The background of the entire page is a photograph of the Statue of Liberty at night. The statue is illuminated with a blue light, and its crown and torch are visible. The background is filled with a dense display of fireworks in various colors, including red, orange, yellow, and purple, creating a vibrant and celebratory atmosphere.

# The *REACT*er

The Official Publication of *REACT* International, Inc.

July 2017

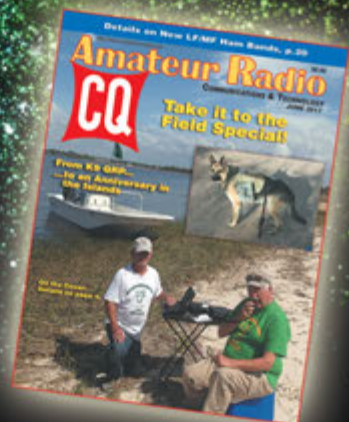


# Amateur Radio



## CQ the Active Ham's Magazine

**CQ is the magazine for active hams, with a focus on the practical. Every article is clearly written and aimed at involving you, the reader... whether it's a story of operating from some exotic location, an article to deepen your understanding of ham radio science and technology, or a fun-to-build project that will have practical use in your ham shack.**



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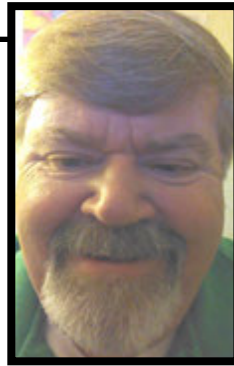
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The *REACT*er magazine is available and open to all interested persons at: [www.thereacter.com](http://www.thereacter.com)

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## A Word from the Editor

Will Stanley

**TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY ONE YEARS AGO**, a group of very smart men got together to throw off the yoke of burden that the English Crown had placed upon "the colonies" to start the greatest experiment in freedom ever conceived.

And so far, that experiment is thriving!

So this month we celebrate our independence and our freedom...

Freedom - to speak as we wish;

Freedom - to worship as we wish;

Freedom - to protest our government, if we wish;

Freedom to be the greatest country in the world!

SO what does all of that have to do with *REACT*? Well, without all of that, *REACT* likely would not exist because what *REACT* does would probably be controlled tightly by a government that is not responsible to its citizens.

And while I am on the subject of national anniversaries:



**Happy  
Sesquicentennial,  
to our neighbors,  
friends, and  
fellow *REACT*ers  
to the north!**

We hope you had a safe and enjoyable Fourth and Canada Day and that you, your families and friends are enjoying a prosperous year!





# Silent Mics

*It is with profound sadness that we inform the REACT Family  
of the passing of this member*



## Robert "Bob" Kaster, Jr. 1924-2017

**REACT International and Oklahoma County REACT** 2620 lost an outstanding leader and Team member when Robert L. "Bob" Kaster, Jr., died on Monday, 10 July 2017. Born 29 February 1924 in Houston, Texas, Bob was 93, though he celebrated his 23d birthday only last year.

Bob received the prestigious Eugene S. Goebel Award from REACT International, Inc., in 2015. He also won the first Team 2620 Bob Kaster Award, presented by Oklahoma County REACT for outstanding service. In addition, he was presented with the S. R. Bryant Community Service Award by the Oklahoma City Police Department.

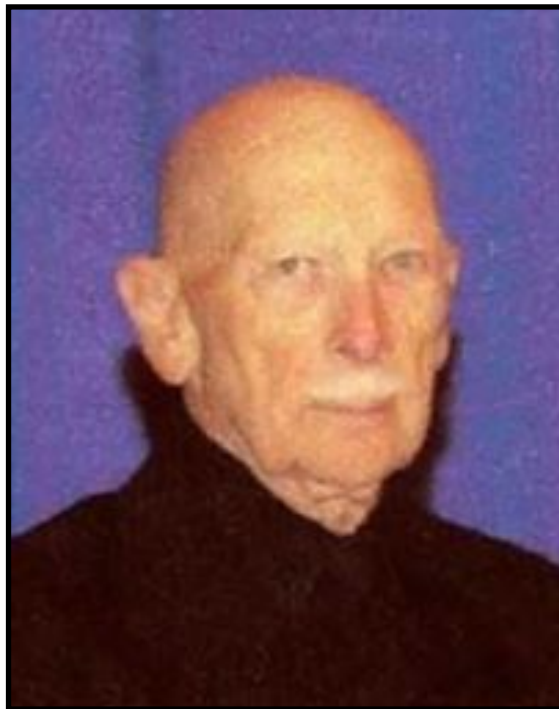
During his 33 years with Oklahoma County REACT (OCR), joining in 1984, Bob held many Team offices, the last being President for 12 years. His guidance was instrumental in the integration of the OCR Team into a variety of events in the Oklahoma City area, including providing one of the three echelons of 24-hour security for more than three weeks after the Alfred Murrah Building bombing in 1995. He was deeply affected by what happened there. Bob and the Team supported a number of presidential (and vice presidential) motorcades and visits to OKC and many other community events. He was a leader in the Team's provision of safety breaks along I-40.

He served two terms as Director for REACT International Region 7, 2003-2009, and was Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors for one year.

Bob dedicated his life to public safety in many areas. He was involved in safety and security for the Atomic Energy Commission (which became the Department of

Energy) at Los Alamos Labs during the development of the atomic bomb and later worked for the Federal Aviation Administration.

Some years back, the OKC Police Department requested Bob to start and administer their Ambassador program. The program was very successful and



Bob handled all aspects including hiring, training, scheduling, and firing. His call sign with OKCPD was "John 101," in recognition of his OCR REACT unit number 101. Bob volunteered as the Deputy Emergency Manager for the City of Moore, Okla., and was active during all tornadoes for many years, usually in the field as a spotter -- his tornado reports saved many lives.

Honoring Bob's request, there will be no services. Condolences may be sent to:

**Family of Robert L. Kaster, Jr.  
PO Box 890962  
Oklahoma City OK 73189**

Bob was the son of Robert L. Kaster and Monterree Ruth (Robinson) Kaster, he is survived by his children Robert L. "Skipper" Kaster III, Jeanette and Luis Diaz, and Roberta Castro, plus four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that donations be made to any charitable organization that assists fallen law enforcement officers and their families. Acknowledgement from these donations may be made to the address above





# Silent Mics



*It is with profound sadness that we inform the REACT Family of the passing of this member*

**Samuel Pillion**

**1941-2017**



Sam Pillion, 76 years old, was a long time member Star Mountain REACT Team (R27) and was always there to pitch in and help.

Sam always had that big smile. We will miss him. His "R" number will be retired.

God Speed, Sam!

73, buddy.....

## **RESULTS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS**

### **Region 3**

Joe Zych

### **Region 6**

Russ Dunn

*(position filled by Board at July 6th meeting)*

### **Region 9**

Ravindranath (Robby) Goswami

## **NEXT ELECTION - 2018:**

**Regions 1-4-7**

**Next Board of Directors Meeting  
October 25, 2017**

**Open to all members  
call 641-715-3640  
access code 822429#  
Meeting begins at 9 pm EDT**

## **A Note About This Issue**

Beginning with last month, you may have noticed there were no page numbers or an "In This Issue" box.

This was brought about by a technical problem with the page production program we use. The program is cloud based and the company that makes it is having an issue with the page numbering routine.

We have tried to "hand-number" the pages but that did not work, resulting in every page having the same number on it.

We are assured that LucidPress is working on the issue and hope to have a solution soon. We will return the page numbers and "In This Issue" box after the problem is fixed.

**Don't Forget!**

Zello Net - Saturdays at 9 p.m. EDT  
REACT World Wide Net - Tuesdays at 9 p.m. EDT



## From the Corner of the Room

Joe Zych  
REACT World Wide  
Net Controller

Hello *REACT*ing friends!

Well, we all need to look at something that is easy to do and very helpful in expanding your communications. Many years ago they did away with Morse Code on the Amateur Radio Exam. Now, you take an easy 35 question multiple choice test. When you take the test you can miss 7 questions and still pass. You then have your radio license for the rest of your life - FREE! You will never pay anything again, it is free forever.

Usually, to take the test, it can be free or cost 5 or 10 dollars – a one-time fee. You usually receive your new amateur radio call letters within 2 days. You are now an Amateur Radio Operator!

Now you can make free telephone calls on that \$25.00 Baofeng hand held radio, plus lots more!

Do yourself a favor; do not buy any study material! Go online, to Youtube.com and search for "Hamwhisper." Now look for the TECHNICIAN LICENSE. Start at lesson 1 then go through all the lessons. Hamwhisper gives you the exact question and the exact answer. Why study the wrong answers?

Most people can go through this study material and take a few practice tests and be ready. Do this, then, when you feel ready, check in your area where they are giving the test and give it a shot, you will pass!

The new world of Ham Radio also lets you download a program on your computer for Hams only called "echolink.org." It is a VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) program that you can use to talk to other Hams around the world. Also, this lets you check into the **WORLD WIDE REACT NET** on Tuesday nights at 9:00 p.m. Eastern time, where we connect the whole world in about 10 minutes. You can talk to other Hams and *REACT* members.

It does not stop there! Now you can use all the 2 meter and 440 repeaters in your area and talk for hundreds of miles. Keep in touch with your Team members and with other Ham radio operators.

Being in *REACT* does not require a Ham License - but it greatly expands your radio world. There are several radio frequencies that *REACT* members use and the MURS (Multiple Use Radio Service) Frequencies are the most common. Do a Google search and print out these frequencies for your Team. Remember, when those cell towers fail, your cell phone is just a paper weight, but radios will always work!

In closing make sure your Team president has your current email address and contact phone numbers. It is essential that *REACT* International and your Team have this information! There are people on your Team who do not get the *REACT*er because their email address has changed over the years and has never been updated. Check with all your Team members and ask if they are getting this wonderful publication.

I also ask the other *REACT* Directors to check with Team presidents to have current emails and phone contact numbers in place. In an emergency condition if we cannot contact you, we have defeated the purpose of our communications organization.

Last, but not least, thank Will for this awesome *REACT*er! He works hard and it gets better and better! Until next time have a *REACT*ing DAY.....wait wait.....invite a friend to your next meeting! Remember, *REACT* also has a Junior membership program for kids 11 to 17 years old. Invite some young people to join - we need more members!!

73... Joe, Region 3 Director

*(Editor's Note: While we have a little space left here, thanks, Joe, for the kind words, but I would like to encourage everybody to send in information to us! The TEAM NEWS section is now called NEWS from the FRONT LINES and it is about ALL of YOU! So, even if your Team or Council does not have anything to send in, if you do - send it to me! Don't forget photographs!)*



## NOAA's National Hurricane Center

This is an Introduction to the National Hurricane Center in Miami, FL. This center is where hurricane watches and warnings are generated and issued. For more information on this center and a host of interesting and useful links of all types, go to:

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/aboutintro.shtml>



National Hurricane Center at Florida International University, In Miami, FL

The National Hurricane Center (NHC) is a component of the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) located at Florida International University in Miami, Florida. The NHC mission is to save lives, mitigate property loss, and improve economic efficiency by issuing the best watches, warnings, forecasts, and analyses of hazardous tropical weather and by increasing understanding of these hazards. The NHC vision is to be America's calm, clear, and trusted voice in the eye of the storm and, with its partners, enable communities to be safe from tropical weather threats.

To meet its mission, the NHC is composed of

several units. The Hurricane Specialist Unit (HSU) maintains a continuous watch on tropical cyclones and areas of disturbed weather within the North Atlantic and eastern North Pacific basins. The HSU prepares and issues analyses and forecasts in the form of text advisories and graphical products. The HSU issues coastal tropical cyclone watches and warnings for the United States and its Caribbean territories and provides watch and warning recommendations to other World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Region IV meteorological services. The HSU also conducts an extensive outreach and education

program, training U.S. emergency managers and representatives from many other countries affected by tropical cyclones.

The Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch (TAFB) generates the analyses and forecasts over the tropical and subtropical eastern North and South Pacific and the North Atlantic basins

year-round. TAFB products include but are not limited to: High Seas, Offshore Waters, Marine Weather Discussion, Tropical Weather Discussion, and graphical surface and ocean wave analyses and forecasts. This branch also produces satellite-based rainfall estimates for the international community. The TAFB supports the HSU by providing tropical cyclone position and intensity estimates based on the Dvorak technique, conducting media interviews, and assisting in tropical cyclone operations.

The Technology & Science Branch (TSB), often in conjunction with other government and

academic entities, develops and transitions new tools and techniques into operations for tropical weather prediction. TSB has been instrumental in the creation and continued development of the Automated Tropical Cyclone Forecasting (ATCF) system, used to incorporate various data and model outputs and to generate tropical cyclone forecasts. The TSB provides support for NHC computer and communications systems including the NHC website. In addition, TSB maintains a number of statistical and dynamical models used in predicting both tropical cyclone behavior and associated weather conditions.

The Storm Surge Unit, which is part of the Technology & Science Branch, forecasts the abnormal rise in sea level accompanying tropical cyclones using the Sea, Lake, and Overland Surges from Hurricanes (SLOSH) computer model. The Storm Surge Unit prepares storm surge atlases for use by emergency managers in developing evacuation procedures for coastal areas. Additionally, the Storm Surge Unit performs post-storm analyses, storm surge model verification, and continually conducts education and outreach to alert the users of the dangers of storm surge.

The Chief, Aerial Reconnaissance Coordination, All Hurricanes (CARCAH) unit is a remote operating location of the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron (Hurricane Hunters). CARCAH's mission is to coordinate all tropical cyclone operational reconnaissance requirements at NHC and the Central Pacific Hurricane Center for the North Atlantic, Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and the North Pacific east of the International Date Line in accordance with the National Hurricane Operations Plan. In addition, during the winter, CARCAH coordinates the Atlantic and Pacific winter storm requirements in support of the National Winter Storms Operations

Plan. Missions are flown in advance of the high-impact weather events forecasted to affect the U.S., such as heavy snowfall.

The Hurricane Liaison Team (HLT) supports hurricane response operations through the rapid exchange of information between the NHC, the National Weather Service (NOAA/NWS), and the emergency management community. The HLT is composed of emergency managers and NWS meteorologists and hydrologists who maintain open lines of communication about the progress and threat level of the storm with appropriate Federal, state, and local officials. The team establishes and facilitates video and/or teleconferences with the NHC, FEMA and other Federal agencies, state Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs), Weather Prediction Center (WPC), Storm Prediction Center (SPC), and River Forecast Centers (RFCs).

#### **On the Web:**

**(These links should be live, if not, copy and paste to your browser)**

National Hurricane Center:

<http://www.hurricanes.gov>

Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook:

<http://tinyurl.com/y9hsecb4>

Saffir Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale:

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/aboutsshws.php>

Definition of NHC Track Forecast Cone:

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/aboutcone.shtml>

National Hurricane Preparedness Week:

<http://tinyurl.com/yajpa7ss>

National Hurricane Center Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/NWSNHC>

National Hurricane Center Twitter page:

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/twitter.shtml>





# NEWS

## FROM THE

# FRONT LINES

### Star Mountain *REACT*

(Tennessee)

Submitted by Joe Zych

The Knoxville, Tennessee, Ham Fest was the weekend of June 17 and 18 and it was a great turnout as always. I got a chance to try out the new trailer I built with the roll out floor that makes an instant table top with items for sale.



*Pictured are Tom, Wilma, Dean, Barbara and Bo. Photo by Joe Zych.*

Our Team members found some good deals throughout the event. It was hot, but both inside and outside vendors showed their newest radio gear and we all had fun.

Have your Team do a search in your area and find out when and where there will be a Ham Fest; anybody can go. They have CB radios and gear as well as towers and antennas and ham gear. Coax cable can be found from one foot to 1000 feet, new and used, and since Radio Shack is gone, a ham fest is your best source for connectors.

Anything you need including food and a chance to enter a drawing to win some big prizes can be found at a Ham

Fest. Every 30 minutes they pull a name from the box. It's fun and a nice activity for you and your Team to get some PR for *REACT*! Wear your *REACT* name badge; people will ask questions and you can tell them about *REACT*.



*Bo Armstrong with one of the whistles he presented to the Team.*

Something in Team happenings, one of our team members, Bo Armstrong (R-20), came up with a great idea and surprised the Team with a special lifesaving gift. Bo collects whistles and also knows the importance of communication. He bought each Team member a whistle on a lanyard. Each whistle has a small ID plastic tag with the *REACT* LOGO on front and the member's name and unit number on the back.

A whistle can be heard for a long distance and is a form of communication that could easily save a life. Bo ordered and paid for the printing and whistles as a gift to the Team. We are all very glad to have a Team member like Bo as a part of our *REACT* Team.



# Heartland REACT

(Nebraska)

Submitted By Jeremy Barrett

Members of Heartland REACT, as well as other citizens of Omaha/Douglas County, Nebraska, were all busy cleaning up after a thunderstorm roared through the area, bringing high winds, heavy rain, and large hail.



Photo courtesy of Jeremy Barrett

A hailstone from the storm that pounded the Omaha NE area on June 29. Yes, that's 3.75 inches wide!

The hail came in waves Thursday night, first across central Omaha — Benson and midtown — and on to the east into Council Bluffs, Iowa. Then hail moved across southwest Omaha and Sarpy County and, finally, Glenwood and other points in southwest Iowa. Most of the hail reported ranged from marble- to egg-sized.

Jeremy Barrett's Benson neighborhood took on some of the largest hailstones — baseball-sized and larger. Barrett measured a hailstone that was 3.75 inches in diameter.

"The car and truck in front of my house no longer have windows in them," Barrett said from his home.

Barrett's home has a corrugated steel roof, so the storm sounded like "sitting inside a steel trash can while someone was hitting it with a baseball bat."

Barrett said none of the windows in his home were shattered.

Heartland REACT is normally activated for situations like this by any number of agencies, including the National Weather Service, Omaha Police, Douglas County Sheriff, or on it's own, at the discretion of the Team President.

The Team was not activated for this storm, since it was going to be a 'wind and hail only' event and Barrett said



A child's slide with hail damage

he decided not to activate the Team and put people and vehicles in harm's way, but reports were made to the National Weather Service from areas around Omaha, in order to keep the NWS informed of the storm's progress.

# Cleveland County REACT

(North Carolina)

Submitted by Jay Flora

A woman was killed Wednesday morning in a crash on College Avenue in Shelby, North Carolina.

Chevon Washington, 45, of Rutherfordton, was in the car with her 25-year-old daughter, Kearsie Waltney, when the wreck happened around 8:15 a.m. Washington was transported to Carolinas HealthCare System Cleveland where she was pronounced dead.

She was headed west on Charles Road when she turned left onto College Avenue and was struck by a crane truck, Canipe said. Charles Road has a stop sign at that intersection, and College Avenue does not.



Crew in Shelby, NC work to repair damage done in a vehicle crash that claimed one life.

Initial reports indicate that after the crane truck hit Washington's Ford Explorer, then she hit two telephone poles in front of the Village Pantry, he said. "We are still investigating the cause of the wreck," Canipe said. "We will be doing measurements and looking at the vehicles' computers."

Cleveland County REACT members were sent by Shelby Police Captain to Charles Rd and Downing St to send all traffic down Downing St. The Team was dispatched at 8:46 a.m., arrived 9:00 a.m., and cleared at 10:43 a.m. when they opened Charles Road. College was still closed between Charles Road and Suffolk Avenue.

In another incident handled by the Team, a rollback truck (flatbed tow truck) with a mini house on board, hit the bridge on Highway-74 westbound. Some of the roof

of the mini house was in the right lane of Highway-74. Chief Jay used his car to block the right lane and used CB Radio to let oncoming drivers know to move over to the left lane.



The Team has been invited by the Shelby Police Department to set up a display next to the PD's for National Night Out on August 1, 2017.

In addition to that, the police department has asked the Team to help with the 5th Annual 7th Inning Stretch on Aug. 5. The featured entertainer will be the Charlie Daniels band.



## **William Riley: To dash cam or not?**

(Prince Georges County REACT - Maryland)

Submitted by William Riley

A few years ago, I began to consider adding a dashboard camera to my personal vehicle. The cameras were starting to show up for retail sale at truck stops, and are now in the auto parts stores as well as online. I was undecided about the cost for something of unknown quality, so I continued to think about it. Then one day I witnessed an incident in Baltimore which convinced me it was time.



*(Editor's Note: The dash cam in this picture is for illustration purposes only and may not be the exact unit the writer talks about.)*

In my job as a commercial marine surveyor, I was traveling from one job site to another. I had left North Locust Point marine terminal and passed through the Fort McHenry tunnel, and taken the first exit off I-95 northbound onto Keith Avenue, headed for Rukert Terminals. As I approached a traffic light which was red, I realized that a tractor-trailer, attempting to make a left turn onto Keith Avenue from a side street, did not have enough clearance because a small SUV had stopped too close to the intersection. I stopped a couple of car lengths back and waited, in case the SUV driver decided to back up. Instead, the SUV suddenly accelerated, jamming its hood under the chassis of the tractor-trailer and continuing to spin its wheels. In my job I always have a digital camera on my belt, so I pulled that out and started taking pictures. The SUV then backed up, and the driver got out to take a look at the damage. Meanwhile, given the extra

room, the trucker completed his turn and stopped along Keith Avenue, so he was at least no longer blocking traffic. At this point the SUV driver got back in and simply drove away, just as a police car came in sight, probably dispatched in response to the trucker's cell phone call. The police car made a U-turn and went after the SUV. I followed at a distance until I could see that the police had the SUV stopped, then I circled back to let the trucker know, and gave him my business card. I then returned to where the police had stopped the SUV, and showed them my still photos. However, still photos could never do this situation justice. This convinced me to buy a dash cam.

After a little more internet research and recommendations from friends, my first dash cam was a FlexMedia brand. After about a year, it failed, but I was quickly sent a replacement under warranty. They still had some in stock, but were unable to get more from their overseas supplier, so they may no longer be an option. I learned that most of these cameras are made in China, by suppliers who are constantly copying one another's designs with ever-cheaper parts, so the \$99 camera may have cost less than \$5 to manufacture. FlexMedia was one of the best suppliers, but they may have been forced out by competitors of lower quality. Now it's a dilemma. Spend extra money hoping to get quality, or buy cheap and disposable. Even Wal-Mart is selling the cameras now.

Meanwhile, I saw a Nova episode on PBS, taking an in-depth look at a major meteorite strike in Russia. The dash cam video posted on the Internet by dozens of drivers has enabled scientists to reconstruct the trajectory of the meteor in great detail. The program also pointed out that the reason so many videos were available was that widespread insurance fraud in Russia has convinced many drivers to install dash cameras.

I have also used my dash cam on the job, parking my car facing a job site to record the process of everything from loading a piece of oversized machinery onto a truck, to re-floating a sunken tugboat. It's like a pocketknife; if it's there, you will find uses for it. Most also record audio within the car, so it can provide a record of your radio communications. Just try to break the habit of talking to yourself while you drive.

I have always discouraged REACT members from equipping their vehicles to "look like police cars," but the dashboard camera is one unobtrusive accessory I now recommend. Follow the instructions carefully, set all the preferences as recommended, install a good quality micro SD card (some cameras come without one, and some have only a 4 GB card as a starter. 32 GB is usually the maximum size, and is much better. I prefer to leave the auto-save feature turned off, assuming I will be able to stop the recording manually after a crash. If the camera

locks the most recent video every time you hit a pothole, you may find yourself out of memory when something really happens.

## Shoal River REACT

(Florida)



*A walkway near the Yellow River is underwater during recent flooding.*

the flooded area.

Submitted by Ethan Edwards

Three members of the Shoal River REACT in Baker, Fla., worked for several days monitoring the flood conditions on the Yellow River.

The area had received considerable rainfall and the Yellow River and two others were at or near flood stage. The Team was tasked with keeping traffic and spectators out of

wheel drive off-road vehicles commonly called "rigs" to assist in activities.

These vehicles can handle difficult terrain and uncertain conditions and are a great resource especially in disaster as was seen recently with Tropical Storm Bret which left widespread flooding. The rigs responded through the local authorities to assist in the field for assessments and inundated victims.

Otherwise these guys may respond to assist individual calls to assist with vehicle recovery or to assist a farmer gain access to their fields or assist in clearing a fallen tree blocking a roadway, etc.

One such resource is the modified off-road rig owned by REACT 937, who responds to many calls to assist with vehicle recovery.

Yet another great way REACT is assisting!

## Southwestern REACT

(California)

Submitted by Jay Pistoias

Members of Southwestern REACT were active in the annual ARRL Field Day, in which Teams and communicators set up their equipment and talk to one another across the country and indeed, around the world. Operators practice their contact techniques and

## Trinidad/Tobago REACT

(Trinidad/Tobago)

Submitted by Jason Mungal

The REACT flag is kept flying high in many sectors of our country as Teams continue to engage in many activities to assist the Communities through the Team members



that reside across a broad area of the country. This assistance is aided by the respective resources.

In Trinidad, a few off-roaders have joined the organization and have made available their modified 4



*Handheld amateur radios and vehicles waiting to be used in the ARRL Field Day.*



*Photo by Jay Pistoias*

policies of their various Teams (REACT, if they are) and show visitors to their setups how and why ham radio is an important communications tool for today's society.

## Overlook Heights REACT

(Ohio)

Submitted by Matt Boudreaux

Overlook Heights REACT working alongside Portage County REACT and Alert Response Team REACT assisted



Overlook Heights REACT Team bus at the " " event on July 4th.

with traffic control and parking and Communications for the 4th of July annual event. Members showed up at 10 a.m. and worked all day until 11 p.m. It was a fun-filled event.

## Star Mountain REACT

(Tennessee)

Submitted By Joe Zych

Star Mountain REACT Team # 6205 worked the gates at



the July 4th event for 15 hours it was a fun day. We worked emergency traffic and communications. The day went very well; we only had two incidents where we had to call for emergency transport due to the excessive heat.

The city was very thankful for REACT being on site to control the traffic they said it was their best organized year and they were really glad we were there to help out. The turnout from our team almost 100% and some very good PR for REACT was had.

## Trinidad/Tobago REACT 6045

(Trinidad/Tobago)

Submitted by Robby Goswami

The Caribbean American and Caribbean Amateur Swimming Confederation (CCCAN) 2017 Championships were held at the Turtle Beach Resort located in Black



Rock, Tobago, from 24th - 26th June.

REACT Tobago, Team 6045,

*The maritime race course for CCCAN 2017 (Photos by Orville Smith)*

provided communications for the event that involved participants from several countries gathering to compete in several open water races.



*The maritime mobile unit for CCCAN 2017 (photo by Allan Stewart)*

# Trinidad/ Tobago *REACT* Responds to Tropical Storm Bret

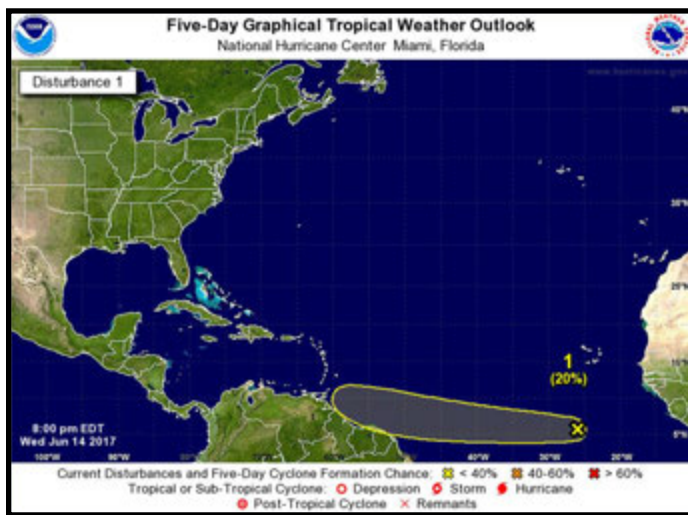
The Atlantic hurricane season starts on the 1st of June and ends on the 30th of November, and is the period within which most tropical cyclones develop across the northern Atlantic Ocean. For 2017, around 14 named storms are forecast.

HURRICANE SEASON FORECAST 2017				
	30-YEAR AVG.	COLORADO STATE UNIV.	NOAA	The Weather Channel
TOTAL NAMED	12	11	11-17	14
HURRICANES	6	4	5-9	7
CATEGORY 3 OR HIGHER	3	2	2-4	3

\*INCLUDES STORMS THAT HAVE ALREADY FORMED

2017 Hurricane Season Forecast & Name. Source: The Weather Channel

From about the 14th of June, *REACT*ers in Trinidad and Tobago started to keep an eye on an area of disturbed weather known as Invest 92L just west the African coast. This one started at a pretty low latitude.

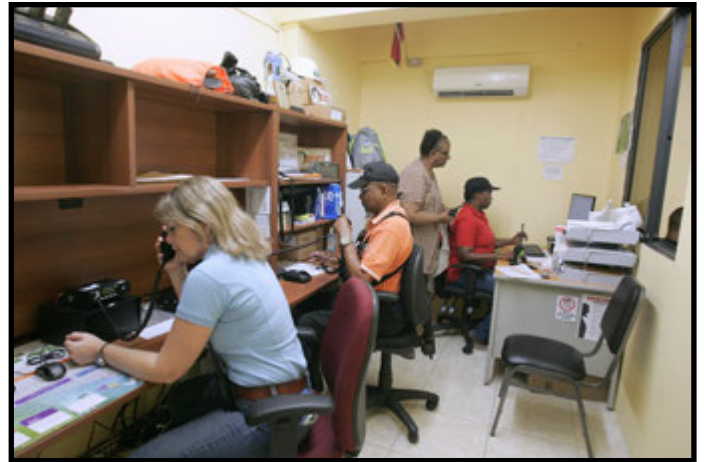


Weather image showing Invest 92L. Source: NOAA


As the system drew nearer, *REACT* members commenced preparatory activities, such as ensuring that all equipment was in good operational condition. Radio networks commenced on the VHF frequencies, to establish the response capability and to keep members informed about the progress of the system.

The official source of information bulletins for the twin island republic is the Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological

Service (TTMet).



*REACT* Members from Teams 2496 and 4928 conducting radio networks. Source: David Wears



Trinidad & Tobago Meteorological Service  
Synoptic Branch  
Facsimile no: 1-868-669-4727  
Telephone nos: 1-868-669-4367 ext. 1201/21  
Email: [stms@met.gov.tt](mailto:stms@met.gov.tt)

**INFORMATION BULLETIN**  
Page 1 of 1

Date: 16 June, 2017 Issuance Time: 3:30 p.m.

**INFORMATION BULLETIN #1**

**AREA OF DISTURBED WEATHER SOUTH EAST OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

At 2:00 p.m. today, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2017, a broad area of disturbed weather, was located approximately 3000 km south east of Trinidad and Tobago.


Over the last 24 hours, this area of disturbed weather has become better organized. There is a low chance (20%) of tropical cyclone development over the next 24 to 48 hours, however, this increases to a medium chance (40%) over the next 3 to 4 days.

At this time, this is an area of disturbed weather for which the Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service (TTMS) will be investigating and monitoring, paying particular attention to the likelihood of tropical cyclone development.

All interests in Trinidad and Tobago are asked to monitor the progress of this system and pay close attention to information being issued by the TTMS by visiting our website at [www.metoffice.gov.tt](http://www.metoffice.gov.tt), downloading our mobile app (search: TT Met Office) and following us on Twitter and Facebook. The TTMS is reminding citizens that we are in the Hurricane Season and adequate preparation is advised.

**WE WISH TO UNDERScore THAT AT THIS TIME TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO IS NOT UNDER ANY TROPICAL CYCLONE WATCH OR WARNING.**

The TTMS will be closely monitoring this system as it moves across the Tropical Atlantic Ocean and will issue another bulletin within 24 hours.

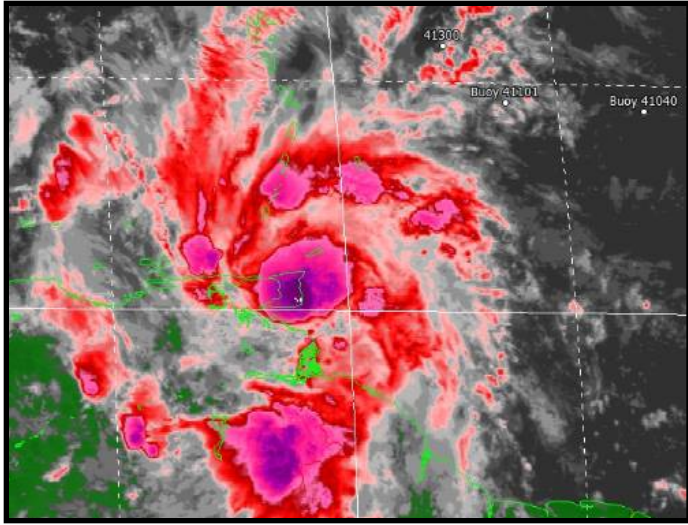
  
 Saide Shaker  
 Meteorologist III  
 Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service

Information Bulletin. Source: Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service

By the 18th of June, rough seas bulletins were being issued by TTMet. That same evening, the National Hurricane Centre (NHC) started to issue Potential Tropical Cyclone warnings, the first ever time that such a categorization was issued. By nightfall, TTMet issued a Tropical Storm Warning for Trinidad and Tobago as well as Grenada and its dependencies.

On the evening of the 19th of June, Tropical Storm Bret formed and the forecast track was predicted to go

through the southern part of the island of Trinidad. The system affected the islands overnight with heavy winds and torrential rainfall. One rain gauge recorded over 250mm of rainfall in 24 hours.



*Tropical Storm Bret directly over Trinidad. Source: GOES-13*

REACTers from all nine Teams on the islands were engaged prior, during, and after the storm hit. Information was being relayed to the disaster management units of the regional corporations as well as the national ODPM, and Tobago based TEMA. Members were out assisting with Initial Damage Assessment (IDA) and Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis (DANA).



*REACT Members from Team 6007 conducting damage assessments. Source: Anwar Mondol*

One member who had a tree fall on his home, still went out to assist others as many communities were affected by flood waters due to the heavy rainfall.

By the morning of 20th June, TS Bret had moved away, but lingering rainfall added to already burdened rivers leading to riverine flood warning being issued by TTMet.

Hats off to the many REACTers who made sacrifices of long hours to assist their fellow citizens in their time of need.

**WE DID IT! (Actually YOU did it!)**

**This Month's NEWS FROM THE FRONT LINES set a new record --**

**TEN TEAMS REPORTING!!!**

**Let's Keep Up the Good Work!**

**SUBMITTING  
TEAM NEWS**

**Is EASY!**

**Just follow this  
guideline...**

**NAME** of Person Reporting—  
**TEAM NUMBER— TEAM LOCATION**  
**DESCRIPTION** of **ACTIVITIES**  
(Who, What, Where, When, Why,  
and How)

Provide this info for each event in  
your report

**INCLUDE PICTURES**

attach them to your email  
don't send .PDFs

(Caption: **WHO, WHAT** and **WHERE**  
each picture shows)

**NAME** of Photographer

**SEND** the entire report  
(with pictures attached) to:

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**SEE HOW EASY**

**THAT WAS?**

*Come to Fabulous Las Vegas*

**January 22nd, 2018**



**For *REACT* International's**

**Annual Board Meeting**

**January 22, 2018**

All *REACT* members are invited to attend the meeting, see how your Board works, visit Fabulous Las Vegas and see the sights! (who knows, maybe you'll even get lucky!

RSVP to *REACT* International if you plan to attend. Call or email.





## CHAIRMAN PAI PICKS STOCKDALE TO LEAD WIRELESS

### TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU

*Longtime FCC Economist & Attorney Returns to Lead  
Wireless Policy Team*

**WASHINGTON, June 15, 2017** – FCC Chairman Ajit Pai today announced that he intends to appoint Donald Stockdale to serve as chief of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.



*Donald Stockdale*

Mr. Stockdale is an economist and attorney with extensive FCC and private-sector experience.

“Consumers around the world are increasingly relying on wireless services,” said Chairman Pai. “This makes it important for the FCC to get it right when it comes spectrum and infrastructure, the building blocks of advanced wireless networks. And getting it right requires us to focus, among other things, on principles of law and sound economics. Don’s unique skills and experience will help ensure that the FCC’s approach benefits consumers by fostering wireless growth, competition, and innovation. I’m proud that we are adding another talented member to our great wireless leadership team.”

Mr. Stockdale will be working closely with Nese Guendelsberger who, having served as acting bureau chief, will continue to help lead the Bureau as senior deputy bureau chief. Meanwhile, Chairman Pai intends to appoint James Schlichting, who currently serves as

senior deputy bureau chief in the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, to the same position in the International Bureau.

“Nese did an outstanding job as acting chief and I’m so grateful to her for that work as well as her willingness to continue to help lead this team,” added Chairman Pai. “And with the unique spectrum challenges that will accompany the 5G transition, it is critical that we have someone with Jim’s experience helping to lead the International Bureau. I give my sincerest thanks to both Nese and Jim for their work and their continued dedication to the American people.”

The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau develops and executes policies and procedures for fast, fair licensing of all wireless services, ranging from fixed microwave links to amateur radio to broadband data services on mobile phones. The Bureau oversees nearly two million licenses, conducts auctions to award services licenses, and manages the tower registration process.

Mr. Stockdale rejoins the Commission from Bates White Economic Consulting where he has been a partner. Prior to that, he worked on telecom regulatory and antitrust issues as a partner at Mayer Brown LLP. Mr. Stockdale first joined the FCC’s then-Common Carrier Bureau (now the Wireline Competition Bureau) in 1994 as an attorney advisor and later as deputy division chief and associate bureau chief for economics. He later served as director of research in the Office of Policy and Planning and finally as deputy bureau chief and chief economist for the Wireline Competition Bureau until he left the agency in 2011. He earned his doctorate in economics and law degree from Yale University and bachelors degrees from Cambridge University and Yale.

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meet **OUR**  
OFFICERS

# *REACT* International, Inc., Officers



John Capodanno  
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California



Jerry Jones  
Executive VP  
Texas



Matt Misetich  
Secretary  
California



Will Richards  
Treasurer  
California

**ATTENTION**  
**ALL REACT MEMBERS**  
**AND**  
**ALL HAM OPERATORS**



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**WORLD WIDE NET**  
**EVERY TUESDAY AT 9 PM ET**

Contact [nets@reactintl.org](mailto:nets@reactintl.org)  
for details on how to  
get on the net.





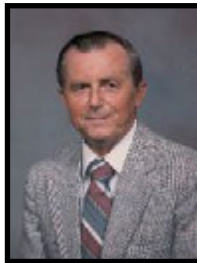
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## *REACT International Event Calendar*

### **JULY**

4.....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
4 .....Independence Day  
**6.....RI Board Meeting, 9:00 ET (tel)**  
6 .....Seating of New Directors  
8 .....Deadline for July *REACTer*  
11 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
15 .....*REACTer* Published  
18.....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
25 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)

### **AUGUST**

1.....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
8 .....Deadline for August *REACTer*  
8 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
15.....*REACTer* Published  
15 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
22 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
29 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)

### **SEPTEMBER**

5 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
8 .....Deadline for September *REACTer*  
12 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
15 .....*REACTer* Published  
19 .....*REACT* World Wide Net 9 p.m. ET)  
26 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)

### **OCTOBER**

3 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
8 .....Deadline for October *REACTer*  
10 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
15 .....*REACTer* Published  
17 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
24 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
31.....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
31 .....Halloween

### **NOVEMBER**

7 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
8 .....Deadline for November *REACTer*  
14 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
15 .....*REACTer* Published  
21 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
23 .....Thanksgiving Day (US)  
28 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)

### **DECEMBER**

5 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
8 .....Deadline for November *REACTer*  
12.....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
15 .....*REACTer* Published  
19 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)  
25 .....Christmas Day  
26 .....*REACT* World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET)

**Items on this calendar are as correct as we can make them but they are subject to change.  
If you have any questions, contact the person in charge of the event for verification.**

*To add items to this calendar, contact REACT International: 301-316-2900 or  
Editor direct - 336-897-0641 (office/home) - 480-758-7722 (cell)  
editor@thereacter.com*

**In 2016, our people worked  
thousands of hours  
without pay....**



**In 2017**

**96%**

**of them will do it again  
without hesitation**

**Find out why!** Contact REACT International at 301-316-2900 or  
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