

INSIDE: THE NEXT GENERATION *REACTer*

the **REACTer** SPRING 2013



Innovative. Informative. Enjoyable.



features

forward thinking 03

president's message 04

equipment to talk about 05

opinion 06

success in the field 07

the numbers 08

management messages 09

forward thinking



Brad Walker *Editor*

Welcome to the new REACTer! In the inaugural edition for 2013, you will notice a significant departure from previous editions.

The new REACTer has been completely redesigned from top to bottom. It will consist of a clean, professional look and fresh new content that will always strive to be innovative, informative and enjoyable to read.

The new features of the REACTer will share key information about REACT International and your fellow teams and members. A strong emphasis will be placed on sharing ideas and programs that work.

In order to accomplish these goals and to deliver the best possible final product on a quarterly basis, your contributions will be vital! We look forward to hearing from you regarding your team's experiences, what

you have learned from them, and how those experiences can be helpful to other teams across the different regions. As many of us have learned, great programs can get even better with a little inspiration!

In future editions, we will include pages for each region to contribute information on team activities. This edition will primarily guide you on the new features of the REACTer, and how these features will be geared towards you, the members!

Please include the following criteria in your future submissions to help us out!

1. What are you doing?
2. How are you doing it?
3. Who are your "customers"?
4. What are the keys to your success?
5. What can you improve?
6. Where are you and your team going (strategically speaking)?

send to: editor@theREACTer.com

“The future of REACT is strong”

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

John Capodanno *President*
REACT International

I would like to say hello to all the REACT members and say how nice it is to finally have the REACTer back on track. The great news is—you will start seeing the REACTer on a quarterly basis like you have before.

There have been a lot of positive changes going on with REACT International over the last several months. I feel the organization is moving in the absolute right direction. As President, the one thing that has pleased me the most is that we are starting to grow with more teams! Also, we are getting more team members who are willing to step up and be involved at the International level.

The future of REACT is strong and I see us continuing this way for many years. We are currently on track to help international teams get NIMS certifications and other training.

I am extremely pleased with the Officers and Directors of the organization. Now, we are all working together like a well-oiled machine with the best interests of REACT International in mind.

Next, I feel great that I was able to be helpful in moving the REACT Headquarters from Dinwiddie Virginia to a virtual office on Wacker Drive in Chicago, Illinois, where REACT originally started.

For your information, I conduct all of the work out of my home here in Glendale California—this alone has saved the organization upwards of \$50,000 dollars per year. With the office being run out my home, despite being a non-paid volunteer, I dedicate 40+ hours a week to make sure the organization stays operating and teams are renewed as they come in.

I am very excited with the positive direction in which REACT is heading and I look forward to keeping the organization running in this positive manner for many years to come.

equipment to talk about

COMMUNICATIONS

We are living in a pretty remarkable time when it comes to the ever-advancing technologies in communications. Successful REACT Teams have embraced and continue to implement new technology in creative and innovative ways. Here you will be able to find stories about how different teams are using technology to increase productivity and effectiveness. The sharing of knowledge and practices can be an extremely valuable tool!

VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT

Many teams have invested significant dollars in vehicles and equipment to help them in their quest to streamline operations and make their communities safer. It's time for a little show and tell! ▶



send to: editor@theREACTer.com



LET'S TALK TECH...

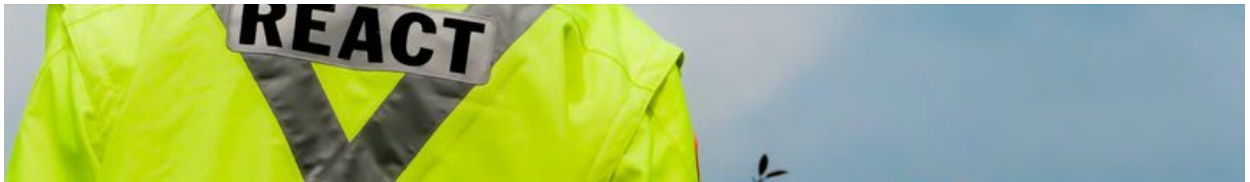
We'd love to hear from you!

What technologies has your team embraced and in what way have these technologies made your team more efficient?

What kind of radio system does your team use? How do you manage it and what steps are you taking to plan for the future?

Be sure to send us some high-resolution photos of your gear in action so your equipment/tech can be featured in one of the next issues!

opinion



TURNING THE CORNER

Kirk Walker *Executive Director*
Waterloo Regional REACT

The future is bright!

This is something that I firmly believe. In my 40 years of being part of REACT, and contributing to its growth and success, I have always looked to the future with hope and optimism. Not only does it feel better, but it allows us to see the unlimited possibilities that can be realized.

I strongly believe that REACT International has turned a corner towards a very bright future. In my opinion, and from my standpoint as Executive Director of my local team, I have been extremely impressed and pleased with the outstanding efforts and accomplishments of your management

team over the last year. They have done what needs to be done and continue to move the organization forward in a professional and business-like manner.

***“The future is ours...
to make an impact on”***

These efforts have brought us to where we are today. The future is ours – all of ours – to make an impact on, starting today. Let us all cast our vision to the future, and work together to make all our communities safer places to live! REACT is an ideal organization to be able to do this!

send your opinion article to: editor@theREACTer.com

success in the field

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

The members of your team are the lifeblood of your organization and REACT International. With your input, upcoming issues of the new REACTer will discuss what teams are doing to successfully recruit and retain members.

The Membership Corner will also act as a medium for acknowledging the many positive contributions your members have made to REACT and your community.

Let us know:

We'd like to know where your new members are coming from?

Also, what are you doing to ensure a high level of professionalism when dealing with the emergency services?

We'd love to see pictures of your team's uniforms. Show us your team shoulder flashes! Your contributions are the REACTer's fuel.

editor@theREACTer.com

FINANCIAL HEALTH

Financial well-being is critical for your current operations and future growth. We'd like to hear what steps your team is taking to secure its financial well-being. What revenue streams are you tapping into? Are you using the REACT International Charity status to your advantage in fundraising?

This corner will talk about all of these issues, and more!

OPERATIONS

Tell us about your successful operations! As always, tell us what you are doing, how you are doing it, the keys to your success, who your customers are and where you are going strategically. Of course, high-resolution action photos are welcome!

“Membership...is the lifeblood of your organization...”

REACT®

the numbers

Many of you have asked about renewal information. Here are the latest team and member renewal stats:

Region	TEAMS BY REGION			MEMBERS BY REGION		
	Renewed	Not Renewed	Retention (%)	Renewed	Not Renewed	Retention (%)
1	14	4	77.8%	147	48	75.4%
2	10	10	50.0%	64	94	40.5%
3	13	4	76.5%	163	50	76.5%
4	15	3	83.3%	198	54	78.6%
5	18	5	78.3%	235	39	85.8%
6	5	0	100.0%	56	0	100.0%
7	11	5	68.8%	147	81	64.5%
8	17	2	89.5%	180	35	83.7%
9	14	4	77.8%	248	31	88.9%
Total	117	37	76.0%	1438	432	76.9%

events & activities

For the next REACTer, we'd like to know:

- How many calls did you take last year?
- How many scheduled events did you attend? (number and man hours)
- Are these numbers trending upwards?
- How many emergency responses did your team have?
- And finally, what are the key factors in successfully dealing with event planners and the emergency services?



send to: editor@theREACTer.com

management messages

FEMA AND NIMS TRAINING

John Capodanno *President*
REACT International

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to announce that REACT International has received accreditation to now include our international members in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Training Program that is managed by FEMA.

The NIMS Training Program defines the National NIMS Training Program as it relates to: (I) *Preparedness*, (II) *Communications and Information Management*, (III) *Resource Management*, and (IV) *Command and Management*. It specifies National Integration Center (NIC) and stakeholder responsibilities and activities for developing, maintaining and sustaining NIMS training.

The NIMS Training Program outlines responsibilities and activities that are consistent with the National Training Program, as mandated by the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006.

Our first international “candidate” to go through the course will be Robby Goswami from Region 9.

This initiative reinforces your management team’s efforts to continue to promote the highest calibre of training and professionalism to you and your team.

Stay tuned for a report on Robby’s experience!

For information about NIMS, visit:

www.fema.gov/NIMS

COMMITTEES

Jim Dyke *Executive Vice President*
REACT International

The Bylaws Committee has been formed and has had [two meetings]. The Chairman of the Bylaws Committee is Stan Walters out of Pennsylvania and the Vice Chair is Jerry Jones out of Dallas County REACT in Texas.

We also formed the Training and Development Committee which is being chaired by Tom Currie out of Kentucky.

Here are some items that your management team has been working on over the last few months:

1. I have been vigorously working on getting the committees back up and operating. I have had great response from different team members and their willingness to perform and serve on committees. The fact is the committees are slowly starting to come back to fruition and I am trying my best to see that they are revived and fully operational.
2. The Bylaws Committee met on Thursday April 25, 2013 and it seemed to be a very productive meeting with many ideas shared. This committee is being chaired by Stan Walters, the Vice Chair is Jerry Jones, and the remaining members are: Directors Roy Drury, Tom Jenkins, and Charlie Land; Alert REACT Response Team member Dan Davidson; and Flaggler County REACT team member Debbie Heywood.

(article continued on pg 10) ▶

your organization

COMMITTEES (continued from pg 9)

The Bylaws Committee is made up of a complex and skilled variety of members and I think the minimal changes and such that are needed will be handled quite well by this committee. The goal for the committee is to have proposed changes or amendments completed by June 15th so they can be presented to the BOD at the meeting on July 7, 2013.

3. The Training and Development Committee is another one I have been working to revive for it to once again become active. This committee will be chaired by Tom Currie and currently has one other member, Scott Fry. I will work with Tom to get more members serving on the committee and also to come up with a plan for the committee.
4. The ITC Committee is another committee that is currently being revived to have more members serve on it. Currently, Roy Drury Chairs the committee. I am looking for at least three other members to serve on the ITC committee with these gentlemen.

“...we are making positive strides!”

I ask that all Directors put out to the teams in their region that these committees have openings for members, Chairs and Vice Chair positions. If anyone is interested have them send me an email! I am doing my absolute best to get all the committees back up and active within the organization and I appreciate the support I have received from everyone thus far.

Get Involved!

We are looking for Chairs and members for the following committees:

- ▶ Public Relations
- ▶ Membership Development
- ▶ Awards and Recognition

In closing I would just like to say that I think the organization is moving forward in a positive way and we are making positive strides! With this continued effort from directors and members who are willing to serve on committees, I think we will grow with leaps and bounds and be even more successful. I would once again like to express my gratitude and appreciation for everyone who has stepped up to help get these committees back up and running.

Remember – this is YOUR organization and your input is incredibly important.

If any members would like to be part of these important planning committees, please call or email Jim directly at:

p ***(330) 280-4857***

e ***J.Dyke@REACTIntl.org***

your board of directors

All members of the Board of Directors of REACT International, Inc. are members of a local REACT Team in their respective areas and volunteer time to fulfill the duties of their respective positions. The positions of Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board are elected annually by vote of the Regional Directors in office. The President is an ex-officio member of the Board of Directors. All Regional Directors are elected by Teams in their respective Regions every three (3) years. Candidates for Regional Director positions must be a member of a Team in the Region that they wish to serve and must have been a member for three (3) years or more.

DIRECTORS 2013

Warren Deitz *Pennsylvania*
Region 1 Director
ME, VT, NH, MA, CT, RI, NY, PA
W.Deitz@REACTIntl.org
(845) 319-2035
AA2YQ

Thomas "Tom" Currie *Kentucky*
Region 2 Director
DE, NJ, MD, VA, KY, WV
T.Currie@REACTIntl.org
(502) 935-5113
N4AOF

Roy Drury *Florida*
Region 3 Director
NC, TN, SC, MS, AL, GA, FL, PR
R.Drury@REACTIntl.org
(813) 473-2280
K4DCT

Jim Dyke *Ohio*
Executive Vice President
Chairman of the Board
Region 4 Director
MI, IN, OH
J.Dyke@REACTIntl.org
(330) 280-4857

Laurence Fry *Wisconsin*
Region 5 Director
ND, SD, NE, MN, IA, WI, IL
L.Fry@REACTIntl.org
(608) 752-4547
K9FRY

Tom Jenkins *Idaho*
Region 6 Director
AK, HI, ID, MT, OR, WA, WY
T.Jenkins@REACTIntl.org
(775) 385-0242
N7VOI

Charles "Charlie" Land *Texas*
Vice Chairman of the Board
Region 7 Director
AR, LA, NM, CO, KS, MO, OK, TX
C.Land@REACTIntl.org
(210) 568-7092
KC5NKK

John Capodanno *California*
President
Region 8 Director
CA, NV, UT, AZ
J.Capodanno@REACTIntl.org
(818) 237-3015
KJ6QAJ

Ravindranath (Robby) Goswami *Trinidad & Tobago*
Region 9 Director
International
R.Goswami@REACTIntl.org
(868) 682-2212
9Z4RG/AK4NB

NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

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

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

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

To subscribe to **National Communications** call toll free (800) 423-1331, log onto our web site at www.nat-com.org or mail to:

P.O. Box 291918
Kettering, Ohio 45429

A full year's subscription (6 issues) is only \$21.



Every issue is packed with articles, interviews and stories of how to get more out of your scanning, monitoring, and CB radios.

There are product reviews and product announcements of interest to those of us who enjoy the hobby of using the radio waves. And of course, advertisers for making your equipment better!

We accept:



For a free preview of **NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS** log onto www.nat-com.org

Listening is only half the fun...
POPULAR COMMUNICATIONS
is the other half!

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

If you enjoy radio communications, you'll love

POPULAR COMMUNICATIONS

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



FOR FASTER SERVICE FAX 1-516-681-2926

Name _____ Call _____
 Email _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

1 year- 12 issues... <input type="checkbox"/> 32.95 (Save \$38.93)	2 years- 24 issues... <input type="checkbox"/> 58.95 (Save \$84.81)	3 years- 36 issues... <input type="checkbox"/> 85.95 (Save \$129.69)
Canada/Mexico- one year <input type="checkbox"/> 42.95, two years <input type="checkbox"/> 78.95, three years <input type="checkbox"/> 115.95, U.S. Dollars.		
Foreign- one year <input type="checkbox"/> 52.95, two years <input type="checkbox"/> 98.95, three years <input type="checkbox"/> 145.95, U.S. Dollars.		

Popular Communications
 25 Newbridge Road, Hicksville, NY 11801 • Phone: 516-681-2922 • Fax 516-681-2926
www.popular-communications.com



the **REACTer**

publication info

The REACTer (ISSN 1055-9167) is the official, quarterly publication of REACT International, Inc., a non-profit public service corporation.

© 2013 REACT International, Inc.
All Rights Reserved.

REACT International, Inc. Headquarters:

REACT International, Inc.
155 North Wacker Drive, Suite 4250
Chicago, IL 60606
(866) 732-2899 (US only)
(301) 316-2900 (International)

Your article and photo submissions are vital to our success! Articles, high-resolution photos and inquiries into advertising in the REACTer can be emailed to: editor@theREACTer.com

The REACTer is available online at:
www.theREACTer.com

REACT Teams and Councils may reproduce articles from the REACTer with appropriate credit given.

The opinions expressed in the REACTer are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of REACT International, Inc. Unless otherwise specified, photos are from the REACT team featured in the accompanying article or from REACT International, Inc.