

# Official Publication of REACT International, Inc. (Radio Emergency Associated Communications Teams)

July/August

1991

\$2.50



aftermath of the destruction left by the April 26. 1991 tornado which swept through Wichita. Kansas and the surrounding area. The debris in the photographs are the remains of trailer frames. destroyed by the deadly tornado. Story by Ken Green, President of Sedgwick County REACT #4208 on page 4.





REACT International, Inc. P.O. Box 998 Wichita, KS 67201

(TIMELY MATERIAL - PLEASE EXPEDITE!)

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Wichita, KS Permit No. 1456 IN THIS ISSUE...

A Message From The President

Government Relations Task Group June Report

Where There Is Smoke There is Fire (And REACT)

Life Membership Corner

1991 Renewal Lottery Contest Winners

#### CONGRATULATIONS; WELL DONE

by Ron McCracken

You've excelled again.
REACTers have been recognized anew for their volunteer contributions to the safety of travelers and their communities.

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President Bush has become the second U.S.
President in succession to
honor the REACT organization for its efforts to
enhance public safety.
What high tribute to your
concern for others, and
how well deserved!

This newest accolade should remind every REACTer everywhere that our endeavors really are vitally important and much appreciated. When you become discouraged, or your Team encounters difficulties of one kind or another, reflect on Mr. Bush's words to help regain your enthusiasm.

Expressions of gratitude and encouragement are so needed by each of us as volunteers. Offer them frequently to other members of your Team and Council.

What President and Mrs.

Bush have so graciously done for all of us, we can and should do for one another. Remember, building morale and self-esteem is a continuing process.

Again, congratulations, and thanks for all each of you has done to merit this recognition of REACT.



Valuntiers,



Thank you for your commitment to community service. Through your generosity and hard work, you have shown that the tradition of neighbor helping neighbor is alive and well in our country. Your efforts profoundly influence the life of your community and they are a shining example for us all. Barbara joins me in saluting you and sending you our best wishes. God bless you.

THE REACTER

#### Table of Contents

President's Perspective
Headquarters Report 3
Tornado Kills 17, Injures 100's 4
GMRSrx 5
Wisconsin Council of REACT
Teams Promotes REACT
Month At Truck Show6
REACT Sun Visors Are In! 6
Publicizing REACT 7
FCC News 8
REACT Accident
Insurance Revision 8
Government Relations Task
Group June Report
Where There is Smoke There
is Fire (And REACT) 10
New Products
Future Deadlines
New Teams Chartered14
Promoting The REACT Program
Through Your Team Events
Field Director's Report15
Jumping The Gun
Seatbelt Safety 1 6
K-40 Recipient Passes Away 19
Calendar of Events
Work Smarter, Not Harder 20
FEMA News 22
Life Membership Corner 2 4
Prince William REACT
#C109 Serves Their
Community Year Round
REACT 1991 Renewal Lottery
Contest Winners 2 6
Team Events throughout

#### Advertisers

Cellular	Security	Group	9
Classified	Section	oa	1 5
Popular	Commi	unications	18
Cobra	Dynascan	Back	

the REACTer (ISSN 1055-9167) July/August 1991 Vol. 25, No. 4

REACTer subscriptions are available at \$11.00 per year in U.S.A. (Canada -\$14.00 U.S. Dollars)

The REACTer is the official publication of REACT International, Inc., - a non-profit 501(c)(3) public service organization. REACT stands for Radio Emergency Associated Communications Teams. This publication is provided to our duespaying members (one per household) and other interested parties. It is published sis (6) times yearly. Average distribution for 1990 was 9,750 copies with 95% USA and the remainder to Canada, United Kingdom and U.S. territories. Offices: REACT International, Inc., 242 Cleveland, Wichita, Kansas 67214 (USA). Mailing address: REACT International, Inc., P.O. Box 998, Wichita, Kansas 67214 (USA) (316)283-2100, Deanne Earwood, Office Manager and Editor. Entire contents copyright 1991. Authorized REACT Councils and Teams may reproduce articles in entirety, giving proper credit. The REACTer assumes no reaponal-bility for submitted articles, manuscripts, photographs or drawings, such items cannot be returned. Please allow 6 weeks for change of address and delivery of first issue.

#### HEADQUARTERS REPORT

I have always prided myself in my ability to remember individual names and faces. One thing I have never been able to overcome is my lack of ability to remember dates. I am notorious for keeping logs on calendars for past and future dates. I even keep my own important family dates on a calendar.

One date however will always be imprinted in my memory, April 26th, 1991. That was the day every person living within the Wichita vicinity was reminded of the fact that we reside in Kansas. For that reason we all must have respect for the notorious Kansas spring weather conditions and the tornadoes it can bring.

I will not dwell on the specifics of the disaster that struck south Wichita and the surrounding communities. I will leave that up to the article found elsewhere in this issue from Sedgwick County REACT Team #4208.

I would however like to take this opportunity to extend a sincere thank you to all the concerned REACTers who telephoned over the weekend and throughout the week following the disaster. The office site was spared any damage. However, the tornado did come extremely close to the Headquarter staff's homes. REACT International, Inc., secretary, Michele Newell was the closest to the damage within the Wichita city limits at approximately 5 blocks from where it hit.

This incident has reminded myself as it should all of us, that we were extremely lucky. Although lives and property were lost, the devastation could have been worse. We should all remember to pay close attention to severe weather conditions, be it in Kansas or elsewhere, no one is immune. And of course, we should remember to help our fellow man if a disaster does occur.

On this note, Headquarters wishes to extend a sincere thank you to the members of Sedgwick County REACT Team #4208, Wichita, Kansas; Phillips County REACT Team #3135, Phillipsburg, Kansas; and the University of Oklahoma REACT Team #3916, Norman, Oklahoma for all their support to the disaster victims during their time of need.

#### the REACTer ISSUES ARE AVAILABLE

Order past issues of the REACTer magazine for a low price of only...

\$14.50 for 20 issues \$11.50 for 10 issues

The prices above include shipping and handling charges.

The most recent issue available at Headquarters will be shipped. Specific issues can be requested but due to supply and demand substitiions may be required.

#### TORNADO KILLS 17, INJURES 100'S

by Ken Green, President Sedgwick County REACT Team #4208

It was sometime after 6:00 p.m., Friday April 26th, and I was just getting ready to go home. I had been away from my desk at work so my GMRS was off. I reached over and turned it on and was shocked to hear Larry Skinner, Unit 132, talking about a tornado on the ground. reason I was shocked was that from the computer room where I work I am isolated from what is going on outside. I stepped around to the front office to get a better look, radio in hand. Unit 136, Dean, could also be heard giving updates he received from the various radios he monitors. Then I heard Larry once again, he was outside his home and the tornado was in sight southwest of his location. I became worried because Larry lives close to where I live.

I gave my sister a call to make sure she was alright. There were several loud popping sounds on the phone while we talked, as phone lines in the area were being blown into other lines. My sister had one of the GMRS radios with her and was monitoring along with everyone else. It was clear then that the tornado wasn't headed for our neighborhood.

It was, however, headed straight for Andover and the home of Ron Mayes, Unit 107. I then heard Ron on the air as he could now see the tornado headed their way. From a conversation I had with Ron from the night before I knew that his children, Mike and Michelle. were at the sitter's house. From the reports of the tornado's location, the sitters home was close to the path. The tornado continued on toward Andover turning north across Highway 54 before reaching Ron's home and then headed for the Golden Spur Trailer Home Park. I had just made it home when I heard Dean, Unit 136, ask Joe, Unit 137, if he was available to act as liaison with the Red Cross. He was unable at that time, so I went instead. By this time Larry was in the Oaklawn area checking for damage in order to relay that information to the proper authorities.

was headed back to town to check on his kids (who were fine and unharmed at the sitters). I spent the next 3 hours at the Red Cross feeling frustrated because they were busy with their own planning as I sat waiting to help. About 10:30 p.m. it was clear that I could better aid the victims by going out to the area and directing traffic around the affected areas. Larry, John Shield, and Leo Davis (a couple of our newest members) along with the help of a couple of other concerned CB'ers were in the Oaklawn area. They were watching out for sightseers and informing residents as to which roads were blocked by fallen trees and power lines. We finally called it a night around 1:00 a.m. and went home. Saturday, I received a call from Gayland Kitch, Unit 805, from the University of Oklahoma REACT #3916 in Norman, Oklahoma. He had about 3 other members who were ready to come up and help if we needed them. Ron, Unit 107, spent most of Saturday checking with the Command

Post at Andover to offer our assistance. Around 7:00 p.m., Gayland arrived in Wichita with Richard Feinberg, Linda Dula, Kimberly Delaho and a much needed generator. We set up our base of operation at Ron's house. Dave Long from Concordia arrived about the same time.

Larry, Ginger (Larry's wife), John

(Continued on page 5)

Reacter names and team information who participated after the April 26th, 1991 tornado. Bottom row from left to right: Ken Green, #4208; Richard Feinberg. #3916; John Shield, #4208. Top row from left to right: Roy Mayes, #4208; Ken Hadley, #3135; Dave Long. #4208; Larry Skinner, #4208; John White, #3135; Kimberly Delaho, #3916; Gayland Kitch, #3916; and Linda Dula, #3916. Not pictured from Team \$4208; Don Washburn, Dean Enous, Eddie Ziesch, John Shield, Leo Davis and Teresa Skinner.



Shield and Don Washburn, Unit 134, were there from our team. I arrived around 8:30 p.m. with 50 lbs. of ice and 4 more GMRS's. Shortly after that Ken Hadley and John White from Phillipsburg, Kansas showed up. Several of us then headed to the Command Post to see if they needed us to relieve anyone that may have been there all day. While there we were told that they had everything closed down for the night, but that we should show up in the morning. We headed back to Ron's house to let everyone else know. Those of us from Sedgwick County REACT #4208 then went home to get a good nights rest while the members from out of town made arrangements for sleeping at Ron's. I decided to stay there to take the time to talk over council business with Ken and Dave. The next day

we arrived at the Command Post to get our assignment. Due to our radio's and experience with helping motorists with information, we were assigned the task of traffic control in and around the Command Post. We directed people where they could get such things as wrist bands that allowed them into the devastated area. Where to report if they were volunteers, where to take donations, as well as giving directions to street locations for the various media and support groups. Larry, John and Eddie, Unit 103, arrived to help out.

After what was a long and busy day we thanked our out of town guests and then headed for Wichita. This was among other things our Bingo night. Sometime around 11:00 p.m., that night I was able to crawl back into my own bed. Just before I fell asleep I thanked God that all of us were alright.

Last, but not least, special thanks to Judy for putting up with my late hours for two years.

All the kudos out of the way now it's up to International to decide on the financing/distribution. Of course, I'm sure they'd accept donations for the printing. Roughly forty pages, front and back... if anyone wants to get a price.

New subject, new idea. I noticed some classified ads in the REACTer ... for new GMRS equipment. I don't want to step on any dealers toes, but I think the GMRS Task Group should be involved as a clearing house for used equipment. I know that people call me constantly wanting this or that piece of equipment and I may or may not have a line on that particular radio - or microphone - or whatever. Column space as available...no prices, no phone, no address.

Here's the idea... for the next year... until the Indiana Convention... I'll act as a clearing house for used GMRS equipment. If John REACTer in the "Big Apple" has a widget, and Betty REACTress in "Shaky Town" wants one, I'll hook them up... provided they both sent me their "I want this" and "I got this." I passed this by a couple of Board Members .... a couple of Council Presidents and a couple of Team Presidents. They like the idea. The key to the entire concept is

(Continued on page 6)

# GMRS...Rx

by Bill Simpson

Greetings ..... from Northern Illinois/Southern Wisconsin, rather than sunny Florida.
For those of you at Convention, my apologies. I had
hoped to be able to pass out
the NEW GMRS manual but
moving tends to rip the heart
out of a bank account... and
Judy and I flipped a coin to
see who went to Convention.
(I think she used a strange
quarter). Everybody at
convention, hi from me!

ANYWAY... The GMRS manual is finished... finally! My thanks to Larry Biddle for sending in suggestions (Larry is also moving, so I don't know where he is now somewhere between Arizona
and Florida). Bob Riechel for
sending the California GMRS
manual - after I'd already
done the second rough draft,
and Ron McCracken, for
checking the grammar/spelling/etc. Special recognition to
Bonnie Zygmunt of Kettle
Moraine REACT for putting
the entire manual on disc.

IS YOUR TEAM HOLDING
AN EVENT THIS SUMMER?
LET HEADQUARTERS KNOW!!!
SEND US YOUR ARTICLE FOR THE
NEXT ISSUE OF the REACTER!!!

by Jim Taege, Public Relations Chairman

The Wisconsin Council of REACT Teams participated in the 12th Annual Wisconsin Truck Expo held in Milwaukee May 9th through May 11th. The show, put on by the Wisconsin Motor Carriers Association promotes anything and everything related to the trucking industry. At the Council booth, several videos were shown, various pamphlets were handed out, and a CB base station and antenna were set up and working.

On the opening night of the show, a salesman in the booth across the aisle had a seizure. Several of the Council members we had in attendance were trained in first aid. They assisted the victim of the attack in front of a large crowd of curious onlookers.

An ambulance was dispatched to the scene and took the man to the hospital, where he stayed overnight. The seizure happened as a result of the man not taking his medication. The Council members who came to the aid of the man (members of Milwaukee Area REACT Service Team) were commended by the show organizers for their help.

The Wisconsin Council of REACT Teams gained access to the truck expo, as a result of the booth the Wisconsin Road Team had at the International Convention held in Madison, in 1989. This was the second year the Council has attended the truck expo. It is an excellent way to promote REACT with a major portion of the public who use CB radios, the trucking industry.

(Continued from page 5)

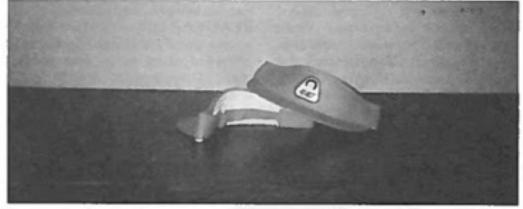
YOU. Unless you send me your "stuff" nobody will benefit. You won't have a "new" GMRS radio, or you won't have extra cash.

For purposes of argument: here's my new address.

> Bill Simpson 3317 Susan Circle North Park City, IL 60085

P.S. A reminder! Had a letter from Perry Young, University of Oklahoma REACT #3916. Mr. Young was requesting a list of REACT Teams in Ohio. Team Contact Directory I have - 1988/1989 lists several towns and Teams in Ohio ... but very few have contact information. I'm not picking on Ohio, since ALL states do the same thing. To all the Teams that withhold information--I challenge any one to give me a legitimate reason to stay hidden from other REACTers!

#### REACT SUN VISORS ARE IN!



The visor is orange with the REACT logo in color (black and white). It is made of a poly blend and is completely washable.

Headquarter's is so proud of the look and quality of these visors we would like to extend the introductory price listed in the last issue of the REACTER. Through August 1st, 1991, the visors will remain at the low introductory price of \$3.95 plus 8 oz. each in shipping and handling charges. Order more than one. Remember, the shipping and handling charges remain the same when shipping two to the same address.



Lake Palestine REACT #3129, Athens, Texas had a busy December. The Team presented a crime watch program to a newly formed local group. The Team van participated in the Christmas parade through downtown Athens. The parade was aired on the local radio station as well as the local cable TV channel. Team #3129 also sponsored a booth at the "Christmas Magic" event held at the Cain Center. Information was distributed on behalf of MADD, Child abuse, Don't Mess with Texas, area drug and alcohol treatments center. Texas maps as well as REACT.



### **Publicizing REACT**

by P.R. Task Group

WHY EXCHANGE TEAM NEWSPAPERS? reading the April 1991 issue of The REACT-ion Line, the Official publication of REACT Team 2620, P.O. Box 25071, Oklahoma City, OK 73125, I see that this team is planning to submit the forms necessary to obtain funds for their team from the United-Way's Combined Federal Campaign. I bet if you wrote this team, they would share with you the steps they took to be considered a recipicant of United Way Funds in their community.

REACT of Orange County, Inc., can now be reached at P.O. Box 2, Garden Grove, CA 92642-0002. Brett Rohring, their newsletter editor, desires to exchange team newsletters. Their March-April 1991 issue contained a long article reprinted from the Personal Radio Steering Group, P.O. Box 2851, Ann Arbor, MI 48106 entitled "How to use your radios effectively - The role of the Communicator in our mobile Society."

Clarissa Kraus, editor for the Albuquerque REACT Team, 3405 Espejo N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87111-4766, desires to receive ideas on "How to get members to write articles." Their small paper is in constant need of articles. If you know of a source of informative articles that would be of interest to RPACTers that might be considered as filler material or if you have "that magic phrase that gets your members to write that article," drop Clarrissa a note and a copy of your newspaper.

San Antonio REACT Team #3622, Guadalupe County REACT, Inc., P.O. Box 2595, Universal City, TX 78148, has a very informative pamphlet entitled "Free Information for 2-Way Radio Operators from San Antonio REACT Team #3622. This covers Amateur, CB, & GMRS. Also they report that their phone number (512)225-3622 is now listed in their local phone book. This is another way to get the name of your REACT Team before the public. "Under what heading do teams list their number?"

Is there any interest in REACT-land for the ability to download articles for International into their computer or is their fax at (316) 263-2118 sufficient for now? Should all teams and councils publishing papers be required to send copies of all issues to REACT International for saving for the yearly newspaper judging? Would this overcome the concern that a Team might publish a special issue or two just for the judging that is not representative of their usual

publication?

The Insurance Institute for Highway SAFETY, 1005 N. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22201 just released their yearly report, "The Year's Work 1990." This summarizes their monthly publications that contain many facts and figures on a varied range of automobile safety topics. The monthly issues can be reproduced in whole, or in part, with attribution. This could offer articles for Team and Council newspapers.

Plan now to begin your year long leading publicity campaign for May as REACT Month 1992 when our organization will be 30 years old. Your P.R. Task Group has developed a 30th Anniversary logo which your Teams and Councils can use all year long in your P.R. handouts. We should be very proud that our organization has reached 30 years.

If you would like to exchange your newspaper or
would like to receive other
Team or Council newspapers,
drop this column a note so
stating which and your editor's full name, address, and
zip code. This column will
attempt to publish as many as
it can to help you expand
your newspaper exchange.

Publicizing REACT Column Robert M. Riechel P.O. Box 563 San Bruno, CA 94066-0563

FROM THE STAFF AT HEADQUARTERS...

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY SUMMER!!!

#### NEW ZIP CODE FOR FCC DETROIT OFFICE

Effective July 1, the zip code for FCC's Detroit Office will change. The complete address and phone numbers are:

Federal Communications Commission 24897 Hathaway Street Farmington Hills, Michigan 48335-1552

Recording Number: (313)471-0052 Public Number: (313)226-6078

Public inquiries concerning telecommunications matter, complaints of electronic interference and schedules of radio operator examinations should be directed to the above address. Office hours for the public will be from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

# NEW ZIP CODE FOR FCC'S KINGSVILLE OFFICE

Effective immediately, the zip code for FCC's Kingsville Office has changed. The mailing address and telephone number is:

Federal Communications Commission P.O. Box 632 Kingsville, Texas 78364-0632 Phone: (512)592-2531

Public inquiries concerning telecommunication matters, complaints of electronic interference and schedules for radio operator examinations should be directed to the above address. Office hours for the public will be from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

# CORRECTION ON FCC'S ATLANTA AND REGIONAL OFFICES MOVE

The collocated Atlanta and Regional Director's Offices have moved to Duluth, Georgia. The Regional Director's Office provides administrative coordination and guidance to local FCC offices in Georgia, Virginia, Florida, and Puerto Rico. The new address and telephone number is:

Regional Director
Federal Communications
Commission
Koger Center-Gwinnett,
Suite 310
3575 Koger Boulevard
Duluth, Georgia 30136

Correction: Telephone: (404)279-4621

The local office handles public inquiries concerning telecommunication matters, complaints of electronic interference and schedules of radio operator examinations. The new address and telephone numbers are:

Atlanta Office
Federal Communications
Commission
Koger Center-Gwinnett,
Suite 320
3575 Koger Boulevard
Duluth, Georgia 30136

Recording number (404)279-4620 Public number (404)279-4621

Office hours for the public will be from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

# REACT ACCIDENT INSURANCE REVISION

In recent months Headquarter's has been contacted by several individual members regarding the "Special REACT Accident Insurance Policy."

In prior years this insurance has only been offered to individual members under the age of 70. Now with the help of the Upstate REACT Council this is no longer the case.

Headquarters has recently received acknowledgement from William K. O'Connor & Company, the Administrator of the REACT program, that REACT members over the age of 70 are eligible for the insurance.

Coverage will be continued for members over the age of 70 for accidental death and dismemberment. Members over 70 will not be eligible for the Weekly Indemnity or Medical Expense Benefits under this new provision.

The cost to members over the age of 70 will remain at the low fee of \$5.00 annually. Any Team or member interested in the "Special REACT Accident Insurance Policy" should contact:
William K. O'Connor & Co. 50 West 75th Street
Willowbrook, Illinois
60514-2384
708/920-8484

#### Government Relations Task Group June Report

It's been a year since I started as the Chairman of the Government Relations Task Group. While the task group has not accomplished all that I had hoped. We have put together a radio frequency and major hours monitored document (about 110 teams have answered the survey and are included), a team capabilities database, and a Hispanic F.C.C. part 95 D plain language document is in final The radio proof corrections. frequency/hours monitored document is available in single copy and/or a Word Perfect 5.1 (or ASCII) computer disk. Most of the teams filled out the capability survey form. The dBase IV (or ASCII) database of teams that allow their information to be shared is available. The Spanish language F.C.C. 95 D will be available about July 1, 1991 in single copy or Word Perfect 5.1 / ASCII format on disk. I have an IBM PC, so all computer disks will be in an IBM format. The Spanish Language 95 D, radio frequency/ hours monitored, and capabilities database reports will be made available at the REACT Convention in Melbourne, Florida Disk copies can be obtained if you bring a disk to the convention. Please note that the radio frequency/ hours monitored document is currently 50 pages, the capability database currently is about 400 pages, and the F.C.C. 95 D is about 11 pages. If at all possible, I prefer to send out the information on computer disk.

I have the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia Interference With Emergency Communication laws. While I know of several other states with similar laws, 1 don't have a copy of those laws. If at all possible, I would appreciate copies of the Interference laws from other states. This would be useful in discussions with the Federal Communication Commission. From the laws that I do have:

In the last couple of years the F.O.B. has accepted any information brought out in court by non-F.C.C. investigators when prosecuting people under the interference laws. The F.C.C. F.O.B. may need to do further investigating to bring a case under the federal

	D.C.	M D	VA
Location	4-1106 through 4-1109	27-125 A	Chapter 100 18.2-165.2
Frequencies	Any frequency	Any frequency Commonly Used By Civilian/Government	Any frequency
Penalties	\$500	\$1,000	Class I misdemeanor
	90 days Equipment Forfeiture	6 months Equip. Forfeiture	мизиеменны

Mr. Arlen van Doorn, Deputy Director of the Federal Communication Commission's Field Operations Bureau (F.O.B.) has stated that previously the F.O.B. was required to reinvestigate any complaints brought under the federal interference statutes.

laws. Although they will no longer have to go back and proceed from step 1. They will accept the original casework. This is the reason that I need to collate the current laws into a package that we (REACT International, local state and sub-state councils,

(Continued on page

191



Send payment to: Cellular Security Group, 4 Gerring Rd., Gloucester, MA 01930 Or charge by phone: (508) 281-8892 CK-MO-MC-VISA Accepted (MA and 5% sales tux)

#### WHERE THERE IS SMOKE THERE IS FIRE (AND REACT)

by Lee Besing, President San Antonio REACT Team #3622

San Antonio: March 24. 1991. On this date fifteen members of the San Antonio REACT Team #3622 were helping out at the 3rd Annual Bush Canned Foods Menudo Cook-Off. A benefit for the San Antonio Firefighters Association's "Burned Out Victims Fund." The team was responsible for providing the first aid booth at the VIP tent. They also handled the parking lots under the instruction of the sponsor.

Ed Lessard (645) REACT Operations Officer, was in charge of this event. He kept in constant radio communications with all REACT units and the sponsors. The sponsors provided two UHF radios for Ed and Team President, Lee Besing (675) who was stationed with the REACT communications van at the front gate.

The event went well until shortly after 3:30 p.m., when Pete Rapstine (658) reported on the GMRS radio: "we have some vehicles on fire!" A grass fire had started under one vehicle and rapidly spread to others when the first vehicle exploded. The parking lot in question was a large grass field with freshly cut, extremely dry grass. The field had three working natural gas wells on it, with pipe lines buried all over the field leading to the storage tanks at the front end. Members of #3622 were instructed not to park cars on top of the buried lines. nor next to the above ground pipelines and valves.

Upon hearing of the fire, members quickly collected all available fire extinguishers and sent them into the fire zone. Manual Elizondo (651a) used his cellular car phone to call 911. Upon not hearing the call dispatched by Bexar County Fire Alarm, he then called the Bexar Fire Alarm direct. By the time the first fire units arrived on the scene, nearly 50 cars were engulfed in flames.

Two of the members, Pete

"A total of 109 vehicles

were distroyed, includ-

ing a \$48,000 Mercedes

that the owner had pur-

chased the day before.

gallon tank of diesel fuel

One truck had a 50

that burned for quite

some time."

Rapstine (658) and Bob Creed (280), also happened to be volunteer fire fighters. Their experience was helpful. REACT members used up four fire extinguishers while containing the

blaze when it blew over the firebreak.

Manuel Elizondo (651a),
Toni Elizondo (651b), Pete
Rapstine (658), Rick George
(622), Bill Barton (109) and
new members Jose "Peppy"
Larralde and Paul Hernandez
were quickly pressed into
service by arriving Sheriff
Deputies (some mounted on
horses). They assisted in
coordinating the vehicles
fleeing the scene and pedestrians running up the same
single lane dirt road into the
field to rescue their own cars.

One of the members had to physically restrain persons from entering the restricted area in an attempt to rescue their own cars which had flames nearby. This was done under instructions by the Sheriff Deputy. They were also assisted by a Texas Parks and Wildlife Official who had driven his marked vehicle to attend the event.

Bexar Fire Alarm quickly escalated the call to a multi alarm fire, and contacted the American Red Cross to supply canteen service to the firefighters. REACT member John Longoria (655) was the Fire Alarm Dispatcher who was on duty at the time of the

fire, and handled the dispatching. John reported that 8 Volunteer Fire Departments were dispatched for this fire.

REACT member Sharon Early

(325) also serves as the American Red Cross (ARC) Disaster Assistance Team (DAT) coordinator, was working the event coordinating our first aid booth activities since she is an EMT. When Sharon's Red Cross beeper activated, she requested Lee call the ARC via Amateur Radio 2 meter phone patch, and to find out what was up.

What was up, was the fire that the team was already working! The members advised them of the situation, and requested that they ask the Director of Disaster Services, George Snell, (honorary REACT unit 600), to handle this event.

All the Red Cross's disaster vehicles were working emergencies at the time already.

(Continued on page 11)

So George used a staff vehicle to deliver the first load of water, tea, coffee, snacks and first aid supplies to the scene. As soon as one of the normal disaster vehicles could be resupplied and pulled from another location, it arrived at the scene also.

Upon the Red Cross's arrival, Roy Botello (619) contacted them via Red Cross 47 MHz low band radio to direct them to their proper location. Roy helped them get set up and used his pickup truck to set the containers on for easy access, since the staff car did not have a convenient method to do this.

Lee, with the assistance of Lyle Myers (464) and Larry McNeill (688), instructed the other volunteers working at the front gate to stop all inbound traffic. They also coordinated the emergency vehicle traffic in and out of the single lane gate leading to the fire scene. REACT supplied traffic cones to barricade and route traffic away from the scene. When one person who had been drinking heavily ran the barricades, Lee called via GMRS into the scene. A sheriff deputy was notified in time to stop her.

When Sharon reported problems at the First Aid and requested EMS, Rick George (622) was asked via GMRS to contact one of the units already on the scene to send EMS down to the VIP tent. They treated a total of 32 persons during the event, 5 directly related to the fire.

The most serious first aid problems were two persons with 1st degree burns, a pregnant woman (7 1/2 months) who went into labor and elderly individuals requiring oxygen while having breathing difficulties. Several

people hyperventilated and went into hysteria, some had to be treated for shock. Several had sprained ankles from falling and minor cuts and bruises. Sharon was assisted by new REACT member Lilia Merchand, who was working her first official activity as a REACT member.

At dusk, Ed moved the portable light station that the sponsors had provided up to the fire scene. In this way, allowing officials to continue their inventory of burned vehicles. A total of 109 vehicles were destroyed, including a \$48,000 Mercedes that the owner had purchased the day before. One truck had a 50 gallon tank of diesel fuel that burned for quite some time.

REACT supplied halogen lighting with a portable generator at the front gate area where the most traffic occurred, since there was little pre-existing lights in that area.

When the Sheriff Department set up a victim assistance center at a gas station about two miles away, they requested REACT provide them with additional portable lights and a generator. Roy took our second generator and set of lights to the Chevron and stayed until they were done.

Team #3622 considers themselves EXTREMELY lucky that they escaped with no loss of life and minor injuries among the spectators. REACT members were not injured, although some suffered from mild smoke inhalation, and no equipment or vehicles were lost. They were praised by the authorities for helping contain the fire in such a small area. As well as for assisting with the panic among the pedestrians and drivers attempting to flee the fire.

This event was covered by all local news media, and was rebroadcast by the Cable News Network (CNN) nationwide. One of the volunteers, Paul Hernadez, who had applied to join REACT, was interviewed at the scene by a local newspaper and was quoted as being a member of The reporter stated REACT. that Paul was "one of the many volunteers and firefighters assisting at the scene." Paul reported that some of the parents running from the exploding cars left their children behind in their haste to flee the area.

Overall, the Team received excellent support and comments from the authorities and sponsors for actions during this event.

Team Events

Seattle REACT #2503,
Seattle, Washington has
completed a busy year. The
Team participated in several
motorcycle runs, sponsored
several safety breaks as well
as initiating a new one. They
also participated in an emergency drill at the airport and
helped the Red Cross with
one of the biggest floods in
the states history. Of course
everyone knows that Team

#2503 helped with the 1990 REACT International Convention held in Spokane, Washington.

Kettle Moraine REACT
#3866, Lannon, Wisconsin
was quite busy during the last
few months of 1990. The
Team held their first ever deer
hunter wake break. All reports show it was huge success. The Team also provided
the communications for the
Hartford Christmas parade.

#### NEW PRODUCTS



VHF WEATHER
MONITOR WITH
AM-FM BROADCAST
BAND RECEIVER
INTRODUCED BY
MIDLAND

"Weather Max" a compact VHF weather monitor with an AM-FM broadcast band receiver, has been introduced by Midland International. New model 74-105 combines the entertainment value of AM and FM radio with 24-hourper-day National Weather Bureau reports. The key is in its built-in, full-tone alert monitoring system. When the system is activated, a special tone will interrupt on AM or FM broadcast. This tone advises listeners to switch to the weather band to hear an immediate emergency weather report. This convenience permits listeners to hear a favorite station without worrying about missing an important weather development. The 74-105 receives three National Weather Bureau

band, from up to 50 miles away. In the event of a power loss, it has an emergency battery backup system (battery optional); this also makes the 74-105 completely portable. It's powered by a standard AC adapter and external power jack. The unit will also operate with a DC cigarette lighter power cord (optional). The 74-105 also provides a test position, to test the alert monitor system; a large, top-firing speaker for clear audio; a foldable, telescopic antenna; and an external antenna jack for use with an optional extended-range home or mobile antenna. For complete information on Midland's 74-105, contact Midland International Corporation, Consumer Communications Division, 1690 N. Topping, Kansas City, MO. 64120.

channels in the 162 MHz FM

# NEW EXPANDED SPECTRUM RECEIVER FILTER

This new low loss Celwave wireline filter has been specifically designed for extra filtering in the "A" trunking bands. While it virtually eliminates returning, the PD5198 maximizes signal reception and rejects land mobile and SMR frequencies by a minimum of 35 MHz above 851 MHz. The PD5198 uses a unique, folded design to save space and reduce cell sire equipment requirements.

For complete technical information, contact Celwave, Rt 79, Marlboro, NJ 07746. Phone (201)462-1880.

#### FUTURE DEADLINES FOR the REACTER

September/October, 1991 issue -Article submission due by: August 1, 1991.

November/December, 1991 issue -Article submission due by: October 1, 1991.

January/February, 1992 issue -Article submission due by: December 2, 1991.

March/April, 1992 issue -Article submission due by: January 31, 1992.

May/June, 1992 issue -Article submission due by: April 1, 1992

July/August, 1992 issue -Article submission due by: June 1, 1992.

#### $W_{-}$ PRODUCTS N E



LMR MIDLAND INTRODUCES RUGGED, COMPACT AND LOW-COST FREQUENCY-SYNTHESIZED 2-WATT PORTABLES

Midland LMR has introduced a new generation of 2-Watt, 2-channel, frequencysynthesized portable radios. The new models, 70-135 (VHF) and 70-235 (UHF), operate in the 136-174 MHz and 406-512 MHz ranges. respectively. They are programmable for up to two transmitter and receiver fre-They feature pre-set quencies. automatic noise squelch, programmable time-out timer and "power saver," plus optional CTCSS (tone-coded squelch) and keypad DTMF (telephone-type) signaling.

The new portables are very compact and exceptionally rugged for their class. They meet or exceed MIL STD 810C/D for shock and vibra-Use of advanced microcircuit technology and new, small high-energy batteries have significantly reduced size and weight. The radios are 6.9" x 2.7" x 1.8" (HWD) and weigh about 21 ounces with the 600 MAH battery pack.

A wide range of accessories includes a weatherproof speaker/microphone, external choice of batteries, battery chargers and antennas.

For more information, contact Midland LMR, Marketing Department, 1690 N. Topping, Kansas City, MO 64120, or call 1-800/Midland (1-800/643-5263), ext. 1690.

ENTERPRISES, INC. ANNOUNCES RELEASE OF THE REVOLUTIONARY NEW MFJ-208 VHF SWR ANALYZER

MFJ's innovative new MFJ-208 VHF SWR Analzyer instantly gives you a complete picture of your antenna SWR over the entire 2 meters band -- without a transmitter, SWR meter or any other equipment.

All you do is to plug your antenna into the coax connector, set your MFJ-208 VHF SWR Analyzer to the frequency you want and read your SWR.

It makes setting up and trimming your antenna precise and easy.

You can take your battery operated handheld MFJ SWR Analyzer right to your antenna and measure the SWR of your antenna directly. It lets you eliminate the distorting effects

of the coax.

You can shorten or lengthen your antenna and see the effect on SWR immediately.

You'll find the perfect adjustment for your mobile whip in seconds by actually seeing the SWR as you pull the whip in and out without transmitting.

You can easily find the ideal place on your car for your mobile antenna by checking different spots with the MFJ HF SWR Analyzer.

You can see your SWR change as you drive under an overpass and see how mobile whip flutter affects SWR.

You can see how rain or snow affects your antenna.

You can check the SWR of the input to your amplifier.

You'll find all kinds of uses for this totally self contained handheld unit that'll revolutionize how SWR is measured.

Everything is automatic. All you do is set the frequency and read the SWR. even has a frequency counter output so you can connect your frequency counter for precise digital readout.

It runs on a 9 volt battery or 110 VAC with optional MFJ-1312 and measures a compact 7-1/2 x 2-1/2 x 2-1/4 inches.

It comes with MFJ's one year unconditional guarantee.

For more information or to order contact any MFJ dealer or MFJ Enterprise, Inc., P.O. Box 494, Mississippi State, MS 39762. Or call (601)323-5869, FAX (601)323-6551, TELEX 53 4590 MFJSTKV. or order toll free at 1-800-647-1800.

Benton County REACT #4298. Boswell, Indiana played Santa Claus to children in Oxford, Ambia, Boswell as well as Benton County children over the holiday season. On the 16th of December, Team #4298's Santa also visited the nursing home at Oxford, the Fowler Nursing Homes as well as the Retirement Village. It seems Benton County REACT has been downing the red suit and playing Santa for the past several years.

Besides the holiday activities Team #4298 was busy this past July working the Illiana Power Show in Boswell, taking care of the grounds and serving refreshments. August the Team participated in the Hub-FunDays as well as the Dog Patch Days held in Oxford.

The REACTer is available on audio cassette tape for the blind. Certain conditions and costs are involved. For more information please contact:

Kathleen Coyne Recording for the Blind, Inc. 404 W. 30th Street Austin TX 78705 (512) 477-9390

#### NEW TEAMS CHARTERED

#4813	REACT Services Diversified Kenosha, Wisconsin 4-18-91
#4814	Kings River REACT Hanford, California 4-22-91
#4815	Chicago Metro REACT Wheeling, Illinois 5-16-91
#4816	Frostburg REACT Frostburg, Maryland 5-24-91

## PROMOTING THE REACT PROGRAM THROUGH YOUR TEAM EVENTS

Do you have an event planned for this summer? Is your Team starting a major membership recruitment drive? What better way to promote your Team than through advertising the REACT program?

Give prospective members information on your Team and REACT International. Have hand outs available for them at your planned event. Keep an ample supply of hand outs you have developed for your own Team. You might consider handing out "Getting Help By CB Radio" pamphlets, and the "Invitation to Join" brochure. Did you ever think of giving them a copy of the REACTer? The magazine is an excellent way to inform people of what REACT is all about. Of course, don't forget to give them a litter bag to carry their hand outs in.

All supplies can be ordered from Headquarters. Prices are as follows: "Getting Help By CB Radio" Pamphlets (100 each) for only \$4.55 plus \$3.55 shipping and handling.

An "Invitation To Join" Brochure (100 each) - for only \$17.40 plus \$4.10 shipping and handling.

Past Issues of the REACTer (package of 20) - for only \$14.50. (package of 10) - for only \$11.50. These prices include shipping and handling charges. (Headquarters will make every attempt to send the most recent issue on hand, but due to supply and demand we cannot guarantee it).

REACT Highway Litter Bags (250 each) - for only \$4.50 plus \$4.65 shipping and handling.

Let's make 1991 a record year for membership recruitment.

#### FIELD DIRECTOR'S REPORT -

by Robert M. Riechel

As a Field Director, I have been approached for assistance in providing convincing information to a homeowners' association that it is in their best interest to allow CB antennas to be installed. If you have any legal determinations of cases in point where this restriction has been overturned and CB antennas allowed to be erected, please forward complete details to me at 60 Crestline Avenue, Daly City, CA 94015-3806. Possibly, there has been cases involving amateur antennas that could be considered here.

The question has been asked recently, "Should REACT hold a convention every other year instead of yearly since that costs of attending a convention are becoming a great/concern?" Your Board of Directors would like your input.

I look forward to meeting with those possible, time permitting, at the Florida Convention. I want to say Thank You to those who have assisted me in my position as your Field Director. I hope that each and every member will attempt to more fully interact with their Field Directors in the months to come. Only with the input from you the membership can the Board of Directors know what you 'really' want.

# REMEMBER HALF YEAR DUES ARE IN EFFECT! SIGN UP THAT NEW MEMBER TODAY!

#### JUMPING THE GUN

Waukasha Area REACT Team #4089, Wisconsin really took the President's challenge to "monitor more" seriously.

In fact, they didn't even wait for the challenge. The Team set its own goal of 20,000 hours for 1990, then met and surpassed it. Doing that was no snap, either. REACTers had more then doubled their 1989 monitoring, but they did it handily.

Even more amazing is what Waukesha REACT Team #4089 has achieved in the past four years. The Team has increased its monitoring from just 977 hours in 1986 to 23,975 hours in 1990.

"Waukesha has demon-

strated what REACT Teams are capable of doing to increase travel safety. REACT has built its reputation on its Channel 9 monitoring," noted Ron McCracken, REACT International President.

"We are in the midst of a major safety campaign to improve the success of CB emergency calls. The public is relying on REACT Teams to receive and relay those improved calls. It is vital that we be there for them. I trust every REACT Team will determine to monitor more. Each extra hour helps."

Congratulations to Waukesha REACT #4089. Now, how well is your Team doing? Let us know.

#### CLASSIFIED

NEW G.M.R.S. RADIOS ON SALE FOR A LIMITED TIME: Yaesu/ Vertex UHF mobile radio, 24-chl, 25 watt, CTCSS tones, front mount speaker, PC programmable, with mounting brackets. Three year warranty. List \$559. REACT SPECIAL \$440.00 PLUS S&H.

Yaesu UHF handheld, 15 chl, 5 watt, scan with priority, CTCSS tones, battery, antenna, PC programmable. Three year warranty. List \$644.00. REACT SPECIAL \$500.00 PLUS S&H.

Don't miss these special prices. Place your order immediately with: Advantage Communications, Inc., (316)264-5005, 301 Laura, Wichita, KS 67211. Authorized dealer: Tekk, Yaesu, Icom Two Way Radio Products.

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TWO WAY RADIO EQUIPMENT: to all REACT Teams and Members. Receive a 20% discount on all Uniden and Motorola products. For further details contact: Ed Hines at (814)445-4379.

#### NOTICE

Try placing a classified ad in the new classified section of the REACTer. Cost is only \$.45 per word for members and \$.65 per word for non-members. Phone numbers automatically count as two (2) words.

For a limited time free informational only ads are available to members on a space availability basis.

Deadline for classified ad submission is the same as article submission deadlines.

For further details on advertising please call REACT Headquarters at (316)263-2100. Or you may fax your classified ad to Headquarters at (316)263-2118.

#### SEAT BELT SAFETY

#### NHTSA PROJECTS LIVES SAVED BY AIR BAGS THROUGH 1995

Air bags will save 2,400 lives and prevent 29,000 moderate to serious injuries over a six-year span from 1990 to the end of 1995, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has estimated.

NHTSA Administrator
Jerry Ralph Curry released
projections based on manufacturer's plans and safety
agency research. "Most of
the new passenger car fleet
will be equipped with driver
and passenger side air bags
by the 1995 model year. The
combination of a buckled lapshoulder belt and an air bag
provides the best available
protection and will save many
more lives in the years to
come," Curry said.

Curry estimated that the portion of the in-use passenger car fleet equipped with driver air bags will increase from 1.8% in 1990 to 18.3% in 1995, when about 25 million passenger cars will have driver air bags. The portion of cars on the road equipped with passenger side air bags will increase from 0.2 percent in 1990 to 10.8% in 1995, when about 15 million vehicles will have both driver and passenger side air bags.

"Recently, many Japanese automakers have followed the lead of American manufacturers by announcing their plans to install air bags. It is gratifying to anyone concerned with highway safety to see the increased availability of this life-saving technology," Curry said.

Federal safety standards

issued by NHTSA require automatic crash protection -air bags or automatic safety belts -- in the driver and right front passenger seats of all passenger cars manufactured after September 1, 1989, with one exception. NHTSA sought to encourage manufacturers to provide air bags instead of automatic belts, so it allowed carmakers to place a manual lap/shoulder belt on the front right passenger side until September 1, 1993. Provided the driver's side was equipped with an air bag.

"This decision has exactly the effect we expected. It resulted in more driver air bags sooner than would have occurred otherwise, and tipped the scales in favor of passenger-side air bags by the mid-1990's," Curry said.

#### NHTSA PROPOSES SCHOOL BUS SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

The National Highway
Traffic Safety Administration
(NHTSA) has proposed that
full-size school buses have
more emergency exits and that
all school buses meet tougher
federal requirements for body
joint strength.

According to NHTSA Administrator Jerry Ralph Curry, the first of the proposals specifies a relationship between the seating capacity of a school bus and the number of exits required, so larger school buses would have



more exits than are currently required by federal standards. The proposal would also improve access to side emergency doors and increase the visibility of emergency exits.

"School buses safely transport millions of youngsters each day, and deaths or serious injuries to riders are rare. They are the safest form of transportation, but no cargo is more precious. These regulations are part of a continuing process to ensure the highest degree of protection for school children," Curry said.

Curry said the second proposed rule would clarify and expand procedures for testing the strength of school bus body joints. It would also extend the standard to all school buses, including smaller buses with a gross vehicle weight of less than 10,000 pounds.

"Both NHTSA and the National Academy of Sciences recently conducted comprehensive reviews of school bus safety standards. We also solicited public opinion on school bus emergency exits specifically, and received comments from a large number of organizations. This rulemaking describes a practical, reasonable improvement in emergency exit requirements based on those suggestions and extensive research."

(Continued on page 17)

(Continued from page 16)

Curry said.

To comment on these proposed rules, contact the Docket Section, national Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Room 5109, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590. The telephone number is (202)366-4949.

#### 1990 TRAFFIC DEATHS DOWN 1,000 FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

The nation's 1990 highway fatality count is expected to be 1,000 fewer than in 1989, Secretary of Transportation, Samuel K. Skinner, announced. "And, the fatality rate should drop to 2.1 deaths per 100 million miles of travel—another record low," the secretary noted.

Skinner said that according to preliminary figures complied by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), last year's traffic deaths are projected to be 44,500, compared to 45,555 in 1989. The lowest figure since the 43,825 recorded in 1985. "The number is much below the 50,000-plus death totals recorded during many of the years between 1966 and 1980," he said.

"While the number of traffic deaths is still too high, the reductions in fatalities is impressive because of an increase in the number of drivers and vehicles on the highways," Skinner said. "The downturn is due in a large part to a generally heightened awareness of highway safety and federal and state programs to combat drunk driving and increase

safety belt use."

Skinner said that under the President's National Transportation Policy, safety is the top priority of the department, With the aim of cutting the death rate and reducing the traffic death toll through the next decade.

Jerry Ralph Curry, NHTSA Administrator, said the drop in the fatality rate is especially encouraging. "Had the 1980 death rate of 3.3 deaths per 100 million miles remained constant, 151,000 more people would have died in traffic crashes from 1981 through the end of 1990."

Curry said that during the year the agency announced several regulatory decisions that will result in significant future safety benefits. The actions include decisions that will result in significant future safety benefits. The actions include an improved side impact standard for passenger cars and a series of regulations to make light trucks and vans meet safety standards equivalent to those for passenger cars.

Curry noted that alcoholrelated deaths in 1990 are projected to be 11% below the benchmark year of 1982. Safety belt use reached the 49% mark in 1990, compared with 11% eight years before. "We're poised to push the buckle-up rate over the 50% mark in 1991."

"While the emphasis on reducing impaired driving and encouraging safety belt use earns major credits for the nation's progress, a host of other factors are contributing," Curry said. Among these are:

- increased availability of air bags and automatic safety belts.
- improved emergency medical service capacity to treat crash victims swiftly and skillfully.
- new emphasis on motorcycle licensing, training programs, and helmet use.
- increased public concern about highway safety.

Curry said that the telephone capacity of the NHTSA Auto Safety Hotline was significantly increased by adding 10 lines for a total of 27. The agency fielded 430,000 consumer calls, providing safety information and gathering leads for enforcement action.

#### Team Events

Medina County REACT #C187, Medina, Ohio by far helped in one of the most unique functions ever held. March brought the Team coordinating traffic and individuals at the "Buzzard Day." This event is billed as the largest organized "Birdwalk" held in the United States. This is a strange phenomenon in which the buzzards, a local large bird, returns from the south to Hinckley, Ohio, where they stay until winter returns.

Spencer County REACT #C149, Chrisney, Indiana reported a whooping 11,115 total monitoring hours for Besides monitoring 1990. channel 9, the team also assisted with traffic control, parades, wrecks, parking cars and security for several organizations in Spencer County. A total of 1,101 man hours were tallied while working these events. proved to be a "working" year with assistance at CPR classes, the annual Easter Egg Hunt, the fair and several arts & craft events.

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and local teams) can present to the F.C.C. and use as a data package in those states that currently do have Interference laws.

In the last issue of the REACTer, it was mentioned that the Federal Department of Transportation (D.O.T.) was looking for more requests from local, county, and state police, fire and emergency agencies to include the microphone sign in the federal symbol definitions. I have heard from the western Pennsylvania teams that they have persuaded local and county police, sheriff and emergency agencies to write D.O.T. requesting the sign inclusion. In addition, they got their Congressman to write stating how important this was and to make a Congressional inquiry on its status and feasibility.

It has been an interesting year. I hope that I have effectively represented both the organization and you, the membership, before the federal agencies we work with, the National V.O.A.D., and Red Cross. International, the state councils, and the teams have begun to communicate on who we are, what our capabilities are, when we generally monitor and how we can be called up in an emergency. I expect to continue doing this in the future. Any questions, comments, or ideas can be sent to me at 2605 Loma Street, Silver Spring, MD, 20902-4841, or telephoned at (301)649-7021. It may take me a while to get an answer back. All ideas and comments will be passed on to the Board of Directors, other task groups and/or acted upon by me.

> REACTively, Norman Kaplan



#### K-40 RECIPIENT PASSES AWAY

June Van Camp, a charter member of REACT Lake Simcoe, Ontario, died on April 8, 1991 after a long battle with cancer.

June was disabled but didn't let that deter her from being a dynamo when it came to community involvement. She had established at least two community organizations herself and was right there to join when she learned that a REACT Team was forming.

She monitored Emergency Channel 9 for 12 to 14 hours daily for a decade and assisted hundreds of people over that time. She was. hoping to perform her customary role as 'net control' for an Easter Seals walk-a-thon at the end of REACT Month, just as she had done for a dozen years. That was not to be.

Her K-40 Award was a prize possession. She had earned it for helping to save the life of a young cyclist who collided with a car. June's fast action got ambulance personnel to the scene before the youngster bled to death. Later she had the opportunity to meet him, fully recovered, at a REACT safety display.

June's health never permitted her to attend a REACT Convention, much as she wanted to. Nevertheless, she contributed greatly to her Team's success and is sadly missed by all her pals.

Team Events

Lakewood REACT #4677. Tacoma, Washington held its annual Awards Banquet on December 8, 1990. At this years banquet all team members received recognition for their outstanding efforts at promoting REACT in 1990. At the beginning of 1990 Lakewood REACT decided to sponsor a local fire department. They obtained information on which county fire department had the lowest income and the highest needs. The team decided they could best help Greenwater Fire Department. This particular department handles the needs of both Pierce and King County. A large amount of their needs are met through local charities. Lakewood REACT presented a \$300.00 check to the commissioner and his wife at this years banquet. Even though this is

a small amount compared to the needs of the fire station, members were told this was greatly appreciated and was desperately needed. The fire station monitors channel 9 for emergencies and recognized several members unit numbers.

The Team is planning for a busy 1991. On the agenda is 6 car washes, 2 safety breaks and a family benefit show.

Border REACT #5033, Suffolk, United Kingdom member Barbara Walford recently joined forces with the Haverhill Lions Club in raising money to be donated to the Milton Children's Hospice. In a recent interview with the local newspaper Mrs. Walford said she has held seven CB auctions at her home raising several thousands of pounds for various charities and hopes to hold another one this year.

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 13, 1991 - Wisconsin Council of REACT Teams general meeting. For further details please contact the Wisconsin Council of REACT Teams at (608) 752-4547.

July 13, 1991 - Maryland State REACT Council Meeting. To be held at the Homestyle Family Buffet, Governor Richie Highway, Glen Bernie, Maryland. For further details contact: Norman Kaplan at (301)649-7021.

July 22-25, 1991 - REACT International Convention to be held in Melbourne, Florida.

August 4, 1991 - Ohio REACT
Council meeting. to be held at
Travelodge Motel, (Route 23
South), Circleville, Ohio from 1:00
p.m. to 4:00 p.m. For further details
please contact the Ohio REACT
Council at (614)474-3786.

September 21, 1991 - 4th Annual Midwest REACT Conference, sponsored by Sedgwick County REACT Team #4208 and the Kansas State REACT Council. For further details contact the team at: P.O. Box 62, Wichita, Kansas 67202., (316)264-9999 (24 hour office and TAS). Computer BBS on 24 hours a day (316)264-9993.

October, 1991 - Commonwealth of Virginia REACT Council Annual Convention. Sponsored by Roanoke Valley REACT. For further details please contact the Team or the CVRC.

#### Editor's Note

Councils please provide notice of your meetings and conferences to the REACTer for inclusion under this column. Please submit meeting date, place, time, particulars and a FMI contact. Please provide this information as far in advance as possible. It's your opportunity to announce your event!!

#### Work Smarter, Not Harder

by Bonnie Zygmunt

HOW-TO: Be A Good Member

A great deal of attention has been given to leadership — its style, its development, and its methods. Most articles, books, tapes and lectures for volunteers deal with how to lead.

A book by Rick Lynch,

Developing Your Leadership

Potential, defines a leader as a

"person with a following"

and leadership as "the act of
influencing others to follow
you."

If that is true, then it seems only right that someone should address the topic of "How To Be A Follower/ Member." Sometimes, following can be darned diffi-You have to be able to deal with confusion, vagueness and uncertainty. If you are a part of a Team, Council or International organization, then teamwork suggests that you all have an equally important part to play in the goals and objectives of said group and responsibility to help in accomplishing the tasks set out by the group you belong to. There is an implied contract: This is my job - Leader, this is your job - Member.

To be a truly creative and committed follower there are three principles to understand:

 A creative follower takes part wholeheartedly in all phases of the program.
 This means:

When meetings are called you show up. If you say you will serve on a committee, you come to meetings. You answer the R.S.V.P. How many times have you struggled to attend a meeting that had to be canceled because it failed to meet quorum? It ain't right and it isn't responsible followership.

You come prepared to discuss issues that are on the agenda. You are expected to read pre-meeting distributed information. This is greatly helped if the distributed information is short, concise and to the point. It is easy to presume that some materials are deliberately sent out to confuse and bewilder you. So that you'll bow to wiser heads than your own.

You voice your concerns when you have them, not later when you phone to complain to the chair about the wrong decision "they" made. You, as a full member, are there to register your concern. If you fail to share your point of view, you haven't done your duty. That's what you are there for!

You share responsibility for decisions by the group. Once the decision is made, it must become your decision. No subtle sabotage allowed. No "well, it wasn't my idea." This goes double if you didn't show up in the first place. Please don't revisit decisions made in your absence. Be prepared to live with it.

 A creative follower displays a willingness to listen to reason, to open oneself to new possibilities.

This isn't easy. Followers are often asked to join a Team or Committee because they have "history" — experience and knowledge about the past that may make them useful. The understanding of how things were should not pre-

(Continued on page 21)

vent you from recognizing how things are now. Keep those grey cells working, rather than drifting in neutral.

The creative follower functions rather like an expensive camera with both a wide angle and a zoom lens. You must be able to grasp both the big picture and the detailed local scene. You need to understand which lens to be looking

through to get the best shot — to function most effectively on behalf of the group.

3. A creative follower is genuinely committed to work with the group to develop

solutions, plans and programs that result from group effort.

Ideas are offered readily. The opinions and suggestions of others are welcomed and acknowledged. There is evidence of building on the contributions of others. pulling everything down and starting over, because you think you have a better idea and want the praise for yourself (or your Team, Council, etc.). This is the essence of the undertaking. You work with others, not because you are the boss or you're in charge, but because you value collective effort and together you create a superior product or service.

Good followers are made, not born. Powerful tools shaping their unfolding are clearly written expectations, frequent feedback and encouragement and the presence of visible role models. Everyone of us involved in the organization has the privilege

and the obligation of training with GRACE — G = guidance; R = respect; A = accountability; C = creativity; E = excellence.

Members need guidance, not rules or smothering. They need a chance to reflect on how to accomplish their work. Guidance is gentle, pointing the direction, being available to comment or correct when needed, being available to encourage when

"Everyone of us involved in

privilege and the obligation

G=guidance;

R=respect;

A=accountability;

C=creativity:

E=excellence."

GRACE--

the organization has the

of training with

the follower has made a mistake.

Members deserve respect. There is a very wrongheaded notion that only

leaders have opinions of value. Not so. The opinions, beliefs, suggestions of members should be heeded. I think we could all benefit from a large dose of courtesy training — really trying to apply the golden rule in our work with each other.

Members are accountable. They may not know this. They need to be reminded that there are expectations and standards. They are explicit and mutually agreed upon up front. If you promise to contact someone, you do it and report back. Committee work is shared, not just by the chair and staff, but by all.

Members need to be encouraged to be creative, to be the best they can. Not to do things because that's the way they have always been done. Organizations lose so much by failing to allow room or time for creative solutions. One strategy that opens up creativity is to problem solve as if we had all the money in the world. What is the ideal situation? How can we now adapt it to the real world?

Finally, members need to make a commitment to excellence. Making do is not enough. How can we be better, best? What additional service should we offer?

Maybe the banner we should all march under is the quote Robert Kennedy kept on his desk, "Some see things as they are and say why. I see things as they might be and say why not." When GRACE — guidance, respect, accountability, creativity and excellence — is directed towards the preparation of creative members:

- Creative members blossom in unexpected and rewarding ways.
- The program involved benefits because it gains the best effort of all involved.
  - 3. It makes better leaders.

Amazingly, we arrive back at leadership. Perhaps the new definition for leadership should be: the ability to develop, encourage and inspire creative followers.

Adapted by Bonnie Zygmunt from the article CREATIVE FOLLOWERSHIP by Marilyn MacKenzie. Voluntary Action Leadership, Spring 1989 issue.

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# FEMANEWS

#### FEMA ASKS FOR 1991 BUDGET TOTALING \$738 MILLION

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Director Wallace E. Stickney has stated that the Bush Administration is asking Congress for \$738 million in budget authority for FEMA for Fiscal Year 1991, which runs from next October 1, 1991 through September 30, 1992.

This compares with \$579 million estimated for the current year, Stickney told a briefing for news media and constituent organizations.

"In general, FEMA's request contains no dramatic changes from the levels appropriated by the Congress for this year, yet the President's budget provides the agency with the necessary tools to carry out its responsibilities for emergency planning, preparedness, response and recover, as well as hazard mitigation," Stickney said.

One change from last year, Stickney noted, is an Administration request for \$185 million for the Disaster Relief Fund, from which the President authorized federal assistance where a major disaster or emergency has been declared. The fund needed no additional authorization last year because of extra Congressional actions to supplement the fund in the wake of Hurricane Hugo and the Loma Prieta Earthquake.

The Administration also is requesting \$100 million for FEMA's Emergency Food and Shelter Program. This program channels emergency support to the homeless through a national board of major private charities.

Stickney pointed out that while this year's request is \$34 million less than last year's, "resources will shift to programs that provide more comprehensive and longer term solutions to the problems of the homeless. The total proposed government-wide funding for targeted homeless assistance programs will remain at one billion dollars."

For other high-profile FEMA programs, the Administration is asking for \$20.2 million for the National Earth-quake Program and other hazards, and \$135.6 million for Civil Defense. The National Flood Insurance Fund is projected to continue to be self-supporting for the average loss year.

FEMA's administrative operating budget request is \$443 million, an increase of \$17.3 million over the 1991 estimate.

> highlights of the budget request by program include:

\* Civil Defense, \$153.6 million. A \$5 million decrease is due to a 2% across the board reduction in defense-related activities and discontinuation of one-time Congressional increases. Stickney emphasized that the Administration's new request is sufficient to allow this program to continue its emphasis on development of dual-use capabilities.

- \* National earthquake program and other hazards (hurricanes, dam safety), \$20.2 million. A \$2.6 million increase will be used, among other things, to enhance FEMA's lead-agency activities under the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act and to mitigate the hazards of, preparation for and response to hurricanes and unsafe dams.
- Technological hazards. \$11.3 million. A net increase of \$200,000 is asked for two programs: Radiological Preparedness, Emergency which is concerned with offsite emergency planning around nuclear facilities, and Hazardous Materials. FEMA participates in interagency efforts to improve federal, state and local response to hazardous material incidents.
- \* Federal preparedness, \$156.6 million. A net increase of \$6.6 million is requested for programs designed to ensure that the nation can respond to, manage and recover from domestic and national security emergencies.
- \* Training and fire programs, \$30.8 million, of which \$25.6 million is for the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) and its National Fire Academy (NFA) and \$5.3 million is for the Emergency Management Institute (EMI). Effective this month, a major internal re-alignment reunited the Fire Academy under USFA and placed EMI under

(Continued on page 23)

(Continued from page 22)

the State and Local Programs and Support Directorate. In addition, \$12.8 million of the Civil Defense request is earmarked for training and education through the Emergency Management Institute.

- \* Flood insurance and mltigation, \$57.8 million. This provides administrative resources for the National Flood Insurance Fund, which is self-supporting for the average loss year, and the Flood Plain Management Program.
- \* Disaster relief administration, \$18 million. This activity provides the resources to manage the Disaster Relief Fund and includes resources for increased program monitoring, financial control and regulation revision. The request is \$6.4 million larger than last year's.
- \* Emergency food and shelter administration, \$227,000. This represents administrative costs for the program that channels emergency support to the homeless through a national board of major private charities.

The budget proposal calls for 2,734 full-time equivalent FEMA employees, compared with 2,704 for the current year.

# FEMA IMPLEMENTS TRAINING REORGANIZATION CHANGES

The Federal Emergency
Management Agency (FEMA)
has announced the completion
of its training reorganization
that brings together the National Fire Academy (NFA)

with the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), and the Emergency Management Institute (EMI) with the agency's State and Local Programs and Support Directorate (SLPS).

Agency Director Wallace
E. Stickney said the changes
were officially implemented
after a careful review of
recommendations made by a
FEMA training committee that
studied the agency's training
delivery system based on the
current needs of the nation's
emergency management
community.

The decision to reorganize the first revealed last November by Stickney and Representative Curt Weldon (R., PA.), Chairman of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus. Senator Barbara Milulski (D., MD.), Chair of the Senate appropriations subcommittee responsible for FEMA funding, authored the legislation allowing the reorganization.

As part of the reorganization, Stickney said the Office
of Training was eliminated
and its personnel and positions reassigned to USFA and
SLPS according to the consensus recommendations of
the training committee. The
office was previously responsible for administering
FEMA's National Emergency
Training Center (NETC) in
Emmitsburg, MD.

Under the re-alignment, overall responsibility for managing the NETC site was placed with the Fire Administration. To accommodate the transition, NECT's Operations Support Division was retained and transferred to USFA.

USFA also was assigned administrative control of the Educational Technology Division, NETC's other major operations unit formerly with the Office of Training.

Among the division's main

activities is the production of FEMA's award-winning Emergency Education Network (EENET) teleconference programs.

The Director emphasized that under the new alignment decisions regarding the management of personnel, positions and programs will rest with the two top officials for USFA and SLPS in the areas of training activities they have been directly assigned.

Coordination and management of FEMA's internal training programs will remain with the agency's Office of Personnel and Equal Opportunity, he said.

Stickney also directed that NFA and EMI curriculums be reviewed annually by a Board of Visitors to determine the need for integrating training programs and recommend changes as they may be required.

NFA, reunited with the Fire Administration for the first time since its separation in 1982, provides training to advance the professional development of fire and rescue service personnel, as well as allied professionals engaged in fire prevention and control activities.

Training programs and courses developed by EMI, now a part of SLPS, are primarily designed to improve and capability of state and local officials to mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies caused by a broad spectrum of hazards.

HAVE AN ARTICLE
FOR the REACTER?

MAIL IT TO

HEADQUARTERS

TODAY!!!

# LIFE MEMBERSHIP CORNER

The following is a list of the most recent Life Members. Welcome to the crowd!!!!

LM #473
Aubrey D. Gordon
Rockingham County
Emergency REACT
Team #3361
Bridgewater, Virgina

LM #474
Roscoe Burgess
Rockingham County
Emergency REACT
Team #3361
Bridgewater, Virginia

This will be my last Life
Membership article as the Life
Membership Chairman. I
have served for 2 years and I
feel that someone else should
have the reins and I want to
spend more time on other
important matters. I have
enjoyed the last 2 years although I feel that there was
more that could be done.

The Life Membership has presented some changes to the Board of Directors for inclusion into the bylaws. These amendments will tend to organized Life Membership regarding age, complaint procedures, etc. More needs to be done in the direction of finding out about the many Unattached Life Members on

our rolls. What is the exact status of these members? How should/can Life Members help in the direction of REACT International, Inc.? How can more REACT members be brought into Life Membership?

In my last article I would like to make an observation. For the last several years Lifers have stated that the Life Membership should be at the forefront in directing REACT. Whether very many members notice or not, many times Life Members have been the driving force behind various parts of REACT such as task group and committee chairmanships and Board of Directors. At the risk of forgetting someone, I will not name anyone but many times the member most prominent on an issue is a Life Member.

The recent nominations for Field Director to the REACT International Board of Directors contains 3 Life Members. Dick Pratz has been on the Board as well as being the Life Membership Chairman and is running for another term. He has held many positions on the Team and Council level. Dick Gamble is very active in his Team and the Washington Council. He has served on the Life Mem-

bership amendments committee. Andy Hetz has held many
offices on his Team and
Council as well. He is the
newest Life Member of those
nominated for Field Directors.
All 3 nominees have participated in REACT International
Conventions in various capacities. Good luck to all
nominees.

At this writing a new Life Membership directory is in the planning stage. With the ideas that have been given so far, members will be listed alphabetical, by state, and by Life Membership number for easy reference. The proposed change in listing format will reduce postage for mailing. The result will be given at the Convention and the Team(s) that worked to make it possible will be recognized.

I would like to close this article and term of chairman with some thoughts. During the last 2 years I have written about nearly every REACT related topic in this article in an attempt to stimulate interest in Life Membership and remind members what Life Membership is all about. I agree that it is the duty of Life Members to remind everyone what REACT is all about and help to continue and develop REACT as much as possible. requirements/expectations of a Life Member aren't written just to sound. Therefore, Life Members should be starting new Teams where there aren't any or should be joining Teams if they have moved from their original Team. Support REACT possible. where

Dick Cooper Life Membership Chairman LM #329

#### ATTENTION ALL REACT TEAMS

Half year dues are currently in effect. Now is a good time to boost membership in your local REACT Team.

Regular members dues through December 31st are \$8.50 with family and junior members dues at \$7.50.

So let's all go out and promote your Team and REACT. Make a goal of doubling your Team membership numbers.

For new member sign-up sheets, please contact REACT Headquarters.

## PRINCE WILLIAM REACT #C109 SERVES THEIR COMMUNITY YEAR ROUND

by Jim Donaldson Prince William REACT Team #C109

Prince William REACT Team #C109 provided a Safety Break for holiday motorists over the Memorial Day Weekend. Early estimates are that we served fewer people this year than in 1990. Highway Department rules which prevented the Team from accepting donations at the Interstate rest areas sent us back to our previous years set-up area on Route 234 at it's intersection with Interstate 95 just outside Dumfries, Virginia. Even with fewer people served, it is believed we had enough donations to cover our costs. Once again, pre-break donations of supplies helped in this We did have some edible, perishable goods left over. These were donated to the public assistance groups known as ACTS and SERVE. Our break operated from 1800 hours Friday until 1830 hours Monday. Eighty-three percent of our Team members participated in some way over the weekend. We also had members from Rappa-Anna REACT Team #4746 helping on each shift. Since they are a smaller group, this allowed them an opportunity to participate in a full weekend event without having to exhaust all their members trying to do it alone. We appreciate their efforts and perhaps we will be hearing more about them on these pages soon.

Since we've fallen behind a little here, we would like to fill you in on Team activities during the early part of the year. The practical experience of a Communications Networking Exercise held on December 24th, proved itself during a snow and ice storm

on December 27th and 28th, 1990. SSB contacts were reliable, strong and easily established. Four motorists were put back on the road. One Team member's hot coffee supply was of particular help to a disable 18wheeler that had been stranded for 4 1/2 hours. Other units provided flares and first aid for four major wrecks in our area and others provided transportation for Potomac Hospital personnel, even making trips to adjacent Stafford County. Other units assisted with traffic control in areas where County Police were closing roads.

On December 8th, 1990, the Team participated in the Dumfries/Triangle Town Christmas Parade, A color guard and REACT banner unit marched along with three REACT vehicles decorated with Team and holiday banners and signs. During the parade, radio calls were made from hand held and mobile units to other mobiles, on Channel 1, representing emergency service calls. These exchanges were broadcast to the spectators over external speakers on the vehicles. A number of complimentary crowd comments were heard during the parade which indicated public knowledge of our services to the community.

After the parade, Team units provided crowd control in the shopping center parking lot and helped with the handout of candy canes and with the children's visits with Santa Claus (none other than our own Unit 52) aboard a fire vehicle from the Dumfries/Triangle Volunteer Fire Department.

Prince William REACT
once again provided communications assistance for the
annual March of Dimes Walkathon held in Manassas. This
year several Team members
raised money for the March of
Dimes by being sponsored for
total number of hours worked
rather than walked.

In May of 1990, the Team assisted in the search for a downed aircraft. There were no survivors when the plane was finally located. In May of 1991, the families of those killed in the crash gathered to honor their lost loved ones as well as those groups that aided in the search. A commendation and donation was presented to our Team.

HELP YOUR TEAM

INCREASE

ITS' CHANNEL 9

MONITORING

CHALLENGE '91

## REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC'S 1991 RENEWAL LOTTERY CONTEST WINNERS

The following is the list of REACT Teams and the prizes they won in the 1991 Renewal Lottery Contest. We would like to thank the manufacturers who donated the prizes as well as congratulate those Teams who won.

Antenna Specialists Company donated six of each, APD-852.3T - On Glass Cellular Antenna, ASP-1650 - Roof Top GMRS Antenna, M-710 - Formula One CB Roof/Trunk Lip Mount Antenna, and M-711 - Formula One CB Magnet Mount Antenna. Congratulations to the following Teams: 3000,KY; C556,CA; 2800,KS; 2197,TN; 2240,NY; 2953,CA; 3810,TX; 4720,CA; C371,CO; 3522,PA; C161,PA; 4772,OH; 2607,PA; 2690,IN; 4656,MD; 3609,NY; 3410,PA; 4725,MA; 4299,ND; 2069,OH; 4107,TX; 2356,VA; 2983,NE; and 2446,IN.

K-40 Electronics donated 2 Speech Processor CB Systems and the winners were: 4682,TX; and 3232,OK.

Cobra Electronics Company donated 1 - Cobra 2000 GTL Base Station and 1 - Cobra 14B GTL SSB CB Radio, the winners were: C546,PA; and 3720,FL.

Midland Company donated 1 - 76-300 CB Base Station, 1 - 77-913 CB Handheld Transceiver and 1 - 77-116 CB Mobile Transceiver, the winners were: 5020,UK; 2388,MD; and 2114,Canada.

Shakespeare E & F Division donated 1 - 4802 portable cellular antenna, 1 - 176-GBSU antenna, and 1 - 4050-B CB antenna. Congratulations to the following Teams: 3090,WA; 4562,Canada; and 2332,OH.

Firestik Antenna Company donated 10 FS II 4' White Antennas. These antennas were won by Teams: C445,PA; 4747,TX; 4365,WI; 4717,CA; 4623,GA; C256,MI; 2413,OH; 2386,NY; C425,PA; and 3253,CA.

Hustler Antenna Company donated 4 - SCB-SR antennas. The winners were: 4187,MI; 3129,TX; 2797,NJ; and 4069,GA.

Mag Instrument, Inc., donated 3 of each red, black, blue and gold flashlight with batteries and a case. The winners were: 3390,TX; 2829,OK; 4098,TX; 3866,WI; C318,CA; 4724,PA; 2102,OH; 5015,UK; 3361,VA; 4784,WA; 3038,IA; and 2538, MN.

Of course, REACT International, Inc., awarded REACT merchandise such as: 4 - Safety Break Kits to the winning Teams of: 4757, Canada; 3629, AK; C363, OH; and C164, IL, 5 - Big Tomcat's CB Handbook to the following winners: C117, WV; 3654, PA; 4451, TN; 2869, WA; and 4592, CA, and one of REACT's new items, a 3' x 5' REACT Flag was awarded to Team 3366, WA.

In all 70 prizes were awarded for the 1991 Renewal Lottery Contest. Again, REACT International, Inc. would like to thank all Teams for their early renewals and congratulate them on their winnings.

PROMOTE REACT THROUGH ADVERTISING IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Recognized REACT Teams are granted permission to reproduce the REACT advertisement on this page. This message is currently running in the 1991 "Road Atlas and Travel Guide" provided by the Best Western Inns.

Use this ad in promoting the REACT program in your local community. Utilize it in your Team newsletters and mailings. Contact your local newspapers and tabloid services on the possibility of a "free" ad placement.

Lets all work together in an effort to improve the success rate among CB emergency calls.

And don't forget to write your local Best Western Inn to show your appreciation for their corporate support of the important REACT safety campaign.



#### **Emergency?**

Broadcast key details over and over (WHO • WHERE exactly • WHAT) without regard for a reply

REACT International, Inc., P.O. Box 998, Widnia, KS 67201 (316)263-2100



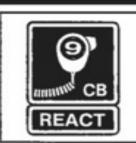


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REACT International, Inc., P.O. Box 998, Wichita, KS 67201 (316)263-2100 (AEAC)





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Broadcast key details over and over (WHO • WHERE exactly • WHAT) without regard for a reply

REACT International, Inc., P.O. Box 998, Wichita, KS 67201 (316)263-2100



#### REACT International, Inc.

P.O. Box 998 Wichita, KS 67201 316/263-2100

July, 1991

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