

the **REACTer**

JAN-MAR 2015



REACT continues
brand overhaul
with new logo

page 4

the **REACTer**

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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

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president's message

As always, I am pleased to be able to share with you my **enthusiasm** as we are now well into 2015. The Annual Board Meeting certainly set the stage for our continuing journey as we work to **modernize** REACT International and move towards a **modern, fast moving** organization—one that will attract the **next generation**.

Starting a year or so ago with the fresh changes to the REACTer, continuing with the recently introduced new logo and, with any luck, moving ahead with a fresh re-launch of the International website, your organization is looking to the future with nothing but excitement. Financially we continue to be stable and solid.

On a team level, I am encouraged to see the success that teams are having with new programs. The Los Angeles County REACT and Waterloo Regional REACT Aerial Imagery program, utilizing UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicles), is just one example. Who would ever have thought that REACT would be taking to the skies? I am personally excited when the teams communicate their successes with us – after all, the teams are the heart and soul of REACT!

Please let us know of your successes. By sharing your programs with us, we can share them with your peers around the world.

Have a great and successful year!

John Capodanno
President



REACT launches new logo

February 4, 2015

Glendale, California—At the 2015 Annual Board Meeting held in Las Vegas, Nevada on January 26th, 2015, the directors selected a new primary logo to represent REACT International.

The logo selected was one of ten developed for REACT by Logobench of Sunnyvale, California (www.logobench.com).

This project, which was originally approved by the board of directors at the 2012 Annual Board Meeting, has been long in the making.

While REACT International will begin use of the new logo immediately, teams and councils are still free to utilize any of the approved logos they wish for their daily use. While we would like to see the teams and councils utilize the new logo, it is not mandatory.

Shortly you will see a change in the REACT International website, as well as social media presence on Facebook and Twitter, to coincide with the new look.

The board of directors has authorized President John Capodanno to contract with Logobench to complete this work so that we have a unified look and feel to both the website, as well as the social media outlets.

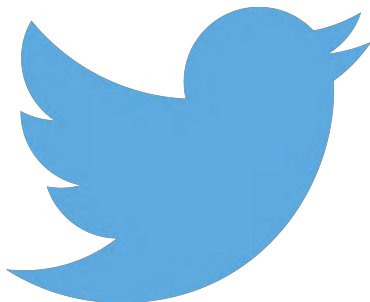
John stated today that he is enthused by the choice of the new logo and the prospect of a more up to date feel to our public presence.

We greatly hope that this new look will appeal to the younger generation of potential members, which will ensure REACT's existence well into the future.

#REACTLove



From left to right: Nikki Membrene, Quinten LaMonica, Matt Misetich, John Capodanno, Cody Walker and Felicia Knox.



REACT International
@REACTINTL



REACT Recognizes Reach Out World Wide (ROWW)
p0.vresp.com/b7iOkE #TEAMROWW
#REACTLove

2:09 PM - 15 Jan 2015



"When you put **good will** out there it's **amazing** what can be **accomplished**."

- Paul Walker, Reach Out WorldWide Founder

ALWAYS IN OUR **HEARTS**

www.roww.org



On Behalf of REACT International and its members, we recognize Reach Out WorldWide on their 5th Anniversary.

When seconds count, you REACT. "When you put good will out there, it's amazing what can be accomplished."

By making a difference in just one person's life, ROWW changes the world for the better.

Congratulations on your
5th Anniversary!

opinion

Moving forward: an op-ed

Roy Drury *Region 3 Director*
K4DCT/WQUE463/RR00107242

Most REACTers that have been around a while are familiar with the birth of the REACT concept back in 1961—on that Chicago highway, during a snowstorm, when a sick infant was in dire need of assistance. The genuine desire to assist our fellow citizens earned REACT the President's Volunteer Action Award in 1982, because of Evie White's dedication to contributing to her community. (Mahon, 2011)

That was a time when everyone had a CB Radio, which was the only means of communicating when not at home. This was also my first full year in REACT after joining my local team Labor Day weekend in 1981, during what was to be my first "Wake Break." I am personally here to tell you that it's not 1982 anymore—it's 2015 and its time to get to work.

Well, technology has, as it frequently does, changed to include many forms and means of communication. This includes cell phones, tablets, social media and the list goes on. The two-way communications industry has also changed from basic Analog LMR systems to the latest encrypted digital systems that ensure public safety organizations can adequately serve the needs of the public.

Nothing is perfect and that is why it is always going to be a constantly evolving process to improve and perfect technology. There always seems to be a bigger and better, new and improved, greatest and latest idea to pursue in the advancement of two-way communications technology.

The Citizens Band Radio has had its day, but believe it or not, it still has an active role in disaster mitigation with hundreds of semi-tractor-trailers used in relief efforts, serving thousands of citizens (like you and I), in the event of a disaster.

The growing popularity of smartphones that surf the web, navigate your trip, and connect us half way across the world with a mere couple of watts, has certainly contributed to the demise of the Citizens Band Radio and the REACT program. It would appear, to a great number of REACT members, that our program has stalled to the point where we are no longer effective in our operations.

One may ask questions as to why we, as an organization, have not transitioned from the CB days in order to keep up with the changing two-way communications technologies? There are a number of citizen-based options available to teams and members across the country from the Family Radio Service (FRS), General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS), Multi Use Radio Service (MURS) and even those keeping in touch utilizing the Maritime Radio Service.

We are in desperate need of reorganizing in order to move into the 21st century. Not in the sense of the reorganization we have seen in 1998, but more in organizing the program itself.

Over the past few years, REACT has taken drastic steps that, while some members feel were damaging to the organization, in fact have helped REACT's survival into 2015.

Article continued on page 8 ▶

Moving forward: an op-ed (cont'd)

As you will see in the year end numbers on page 9 of this issue, the 2014 Annual Review shows that we closed 2014 with a surplus. This is the third year that REACT has not overspent its funds. Additionally, REACT has not taken a draw from the Life Members Account in as many years.

REACT has taken steps to reduce expenses and, in the process, also reduce membership dues back to a reasonable level. Some would say to the members that this has come at a hardship, as *The REACTer* is no longer printed and mailed, and is only available online.

Printing and mailing the publication is, plain and simply, just not cost effective for our organization. The last full issue that was printed and mailed in late 2011 cost the organization over \$2500 in production and mailing costs, which does not include postage for the issues returned to the office due to members not keeping their information up to date.

We need an organized membership program to not only attract new members, but to keep them in the program. This may be facilitated by multiple, structured levels of training to transition a member through the many stages of the organization. We should be training tomorrow's leaders, but we are somehow not moving forward. This year, however, some steps in the right direction were made.

The board authorized the use of a new logo for REACT, the first in the history of the organization. Currently, Thomas Currie, region 2 director, and I are working on the production of a Field Operations Guide for REACT. Also, we are currently working toward rolling out a new membership database that will ease renewals and allow members and teams to easily change membership information to keep it current. However, these are only tools in the toolbox and are not the only things that need to be accomplished.

With regards to proper use, basic radio skills and use in emergencies, the REACT program should be the leading authority in citizen-based two-way communications to the public and to the many

emergency-management citizen-based response teams such as Community Emergency Response Teams and Medical Reserve Corps. Our monitoring program should be inclusive of all citizen-based two-way radio bands, not just CB radio. We should be able to develop one team's successful skills into training opportunities for those who want to learn those skills.

Insanity: doing things the same way and expecting different results.

Yes, the program is stale.

Can we turn it around? Sure!

Can one person do it alone? No way.

It will take a whole lot of work, but you, the members, have to get involved. We can't improve the program by doing nothing.

The definition of insanity is doing things the same way and expecting different results. This has been the definition of what REACT has done for many years—and it has to stop quickly. Far too often do I hear a team or one of the members saying, "That's the way we have always done things," or, "That's not what we do," or, the best one of all, "That is not what REACT does."

It's time to get involved, move forward and stop thinking its 1982 when it's actually the 21st century.

*Note: I would like to credit the contribution to this article from a piece that was originally written by John Mahon (N1PYN) and published originally in the [July - September 2011 issue](#) of *The REACTer*.*

the numbers

2014 year end

2014 Financial Review

◀ [click to view full report](#)

revenue

Source	Revenue \$
Dues	23,092
Team Charters	75
Team Insurance	7,145
Life Membership	300
Affiliate	518
Merchandise Store Revenues	1,335
Contributions	380
Interest	2,510
Total Revenue	35,355

expenses

Source	Expenses \$
Program Services	6,617
General and Administrative	26,425
Total Expenses	33,042

net assets

Source	Net Assets \$
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	57,184
Change in Net Assets	2,313
Net Assets at End of Year	59,497



membership YTD

Region	Teams by Region			Members by Region		
	New or Renewed	Not Renewed	Retention (%)	New or Renewed	Not Renewed	Retention (%)
1	13	2	86.7%	150	26	85.2%
2	7	5	58.3%	65	27	70.7%
3	15	1	93.8%	162	54	75.0%
4	16	2	88.9%	204	49	80.6%
5	15	4	78.9%	157	83	65.4%
6	1	2	33.3%	33	14	70.2%
7	12	0	100%	169	28	85.8%
8	13	2	86.7%	123	59	67.6%
9	13	2	86.7%	279	59	82.5%
Total	105	20	84.0%	1342	399	77.1%

Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Member Count	2383	2125	1845	1566	1627



REACT takes to the skies

Kirk Walker *Executive Director*
Waterloo Regional REACT

The busy Waterloo team, already in its 43rd year of operations, has literally taken to and is reaching for the skies!

For the last 17 years they have provided high power emergency lighting at over 25 major accident scenes per year.

As an extension of their service at these scenes, they have recently purchased a [DJI Phantom 2 Vision+](#) UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle).

Waterloo Regional REACT will now be providing 1080P HD quality aerial photos and video of major accident and crime scenes to the Waterloo Regional Police Service, as requested.



Up to a height of 300 feet, this unit can hover, swoop and fly over scenes to capture imagery within a radius of up to a mile away from the pilot on the ground.

REACT members have committed to 16 hours of ground school classes prior to piloting this aircraft.

This is another example of REACT partnering with the emergency services to make our communities safer!

regional news

Region 9 update

Ravindranath Goswami *Region 9 Director*
9Z4RG/AK4NB

REGION 9 DEVELOPMENT

A visit is planned for Chile in 2016 to investigate possible interest in that territory. Future plans are to pay courtesy visits to the other served regions such as Canada, Thailand, and the Philippines as time, logistics and resources allow.

Work to negotiate with groups in Australia, Germany, Austria, India and China continues, but these remain long term prospects.

ID CARDS AND RENEWALS

Several Trinidad and Tobago teams have experienced and continue to experience an issue receiving their 2015 ID cards. There have been major delays in the postal system. The heart of the problem is the customs department. As of the middle of March, only half of the TnT teams had received their IDs. An alternative form of shipping will have to be considered for the future.

REACT INFORMATION NET

The REACT Information Net (EchoLink), continues to show great promise. We have been able to bring REACT Negor, team 6118 of the Philippines, on board to participate. Efforts are being made to have other teams in the region begin participating. In addition, a repeater link (147.975 MHz) has been established in Trinidad and Tobago for amateurs to check.

It would be great if more members of the board can participate on a regular basis on the net. It is embarrassing when the net control asks for directors and the response is low. It may also be possible to link up repeaters in the various regions to the EchoLink conference server to expand the network's reach and to even be a recruitment source.

Among other initiatives, a major focus of efforts in 2015 will be to revitalize the Junior REACT program in the

region, commencing with an article for *The REACTer* to begin a promotional campaign. This will be followed by approaches to colleges and other secondary schools.

REACT NAME AND SYMBOLS IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Given that the new logo was approved at the Annual Board Meeting, it is strongly suggested that REACT International pursue trademark registration in the service territories to avoid symbol theft.

The new logo was customized for use by Trinidad and Tobago teams, as approved by the ABM. An example is given below. Feedback has been quite positive.



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS

The following recommendations have been put forward for citation/awards by REACT International:

1. Mr. Warren Conlee – Past International Director, hardworking and passed away while in the service of REACT.
2. Mr. Trevor Brathwaite – Member for over 50 years and still in active service as President of team 6006.

These may well fit the requirement of the newly created Frank B. Jennings Award.

ECOMMS CERTIFICATION

The Team in the Philippines is having a challenge taking the online ECOMMS exam. It would be great if an accommodation can be made to have the material translated into their language. If this can be done, it would be of great value to them.

Respectfully submitted.



2014 financial review

REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC.
Chicago, Illinois
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014

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Phone - 213-283-9500

To the Board of Directors
REACT International, Inc.
Chicago, Illinois

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT

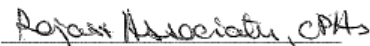
We have reviewed the accompanying statement of financial position of REACT International, Inc. (a nonprofit organization) as of December 31, 2014, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the year then ended. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of Organization management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and for designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements.

Our responsibility is to conduct the review in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our report.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

ROJAS & ASSOCIATES, CPAs



Los Angeles, California
March 3, 2015

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REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC.
 Chicago, Illinois
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2014

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash	\$ 4,196
Prepaid expenses	2,174
Total current assets	<u>6,370</u>
FIXED ASSETS	
At cost	1,000
Accumulated depreciation	(1,000)
Net fixed assets	<u>0</u>
OTHER ASSETS	
Investments	58,482
Total other assets	<u>58,482</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 64,852</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Deferred revenues	\$ 2,335
Total current liabilities	<u>2,335</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>2,335</u>
NET ASSETS	
Temporarily restricted	3,020
Unrestricted	59,497
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>62,517</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 64,852</u>

This statement is to be considered in conjunction with the
 accompanying independent accountants' review report.
 The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC.
 Chicago, Illinois
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	<u>Unrestricted</u>
PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE	
Dues	\$ 23,092
Team Charters	75
Team insurance	7,145
Life membership	300
Affiliate	518
Merchandise store revenues	1,335
Contributions	380
Interest	2,510
TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUES	35,355
EXPENSES	
Program services	6,617
General and administrative	26,425
TOTAL EXPENSES	33,042
CHANGE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	2,313
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	57,184
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$ 59,497

This statement is to be considered in conjunction with the
 accompanying independent accountants' review report.
 The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC.
 Chicago, Illinois
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Change in net assets	\$ 2,313
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:	
Increase in prepaids	(1,410)
Decrease in other payable	(1,144)
Increase in deferred revenues	<u>543</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>302</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	
Purchase of securities	(2,475)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(2,475)</u>
Net decrease in cash	(2,173)
CASH, BEGINNING	<u>6,369</u>
CASH, ENDING	<u>\$ 4,196</u>

This statement is to be considered in conjunction with the
 accompanying independent accountants' review report.
 The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC.
Chicago, Illinois

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014

NOTE 1. NATURE OF OPERATIONS

REACT International, Inc. was founded in 1962 and formed in 1975 pursuant to the Illinois Nonprofit Corporation Law as a public benefit corporation. The Company provides public service and emergency communications activities for emergencies, disasters and other forms of aid to citizens. The Company's office is located in California.

NOTE 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting: The Company prepares its financial statements on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles; consequently, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when the obligation is incurred. Contributions received are recorded as unrestricted, temporarily restricted, or permanently restricted depending on the nature or existence of any donor restriction.

Basis of Presentation: The Company follows the presentation requirements of Financial Accounting Standards Board Codification of ASC Topic 958 - Not for Profit Entities. Under ASC Topic 958, the Company is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: permanently restricted, temporarily restricted, or unrestricted. The Company currently has no permanently restricted net assets.

Cash and Cash Equivalents: Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand and cash in bank accounts.

Receivables: Trade accounts receivable are recorded net of an allowance for expected losses. The allowances are estimated from historical performance and projection of trends. The Company considers the receivable to be fully collectible, and accordingly no allowance for doubtful accounts is considered necessary.

Property and Equipment: Property and equipment are recorded at cost. Depreciation and amortization are calculated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful life of the asset.

Investments and Related Income, Gains and Losses: Investments in equity and debt securities are reported at fair value. Fair values are primarily determined based on quoted market prices or other market inputs. Interest and dividends on investments are included in nonoperating activities. All other investment income, including realized and unrealized gains and losses on short-term and long-term investments, is reported as nonoperating activities.

The Company records its investments under Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 820, *Fair Value Measurements*, for fair value measurements of financial assets and financial liabilities and for fair value measurements of nonfinancial items that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a recurring basis. ASC Topic 820 defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. ASC Topic 820 also establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosures about fair value measurements (Note 4).

See accompanying independent accountants' review report.

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REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC.
Chicago, Illinois

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014

NOTE 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Income Taxes: REACT International, Inc. is exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and Section 805 ILCS 105 of the Illinois General Not For Profit Corporation Act of 1986 for revenue generated from its exempt purpose activities.

Use of Estimates: The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

NOTE 3. FIXED ASSETS

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Accumulated Depreciation & Amortization</u>	<u>Book Value</u>
Furniture and fixtures	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 0
	<u>\$ 1,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,000</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>

The Company provides for depreciation and amortization using the straight-line method over the estimated useful asset lives.

NOTE 4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS - INVESTMENTS

Investments consist of a single public, non-traded business development company investment, which is valued at the fund's current offering price. In accordance with its prospectus, the fund must maintain a net asset value of at least 87% and is generally illiquid, with no publically offered shares and a 7.5% discounted share repurchase plan.

Fair value is defined as the price that a party would receive upon selling an investment in a timely transaction to an independent buyer in the principal or most advantageous market of the investment. A three-tier hierarchy has been established based on the extent of use of observable inputs as compared to unobservable inputs for valuing investments and is summarized as follows:

Level 1 - Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical investments at the measurement date.

Level 2 - Significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar investments, interest rates, repayment speeds, credit risk, etc.)

Level 3 - Significant unobservable inputs.

See accompanying independent accountants' review report.

**REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC.
Chicago, Illinois**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014**

NOTE 4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS - INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

As the fund's valuation is derived from its net asset value which is based upon the fair value of its underlying holdings, but there is no active market for this security, the Company has determined this investment is value using Level 2 inputs.

The availability of observable market data is monitored to assess the appropriate classification of financial instruments within the fair value hierarchy. Changes in economic conditions or model-based valuation techniques may require the transfer of financial instruments from one fair value level to another. In such instances, the transfer is reported at the beginning of the reporting period. There were no transfers between levels during 2014.

NOTE 5. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Company has evaluated subsequent events through the date of this report and has determined that there were no material subsequent events that required recognition or additional disclosure in these financial statements.

See accompanying independent accountants' review report.

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2014 ABM minutes

Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of REACT International, Inc., held Monday, January 26, 2015, at The Delano Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The meeting was held in the suite of Chairman Capodanno. It was called to order at 6:00 PM PST by Chairman Capodanno.

<u>Directors</u>		<u>Officers</u>		
R1 - Warren Dietz	Absent	President	John Capodanno	Present
R2 - Thomas Currie	Present	Executive Vice President	Florence Conlee	Absent
R3 - Roy Drury	Present	Secretary	Ryan Reid	Absent
R4 - Matt Vizzuso	Present	Asst Secretary	Matt Vizzuso	Present
R5 - OPEN		Treasurer	Russ Dunn	Absent
R6 - Tom Jenkins	Present	Asst Treasurer	Vacant	
R7 - Charles Land	Present			
R8 - John Capodanno	Present			
R9 - Ravindranath Goswami	Present			

Guests: Shawna Vizzuso – Overlook Heights REACT; William Richards, President – LA County REACT; Matthew Missetich, Vice President – LA County REACT; Jerry Jones, President – Dallas County REACT; Dawn Drury, Secretary – Tampa Bay REACT

A quorum has been established.

Director Jenkins moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Director Drury. Motion carried.

Moment of silence observed for all members who have passed in the last year.

Chairman Capodanno appointed Dawn Drury as secretary pro-tem for the meeting.

Chairman Capodanno welcomed the board and guests to the Annual Board Meeting in Las Vegas.

Director Drury moved to accept the resignation of Secretary Reid, seconded by Director Jenkins.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y
 Motion carried

Minutes – Director Drury moved to accept the meeting minutes of September 11, 2014, with the corrections of itinerant frequency radio license, correct spelling of Director Vizzuso’s last name, and to show Director Goswami was present for the meeting (he joined five minutes after the start of the meeting), second by Director Vizzuso.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y
Motion carried

Gavel passed to Director Land

Officer Reports

- a. **President** – renewals are going well, it has been slow going with getting the new picture ID’s done. The quality of the photo is not always the best so have been using Photoshop to make them look best as possible.
- b. **Executive VP** – no report
- c. **Secretary** – no report
- d. **Treasurer** – P&L and financial report was distributed.

Director Land requested a recess at 9:16am returned at 9:21am

Gavel passed to Director Currie

Director Reports

- a. **Region 1** – no report
- b. **Region 2** – Lost two teams that were struggling to be able to keep 3 members. Just coasting along.
- c. **Region 3** – Submitted a written report. Did advise that since his report was submitted Asst. Director Zych had organized a new team in Tennessee which will be chartered as Smoky Mountain REACT.
- d. **Region 4** – had advised that since his appointment in September 2014 he has been working on building relationships with his teams, has been able to visit two of his teams, one of which had been given an overgrown park and the team cleaned it up and it has been named REACT Memorial Park. He has plans to visit all of this teams in the next year.
- e. **Region 5** – no report
- f. **Region 6** – has lost two teams as they could no longer sustain three members, so the region has just one team. In Rupert, Idaho, he has a team in the works of trying to get established.
- g. **Region 7** – Hill Country REACT keeps expanding the list of events that they do. Membership is going to reach the thirties.
- h. **Region 8** – lost one team but gained a new team
- i. **Region 9** – submitted a written report. Has had mixed results but overall a positive year. New teams in the Philippines and Thailand. Canada has aging teams, Kurt Walker has been working hard on organizing new teams. Need to push hard for a Junior REACT program. He has several long term prospects for teams in new countries.

Board Committees

- a. **Finance** – No report
- b. **Membership** – No report
- c. **Office Review** – Just after the ABM in 2014 Director Goswami traveled to California to review the office. The office is well organized, thank you to Chairman Capodanno for being willing to host the office. The project of scanning in all of the historical data is progressing, with this project there is low risk of any data being lost.

Gavel passed to Director Drury

Committee Reports

- a. ITC – status quo
- b. **Life Membership** – no new applications. Director Goswami and EVP Conlee were the last applicants
- c. **2014 CPA Review** – the review is still in process as the CPA handling the review has been very sick

Gavel passed to Director Vizzuso

2015 Budget Presentation – Director Drury moved to temporarily table until after recess, seconded by Director Jenkins

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y

Motion carried

Bylaws Change Proposal Status Update – Chairman Capodanno reported that the proposed changes had been sent to the Teams on December 1, 2014. He had not received any certified letters objecting to the changes. Has received an objection by email that was not against the current changes but rather about something that had not been changed and needs to be.

Gavel passed to Director Jenkins

Review of Policy 5-01 Duties of Regional Director--There has been some questioning from the membership of what are the duties of Director. Chairman Capodanno asked that everyone please read and review to make sure all were being accomplished/met.

Code of Ethics – has been before the board several times and never voted on, there is a 2 page and 3 page document pertaining to Code of Ethics. Director Drury explained the differences between the two documents, it was decided that the two page document better fit the needs of the Organization. Chairman Capodanno moved to table the two page document until after recess, second by Director Goswami.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y

Motion carried.

Director Drury asked for a 30 minute recess at 9:55am returned at 10:41am.

Revisit of 2015 Budget Presentation – reviewed Budget packet, there was no income statement. Director Currie moved to accept 2015 proposed budget as is and can be revisited when we have more concrete numbers, second by Director Land.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y

Motion carried.

Revisit Code of Ethics – during the break changes were made to the working document, the changes were made to fine tune the document to fit the organization. Motion by Director Drury to accept the changes to the document and adopt a Code of Ethics Policy, seconded by Director Vizzuso.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y

Motion carried.

Gavel passed to Director Goswami

REACT Direction

- a. **Future of REACT presentation recap from 2010 ABM in Dallas** – used as a primer to talk about the next items on the agenda
- b. **What does REACT do?** – Each Director was asked what they thought REACT did as a whole and each Director has a different idea of what REACT International does. Much discussion was held on this subject and it was determined that a document somewhat like the 14 Steps to Starting a Team should be developed. Director Jenkins is going to spearhead this project with Russ Dunn from Valley Wide REACT.
- c. **Mission Statement** –
- d. **Strategic Plan** –
- e. **Vision Statement** –
- f. **Value Statement** – The board has decided to send items A-F to committee that will be a Presidential Committee

Logo Rebranding Proposal

- a. **Logo Samples** – Logobench provided ten (10) sample logos to choose from. The directors looked over the logos. Chairman Capodanno had the secretary poll each Director as to what ones they liked. Logo #2 received 3 votes, #7 received 5 votes and #3 received 6 votes.

Director Vizzuso called for recess for lunch break at 12:30pm returned at 2:00pm

Director Vizzuso made a motion to make logo #3 the new logo of REACT International with removal of the web address of the organization, seconded by Director Jenkins.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y
Motion carried.

- b. **Website Redesign Package** – document provided showing the different levels of services we can contract with Logobench for website design. With having a new logo we need a web presence that reflects this change also. This would be a month to month contract, Director Drury recommends Website premium package. Chairman Capodanno moved that we go with the Website Premium package, seconded by Director Vizzuso.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y
Motion carried.

- c. **Social Media Redesign Package** – Director Vizzuso made a motion that we use Logobench's Social Media Premium Package, to help redesign our social media presence to match our web presence with an eye to attracting younger members, Director Currie had a concern about whether we would need the YouTube piece as having content was a concern. Director Vizzuso moved that RI go with Social Media Premium package, having our social media presence and our website match, seconded by Director Jenkins.

R2-N R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y
Motion carried.

Gavel passed to Chairman Capodanno

REACT International Convention – Director Goswami directed us to page 9 of his report to address the topic of a REACT Convention, past Director Kenny J would like have Trinidad & Tobago host another International Convention,

since they had hosted in 2001. Discussion was held about how today's economics makes it difficult for travel inside or outside the US. To host a convention in the US we would need the entire membership to commit to coming and it could cost as much as \$50K to hold and host, it would be a losing proposition for any team to take this on. The 55th Anniversary will be in 2017. The Board has decided to move this to the Convention Selection Committee.

Background checks – checks should be done at the team level, if you have a relationship with your local LEO or utilize the internet for programs that can assist in this matter.

REACT List – Director Drury advised that the REACT List had been blacklisted again. The matter has been since resolved. Does the Board wish to continue this service for the membership? Much discussion was held on this matter and in the end the Board feels that they need more direction on this – no action taken.

Online Renewal System – Director Land is resending his comments to Chairman Capodanno on this subject. Director Drury advised that this project has been 3 years in the making, the developer has made little if any progress on the program. The Board feels that we need to satisfy the impulse buying habit of people. Director Drury makes a motion to scrap the entire project, having President Capodanno negotiate for a refund with the developer on services that were not rendered, seconded by Director Jenkins.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y

Motion carried.

Director Drury has done some research on an SAS Solution that would be hosted by the vendor, NEON CRM, which would accomplish 90% of what REACT wanted, 100% secure. The base package would be 2 modules, membership and one other of choosing. There would be no contract, month to month with no minimum commitment, would be available for use in 60-90 days, and be totally user friendly backend and frontend. There is also Civvie CRM but RI would need to host it and is not user friendly at all. Director Currie liked that NEON CRM is user friendly but had concerns about backup of the information. It was explained that they back it up and RI could export data as often as desired.

Director Jenkins asked for a 10 minute recess at 3:35pm, returned at 3:45pm.

Director Vizzuso moved that we contract with NEON CRM, seconded by Director Jenkins.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y

Motion carries.

Director Access to files of their Region – all directors have access to information pertaining to the members in their regions, REACT HQ can provide that information on an as needed basis.

Presentation of Region 9 FEMA/NIMS Policy – Director Goswami moved that we approve the policy as presented, seconded by Director Drury.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y

Motion carried.

Renewal Update – As of January 22, 2015, Teams have renewed at 44% and members at 42%, Region 3 has the highest Team renewal rate of 60%, and Region 9 has the highest membership renewal rate of 71%.

BF Jennings Award – Recipient must have 25+ years of continuous membership and/or any of the following – growing of REACT, leadership positions on Team or Council and/or served as Director or Officer of RI. Teams will nominate recipients, they will verify all the data and 2 officers of the team must sign off on the applications then forward to RI HQ for final verification. A member can only receive the award once in a lifetime, there can be multiple winners in a year.

Will have a plaque showing a running list of recipients. Director Jenkins moves to approve the creation of the BF Jennings Award, seconded by Director Land.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y

Motion carried.

Field Operations Proposal – started several years ago and the board was never allowed to see the proposal. Director Vizzuso made a motion to accept the Field Operation Guide, seconded by Director Drury. More discussion was held on the subject. Director Land offered an amendment to table the document for further review. Director Vizzuso withdrew his motion, this to be revisited in 30 days.

Status of Region 5 Vacancy – when the information for Region 1, 4, and 7 elections go out via vertical response there will also be information on the opening for Region 5, asking if any member from Region 5 is willing to fill the expired term.

IRS Reporting – Policy 3-6 Director Currie recommended some changes to form 501. Director Drury made motion to accept the changes, seconded by Director Currie.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-N R9-Y

Motion carried.

Outside Directors – Director Vizzuso moved to table the issue of Outside Directors pending the outcome of the Bylaws Change Proposal, seconded by Director Drury.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9

Motion carried.

Photo Requirements for Picture ID – Director Goswami suggested that the card be issued for multiple years since they are durable. Suggest that LM are renewed every 3 years and members would need to be renewed yearly. The accounting of paying 3 years of dues once and having to set up a special account. Director Jenkins moved to table until next board meeting so the office can review the logistics of this process, seconded by Director Land.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y

Motion carried.

REACTer – there are not enough submissions to support the continuation of REACTer. The cost is \$450 per issue produced. Director Drury suggested that old copies of the REACTer be culled for articles that are still applicable today. Director Currie also suggested that we cull social media for content. This the only real benefit left to our members. This is to be revisited in 6 months.

Publicizing REACT

- a. **Hamfests and other events** – other than hamfest what other places could we go to publicize REACT – Flea Markets and Fairs were suggested. Need to have new collateral built that is multi-lingual (English, French, and Spanish). Do not have enough time to go to Dayton Hamfest, need to focus on getting ready to go to Shelby Hamfest over the Labor Day weekend.
- b. Director Drury recommended purchasing an 8x8 display from Displays to Go for no more than \$1000 coming out of the \$3500 marketing budget he is asking for. Director Vizzuso moved to allocate the funds of \$3500, seconded by Director Currie.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y

Motion carried

Board Committees

- a. **Finance Committee** – Director Land, Treasurer Dunn (chair), and President Capodanno
- b. **Membership Committee** – Director Jenkins (chair), Director Drury, Director Vizzuso, and President Capodanno
- c. **Office Review** – Director Jenkins (chair), Director Vizzuso, and Director Drury

Director Vizzuso moves to accept the committee appointments, seconded Director Jenkins.

R2-Y R3-N R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y
 Motion carried.

Election of Officers

- a. **Executive Vice President** – President Capodanno opened the floor for nominations. Florence Conlee was nominated from the floor. The Chairman called for any other nominations 3 times. Director Drury moved to close the nominations, directs the secretary to cast 1 ballot, seconded by Director Vizzuso.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y
 Motion carried.

- b. **Secretary** – Chairman opened the floor for nominations, Director Vizzuso nominated Dawn Drury from the floor. The Chairman called for any other nominations 3 times. Director Vizzuso moved to closed the nominations, directs the secretary to cast 1 ballot, seconded by Director Currie.

R2-Y R3-A R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-N R9-Y
 Motion carried.

- c. **Treasurer** – Chairman opened the floor for nominations, Director Jenkins nominated Russ Dunn from the floor. Chairman called for any other nominations 3 times. Director Vizzuso moved to close the nominations, directs the secretary to cast 1 ballot, seconded by Director Currie.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9
 Motion carried.

- d. **Assistant Secretary** – Chairman opened the floor for nominations. Director Currie nominated Director Vizzuso from the floor. Chairman called for any other nominations 3 times. Director Jenkins moved to close the nominations, directs the secretary to cast 1 ballot, seconded by Director Drury.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-A R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y
 Motion carried.

- e. **Assistant Treasurer** – Chairman opened the floor for nominations, Director Vizzuso nominated Dawn Drury from the floor. Chairman called for any other nominations 3 times. Director Vizzuso moved to close the nominations, directs the secretary to cast 1 ballot, seconded by Director Jenkins.

R2-Y R3-A R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y
 Motion carries.

Election of Board Chairman and Vice Chairman

- a. **Chairman** – Chairman opens the floor for nominations, Director Jenkins nominated Chairman Capodanno from the floor. Chairman called for any other nominations 3 times. Director Vizzuso moved to close the nominations, directs the secretary to cast 1 ballot, seconded by Director Currie.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-A R9-Y

Motion carried.

- b. **Vice Chairman** – Chairman opened the floor for nominations, Director Jenkins nominated Director Goswami from the floor, Director Goswami respectfully declined, and Director Jenkins nominated Director Currie from the floor. Chairman called for any other nominations 3 times. Director Goswami moved to close the nominations, directs the secretary to cast 1 ballot, seconded by Director Jenkins.

R2-A R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y

Motion carried.

Removal of Board Members Missing 2 Consecutive In Person Meetings per Bylaws Article V, Section 5.5(b) – Director Dietz has missed 3 in person board meetings. Director Drury moved not to accept the resignation of the Region 1 Director, seconded by Director Vizzuso.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y

Motion carried.

Further Business

- a. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on March 2, 2015, at 9pm EST.
- b. Director Land suggested taking back to our insurance carrier about medical coverage. He was asked to provide the name of the carrier that an event they assist with uses.
- c. Foreign corporation paperwork was filed in the state of California.
- d. Director Drury made a motion to adjourn the board meeting, seconded by Director Vizzuso.

R2-Y R3-Y R4-Y R6-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y

Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 6:26pm on January 26, 2015.

REACTively submitted

Dawn M Drury, Secretary

Every Saturday @ 9 P.M. EST



EchoLink & REACT net

EchoLink is a free internet-based Windows software application that allows licensed Amateur Radio (HAM) radio operators to connect to each other. This connection may take the following forms, or a combination thereof:

- Computer-to-computer
- Computer-to-repeater
- Repeater-to-repeater

The software is relatively easy to set up and use of the interface is quite intuitive.

The linking, made possible using the Internet, extends the range of mobile and portable stations to distant systems across the globe.

For instance, it is possible for someone with a hand-held radio to connect to a local repeater in Miami to speak with a mobile operator located in Los Angeles.

It is possible for someone without a radio to connect to a distant repeater and carry out a QSO (conversation) by using their computer microphone and speaker.

REACT International, recognizing the possibility to conduct a "wide area" global network, started the Worldwide REACT Information Net in 2010.

The net takes place via EchoLink REACT conference server node 109779 every Saturday night at 9 P.M. EST and averages about 30 minutes in duration. It is a great opportunity to exchange information on REACT activities and to hear from different teams around the world. The net is not limited to REACT members and is opened to all amateurs.

The net control is Jay Flora (WA4JAY) from Cleveland County REACT, assisted by Joe Zych (KD4YSH) of Star Mountain REACT.

Spread the word and we hope to see you on the next edition of the net!

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your directors



From left to right, back row: Tom Jenkins, Ravindranath Goswami, Charles Land, John Capodanno, Thomas Currie and Roy Drury. Front row: Matt Vizzuso.

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2014 ABM Minutes

