heartfelt thank you. To those listed above a special vote of appreciation for your support.

Let us know of any errors or omissions in the above. Our computer isn't perfect. Ed.

REACT News: Teams and Team Members

PACIFIC NORTHWEST REACT COUNCIL

By Charles E. Beckmeier, President

Member Teams of the Pacific Northwest *REACT* Council, (Lake Washington, Evergreen, and Rainier *REACT* Teams) participated in a *REACT* information booth at the Mike & Key Electronics Flea Mart held at the Western Washington Fair Grounds on Saturday March 10, 2007. This was the third straight year that *REACT* has been represented at the largest electronics flea market in western Washington.

Many hams stopped by the booth to chat and take brochures. Our licorice whips went over well, too.



Council President Charles Beckmeier invites visitors to booth while Richard Tufeland, Evergreen *REACT* President (seated at right) mans the station.

Heartland *REACT*, Inc. Provides Assistance During March Blizzard of 2007

By Jerilyn M. Buresh, Public Information Officer

When it seemed much of the country was concerned about tornadoes affecting the Southern states, the Heartland was experiencing blizzard conditions from the same storm system. In the Omaha, Nebraska area, predictions varied between four and nine inches of snow, but did little to pre-

pare the area for what is now known as the March 2007 Blizzard. During the evening of February 28, 2007, rain and sleet, with the occasional roll of thunder fell over the city.

There had been enough weather activity by 10 p.m. that many of the area schools were declaring delays or closing altogether. By 7:30 a.m., Omaha already had about 4 inches of snow on the ground. The National Weather Service (NWS) had issued a Snow and Blowing Snow Warning for the area overnight. However, the storm stalled, seemingly on top of the city. By 7:50 a.m., the NWS had issued a Blizzard Warning, the first for Omaha since 1998. Police and City officials were encouraging people to stay home, though by the time these were issued, many were already en route to their job sites.

It was with the issuance of the Blizzard Warning that Heartland *REACT*, Inc.'s Chief of Operations, Jay Tunzer, made the decision to activate the 4x4 Patrol. "[Since it was] the morning work commute there was a good chance that people would be stuck and may need our assistance," Tunzer said of his decision.

Tunzer contacted *REACT*'s President, Jack Grifey, who got in contact with the Douglas County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the hospital liaison. Tunzer then activated three other Team members, Judy Rowley, Jimmy Coats and Kevin Grimes. They worked in pairs, Tunzer and Grimes patrolling the north parts of the metro area and Rowley and Coats working the southern parts.

With many of the highways and interstates closed in and around the area, the pairs had to carefully decide which paths to take, in order to help the most people, yet avoid getting stuck themselves. The Rowley/Coats team reported that in four hours, they came in contact with over 100 vehicles. Rowley said, "Many were simply abandoned but we checked each one that we came across to make sure there were no occupants. When we came across a car with occupants we stopped and made verbal contact to check if they needed help."

If assistance was requested, the occupants were taken to a safe location.

The Tunzer/Grimes team spent 11 hours and drove over 150 miles during their patrol. They aided a Sergeant that was stranded on the on-ramp from Dodge Street to I-680 (A major intersection). They took him to his motel to get his 4x4 vehicle so he could come back to the on ramp as there were at least 10 other vehicles stuck there, Tunzer said.

Later, they aided two doctors, who needed to get to area hospitals. "We took the first Doctor to Nebraska Medical Center then took the other to Mercy Hospital in Council Bluffs, Iowa," Tunzer said. The Tunzer/Grimes team also aided in getting nurses to area hospitals.

By the end of the storm Omaha Metro Area snow totals ranged from between 15 inches near the Girls and Boys Town area to about 10 inches in the southeast part of town, though the official report from Eppley Airfield amounted to only 7.1 inches.

At a time when many people were told to go home, *REACT* went into action helping those who could not help themselves.



Flagler County Assist

REACT Responds to Groundhog Day 2007 Tornadoes

"Tornado Warning, Tornado Warning, this is NO drill!"

With those words at 11:45 p.m. *REACT* volunteers activated their Skywarn storm spotter net in Flagler County as a severe thunderstorm containing a tornado circulation rapidly approached the county from the west at 70 mph.

The National Weather Service in Jacksonville saw the rotation on the WSR88D radar as a series of storms slowly made their way southward across the Florida peninsular. Because of the combination of veering winds with height, the Storm Prediction Center had issued a tornado watch earlier in the day keeping the *REACT* Team at a LEVEL 2 alert ready to jump into action when severe weather threatened.

REACT established a Net Control staffed by Bill, *REACT* 6 who coordinated communications on the GMRS 462.675 repeater.

The warning was issued until 12:30 a.m. as the storm rapidly moved across Flagler County. The net was teamed with a Skywarn Net on the 145.470 Mhz two meter repeater. The Emergency Management Division Chief, Troy Harper who is also GMRS licensed was also on alert and monitoring the nets.

The storm blasted through Flagler County with no damage re-

ports received. Spotters kept an eye to the sky looking for any hint of a funnel cloud or tornado among flashes of lightning. The storm was moving right through the center of the county and heading for the sea.

But this was not the only demon spun our way. At 12:54 a.m. at the NWS Jacksonville Office, Angela Enyedi, Assistant Warning and Coordination Meteorologist, issued another Tornado Warning for a second circulation in a second storm approaching just a bit north of the first storm. A warning was issued until 1:45 a.m. Spotters once again activated and when it became apparent that this was no ordinary severe weather event, the decision was made to go to LEVEL 4, the 2nd highest level in the response plan. A Skywarn Operations Station was then designated to be the collector of all reports between the ARES and *REACT* Nets for relay to the NWS Weather Forecast Office in Jacksonville. This second storm was racing in at 60 mph and quickly pushed off shore Flagler Beach just a bit north of the path of the first storm. Members in the area of Flagler Beach reporting a roaring and whistling noise overhead as the apparent funnel passed directly overhead and harmlessly out to sea.

As this storm was in progress, a 3rd Tornado Warning was issued by the NWS for a 3rd rotating storm over the southern part of Flagler County moving east at 60 mph. This next storm had the southern part of Flagler County in its crosshairs, and the

NWS also advised this circulation was very strong.

Tornado Warning messages were once broadcast over the GMRS and Amateur Radio systems as members of both nets nervously watched the sky and horizon for any signs of damage, power flashes or any other hints of damage. The storm producing the strong circulation was watched on radar as it roared through southern Flagler County. But as with the first two, we were lucky, no damage and the circulation did not touch down.

Now it was 2:00 a.m. the last warning had just expired. All nets were released with members remaining on alert at LEVEL 2 as the weather watch was still in effect and there were more storms on radar west of us. Finally we were through, or so we thought.

But at 2:36 a.m. NOAA Weather Alert Radios screamed again with yet a 4th Tornado Warning for Flagler County. This is the first time that this many tornado warnings were issued for Flagler County since the 2004 hurricane season.

Yet again *REACT* and ARES members activated their nets as this storm took aim on northern Flagler County.

The first three had passed over central and southern Flagler County, this one was targeting the northern portion with the densely populated City of Palm Coast in its path. Nets chattered of observations of lightning and heavy rains but no funnel

clouds or damage reported. Finally this storm, as had the others, raced out to sea harmlessly at 3:00 a.m. when the warning expired.

Four times the sky aimed weapons of destruction at us and four times we were spared. The *REACT* Team remained on LEVEL 2 the rest of the night until the Tornado Watch expired that morning at 7:00 a.m..

But how lucky Flagler County was became horrifyingly apparent when the damage in other counties was shown on TV. Paisley, Deland, Tavares, the list went on of communities struck by the tornadoes of the night before.

But in Flagler County, not only did we dodge one tornado but 4. Each circulation was serious and later found that each one was as strong as the tornadoes that did touch down in other areas.

We did not dodge just a bullet. We dodged a major disaster.

Flagler County Assist *REACT* has been proud to be a part of the Storm Ready and Skywarn programs and has been recognized by the National Weather Service as one of the best run spotter groups in the State of Florida.

REACT members after the storms helped Emergency Management spread the word on the importance of NOAA Weather Alert Radios. *REACT* Junior Member, Ariel - *REACT* 10 was successful in helping sign up a number of citizens to an upcoming storm spotter class. And

also during the storm, several people who listened to the *REACT* GMRS net on their FRS radios now have signed up and have become the newest members of the Flagler County Assist *REACT* organization.

Does your Team have a history you'd like to share with the rest of us on our 45th anniversary? Let us know.

Cell Phones or Radios?

By Robert Cromm
REACT Team 4054

A version of this letter appeared in the Oakley (California) News in October of 2006.

At the Safety Fair held Sunday, October 8, 2006, on Bethel Island, I was a participant at the booth for both Reclamation District 799 and *REACT* Team 4054, and we were discussing the use of telephones, cell phones, and radios during an emergency in the community.

There has always been a conception that during an emergency, telephones would be so overloaded that communications would be almost impossible. And *REACT* has held that radios, both CB and GMRS radios, would be the best means of communications. Then came the era of cell phones, and some

people are claiming that cell phones would be the most popular means of communication during an emergency or disaster. Then the question was asked, "Will cell phones be operational during an emergency?"

There was one answer to the question. Cell phones will work only if the cell phone tower in the community is not damaged during the emergency. But each cell phone tower is owned by a particular cell phone company. Then came the question, "Will the cell phones under contract with different companies work on whatever cell phone tower is operational during an emergency?"

Years ago, before cell phones, when the Neighborhood Watch Program was operational on Bethel Island, *REACT* Team 4054 made it possible for all Neighborhood Watch Block Captains to have CB radios to use when they were on patrol. At that time, *REACT* Team 4054 would monitor a specific CB channel and had a repeater operating on Bethel Island that would enhance the signal from handheld radios so that it could reach a greater distance when the community needed help.

So at the Safety Fair booth, the big unanswered question was, "Will cell phones be a good means of communication during an emergency, or should we rely on radios?"

Ed – Write your own letters to the editor. Spread the word.



Has your Team joined the Skywarn effort? If not, call your local forecast office.

Submission Guidelines for *REACT*er:

Check our submission guidelines on the website. Electronic submissions are preferred. Send to:

<editor1@reactintl.org>.

Please reduce photos. Your editor has only a dialup connection and can't handle large files. Paper submissions should go to:

**Don Tarbet
144 Atkinson Rd.
Bradford, ME 04410**



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 <training1@reactintl.org>.

EDITOR'S CORNER Don Tarbet

It's *REACT* month. We hope your plans for the month are well underway by the time you read this, but if not, there is still time to get the word out about *REACT*.

As we began several issues ago, we continue to run items that your local Team can copy directly to explain and publicize our organization. Or, you can use the material as a starting point for creating your own public relations pieces.

We have been running Bob Leef's historical piece on *REACT* on the inside front cover. It's still here in this issue, but on the inside back cover.

The inside front cover is occupied by another idea Bob supplied; a list of services provided and accompanying list of served organizations. This list is a work in progress. We hope to add ideas and thoughts as we receive them – from *REACTers*. So far, the list comes from Bob Leef, Crest *REACT* (California), Public Relations Chair Ron McCracken, *REACT* Lake Simcoe (Ontario, Canada), and your editor and Penobscot *REACT* (Maine). Note that room has been left at the bottom for your own address. A stamp or printed label giving contact information can go here.

A good way to get information to us on served agencies and services performed is through the *REACT-L* list (If you're not a subscriber, see p. 21.). Otherwise, send the information to the *REACTer*. We'll acknowledge your contribution.

Crest *REACT* has also provided an informational brochure they use which contains some excellent ideas, some of which we have presented earlier. An example, the brochure contains the following:

USING YOUR FRS RADIO IN AN EMERGENCY

Many families and children have one or more FRS (Family Radio Service) radios. These inexpensive, short-range two way units are sold for convenience purposes such as staying in touch in the neighborhood, at a camp, on a hike, at an amusement park, etc. FRS radios could also be used for other reasons that you should be aware of.

Neighborhood Communications

If there is an earthquake, fire, flood, missing person or other unusual situation in your neighborhood, you should use channel 1 (462.5625 MHz) without the CTCSS tone (called "privacy code" in some radios) to get information, help, or to assist others. Scouts, Neighborhood Watch, and other groups should also use channel 1 for emergency communications.

The brochure also contains information on other radio services and their use, including approximate costs of some of the items. Other brochures we have seen and used contain a variety of information, both safety oriented and recruiting oriented.

We are considering including specific brochure pages in future issues so that people can either copy them directly for use or let them serve as templates for creating their own brochures. The latter would be desirable in order to have color,

which is generally more effective. Let us know what you think.

In this issue we also have an example of a letter to the editor, always a possibility for getting the word out about *REACT*. Don't be shy.

Talk about FRS radio, CB, weather spotting, public service, emergency service – in other words, all the things we do.

Weather spotting: Note the two articles in this issue about severe weather. Most experts agree that severe weather is likely in coming years. Even if the increase isn't as extreme as some are predicting, severe weather will always occur. Not if, when.

Get involved in SKYWARN. And then talk about it. The National Weather Service will be happy to provide training.

And get involved in the Amber Alert program. If you aren't familiar with this program, see Ron McCracken's short summary on the inside back cover of the March-April issue – but note: There should be no period between code and amber in the url. <<http://www.codeamber.org/>> will get you there.

On the subject of cell phones (as per the letter on page 11), some additional comments can be made. Cell phones can be overwhelmed just as can other phone systems. In addition, there are a surprising number of areas in the country where cell phones don't work.

(cont. p. 24)

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.

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NEWS AND EVENTS

Blackberry *REACT* Receives Grant from Menlo Park Lions

The Menlo Park Lions Live Oak organization awarded Blackberry *REACT* \$1,200 for the purchase of four radios.

Blackberry *REACT* had submitted grant requests to several local civic organizations for the purchase of several 2-way radios.



These radios were to be used for emergency communications between local neighborhoods and city and county and other emergency agencies. Each needed radio costs between \$300 and \$500.

Blackberry *REACT* member Jon Mosby was then invited to make a presentation at the local Menlo Park Lions Live Oaks meeting in Marcy (2007). At the conclusion of his presentation, several questions arose and were addressed, such as how many of each type of radio were needed and what were Blackberry *REACT*'s priorities. The Team's immediate goal was to obtain four radios for direct communication with the general public and communities in emergencies. These particular radios would cost about \$300 each and the Team had need of four.

Only a few hours later, Mosby was pleased to receive a phone call from Lions representative Don Johnson. Don informed him that he had a check in the amount of \$1200 for Blackberry *REACT*'s four top priority radios.

Blackberry *REACT*, with Menlo Park Fire Protection District, which cooperates with the Team, wishes to thank each member of the Menlo Park Lions Live Oak organization for allowing us to present our petition and for such a generous donation.

(more news p. 22)

Want information quickly? Join the REACT-List. Just send a blank e-mail to: <REACT-L-request@gibbousmoon.com>. Type only the word **Subscribe** on the subject line. Type the same one word **Subscribe** in the message area. That's it.

Summary of Minutes – 2007 Annual Board Meeting

REACT International, Inc.

Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors held 9-10 March 2007 at the Offices of
REACT International, Inc.
5210 Auth Road, Suite 403
Suitland, Maryland

Directors Present

Larry Fry (Wis.), Region 5, Chairman
Don Manlove (Va.), Region 2
John Knott (Fla.), Region 3
Paul Jackson (Ohio), Region 4
C.C. Roberts (Hawaii), Region 6
Dick Cooper (N.J.), President (Director *ex officio*)

Directors Absent

Robert Kaster (Okla.), Region 7, Vice Chairman
Fred Lanshe (Penna.), Region 1
Region 8, Vacant
Kenny Jagdeosingh (Trinidad and Tobago), Region 9

Officers Present

Dick Cooper (N.J.), President
Lee Besing (Tex.), Secretary
Norman Kaplan (Md.), Treasurer and Assistant Secretary
Charles A. Thompson (Tex.), General Counsel

Officers Absent

Ed Greany (Calif.), Executive Vice President

Visitor Present:

Michael Cauley (Fla.)

1. Call to Order. The Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of *REACT* International, Inc., was called to order at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, 9 March 2007, by Chairman Fry.

2. Quorum. Secretary Besing announced that

here being five of eight Directors present, a quorum was established. Three non-voting officers are also present.

3. Opening Remarks. Chairman Fry welcomed the Board and thanked those present for their attendance, and asked for a moment of silence for *REACT*ers who had Passed on during the past year.

4. Approval of Minutes. Minutes of the March Annual Meeting and the Special (Electronic) October Meeting were distributed and approved.

5. 2007 Budget Report. Proposed budget distributed, has negative balance. Office rent has increased to \$850/month in 2007. New phone plan includes free local charges, DSL line, voice mail, and long distance at \$3/month plus 3 cents per minute. Discussion on cost of bounced checks (5-6 a year), credit card fees, need to increase membership to balance budget, *REACT*er costs (number of pages per issue, contract with editor). Motion Mr. Manlove, 2d Mr. Roberts, to approve the 2007 budget. Passed.

6. *REACT* Musical Video. Mr. Besing disclosed he had been in contact with the Danish couple who wrote a ham music video about doing one for *REACT*.

7. Congressional Contact. Mr. Kaplan reported that he was contacted by a Louisiana congressman regarding a Louisiana Team. Discussion included how Teams could receive funding help when they respond to a disaster request.

8. Membership Retention. Mr. Kaplan discussed the reports he distributes to Directors and officers. Affiliate membership is down from 2006. *REACT*

needs close to 4,000 members for break-even budget. As of March 6, 2007, there were 1,771 with a few hundred more known renewals pending. Mr. Besing asked that Councils be sent updates for their state/area monthly February – April and quarterly the rest of the year. New Team charter inquiries are to be sent to Directors electronically. Discussion held about need to inquire of non-renewed members regarding why they left. Directors need to be involved, especially if controversy was involved. Motion Mr. Roberts, 2d Mr. Knott, that the RI office establish a standard membership retention letter to be sent automatically to any member who does not renew with an electronic copy sent to the responsible Director. Passed.

9. Domestic Membership. Mr. Greany sent a message asking that RI concentrate on building more new Teams within the US. Mr. Besing suggested looking at smaller areas where there are no strong pre-existing Amateur/ARES groups. Mr. Thompson suggested looking at smaller rural counties and suggesting to the local sheriff that a *REACT* Team could serve as a core volunteer group.

10. Late Fees; Official Policy On Enforcement. Mr. Knott asked about the current policy when a Team was late renewing and failed to include late fees. Mr. Kaplan responded that this was handled on a case-by-case basis.

11. Region Realignment. Mr. Manlove discussed number of Teams in each Region and suggested some states should be shifted to other regions.

12. Affiliate/FRS Problems. Mr. McCracken submitted a written report. Consensus of the Board to have Mr. Cooper and Mr. Thompson develop a written policy regarding Affiliate member rights and access to official supplies and submit for review at the summer meeting. Mr. Knott reported that a Florida Team with a regular GMRS net has gained new members who monitored on an FRS radio.

13. Supplies for Teams and Affiliates. Mr. Kaplan reported some inventory items are obsolete or

no longer available and will be removed from the official supply list. Discussion about Teams and Councils developing items with *REACT* logo and selling outside their membership without RI approval. Report was distributed of monthly sales generated via web site shopping cart. Discussion held about adding reputable third party suppliers. Mr. Thompson suggested establishing a policy on commissions / royalty to RI, keeping market reality in mind. Mr. Kaplan stated that it had been necessary to place a refill order for black summer caps.

14. RI Training Items. Mr. Kaplan stated there was a need for updated training materials. He characterized these as “hand holding” topics that could be distributed electronically. Mr. Thompson recommended that the Training and Development Committee be approached. Mr. Besing suggested that the membership be solicited for input on various topics, with Mr. Currie to finalize. Other languages for non-USA distribution were discussed.

15. “Protecting America.” Mr. Kaplan distributed printout from the website <www.protectingamerica.org>, and suggested RI affiliate with them. There would be no cost involved and could provide some favorable exposure. Red Cross and Salvation Army are affiliated. Motion Mr. Knott, 2d Mr. Manlove, to seek affiliation by volunteering to speak locally, communicate with members, and post a link on RI website. Passed.

16. National Communications System (NCS). Mr. Kaplan said the RI office was approached to make a presentation to the NCS (a Federal agency) and possibly to get involved with the disaster response plan for hurricanes, etc. Mr. Kaplan asked permission for Mr. Cooper and Mr. Kaplan to make presentation during an upcoming NCS meeting (April 12-13) and gather information to bring back to the Board. Consensus to approve.

17. ARCT Teams, Information. Mr. Knott reported a trend where amateur radio operators are forming Amateur Radio Communications Teams (ARCT). These have established levels of licensing, equipment, and training. Report originated

from Orange County (Fla.) ARES/RACES. Mr. Knott suggested that RI consider recommending something similar to Teams for organizing local response Teams.

18. FEMA/NIMS Training IS-100, 200, 700, 800. Mr. Kaplan predicted new FEMA policies will require *REACT* Teams to pass these training classes or find themselves on the outside looking in due to being non-certified.

19. Recognition Committee. Mr. Kaplan displayed the proposed recognition certificate for those who have been members for 20 years or more as of end of 2006. Discrepancies between renewal forms and the database were discussed. Motion Mr. Knott, 2d Mr. Manlove, that future renewal forms include all individual information that is included in the RI database in order to allow corrections. Passed.

20. Awards Committee. Mr. Knott said communications has been re-established between Committee Chair Cauley and EVP Greany. Mr. Cauley inquired about the types of awards to be handled by the committee. Discussion held about methods of submitting info for potential awards, the complexity of applying in the past, and the lack of applicants. Mr. Thompson reported that K40 had been bought out. Mr. Cauley said he had contact info for the parent company, DAS Electronics, and would see if they wanted to continue the K40 awards.

21. IRS “Conflict Of Interest” Statement. Mr. Kaplan distributed a proposed Conflict of Interest Policy and a statement form to be signed by each officer and Director, and advised why that this was needed to comply with IRS regulations. Motion Mr. Manlove, 2d Mr. Knott, to adopt the policy. Passed.

Mr. Besing said that he has a financial interest in and is an officer of Digital Fortress, Inc., a company doing business with *REACT* International. The company provides no-charge web and email hosting services to *REACT* International, web and email hosting services to Teams and councils (for \$60/yr), and has proposed to supply off-site data

backup services for the RI database files. Motion Mr. Manlove, 2d Mr. Knott, to declare this business relationship NOT to be a conflict of interest. Passed.

22. Board Service Awards. Mr. Cooper proposed awarding a plaque to those who have completed service as officers or Directors. He has a list of these persons and obtained a quote for laser-engraved plaques. Discussion held about including all positions held by each individual, with date ranges, and about costs and design. Discussion held about costs, and about providing plaques to office employees. Motion Mr. Roberts, 2d Mr. Knott, to authorize the purchase and shipping costs. Passed.

23. Promotional Programs. Mr. Manlove discussed ideas for promotional programs to reward Teams or members. He will present ideas at Summer and Fall (electronic) Board meetings. Previous “Early Bird” awards to Teams who renewed prior to December 31 were discussed. Mr. Fry presented the idea of approaching national businesses to obtain discount/free coupons to be printed in *REACT* coupon books distributed to members at no charge or included in the *REACT-er*. Mr. Fry will collect ideas and sources and present at next meeting.

24. Use of *REACT* Logos. Mr. Knott questioned the use of the *REACT* logo on products of the Sign Man of Baton Rouge (Louisiana). He does ask for proof of membership before accepting an order. Consensus that the products were stock items customized for individual members, and this was OK.

25. 50-Year Anniversary. Discussion was held about a 50th anniversary celebration in 2012. Mr. Fry indicated that Wisconsin might be interested in sponsoring a convention. Mr. Kaplan expressed the desire to host it near the DC area if support could be arranged from area Teams. Mr. Thompson said DC would be nice if location was near the Metro service to allow members and families to tour DC.

26. Vacant Director Position. Mr. Greany requested the appointment of Mr. Joe Toth (who is

currently running unopposed) as interim director for Region 8. Motion Mr. Roberts, 2d Mr. Manlove, to appoint Joe Toth as Region 8 Director. Passed.

27. Officer Appointments. The President has a two-year term with one year remaining and other officers have one-year terms. Motion Mr. Roberts, 2d Mr. Manlove, to reappoint the Treasurer and Assistant Secretary (Mr. Kaplan), Secretary (Mr. Besing), and Executive Vice President (Mr. Greany) for one-year terms. Passed.

28. Translated REACT Forms Available on Web Site. Mr. Manlove reported that the Team charter application package, Monitoring Sheet, and some other forms have been translated to Spanish. Social Security Form SS-4 needed to obtain employer ID number for USA Teams is available in both English and Spanish and will be supplied to the Computer Services Committee for posting on web site. Mr. Manlove asked that any other forms that need converting into electronic format be sent to him for processing.

29. Nominees for Director – Regions 2, 5, 8. Mr. Fry reported that nominations were received for all three regions from the incumbents, Don Manlove, Larry Fry, and Joe Toth. All candidates are unopposed.

30. 2007 Annual NVOAD Conference. Mr. Cooper asked whether anyone would be attending the 2007 conference in New Mexico. The cost of registration was discussed (\$350 early bird rate, goes up to \$450 after March 23), plus hotel and transportation costs. Discussion held about Mr. McCracken's suggestion that RI submit proposal for making a presentation at the 2008 NVOAD conference. None of the Directors or officers plans to attend.

31. Summer Board Meeting. Mr. Roberts stated that he would be available to attend during second week of July (13-15) as he will already be on the mainland before and after that time. Mr. Knott indicated his vacation was scheduled to start August 18-26. Several Directors requested that Drury Inn be used. Mr. Fry recommended Nashville, Tenn.,

because of attractions nearby. Mr. Manlove recommended Columbus, Ohio, because of close proximity to Teams. Alternate site mentioned was St. Louis, same location as the 2006 SBM. Motion Mr. Roberts, 2d Mr. Knott, to select Nashville, with St. Louis as the second choice, to be held between August 18-26. Mr. Fry will check hotel availability and room rates, and will advise Board. Passed.

Meeting recessed at 5:30 p.m.; reconvened at 9:00 a.m., Saturday

32. Officer Reports –

a. Executive Vice President Greany reported on status of each committee. He is having problems keeping active committee chairs and is working to fill vacancies, but needs qualified volunteers. Computer Services Committee doing fine. Recommends streamlining list of open committees by dropping or combining as needed. Mr. Besing pointed out that the Bylaws provide that the President establishes and appoints committees, and has the power to combine, eliminate, etc. as needed. Mr. Roberts reported that Ms. Daughn O'Neal (Hawaii) has volunteered to serve as chair of the Publications Review Committee, and her contact information has been forwarded to Mr. Greany for consideration.

b. President Cooper reported that he planned to designate Mr. Kaplan as "REACT International Liaison Officer," responsible for Volunteer Agencies Liaison, Emergency Response, Communications, FCC Liaison, and Government Relations. Mr. Cooper reported that work was needed on converting ideas to action and that meant identifying key individuals to implement the action(s). He discussed some of the workload of the office of the RI president, and the types of work he likes to handle. He stated that he would not accept another term as RI president next year.

33. Committee Reports

a. *Computer Services.* – Mr. Stowers sent an email report. Mr. Besing said that plans to utilize a member's webmaster skills didn't work out, and a "plan B" was being developed. A new com-

puter, donated by Mr. Manlove and Mr. Fry, has been installed at Mr. Kaplan's desk. New monitors were also donated, along with another computer, by Mr. Manlove and Mr. Fry. Mr. Cauley, Mr. Knott, and Mr. Besing installed and configured the new equipment.

b. *Publications Review*. No report. A new chair is being considered.

c. *Public Relations*. Mr. McCracken sent a report with recommendations, including posting the RI PSA to various public web sites where videos are normally posted. Mr. Besing said that he had no problem with YouTube.com, but would not use MySpace.com. Mr. McCracken pushed for using Team Topics to get timely information direct to Teams. He recommended a regular email newsletter be sent to individual members.

34. REACT International, Inc. (Penna.). Mr. Cooper discussed the incorporation by Director Lanshe on July 3, 2003, in Pennsylvania of "*REACT International, Inc.*," using Mr. Lanshe's home address as the corporate address. This has been verified. Motion Mr. Cooper, 2d Mr. Manlove, that the Board direct General Counsel Thompson to send a demand letter to Mr. Lanshe to dissolve this corporation. Passed.

35. New Goals and Purpose for REACT. Mr. Greany sent a document explaining his views on a future reorganization of *REACT International*. He suggested possible functions that *REACT Teams* might be able to fulfill. Mr. Kaplan suggested creating a resource (Speaker's Bureau) by local Teams members at other agencies. Mr. Cooper discussed use of Power-Point presentations either by using a computer or by printing out the slides for handouts. The level of difficulty could vary from complete (just show, no talk) to Bullet Point (speaker has to elaborate on each point). Some presentations are now available.

36. Tabled Items From Previous Meetings – Mr. Manlove distributed a list of items that had been tabled as previous Board meetings since 2003 and asked for an update.

2003 and 2004 SBM – Midland Radio proposal – Midland Radio withdrew the offer. Closed.

2003 SBM – MOU with Civil Air Patrol -- CAP Air Patrol declined. Closed.

2003 SBM – MOU with Homeland Security -- No interest from Homeland Security. Closed.

2003 SBM – MOU with American Red Cross and Salvation Army about updating status to reflect concerns about wearing *REACT* uniforms and liability insurance coverage. Some local problems had occurred where *REACT* members were requested to wear ARC or Salvation Army uniforms. Pending. Mr. Thompson to handle.

2003 SBM – Affiliate Program -- Policy being written for Affiliate members.

2003 SBM – *REACT* Store items – Items considered were discontinued by vendors. Closed.

2004 ABM – Citizen Corps SOU/MOU – No apparent interest. Closed

2005, 2006 ABM – Team Management Handbook – work in progress.

2005 ABM – BBB – Handled this meeting.

2005 ABM – Affiliate policy -- work in progress.

2005, 2006 ABM – Plaques to Past Officers and Directors – Handled this meeting.

2005 ABM, SBM – American Truckers Association – no action. Closed.

2005 ABM, SBM – Radio Hero Award – referred to Awards Committee.

2005 ABM – *REACT* Month – Motion Mr. Knott, 2d Mr. Manlove, to designate May 2007 as *REACT* Month. Passed.

2005, 2006 ABM – New RI Membership Award – Referred to Awards Committee.

2005 SBM, 2006 ABM – *REACT*er publication frequency – Handled this meeting.

2005 SBM – East Coast Drill – Time has Passed. Closed.

2006 ABM – President's Volunteer Service Award – no action needed.

2006 ABM – Privacy Policy / BBB – completed.

2006 ABM, SBM – Disaster Donation Policy – Work in progress. Mr. Thompson to write.

2006 ABM – ARRL change of officers – Work in progress. Mr. Thompson to handle.

2006 ABM – Leadership Incentives (one-year membership credit when a member served as a Committee Chair or member during previous year) -- Discussion about “seat warmers” versus “workers.” Motion Mr. Roberts, 2d Mr. Manlove to rescind. Passed.

2006 ABM – Web site – Original plan for redo by David Perry did not work out. Mr. Besing is to follow-up with PayPal to allow payment of fees or donations via PayPal, Mr. Kaplan to work with Mr. Besing.

2006 ABM – Monthly Reports to Directors -- Mr. Cooper requested a Monthly YTD Budget Comparison report in lieu of P&L and Balance Sheet. Mr. Kaplan to coordinate with Mr. Cooper.

2006 ABM – Team Activity Reports – Mr. Kaplan to get with Computer Services Committee to arrange.

2006 ABM – Reciprocal Ad with ARRL – ARRL not interested, unequal revenue and membership potential. Closed.

2006 ABM – Corporate Donation Program – Completed. Web site donation page reflects program.

37. RI Policy 5-01 (Director Obligations). Mr. Cooper emphasized the responsibilities of Directors, primarily encouraging membership retention and helping Teams to attract new members.

38. Data Backup Proposal. Mr. Besing explained that since 1998, Digital Fortress, Inc., has provided web and email hosting services to RI at no charge. Digital Fortress’s core business is providing off-site data backup and disaster recovery services, also known as Business Continuity Planning. Digital Fortress proposes to set up *REACT* International with a free account, and provide automatic backup of membership and financial databases. Client Backup software would be installed in the office by Mr. Besing following approval. Digital Fortress would use this relationship (without revealing the free account financial agreement) in their marketing efforts. Motion Mr. Roberts, 2d Mr. Manlove, to accept this donation of services. Passed.

39. Better Business Bureau Status. Mr. Fry asked about RI’s status. Mr. Kaplan said the application was complete and working through the process of approval. Mr. Kaplan will follow up.

40. Electronic Fall Board Meeting Date. Mr. Fry set the date for 9 p.m. EST, October 17, 2007, using TeamSpeak.

41. Emergency Funds (Grants). Mr. Greany and Mr. McCracken proposed to spend the \$3,000 donation received by RI that had been designated for Hurricane Katrina response. Since their proposal did not fit the donor’s instructions, other funding will be needed.

42. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman. Mr. Manlove nominated Mr. Fry as Chairman and Mr. Kaster as Vice Chairman. Mr. Roberts nominated Mr. Knott for Chairman, Mr. Manlove for Vice Chairman. Mr. Thompson stressed the importance of those officers’ attendance at Board meetings. Upon secret ballot, Mr. Knott was elected as Chairman and Mr. Manlove was elected as Vice Chairman, to take effect at the end of this meeting.

43. Review of Director Resignation (Bylaws Section 5.5(b)). Mr. Jagdeosingh has missed two or more consecutive, non-electronic meetings. Discussion held about *REACT* activities outside the USA. Mr. Cooper read a fax received from Mr. Jagdeosingh. Motion Mr. Knott, 2d Mr. Jackson, to decline his deemed resignation. Passed.

44. Appointment of General Counsel. Motion Mr. Roberts, 2d Mr. Manlove, to reappoint Mr. Thompson as General Counsel for a one-year term. Passed.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned sine die at 2:30 p.m., Saturday, 10 March 2007.

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 on the REACT International, Inc., web site <www.REACTintl.org> or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope with \$0.87 U.S. postage (for U.S. delivery) to REACT International, Inc., 5210 Auth Road, Suite 403, Suitland, MD 20746-4330.)

Great Lakes REACT Provides Escort for Funeral

“With less than a few hours notice on a rainy day, Great Lakes REACT (Team 6068) was asked to escort a group of motorcyclists to a wake,” writes Rufus Kilpatrick, “We managed to gather four members on this short notice, and we were honored to have made the trip.” The rain kept coming, but so did the bikers and so did REACT.



Great Lakes REACT provided escort vehicles to help remember the biker who had died of Lou Gherig’s Disease.



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It **can** be done. Michael Cauley, President Florida Council of REACT Teams, reports that although “It took almost the entire weekend,” he has completed the basic FEMA requirements (IS1, 100, 200, 700, 800). Your editor took about the same amount of time, as has been reported by others as well.

While doing these courses so quickly may not be the ideal, for those who have jobs or other commitments, but wish to be in compliance, may have little choice. But remember, the course is just the starting point. You need to review the material frequently and drill, drill, drill. And when you do an exercise, don’t keep it a secret.



REACT Assists at Highway Accident



Capt. Jay Flora, Cleveland County (North Carolina) *REACT* reports that he and Glen Johnson were called upon to do traffic control when an accident closed down Highway 18 north of Shelby, North Carolina for more than an hour. The incident reportedly injured eight people, two of them critically.

Witnesses say a four-door truck was veering back and forth across the lanes when it came over a hill and slammed into a van carrying elderly people head-on. The driver of the truck was flown to Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte. The rest of the victims were taken to Cleveland Regional Medical Center.

The van, owned by the Transportation Administration of Cleveland County, is used to transport elderly people to and from medical appointments.

Flora reports that rescue units came from all over the area. He and Glen Johnson worked the scene for the entire closure of the road.



REACT Collects "Cookies" for Troops in Iraq

Colleton County, South Carolina, REACT collected and sent a care package in the form of four large boxes – “huge,” says Chief William Kofron of Colleton County *REACT* and the North Carolina *REACT* Council – and one smaller box to troops stationed currently in Iraq.



The recipients were a platoon from the 82nd Airborne out of Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, 46 men and 4 women. The platoon sergeant was a Junior

REACT member with the Colleton County Team when he was a youngster. Supplies are short, he told the folks back home, and *REACT* helped out.

Kofron reports that they sent “body wash, razors, toothbrushes, tooth paste, cookies, and whatever else we can come up with.”

A professional baker made enough cookies for the entire platoon, and Ace Basin ABATE bought a lot of the needed supplies. Colleton County was pleased to be able to generate this high level of community support for the project.



To help with shipping, Kofron requested donations from *REACT* Teams. The shipping of such items overseas is expensive.

Colleton County *REACT* and the *REACT*er would like to thank all those who contributed to this effort. The *REACT*er also thanks Colleton County for the Team’s efforts.

Editor’s Corner (continued from p. 13)

Maine is full of such dead spots. There are also places where even amateur repeaters are hard to hit. Of course, like you, we test for these places as we go through our exercises and devise alternate communications routes.

Are you making plans to use the new amateur privileges available to Technician class licensees? Find out about them, and then see how your Team can take advantage of the opportunity.

FROM ARRL:

The ARRL has been working with the US Department of Defense to develop a plan to mitigate alleged interference from 70 cm ham radio repeaters to military radar systems on both coasts. Citing an increasing number of interference complaints, the US Air Force has asked the FCC to order dozens of repeater systems to either mitigate interference to the "PAVE PAWS" radars in Massachusetts and California or shut down. Amateur Radio is secondary to government users from 420 to 450 MHz and must not interfere with primary users.

The Commission has not yet responded. ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND, stresses that the Defense Department acknowledges Amateur Radio's value in disasters and emergencies and is being extremely cooperative, and a wholesale shutdown of US 70 cm Amateur Radio activity is not in the offing.

A US Air Force contractor identified the problematic repeater systems last summer, but the situation didn't become critical until the Air Force contacted the FCC a month ago. ARRL officials met with Defense Department representatives in late March to discuss alleged interference to the PAVE PAWS radar sites. Henderson has contacted Amateur Radio frequency coordinators in both affected areas.

PAVE PAWS is a missile and satellite detection and tracking system, and its facilities occupy essentially the entire 70 cm band – one factor that makes mitigation difficult. As a "first step," however, the ARRL is recommending that all affected repeater owners reduce power -- possibly to as little as 5 W effective radiated power (ERP).

"We understand the difficulty this may cause to owners and users," Henderson said, "but the alternative to operating with a smaller coverage area may be not operating at all."

If your Team uses repeaters – or simplex – in this band, be aware of the issues. Ed.

EVENT ASSISTANCE

by Bob Leef, Crest REACT Unit 1

REACT is a 45 year old non-profit international organization of communications volunteers. For most Teams, part of our mission is to coordinate community events by using our two-way radio systems. Over the years we have assisted at parades, walkathons, marathons, races of all kinds, fairs, car shows, fiestas, chili cook-offs, Special Olympics, etc. Examples of functions we may do are parking directions, crowd management, general information, VIP shadowing, first aid, radio contact with Police and Fire, security, lost and found, and reporting conditions. We are covered by a \$1,000,000 liability insurance policy. A few of the specific situations we may handle are:

1. Security. We watch property, vehicles, equipment, etc. While working one event a *REACT*er patrolling the area behind an outdoor stage found people who had no apparent business there. This was the location of trucks and trailers that had been left unattended and unlocked. These people were advised they were in a restricted area, and they left. At all kinds of events individuals may be found climbing over the fence or doing other things to gain access to areas where they don't belong.
2. Reporting. We observe problems and potential problems, and advise the event organizer or in some cases take action ourselves. At one event there was a power outage. A member discovered the cause and notified the event organizer who contacted someone who was able to restore power in no more than ten minutes. In parades we report float breakdowns or other holdups so prompt action may be taken.
3. Lost and found. When anyone reports a missing or found child to us, we advise the event organizer and/or Information Desk (this is where the *REACT* banner is hung). Details are then passed by radio to the stage where an announcement is made. Once a member came across a lost child, and an announcement was made several times. When no one appeared to claim the child, a *REACT* member suggested the announcement be made in Spanish. Immediately after this was done, the mother showed up. Does your Team have a bilingual member?
4. Routine announcements. A *REACT*er is always at the Information Desk, and may ask the *REACT*er who is at the stage to make other announcements that are requested by the event personnel. Some members will also have a cell phone to make calls if necessary.
5. Emergencies. A *REACT*er may be located with Police, Fire, and ambulance, and can be quickly notified to request assistance for injuries, accidents, malicious mischief, crowd problems, etc.
6. Escort. On request we will provide a radio escort for VIP's going to make a bank deposit.

These are just a half dozen functions *REACT* may provide. What other ones does your Team do? A complete guide is available at <www.reactintl.org/pubs/Planning_Safe_Community_Events.pdf> It's free, and very comprehensive.

Revised and updated 11-4-06 from original dated 11-20-03

