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**Publications Review Committee:**  
 review1@reactintl.org  
 Daughn O'Neill, Chair  
 Eric Hutchins, K7ELH  
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**Editor:** Don Tarbet, KD1XU  
**Advertising Manager:** Ron McCracken, KG4CVL

**Editorial Address:**  
 The REACTer  
 5210 Auth Rd., Ste. 403  
 Suitland, MD 20746-4393  
 editor1@reactintl.org

**Circulation Address:**  
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 reachq1@reactintl.org

**REACT International, Inc.**  
 Dora Wilbanks, Office Mgr.  
 5210 Auth Rd., Ste 403  
 Suitland, MD 20746-4393  
 Voice: 301-316-2900  
 Fax: 301-316-2903  
 reachq1@reactintl.org  
 Summer hours: 7 AM – 3:30 PM Eastern, Tue., Wed.,  
 Thurs.



# The REACTer

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# FROM THE PRESIDENT

Don Manlove



## Greeting from the desk of the President of *REACT International, Inc.*

As you can see from the photo next to this article, you now have a new president. My name is Don Manlove. I am from Region 2, Chester, Virginia. In addition, I have some big shoes to fill by following the likes of Ron McCracken, Dick Cooper, Chuck Thompson, and many others before them.

I wish to thank the folks that have contacted me on my new position. I have been asked on what my agenda is for the next two years. First off, let me say that my door is open to any one that wants to contact me. However, some ground rules....

1. My e-mail address is <d.manlove@reactintl.org>. If you contact me this way; please place your Team number and name in the subject line. Please be sure to limit your questions to three (3). Be sure you include your contact information at the end of your message, i.e.: full name, address, phone number (day and night), to give me another way to contact you.

2. My address is 4019 West Dogwood Ave. Chester, VA 23831-7311, Now here you may send as many questions or comments as you like, and if at all possible, please print or type your messages on one side of the paper, please. Again, please include your contact information at the end of your

message, i.e. full name, address, phone number (day and night), to give me another way to contact you.

3. My phone number is 804/439-3017 you may call me anytime after 7:00 P.M., Eastern Time, up to 10:45 P.M., Eastern. Monday thru Friday... On the weekends, from 9:00 A.M. to 11:45 P.M. Please limit your call to no more than 5 to 10 minutes, and *REACT* items only. If you have an idea(s) or thought(s) that you think may help, please drop us a line and we will talk about it. What works in your area just may work elsewhere.

4. My fax number is 209/439-3017 if this works for you, than send me your ideas, drawing, and thoughts.

5. The *REACT* International office phone number is 301/316-2900 (voice).

Fax number is 301/316-2903.

E-mail address at the office is <reacthq1@reactintl.org>.

Mailing address for *REACT* International, Inc:

*REACT* International, Inc.  
5210 Auth Rd #403  
Suitland, Maryland 20746

Now, on to my agenda. I hope to:

- To bring a positive attitude to the organization.
- Help bring us back in to the black, financially.
- Help with membership growth and retention
- Help with implementation of the 5 year plan (the Cooper document)
- And other items, which we will be talking about in the near future.

Since being elected by the Board of Directors this past March, I have hit the ground running. Just this past weekend, I have been to western Ohio, central Indiana, northern West Virginia, and the panhandle of Maryland. I have met with various meetings with your fellow *REACT* members. During these meetings, having spoken to many after,

one to one, I am getting the feeling that most of you all are wanting more information on what other Teams/members are doing in there areas. They are looking for more content on the web site, training paperwork from the office, hats, shirts, coats, signage with logos, new type of ID cards (plastic), and many other items.

I will take your thoughts and ideas to the Board of Directors, and will follow up in the next few issues, right here.

Now for some other issues,

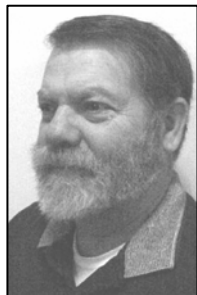
If you have a story or photos of your Team doing something, GET IT TO US... The more the merrier. This is your magazine to show the rest of the REACT (and others) world your stuff.

REACT month is May. Has your Team planned to do something special? Let us know what you did.

Have you prepared a Team display at your local Walmart/Kmart, food store, or mall? Maybe at a sporting event in your area? Truck stop in your area? Radio shop too.

*Don is sending in photographs from his visits to Teams and Councils around the country. We will carry those in the REACTer as we get them. See Travels With the President. Thanks to Don for hitting the ground running. – Ed.*

**From the  
Executive  
Vice President**  
Ed Greany



**First, congratulations** to your new elected officers. Please give them your cooperation and assistance when needed. They are all volunteers and can use all the help you can offer.

Our country has experienced some devastating natural and man-made disasters which include flooding, fires, and storms just to name a few. For this reason, it is important to re-

new our friendships and mutual agreements with some of the other agencies and organizations who are also involved in disaster assistance. When is the last time you sat down with your counterpart at the Red Cross, Salvation Army, CERT, fire department, or law enforcement department in your community? Has it been too long? What about the National Weather Service (NWS)?

The NWS has a mutual MOU agreement with REACT. With the severe weather we have seen across the nation, you should review your spotter or SKYWARN training with a refresher, or if you have never been involved, get involved and trained. It is not difficult and you won't have to learn to be a weatherman but you will be able to identify weather patterns, clouds, and other significant events important to the NWS as a spotter reporter. You can start by going to: <[www.skywarn.org](http://www.skywarn.org)> and locating the nearest district office to your location and sign up for training. There is even an on-line training program you can take. Do it today. You might be saving lives.

## **Submission Guidelines for REACTer:**

Electronic submissions are preferred. Please keep manuscripts under 800 words without prior arrangements. Send to:

<[editor1@reactintl.org](mailto:editor1@reactintl.org)>.

Please reduce photos if you can. Paper submissions should go to:

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

**Faxes can go to Jim Koritzky at (207) 942-8067**

*We welcome your ideas (though we much prefer complete stories), but decisions as to when and whether to publish must remain ours. If you want immediate feedback, you must so specify and include, in the case of hardcopy submissions, a stamped, self-addressed return envelope. Things do fall through the cracks, so sometimes a note of inquiry is in order.*

*Suggestions as to regular features would also be welcome. And letters... Send in your letters to the editor.*



## **REACT Hero Award**

**By Frank Jennings**

On a spring day four members of Rainier *REACT* Radio Watch (RRRW) #3366 trekked from Auburn, Washington, through sleet, hail, rain, and snow to mile marker 72 of Interstate 5 to the CFN truck stop where they met with the Matthew R. Lovo, Sr. family.



The Lovo family, Matt, Matty, Nicole, Elizabeth, Amy

In August of 2007 (see September-October, 2007 *REACTer*) Matt and Matty Lovo (Matty had just turned nine years old in July) were in their tractor trailer loaded with 100 tons of lumber on US Highway 30 North going through the town of St. Helens, Oregon, at about 60 mph. Due to a medical problem, Matt passed out and slumped into the seat. Matty yelled to his father to “quit playing.” When his father didn’t respond and the truck drifted into oncoming traffic, Matty grabbed the CB microphone and asked how he could stop his father’s truck.



He was told to “turn off the key,” which he did. By this time the truck was moving across four traffic lanes and one turn lane and headed toward a power pole on the opposite side of the road. Nine-year-old Matty commenced steering it back to the proper lane of traffic.

As the tractor trailer rig slowed, a motorist who had witnessed the event was able to catch up, get the driver side door open, and apply the brakes as Matty steered the truck to the shoulder of the road.

In memory of this event, the RRRW Team met with the Lovos to present Matty the framed *REACT* Radio Hero Award and a Cobra 25-mile FRS radio system, and Matt Senior with a Cobra 29, 40 channel CB, in recognition of Matty’s efforts in getting help by radio thereby enabling him to stop his father’s truck. Through this effort the damage was held to a bit of scratched paint and a bent bottom step on the driver’s side. Insignificant compared to what might have been!



Matt Lovo, Matty Lovo, Frank Jennings RRRW #3366

Though it was a cold, windy and wet day, we all left the truck stop in good spirits and proud that we could represent *REACT* International, Inc.

*Ron McCracken adds: “REACT Teams can take great pride in a presentation of the REACT ‘Radio Hero Award’ to 9-year-old Matty Lovo. This timely honoring of a young hero coincided with the beginning of REACT Month.”*

*Photos by Allen Geizler, President of RRRW #3366*

## **REACT Month**

Ron McCracken, RI PR  
Chair

Toddle on down to your local library. You can now find *REACT* Month listed in a national publication. Just ask the Reference Librarian for "Chase's Calendar of Events."

"Chase's" is an annual McGraw-Hill publication that lists special days, weeks and months. Your Team's PIO will be interested, so be sure to pass this along. Encourage him/her to join this List to get information like this faster. Your Team's *REACT* Month media release can mention this new citation. It is just one more feather in your Team's cap. Take advantage, and feel proud.

## **REACTer for PR Work**

By Johnny Stowers  
Computer Services  
Committee

<computer1@reactintl.org>

There is now a policy that has been instituted by the Board to enable Teams to have the *REACTer* sent to non-members at no cost for the purpose of Public Relations. As far as I am concerned this is the best thing to come along since Butter Pecan ice cream.

However, as with anything new, there are a few hiccups.

The deadline for submitting articles for the *REACTer* is the 5th

day of each odd month. Don then puts the *REACTer* together and sends it to the printer. Within 24 hours the mailing list is also sent to the printer. Because of this time line, names to be added to the *REACTer* mailing list **MUST** be submitted to the office no later than the 5th day of each odd month to get the next issue of the *REACTer*.

Copies of the *REACTer* are great to have to use at various events. Any PR helps but you must plan ahead. We do not keep large numbers of each issue of the *REACTer* at the office. Normally, Dora only gets 20 extra copies of each issue. If you are going to need 10 or 15 copies for an event, you **MUST** let us know before the deadline so they can be ordered from the printer. No advance notice. No extra copies.

This can be a great tool for PR work but you need to plan ahead.

## **EDITOR'S CORNER Don Tabet**

Good bye, Dick, welcome Don! We are all sorry to see Dick Cooper leave the presidency after his years of devoted service to *REACT*. But, he has said that he will keep in touch, keep writing of topics important to the organization. Remember that, Dick.

Our deepest thanks to Dick for all that he has done. And our deepest thanks to Don Manlove for all that he has done as a member of the Board of Direc-

tors and what he has begun doing as the new president of *REACT*. Don intends to bring Teams and Councils into closer contact with the overall organization, and has begun this effort already.

Note his column on page 2 and also note the "Travels" section with photos taken by Don of various Teams and Councils, often in action.

Note the report on Region 1 by Stan Walters, Director for that region. We expect to see other reports from other Directors in future issues. Let them know what you are doing, so that they will be current with what is happening in the region they represent.

As always, we have reports on weather-related work. That is one of the major challenges/opportunities facing *REACT* not only now, but in the coming years. Get involved.

Publicity – we have several sections on PR this time as we often do. That is what we all need – to get the word out.



**Preparedness Month is September, but preparedness is an ongoing issue. Each issue of the *REACTer* contains reports of a series of emergencies that Teams have had to face. The key to handling these emergencies – and disasters – is preparedness.**

What does your Team do to prepare for what you may be called on to face? Maybe an SOS drill? Maybe FEMA compliance? An information booth? A disaster drill? An information session for volunteers? SKYWARN training?

Plan and prepare. Let us know how you plan to meet your preparedness needs for 2008 and the years to come.

**Don't forget to let us know what your Team is doing.**

Send us your information at:

<editor1@reactintl.org>  
<reacthq1@reactintl.org>

And don't forget Ron McCracken's column in *Popular Communications*:

<ronmccr@hotmail.com>.

Those who are responsible for community preparedness presentations or for preparedness activities may find the following information useful. This may also be of interest to Public Information Officers, Emergency Management personnel and the Public Education community.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has made files for the *Ready* Campaign's publications available to the public to download at no cost. As a result, organizations can reproduce these materials and help expand the reach of this critical information.

There are three areas of the preparedness focus: Individual & Family Publications; Business Publications; and Ready Kids Publications.

Information concerning this material can be found at the following website:

<[www.ready.gov/america/index.html](http://www.ready.gov/america/index.html)>  
<[www.ready.gov/america/publications/allpubs.html](http://www.ready.gov/america/publications/allpubs.html)>

**Ordering Publications:** Individuals or organizations who would like to order printed copies of *Ready* publications can do so by calling **1-800-BE-READY**. Multiple copies can also be requested by calling the **FEMA Warehouse at 1-800-480-2520**

### Videos Available Also

In order to encourage Americans to prepare themselves, their families, and their communities, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, in partnership with The Advertising Council, has created a set of instructional videos. This set is designed to help educate and empower Americans to prepare for and respond to all kinds of emergencies. The first set of instructional videos, released in English and Spanish, is designed to detail how American families get an emergency supply kit, make a family emergency plan, and be informed about the different types of emergencies in their community.

Homeland Security and the Ad Council have also created additional instructional videos with specific information for pet owners, older Americans and individuals with disabilities and other special needs.

To view all of the Ready Campaign's Instructional Videos go to: <<http://www.ready.gov/america/about/instructional.html>> .



# REACT News: Teams and Team Members

## Flagler County Assist *REACT* Responds to Severe Weather in 2007

By Bob Pickering

Our Team is used to SKYWARN activations, and a number of times each year we activate for a SKYWARN event. Usually activating at the direction of the National Weather Service or Emergency Management, Flagler County Assist operates a SKYWARN spotter net on GMRS in close cooperation with the ARES 2-meter net. During larger operations all reports are funneled into SKYWARN Operations a joint information point established by ARES & *REACT* to insure that good information is getting to the National Weather Service forecast office in Jacksonville.



But 2007 was different from the usual. It all started in February of that year when Flagler County was threatened by the infamous Groundhog Day tornadoes that ravaged Central Florida. Four times that scary night, NWS forecasters issued tornado warnings for Flagler County as strong tornado vortex signatures were detected and traveled across the area during the wee hours of

the morning. As each signature crossed the county, SKYWARN Nets were placed into full LEVEL 4, emergency mode expecting the worse. After the threat had passed it was realized that none of the rotations touched down. We were very lucky that not only did we dodge just one bullet, but all four of them.



The next morning revealed the horror that was brought upon communities to the south and west of Flagler from the tornadoes.

But we were not finished yet... March 16<sup>th</sup> a thunderstorm was traveling across the county producing rain and occasionally lightning. But then with no advance notice, suddenly we were under tornado warnings from the National Weather Service. Spotters quickly activated but again luck was with us and this circulation remained aloft.

Yet another SKYWARN activation was called for an unusual southward severe thunderstorm that essentially came down the coastline with a back door cold front and almost immediately after the passage of the front, northeaster conditions swept across the area.

The month of June brought a few more severe thunderstorm activations but it was July when things would really pick up.

The month of July was the busiest single month of SKYWARN activations in Flagler County Assist's

22 year history. Storm after storm came through, some spawning waterspouts, some bringing damaging winds. But the most notable one was on July 22nd.

Robbie Creal (*REACT* 30) the ARES SKYWARN Coordinator had been monitoring waterspouts developing just off shore Flagler Beach. Things had changed quickly on this quiet morning as tropical showers began to move onshore. Already other *REACT* members had reported funnel clouds well inland which prompted the SKYWARN activation and information to be relayed to the National Weather Service.

Then *REACT* 30 spotted a large waterspout that quickly dropped out of the sky and headed right for the shore. His report was relayed to Al Sandrik, Warning and Coordination Meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Jacksonville.

"It just hit the pier, we have debris in the air, there is debris in the air!" came *REACT* 30's report as he observed the now EF 0 tornado taking a path right through downtown Flagler Beach. The tornado was ripping off awnings, snapping power lines and throwing light objects high into the sky. Net Control Station staffed by Bob Pickering, *REACT* 1 declared a SKYWARN Emergency and placed the net on LEVEL 4. Bob relayed real time info to the National Weather Service as the tornado made landfall and stormed through downtown Flagler Beach. Within 3 minutes *REACT* 30 and other units confirmed that the tornado was weakening rapidly and was retreating into the clouds. Never had *REACT* members so closely tracked an active tornado and provided real time info to the NWS. The tornado was confirmed EF 0 and only did minor damage. No storm related injuries were reported.

The rest of the year seemed to balance out with only two more severe thunderstorm activations in August and again in September.

Flagler County Assist *REACT* is very proud of its SKYWARN program and the close relationship the Team has with Emergency Management and the National Weather Service in Jacksonville. 2007 will not be forgotten by our members and we well know many other communities suffered much

more damage and loss than Flagler. But when the next storm comes, we know we are ready.

*Photos by Rob Creal of Flagler County Assist REACT.*

## Oklahoma County *REACT* By Dale Ellis

On April 21, 2008, it was the end of a workday for Oklahoma County *REACT* member Meredith Albrecht, a US Navy Pilot. As she was walking to her house she noticed a frantic neighbor across the street come running out of a house carrying 14 month old Emila Chadwick. Meredith ran across the street to find out what was going on. Emila's mother and grandmother were hysterical and Meredith had to take immediate action. Finding that Emila was not breathing, Meredith's first aid and CPR training kicked in and by using back blows and a mouth sweep, she was able to get Emila breathing again. Meredith continued to maintain Emila's airway and monitor the situation until medical crews arrived. After the ambulance arrived it was determined that Emila had suffered a seizure. Emila is fine and suffered no ill effects from the seizure. Meredith was presented with the Navy's Achievement Medal for her action. A grateful family thanked Meredith for her actions.

## San Angelo *REACT*

San Angelo Tex. - April 6, 2008 - This Sunday started out as most do around San Angelo (population 85,000). Then at 12:00 noon the phone rings and it is a Lt. with the San Angelo Police Dept. The City of San Angelo has 220 women and children coming from the YFZ-Ranch (home of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints built by Warren Jeffs), and the Police Dept, Sheriff's Dept, Texas Dept of Public Safety are asked to secure the perimeter of Fort Concho (the 141 year old fort complex in San Angelo, that is the best restored frontier fort in Texas), from non-authorized pedestrian and vehicles from entering or leaving the area, and we need your help.

San Angelo *REACT* responded with 7 units, with 2 for relief during the day. Upon arriving at the Fort, *REACT* units started to assist and relieve police,



sheriff and DPS officers securing the perimeter from all pedestrian and vehicle traffic, so they could pursue other duties.



Bus loads of women and children started to arrive under police protection from Eldorado in the afternoon to start their stay at the Fort. Then came the flood of satellite and news vehicles from all over the country.

All law enforcement agencies in the area were on high alert, and the stress level of *REACT* members rose and fell as reports that members of the church might drive to San Angelo and attempt to make contact with the women and children.

Being volunteers, and having to return to our jobs the next day, at 10:00 P.M. officers from San Angelo Police Dept, San Angelo Lake and Park Police, and Department of Public Safety started to relieve *REACT* members so they could return home.

At the time of this article, the events are ongoing, and the man power and hours put in have not been totaled. But this is a unique experience for a small west Texas town.

**Antelope Valley (California)  
REACT Fundraiser**  
<<http://www.orgsites.com/ca/antelopevalleyreactco40>>  
**By Mary Cooper**

Antelope Valley *REACT* C040 is participating in a Fourth of July fundraiser June 20, 21, 2008. It is called Challenge Money Tree. This will consist of a 6-8 foot Christmas tree with fake money red, white, and blue with the highest donation as silver

stars, and labeled with 4 denominational names on them. This is to challenge contributors to donate to *REACT* C040 for two-way Radio Equipment and to further our goal to purchase a Disaster Mobile Communication Unit. Location will be at Walmart 40130 10th Street West Palmdale, Ca. 93551.

Antelope Valley *REACT* Team has also registered its IRC Section 501(c) (3) with the Franchise Tax Board, as required by California law for charities to be exempt in California. All charities must file the Annual Registration Renewal Fee Report, and those with gross revenue or assets of \$25,000 or more must file annual Form 990 financial reports with the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts. California Teams should check <<http://ag.ca.gov/charities/>> for complete information. Thank you!

**Southwestern REACT (SWR) At Work**  
**By Steve Jensen KI6JEX**

The event started like most other events.

The briefing was Saturday, January 5th, 0600 SWR98's coach.

The attendees were SWR units 54, 67, 68, 98, 99, 122, 151, Katie, guest of Carl & Marilyn Jensen, and Patryce, Katelyn and Lindsey Jensen no relation to Carl along with 151 Jim's grand daughter, Chelsea.

The task was the Warner springs ENDURANCE Ride. The name was an understatement! As we looked out side, the rain was steady and the temperature was hanging around 55 degrees.

The event is a twenty-five mile and fifty-mile horseback ride in Warner Springs, Calif., in the shadow of Palomar Mountain.

With the assignments handed out, we all departed for our respective locations. I was sent to vet check one's location which was located over the hill and through the woods and lots of mud! We took the Team's new Scuba pro 10x10 popup canopy with the new sides. What a godsend that was, we set up at the check out timers location. Now of

course our objective was communications, but sometimes we knew that you have to be flexible when working events, and boy did we have to be flexible Saturday.



Things were pretty much uneventful until later in the day when Lindsey blurted out “Oh, my gosh!” Looking up we saw a horse bolting and a rider lying on the ground.

I called for EMERGENCY traffic to clear the air, then ran/slid my way over to him. By this time Dr. Dave was there, and the rider had lost consciousness very briefly. There was also another doctor onsite and together they performed an evaluation on the rider, determining that he might have a minor concussion and recommending that he go to the hospital for an evaluation.

The rest of the day went with out a hitch. We all worked, including non-Team members and children. We weren't the only ones with last minute participant cancellations.

The nicest thing of the day was when Terry said she had extra tickets to the dinner and invited all of us. Dinner was fantastic and much appreciated by all who attended.

Then there was the pool party! Well you'll just have to work the event next year and bring your swimwear and foul weather gear to understand and appreciate the pool party.

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## **Antelope Valley REACT** By Mary Cooper

1. June 10, 11, 2007- Thunder On The Lot, car and bike show, a charity for children. Antelope Valley REACT passed out flyers 6 weeks before the

event and provided security for vehicles and parking of classic and Antique cars. President Bill Rini and Mary Cooper were the only members that helped in this event. They were inside a nice cool building. The event was a two-day affair. Bill Rini and Mary Cooper received a Certificate of appreciation for helping bring in \$303,000 for 28 kids charities, here in the Antelope Valley.

2. On November 19, 2007, Antelope Valley REACT C040 provided assistance with Whispering Angels (feeding the needy), a non-profit organization here in Rosamond, Calif. This event was for feeding the underprivileged that could not afford a meal or that had no means of cooking a Thanksgiving meal.

REACT provided security in the parking lot, parking the vehicles and escorting the people inside to eat their free meal. REACT assisted with setting up of the very large hall and decorating tables. Whispering Angels fed 940 people that night. It did sadden us to see this many people, but glad to see them there! This event was held at Hummel Hall, in East Rosamond, Calif.

2008- June 14, 15. This year event is the 14th annual Thunder on The Lot event. We will again provide security for the antique and classic vehicles. We will park the vehicles and provide crowd control. This year's two-day event will be held at the new fairgrounds in Lancaster, Calif. This has gotten to be the largest event in the Antelope Valley, so officials had to move it to bigger grounds. Performing live “Foghat.” Antelope Valley REACT will have a Booth set up handing out REACT's Fundraiser flyers, and brochures, with information on becoming a REACT member. *See also Antelope Valley Fundraiser this issue – Ed.*

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## **Cleveland County, North Carolina, REACT** By Jay Flora

At about 1958 hours on April 19, Chief Jay Flora of Cleveland County REACT of Shelby, North Carolina, saw a funnel cloud lowering over the

town of Kings Town. The cloud was moving northwest, but did not come down. It lifted at the same time Flora was on the phone with the National Weather Service.

At 2013 a tornado did touch down on Double Shoals Road at Royster Road. Trees and power lines were down. At that time three barns were hit on the Fallston-Waco Road.

The Cleveland County Team is in need of VHF 2-way radios in the 150 to 170 Mhz range. The Team transmits on 159 Mhz and receives on 152 Mhz. They could use both mobiles and handhelds.

**Coshocton, Ohio, REACT Team  
C 575  
By Paul Jackson**

Coshocton REACT has been a Team for well over thirty years and works with the County Sheriff's Department very closely. The Sheriff's cars and the 911 communications center have GMRS radios with the REACT Team's frequencies in all units so that the 38 REACT Team members can talk to any officer on duty at any time according to the local rules.

The Team does many special events such as county fairs, fire scenes, festivals, and bike events as well as performing other services. The Team works well with the local EMA.

Team C-575 also has many SKYWARN-trained members. We also have received training in other observations of important to the local authorities.

The Sheriff's Department and County EMA have stated that the county would not be able to handle much of the county activity without the REACT Team members to help.

**Belmont County, Ohio, REACT,  
Team 2373  
By Gilbert Porter, Trustee**

We are a Team trying to make our county safe and a better place to live. We sponsor many safety breaks and help the county with communications needs and manpower. We got a thanks from the Ohio House of Representatives for our activities for the county and for the State of Ohio.

**Penobscot REACT**

Penobscot, Maine, REACT found its plans to participate in the May 3 disaster drill at Bangor International Airport cancelled by the need for directing of resources to flooding in the northern part of the State. Real disaster supersedes hypothetical disaster. We will participate in the drill, rescheduled for May 17. We will also take part as usual in the Birdwalk for the Blind held at the Fields Pond Nature Center of Maine Audubon on May 10.



**TRAVELS WITH THE  
PRESIDENT: Don Manlove  
Visits the Field**

*One of the things our new president is anxious to do is to get out in the field and talk to the Teams and Councils directly. While he is there, he plans to take his camera. So, we will present the results of his photography.*



# Ohio



Allen County *REACT*, Ohio, Team C-322



Flag City, Ohio Team members at Allen County meeting



Allen County *REACT* officers



Allen County junior members

# Indiana



Heart of Michiana, Indiana *REACT*



Lake City *REACT* Team members





Members of the Indiana State REACT Council



REACT was there; the public was there; but the weather was awful. The course was shortened due to the weather.

## Virginia



Prince William REACT, Virginia, Team C-109 member performing crossing guard duties at March of Dimes walk-a-thon Sunday, April 20.



*All photos by President Don Manlove. Thanks Don. Let's join him in bringing Teams and Team members into closer contact with REACT International, Inc. It can only benefit all of us.*

## Report from Region One By Stanton Walters, Director for Region 1

Greetings REACTers. Region 1 is hot, radio REACTIVE you might say! In my short time as the Director for Region 1 I have signed off on several new Teams, handled at least an inquiry a month



and become aware of old Teams coming back to life. To all of you who have returned or are joining us for the first time, welcome!

I have not made contact with every Team in the region yet, but I have emailed or spoken with many of you and the pleasure was all mine. The RI Board of Directors is not anybody's boss. We are here to serve the Teams in our assigned regions. We conduct most business primarily by email and telephone. I look forward to visiting some Teams over time.

Region 1 has tremendous potential and plans for a possible drill in the New York City area are being discussed. If your Team is in New York, Connecticut, or Pennsylvania and is interested in being involved in a major drill event, please contact me and let me know of your interest. My email address is <s.walters@reactintl.org>.

As President of York County *REACT* #6123 I see the great good that Teams can bring to pass in their communities. From emergency incidents and roadside assistance to community events and Na-

tional SOS drills, every Team makes a difference. But it is my observation that there is one thing that makes *REACT* truly unique. We can communicate directly with the public. I am a licensed Amateur and ham radio is a great service. I am a RACES operator and a Local Net Traffic handler for the NTS. But hams talk to other hams. We do one thing that no one else does. We use the Part 95 radio services of CB, MURS, FRS and GMRS to talk to and assist individual citizens directly. We are the liaison organization between the public at large and government and non-government agencies.

I think the future of *REACT* is bright. I am proud to serve with President Don Manlove and the Board of Directors. In the coming months I think we will hear from President Manlove and begin to see his vision for the future of *REACT*. But ultimately it is you, the members of local Teams serving in your communities who will bring any vision to life.

# 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:

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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](http://www.nat-com.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](mailto:IWantEComm@reactintl.org)> for information about downloading the manual online.

## IDEAS WANTED

If you have more training ideas and want to volunteer to help the Training and Development Committee, contact Tom Currie, committee chairman, at: <[training1@reactintl.org](mailto:training1@reactintl.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.

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## CALENDAR

May - June 2008

- May: *REACT* month
- May 26: Memorial Day US
- September: National Preparedness Month
- October: National Crime Prevention Month
- June 5: Deadline for July – Aug. *REACTer*

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## Silent Mics

**Pauline Musall,  
Cass County REACT**  
By Sue Barton, Secretary  
Indiana State REACT Council

Pauline Musall, long-time member of Cass County REACT, Cass County REACT #C692, passed away April 23. She had been in an automobile crash, broke her hip and had been in a nursing home. She will be sadly missed by everyone in the Indiana REACT group, as well as the Cass County Team. Our prayers go out to her family and friends. She will be sadly missed by all

---

**Lloyd Idol, Cleveland County  
REACT**  
By Capt. Jay Flora  
Cleveland County REACT, #4935

Lloyd Idol, 69, passed away March 5, 2008. Lloyd formed the Cleveland County REACT, Team 4935, in Shelby, North Carolina, in 1995 and became Chief and remained the Chief until his death. His efforts and hard work are the reason Cleveland County REACT existed for many years.

He was a former member of the Cleveland Volunteer Fire Department and the Cleveland Community Radio Watch.

He loved REACT, doing volunteer work, helping people, and CB radios.

He will be missed by his family, the members of Cleveland County REACT, and everyone that knew him.

He is now a member of God's Team and watching over us.

---

**National Preparedness Month**  
Contributed by Ron McCracken  
RI PR Chair

Wow! REACT Month barely here and we need to be planning ahead for NPM in Sept. Here is the latest info. Each Team/Council can and should register. In that way, REACT will appear in the list NPM publishes on its website many times. Each one means more good PR for all. Take advantage. See below:

*Dear National Preparedness Month Friends,  
Thank you again for your interest in National Preparedness Month (NPM) 2008. September is around the corner, and the Ready Campaign hopes you will join us in 2008 as a NPM Coalition Member. If you have not done so already, go to <<http://ready.adcouncil.org>> to register.*

*A reminder, if you were a Coalition Member in previous years you still need to register for 2008.*

*Additionally, the Campaign is designing a toolkit to provide you and your organization ideas about how to help spread the preparedness message to your employees, members, customers and communities. This toolkit will be made available to all NPM Coalition Members who register.*

*Lastly, the Ready Campaign hosted a NPM Webinar on March 19 and we are making it available to you. To view it, please visit:  
<[http://wm.yourcall.com/NPM/NPM\\_streeter\\_031908.wmv](http://wm.yourcall.com/NPM/NPM_streeter_031908.wmv)>.*

*We hope you will join us for NPM 2008! If you have any questions or need assistance, please write us at [npm@dhs.gov](mailto:npm@dhs.gov).*

*Thank you!*

*The Ready Campaign*

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# **REACT International, Inc. Summarized Minutes of the**

Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors  
held 7-8 March 2008  
at the Offices of REACT International, Inc.,  
5210 Auth Road, Suite 403,  
Suitland, Maryland

## ***Directors Present***

Stan Walters (Pa.), Region 1  
John Knott (Fla.), Region 3, Chairman  
Don Manlove (Va.), Region 2, Vice Chairman  
Dick Cooper (N.J.), President (Director ex officio)

## ***Directors Absent***

Vacant, Region 4  
Larry Fry (Wis.), Region 5  
C.C. Roberts (Hawaii), Region 6  
Robert Kaster (Okla.), Region 7  
Joseph Toth (Calif.), Region 8  
Vacant, Region 9  
*also absent* Kenny Jagdeosingh (Trinidad & Tobago), West Indies envoy to the Board

## ***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

## ***Visitors Present***

Michael Cauley (Fla.)  
Charles Hardy (W.Va.)  
Bob Lumpkin (D.C.)  
James Henderson (D.C.)

**1. Call to Order.** Chairman Knott called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and presented the agenda.

**2. Establishment of Quorum.** Secretary Besing called the roll and determined that four Directors and three officers were present. Regions 4 and 9 being vacant, the Secretary declared that a quorum was established.

**3. Minutes of Previous Meeting.** There being no changes or corrections, the minutes of the Special Meeting held 25 August 2007 were approved as written.

## **4. Officer Reports.**

a. Secretary - Mr. Besing reported all recent minutes are posted the web site.

b. Executive VP - Mr. Greany advised he was willing to continue in his position at the Board's discretion.

c. Treasurer - Mr. Kaplan deferred until the budget discussion.

d. President - Mr. Cooper emphasized the need for regular financial reports from the Treasurer. He also stated that he would not accept another term as President.

e. General Counsel - Mr. Thompson reported no new legal problems.

## **5. Board Reports.**

Region 1- Mr. Walters reported several new Teams and working on another; he is also working on the possibility of a multi-state drill with New York and Pennsylvania Councils.

Region 2 - Mr. Manlove reported gaining two new Teams but lost several Teams; is working on attracting new members for existing Teams.

Region 3 - Mr. Knott said that membership retention is the focus of most Teams.

Region 4 - Vacant

Region 5 - Mr. Fry – absent, no report

Region 6 - Mr. Roberts absent, in a written report advised there are only 7 Teams in Region 6 with one in Oregon and Hawaii, two in Idaho, three in Washington, and none in Alaska, Montana, Wyoming, and the Pacific Islands (CNMI, Guam, American Samoa). The Pacific Northwest *REACT* Council has been dissolved and the assets will be distributed among the member Teams. He recommends realigning the regions and possibly merging one or more.

Region 7 - Mr. Kaster- absent, no report

Region 8 - Mr. Toth - absent, no report

Region 9 - Vacant

West Indies Envoy - Mr. Jagdeosingh absent, in a written report advised that the attempt of a ham radio operator in Trinidad to take over the Trinidad & Tobago *REACT* Council has been resolved. Two council meetings have been held recently in T&T; there are several major events pending, including an Olympic pre-qualifying event (boxing).

## 6. Reports of Board Committees.

a. Finance - Mr. Kaplan discussed cash flow problems caused by lower income from membership dues. Too many bounced checks has resulted in a policy requiring many payments to be by certified check or money order. Investments in certain stocks and bonds have not been cashed out to prevent actual losses. Mr. Kaplan noted that an item from the Annual Audit Report (Singleton & Bardowski, LLC CPA) recommending that one person not handle both income and expenditures could not be implemented in a one-person office (as noted by the auditors). Motion Mr. Manlove, 2d Mr. Cooper, to accept the report as presented. Motion passed.

b. Office Review - Mr. Manlove reported no changes needed. Office equipment has been upgraded by two new printers and an LCD flat screen monitor valued at \$414.13 donated by Richmond Metropolitan *REACT* Team #3968 (Va.).

c. Office Lease information - Mr. Kaplan is checking for lower rent within same building and neighboring areas. Current lease is for three years but can be terminated by RI prior to February 2009. However, the current lease is 35% lower than prevailing commercial rates.

## 7. Corporate Committee Reports.

a. Awards & Recognition - Mr. Cauley displayed a Radio Hero Award plaque and two radios to be awarded to a nine-year-old in Oregon and his father. (See minutes from August 2008 Special Board Meeting for details.) Cobra Radio donated a GMRS and a CB radio for the award.

b. Computer Services - Johnny Stowers (Calif.) and Mr. Besing presented a written report.

c. Convention & Site Selection – Vacant

d. Five Year Planning - Mr. Cooper presented a written report. Office has resumed mailing “Team Topics.” No major progress to report.

e. Membership Development & Retention – Vacant

f. Publications Review - Daughn O’Neill (Hawaii) submitted a written report. She will be unable to continue reviewing the *REACTer* because of publication time constraints.

g. Public Relations - Ron McCracken (Ont., Fla.) sent a written report. No press releases have been sent to news media. The *REACT-List* is being used to communicate to subscribers. “Pop-Comm” magazine continues to run ads for *REACT* on an exchange basis. Motion Mr. Walters, 2d Mr. Manlove, to authorize posting the *REACT* PSA on <[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)>. Motion passed.

h. *REACTer* - Don Tarbet (Me.). The Board discussed publication deadlines and the need to allow more time for official review prior to being sent to press. Mr. Tarbet’s written report suggested possible changes in content or publication frequency. All issues are posted to the RI web site. Subscription via electronic instead of paper copy is encouraged. Discussion regarding changing publication to quarterly. Board asked staff to contact Valley Printing to see how quarterly publication would affect printing costs and postage charges. A report 2005 showed significant savings.

i. Training & Development - Tom Currie (Ky.) sent a written report.

j. Ways & Means - Mr. Cooper presented a written report.

k. Team Management Handbook Revision - Mr. Thompson reported some progress.

**8. 2008 Budget.** Proposed budget was distributed. Discussion held about using on-line postage options. Mr. Kaplan stated that the postage meter contract expires in November 2008. Discussions held about applying for USPS nonprofit mail permit, use of credit card machine and services to reduce costs, staff's voluntary reduction in hours or pay during past year, and commissions paid for *REACT*er ads. Motion Mr. Manlove, 2d Mr. Cooper, to discontinue paying commissions. Motion passed. Motion Mr. Cooper, 2d Mr. Manlove, to adopt the proposed budget, as amended. Motion passed.

**9. IRS Filings by Teams and Councils.** Mr. Kaplan mentioned the new electronic IRS Form 990-N most Teams and councils will have to file for 2007. If requested, RI is assisting with filing. Only three Teams have requested assistance so far.

**10. Guest Presentation.** Bob Lumpkin (D.C.) and James Henderson (D.C.) (both of Federal City *REACT*, Inc.) discussed a concern over lack of conventions and need for regional conferences. Their Team is interested in hosting a regional conference near the D.C. area. Discussion held regarding need for NIMS training documentation to be on file with the RI Office for each Team member so that when requested, the office can provide a list of NIMS certified members. Federal City *REACT* will need manpower assistance for January 2009 Presidential inaugural, in support of the District of Columbia emergency management office. Article will be written for *REACT*er.

**11. Regional Problems.**

a. Ohio Council – Mr. Manlove has met with council leaders to resolve the council's suspension. The council has submitted minutes for the period requested and re-elected council officers. Motion Mr. Cooper, 2d Mr. Manlove, that

when determined that the Ohio State *REACT* Council has complied with Board requirements, the council be reinstated to "good standing." Motion passed.

b. Utah judgment – Mr. Thompson said that nothing further had been heard.

c. *REACT* Australia, Inc. - Mr. Kaplan reported contact from a 900-member group in Murray Bridge, South Australia, purporting to be affiliated with *REACT* International and asked the Board for guidance.

**12. Region 6 Realignment.** Mr. Roberts has proposed this region be realigned. Discussion held about need to realign all regions because of changes in number of Teams and Members. Tabled to the Summer meeting.

**13. Team Renewals.** Mr. Kaplan distributed a comparison between 2007 and 2008. Top four reasons for non-renewal of members is (1) deceased, (2) relocated to area without a Team, (3) lost interest, usually because of low activity levels by Team, (4) no longer "compatible" with Team. He said non-renewed members should be tracked and efforts made to retain them. The dues structure and possible decrease in US and Canada family and junior class dues was discussed.

**14. Plaques for Past Directors.** Mr. Cooper asked for a budget authorization.

**15. General Liability Insurance.** Mr. Kaplan reported that the general liability insurance premium cost does not appear to have caused any Team to drop out. Renewal premium for 2009 won't be known until 2008 registration is completed.

**16. Personal and Legal Matters.** The meeting was closed (only officers and Directors attending). Staff has proposed that office hours be changed May through September, to be open Tuesday through Thursday. Phone and email messages will checked (remotely) on Mondays, Fridays, and weekends. This voluntary action will reduce payroll by 40% to aid the budget. Motion Mr. Cooper, 2d Mr. Manlove, to accept offer, with appreciation. Motion passed. Meeting reopened.

**17. National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (NVOAD).** Mr. Kaplan advised that NVOAD has changed the membership structure to two tiers, based on the organization's annual budget, Class 1 being \$15 million and above and Class 2 being \$3 million or above (or more than 300 total staff and members, which includes *REACT* International). Existing member organizations with lower annual budgets will be grandfathered for some period of time.

**18. Team Topics.** The last Team Topics was mailed in February – future schedule calls for mailings in the months between *REACT*er mailings.

**19. Donations Policy.** Mr. Thompson said the policy was still under development. He discussed differences between accepting restricted/designated or unrestricted donation, and handling of donated funds.

*The meeting was recessed at 4 p.m. until 9 a.m. Saturday.*

Reconvened at 9:10 a.m., Saturday by the Chairman; no change in attendance.

**20. Future of *REACT*.** Mr. Cooper opened a lengthy discussion concerning ideas for revitalizing *REACT*. Detailed notes were kept in a separate report and forwarded to the Five Year Planning Committee for possible implementation, *REACT*er articles, etc. He asked other Directors to help focus with one or more committees to get them kick started.

**21. Election and Appointment of Officers.**

a. President. Mr. Cooper nominated Mr. Manlove. There were no other nominations and the Chairman declared Mr. Manlove elected for a two-year term.

b. Executive Vice President. Mr. Manlove nominated Mr. Greany. There were no other nominations and the Chairman declared Mr. Greany reelected for a one-year term.

c. Treasurer. Mr. Cooper nominated Mr. Kaplan. There were no other nominations and the

Chairman declared Mr. Kaplan reelected for a one-year term.

d. Secretary. Mr. Cooper nominated Mr. Besing. There were no other nominations and the Chairman declared Mr. Besing reelected for a one-year term.

e. Assistant Secretary. Mr. Cooper moved for reappointment of Mr. Kaplan for a one-year term, 2d Mr. Manlove. Motion passed.

f. General Counsel. Mr. Cooper moved for reappointment of Mr. Thompson for a one-year term, 2d Mr. Manlove. Motion passed.

**22. Election of Chairman, Vice Chairman.** Mr. Cooper assumed the chair and conducted the elections.

a. Chairman. Mr. Manlove nominated Mr. Knott. There were no other nominations and Mr. Cooper declared Mr. Knott reelected for a one-year term.

b. Vice Chairman. Mr. Manlove nominated Mr. Walters. There were no other nominations and Mr. Cooper declared Mr. Walters elected for a one-year term.

**23. Dates for Upcoming Meetings.**

a. Spring Special Meeting. The Board discussed holding a Spring electronic Board meeting. Motion Mr. Cooper, 2d Mr. Manlove, to hold meeting on Saturday, 7 June 2008, at 3 p.m. EST. Motion passed.

b. Summer Special Meeting. It was proposed to have the usual Summer meeting electronically to save travel costs. Motion Mr. Cooper, 2d Mr. Manlove, to hold electronic meeting on Saturday, 9 August 2008, at 3 p.m. EST. Motion passed.

c. Special Fall Meeting. The Board discussed holding a Fall electronic Board meeting. Motion Mr. Cooper, 2d Mr. Manlove, to hold meeting on Saturday, 15 November 2008, at 3 p.m. EST. Motion passed.

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

Meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m., Saturday, 8 March 2008, sine die.



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](http://www.REACTintl.org)> or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope with \$0.88 U.S. postage (for U.S. delivery) to REACT International, Inc., 5210 Auth Road, Suite 403, Suitland, MD 20746-4330.)*

## **CANWARN in CANADA.**

By Geoff Coulson  
Warning Preparedness Meteorologist  
Environment Canada

"CANWARN" Stands for CANADIAN WEATHER AMATEUR RADIO NETWORK. Yes we do have Severe Weather in Canada!! Were not just Snow! This spring was a busy one for the training for our Canadian Spotters in the Ontario Region organized by Ward Kennedy DON VALLEY REACT TEAM 4866 Unit #11 VE3WGK Canwarn Net control Central Ontario.

The 2007 season itself was an interesting one with 9 confirmed or probable tornadoes just two fewer than the long term average of 11 in Ontario. Of note was that 5 of these tornadoes were associated with a massive supercell thunderstorm that moved through portions of Grey, Bruce, Huron, Perth and Waterloo-Wellington counties on July 8th, 2007. In addition to spawning a number of tornadoes, large hail was reported with this event as well. Fortunately, no major structural damage was done from this impressive storm. Also interesting was that all of the tornadoes last year were ranked at the lowest end of the Fujita damage scale...as either an F0 (winds up to 115 km/h) or F1 (winds between 120 and 170 km/h). We continue to be

long overdue for an F3 or larger tornado with the last F3 being confirmed in the Violet Hill area in April of 1996.

2007 also reminded us than anywhere in the Province can experience severe thunderstorms and tornadoes with a damaging wind event occurring in Northwestern Ontario in the Ignace area on the morning of June 26th, a confirmed F1 tornado occurring later that same day about 60 km to the west of Thunder Bay and a damaging wind event taking place on August 1st at the Kashechewan First Nation near James Bay.

New faces are always sought at our training sessions, but we are also anxious to update the training of those who haven't attended a session in awhile.

## **The REACTers' Creed Through Safety and Communications**

**Thomas R. Milne**  
**Vice President REACT of**  
**Chatham – Kent Team # 6124**

Through rain, sleet and snow  
Our Team is ready to go  
Each call we take a life to possible save  
Ready to serve, both night and day.

No emergency too big or small  
We drive, we walk, we patrol  
We stand ready for the call  
Be proud of who we are, for we are REACT

We are a Team, its true  
We are one  
We are ready to take challenge may unfold  
REACTers' we are one and all

No matter what the call, no matter the time of  
day  
We stand together ready for those that are in  
need

Each person their job to do  
And at days end, when everyone is safe and se  
cure

We go our separate ways  
Till once again we are called upon  
Our duties to perform  
*REACTers'*, through Safety and Communications  
once more.

---

## Logo Design From Ron McCracken

George Holmes has been tasked by RI to form a Design Committee with a dual mandate:

- \*Create a *REACT* '50th Anniversary' graphic
- \*Update the existing *REACT* logo graphic

Sounds exciting? To serve on this Design Committee, contact George at <react6385@yahoo.com>. Committee members will be doing their work by e-mail. He will be looking forward to your note. Get in touch with him right away. Thanks for helping. It should be a ball.

Hot tip: There will be a contest with PRIZES to determine the winning 50th graphic. Watch for more details. Meanwhile, get your pencil going on some sketches to submit. One more way to get involved in the future of your *REACT*.

---

## You Deserve It By Ron McCracken, KG4CVL, WPZX486 RI Publicity Chair

Publicity. Is your Team getting all the good publicity it deserves?

Remember to include Don Tarbet, editor of *The REACTer* each time your Team issues a media release. Include me, too, so I can try to give your Team coverage in our bi-monthly '*REACT in Action*' column in *Popular Communications* magazine.

E-mail makes PR so much easier these days. Once your release is ready, you can enter all the addresses you wish, click SEND, and it is on the way. Each additional address increases your chances of coverage. Send to *all* media outlets in your town. That is a sure way to earn media friends.

Someone on your Team almost certainly has e-mail. If your Team PR officer has e-mail, so much the better, but someone else can help out by e-mailing releases he prepares. Take advantage of all the skills you have in your Team to get the word out about the good work you are doing.

New to PR? Pick the brain of the person you are replacing. Ask for copies of some of the Team's earlier releases. Use those as a guide. Head for your library and ask for an easy book on PR. It will include some model media releases. Follow the format shown *very closely*. It works. It is what the media expect your Team's releases to look like.

Good photos give your releases an advantage. They need to show people *doing* something, not just standing in a neat line. Your subject can be talking on a radio, or helping someone. He can be studying a map with a police officer. He should always be in Team uniform, with *REACT* logo or I.D. clearly visible. Vehicles should display magnetic *REACT* signs. Zero in on your subject as closely as you can. Again, e-mail makes it easier to send photos.

Snail mail still works, too. Any PR book will tell you that all your releases should be typed, double space. Again, someone can help you with that. You can mail me at: 765 Scotty Drive, Titusville,

FL 32780. Don's mailing address appears on p.1 of each issue of *The REACTer*, as does his e-mail address. Mine is Ron.McCr.765@gmail.com .

Teams have asked for national PR. These two avenues are available to every Team. We are always looking for others. Meanwhile, take full advantage of those we already have. Send items regularly to Don and me. We are eager to help your Team all we can.

---



**National Crime Prevention Month**  
**Contributed by Ron McCracken,**

Any REACT Team can help with this safety survey. Some Teams already work alongside Neighborhood Watch and others may want to look into it.

Note the opportunity to help mark “Crime Prevention Month” in October. Talk to your local safety partners about it. Check out the resources men-

tioned in the survey, too. Your Team could likely use some of them very well.

*The National Sheriffs' Association and the National Crime Prevention Association are focusing their efforts for building and providing resources to you for Celebrate Safe Communities.*

*Celebrate Safe Communities helps to kickoff October as Crime Prevention Month, an annual celebration. The event hopes to strengthen the partnerships between law enforcement and communities.*

*Beginning October 2-4, 2008, communities across the country will host crime prevention events in neighborhoods, with schools, and in collaboration with local businesses.*

*Please take a moment to click on the following link to help us refine our efforts by participating in a 5 question field assessment. (no more than 2 min. of your time)*

*<<http://www.usaonwatch.org/Admin/CSCFieldAssesmentQuestionnaire.php>>*

*Thank you!*

*Robbi Woodson  
1450 Duke Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314-3490  
703.838.5330 / 800.424.7827 x330  
<[rwoodson@sheriffs.org](mailto:rwoodson@sheriffs.org)>  
<<http://www.USAOOnWatch.org>>*

---

**Let us know what your Team plans for Preparedness Month and Crime Prevention Month. Make sure you let Ron McCracken know as well.**

# Are you a **SKYWARN** **SPOTTER?**

*Do you know someone who is?*

**SKYWARN Shoulder Patches are available again!**



One to four patches are \$3.00 each; five or more patches ordered at the same time are \$2.75 each. Prices include mailing costs. Copyrighted design.

Send order to: Jerry Hazell (N3HKJ)  
535 Palisades Blvd.  
Crownsville, MD 21032

Make check or money order out to: **MSCRT**

All proceeds go to the Maryland State Council of REACT Teams, Inc. and will be used to further SKYWARN and other programs supported by REACT.

If you are *not* a SKYWARN spotter, shouldn't you be? Severe weather knows no boundaries. It can occur anywhere – and generally does. Check with your local National Weather Service Office for training programs and other information. Canada needs spotters, too. See page 21. And how about other countries? If you live outside the US and Canada, what is done where you are? Let us know.