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# We're America's Hobby Radio Magazine

There is only **ONE** regularly published magazine that covers CB radio, scanners, two-way radio, GMRS, FRS and MURS!

Check out NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS MAGAZINE!

# NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

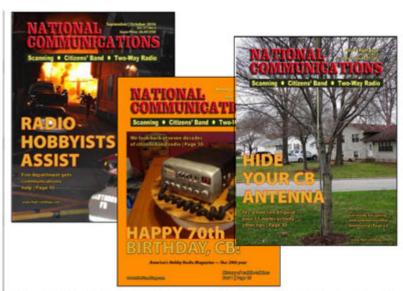
# Scanning ● Citizens' Band ● Two-Way Radio

NatCom publishes six times a year and persons with an online access account get access to not only the current issue of the magazine in PDF format, but also every issue of the magazine published going back to 1988! That's 29 years of pure radio communications reading!

NatCom covers listening to the scanning bands so you get the most out of your scanner, how to get more out of your CB equipment and how to use the MURS, GMRS and FRS bands. No other magazine covers ALL these hobby radio topics!

NatCom is only available online and online access account holders are given access to the current issue as well as every issue back to 1988. We're **America's Hobby Radio Magazine**, the oldest continually published communications magazine!

Join the NatCom family today and order your online access account. One year of online access costs **only \$25**, while we are offering for a limited time two-year online access accounts for \$48 (a \$2 savings) and three-year online access accounts for \$70 (a \$5 savings).



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#### A Word from the Editor

Will Stanley, Editor, The *REACT*er

As the Editor of this magazine, it is my responsibility to find material for it. I cannot do this alone. A magazine of this type does not operate in a vacuum. So, I am going to use an approach here that one of the very best managers I ever worked for used successfully all the time. Pay attention here...

#### I NEED YOUR HELP!!

Yes, YOUR HELP. I'm sure Len Camden would not mind my borrowing that. It worked well for him for years. Lets see if it works as well for me. The material I need is news from the Teams; what are you doing, where are you doing it and so on. And don't forget the pictures! I can come up with the articles that I think (hope!) will be of interest to you, like last month's article on heat exhaustion/heat stroke.

I've gotten some stuff the last two months from Facebook but so often there are just pictures and no story. Your members may know what's going on but the rest of *REACT* does not! If your news is good enough for Facebook, it's good enough for The *REACT*er. While you're posting to FB, take a few extra seconds and send it to me as well.

#### EDITOR@THEREACTER.COM

Also, if you come upon an article you think might be interesting, send THAT to me as well. If you have written an article that you think might be of interest to *REACT*ers, send it along. Don't spend time worrying that it might not be good enough for The *REACT*er. Let ME worry about that. I am the Editor because I EDIT stuff. If your article is good enough to publish, but needs a little tweaking, that's why I am here! Chances are very good I will find your article good enough to publish but I CAN'T if YOU don't send it!



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#### William Stanley Editor

DEADLINE: 15th of the Month prior to publication(i.e: July 15th for August issue, etc)

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

The *REACT*er magazine is available and open to all interested persons at: www.the*react*er.com

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# AUGUST 6, 2019 Check out the September REACTer for stories about Team events!

# ATTENTION: ALL REACT MEMBERS and ALL HAM OPERATORS





YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US ON THE

#### **REACT INTERNATIONAL**

WORLDWIDE NET EVERY TUESDAY AT 9 P.M. EST

Contact nets@REACTIntl.org
for information on how
to get on the net

# WORLDWIDE REACT INTERNATIONAL ZELLO NET

PLEASE JOIN US EVERY STURDAY NIGHT AT 8 PM EST (9 PM DURING DAYLIGHT SAVING TIMES ON THE

#### REACT MEMBERS

**ZELLO CHANNEL** 

#### ALL COMMUNICATORS ARE WELCOME!

No license is required, use your internet

connected computer or smartphone

The Zello app is available for download from http://www.zello.com









Download the Zello® Walkie Talkie app for your platform. Create an account with a Username (e.g. call sign) and password, then add the REACT MEMBERS channel.

Press the Push to Talk button to transmit

VOLUNTEER TO BE A NET OPERATOR!



## View From Region One

John Mahon Director, Region One

*REACT* began as a CB radio Emergency Channel 9 monitoring organization across the United States and Canada in 1962. Initially, the primary role of *REACT* volunteers was to monitor Channel 9, the CB Emergency Channel, to help motorists.

Each *REACT* Team is a unique group of local residents who fills a local purpose. The original purpose of monitoring Emergency Channel 9 for distress calls has certainly decreased over the years and is not as widely used as it once was due to the availability of cellular phones, but is still in use in locations. Some teams disbanded when the need for CB 9 monitoring declined; however, other Teams were creative in adopting charitable services in their communities.

Many *REACT* Teams go beyond just communications and provide emergency services such as traffic and parking control, search and rescue support, assistance with large public events, helping with safety breaks along roadways, help monitor traffic flow, assist with their local emergency management offices, law enforcement and also some participate in the SKYWARN program of storm spotters. However many of these functions require the mobile communications that many *REACT* Teams utilize.

Teams may operate under the *REACT* International 501 (c) (3) nonprofit group exemption. To maintain this exemption, we must maintain the activities that originally qualified *REACT* International for this exemption. Our nonprofit application back in the 70's was to monitor Channel 9, the CB Emergency Channel, to help motorists.

Although CB radio has declined, it is not dead. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) application does not specifically list the monitoring CB radio as a qualifying charitable activity. It is conceptually the dedication of *REACT* International team members to monitor the radio to "help" motorists.

The action of helping someone to do something; assistance, is what the nonprofit exemption is all about. Why not expand the original concept, monitoring a radio channel to help others, to include all bands of the Personal Radio Service (PRS) CB, FRS, GMRS, LPRS, or MURS that may exist in the community? By monitoring a PRS band, taking calls for "help" still fulfills the same charitable goal of helping the community.

REACT International launched its highway Safety Break program (1977) in cooperation with the American Trucking Association. REACT developed the NEAR (National Emergency Aid Radio) safety program for the U.S. government. Although I cannot find any information about this program, specifically identifying designated emergency assistance frequencies or channels on the PRS bands to monitor. There is a lot chatter on the web about designating emergency assistance frequencies or channels, but there has not been any specific plan. Why not launch our own monitoring program "NEAR" you based upon the following plan?

Personal Radio Service				
Radio Service	Channel	Frequency	PL Tone	
Citizens Band	Emergency CH: 9	27.0650 MHz	CSQ *	
Citizens Band	Highway CH: 19	27.1850 MHz	CSQ	
Multi-Use Radio Service	Channel 3	151.940	CSQ	
Family Radio Service	Channel 9	467.5875	CSQ - channel 0	
General Mobile Radio Service	National Calling	462.6750	CSQ – 141.3	
Amateur Radio Service				
Amateur Band	Mode	Frequency	PL Tone	
Amateur radio - 10 meter	FM Simplex	29.600	CSQ	
Amateur radio - 6 meter	FM Simplex	52.5250	CSQ	
Amateur radio - 2 meter	FM Simplex	146.5200	CSQ	
Amateur radio - 1.2 meter	FM Simplex	223.5200	CSQ	
Amateur radio - 73 centimeter	FM Simplex	432.1000	CSQ	
Amateur radio - 23 centimeter	FM Simplex	1294.5000	CSQ	

<sup>\*</sup>CSQ – Continuous Squelch Quieting: Simply turning up the squelch without use of tones.

The *REACT* International National Emergency Aid Radio plan is used by local teams. All PRS bands are not going to be active in all areas of the country. Teams and or members would determine the active bands from the plan above to monitor. The teams and or members can then publicize the specific frequency that will be monitored in their area. Much like monitoring CB channel 9, we would try to develop a 24/7 monitoring program on the selected PRS band.

We recently received an Email message from a "concerned" member of society somewhere in the Midwest. His complaint, or concern, was the lack of any *REACT* presence on CB channel 9 in his area. *REACT* International members monitor the radio on a volunteer basis. Although a 24/7 monitoring plan is desired, *REACT* is not a paid service where operators are guaranteed to monitor a radio in every corner of the United States. Our request to start a team and monitoring remains unanswered.

REACT International also has a part 90 license that Teams can use, with written permission only, for local simplex operations. The benefit is reduced co-user interference than we experience on CB, FRS, GMRS, or MURS. More importantly for those working with Public Safety Agencies, this offers access to the national inter-operability frequencies. The specific band and frequency will need to be coordinated with the Public Safety Agency you work with. The intention was to provide a public safety support agency with the ability to communicate directly with the Public Safety Agency during an incident without disrupting their radio traffic.

This would be a valuable option for teams who provide emergency services such as traffic and parking control, search and rescue support, assistance with large public events, helping with safety breaks along roadways, help monitor traffic flow, assist with their local emergency management offices, or law enforcement.

There is no reason for anyone to reinvent the wheel here. Why not submit an article and pictures of your team activities. Let us see how your team works events in your neighborhood? Another team may be able to learn from your events.

For more information about the terms and conditions of the *REACT* International part 90 license agreement, Email RI.HQ@*REACT*Intl.org.



#### Northern Rhode Island REACT

(Rhode Island) Submitted by Peter Braconnier

Northern Rhode Island *REACT* has participated over the years in several searches for missing children, an area police officer who committed suicide and rescue drills. The equipment is part of the inventory of the North Smithfield Emergency Management Agency. *REACT* is an integral part of this agency.

All EMA members are part of *REACT*. Of the 30 sworn members, men and women , many are hams, CERT (Community Emergency Response Team members), EMT's and former police officers. *REACT* has been here since 1962. Several members have been part of *REACT* since that time.

The ATV and rescue trailer were donated by a local citizen, the rescue trailer by a local charity.



The command trailer contains our radio equipment. CB,Ham (2meter, HF) and our repeater radio. It has a

table and chairs to use as a command post. It has both heat and A/C. It was received through a state grant as part of the MEDS program from the RI Department of Health.





The snowmobile was donated by an area business man. The two (snowmobile and ATV/RT) are at the North Smithfield Fire Department station #2 for immediate use.



The *REACT*er

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August 2019

#### South East Louisiana REACT

(Louisiana) Submitted by Joe Glorioso

The South East Louisiana *REACT* Team & the Crescent City Amateur Radio Group joined forces to participate in the 2019 ARRL Field Day (Emergency Communications).





As we all know field day is a time to exercise emergency communications in abnormal conditions. We were running HF rigs on 20 and 40 meters, and VHF/UHF analog and digital DMR repeaters for the exercise.

All communications were run on generator power and / or batteries as if a disaster/catastrophe hit and knocked out all normal means of communications. Our last contact was ARRL Headquarters W1AW. Everyone did a great job...



#### Hill Country REACT

(Texas) Submitted by Lee Besing

Members of Hill Country *REACT* provided coordination for the 29th annual 4th of July parade in Startzville, TX, just south of Canyon Lake area. Team members have supported this event since it was first started. Our duties include 100% control of the parade staging area and managing the start where we merge the entries onto the main parade route. Local Sheriff deputies handled the traffic on the route. VFW Post 8800 sponsors the event.



Although the 2019 parade lineup was slightly shorter than 2018, there were six Jeep Clubs who combined into a single entry of 170 Jeeps. One of our members is a drone enthusiast and flew his DJI Mavic 2 Pro drone around the staging area getting overhead photos and videos.

Check out the edited YouTube video found online at https://youtu.be/jXbLyFJlg-Q

Only two members are easily identified in this video. Lee Besing (in the red *REACT* shirt holding the drone controller) our newest member, Jeff Dillon, (wearing a blue polo shirt seen talking to some Jeep parade entries toward the end). The other 5 members and 2 other teenage volunteers



were scattered along the 1/2-mile staging area.

President Bryce Weathersby was our IC for the event and coordinated getting the entries out onto the parade route once it started. He also had the joy of dealing with disgruntled folks who wanted a better place in the line-up. (We don't assign the order of the line-up, that's done by the Post Commander from VFW Post 8800.)

We had a lot of fun and drove at the rear of the parade behind the firetrucks and before the Sheriff vehicles. Once the parade was over, we adjourned to our favorite restaurant for a celebratory lunch.

#### Trinidad and Tobago REACT Council

(Trinidad and Tobago) Submitted by Kenny Jagdeosingh

The *REACT* Trinidad and Tobago Council held its 5th Biennial General Meeting at the Hillview College Auditorium, Tunapuna, on 22 June, 2019. This event rekindled memories of those glorious days of *REACT* International Inc. Annual Conventions when Teams/Members met and greeted, conversed, deliberated, wined and dined in a spirit of camaraderie



that now seems to be forever lost.

This brings back my vociferous argument, at the Board Meeting of the Evansville Convention, that instituting Biennial Intl Conventions would ring the death knell of a most important item on *REACT* Intl's calendar. Time has proven my prediction. My



nostalgic inclinations easily prompt me to liken the RTTC 5th Biennial General Meeting as a Mini Convention.



All nine Team Affiliates of the RTTC were in attendance in the ambiance of the auditorium which was colorfully decorated by Teams 6007 and 2496 with RTTC Protocol Faiz and members of his Team 6007 under the able supervision of Team President Anwar.

The RTTC Refreshment Committee of Faiz, Kenny and Jennifer oversaw a sumptuous dinner of stewed chicken, stewed lentils, macaroni pie and green salad, soft drinks and kiss cake deserts. On registration each member received a *REACT* patch. Several raffles were drawn to the delight of all.

One of the highlights of this BGM was the election of officers, an item which ran a smooth course with the following results:

PRESIDENT: Robby Goswami

VICE PRESIDENT: Trevor Brathwaite

SECRETARY: Joycelyn Phillips

ASST. SECRETARY: Angela Joyce Henry-Small

TREASURER: J P Pouchet

TECHNICAL/ECOM. Officer: Faiz Mohammed COMMUNICATIONS Officer: Kenny Jagdeosingh

PROTOCOL OFFICER: Gloria Coombs.

The RTTC will hold the first meeting of the 2019-2021 term on 27 July, 2019 fully geared to attending to the business of *REACT*.

#### **Cleveland County REACT**

(North Carolina) Submitted by Jay Flora

Cleveland County REACT had a good time on July 5th helping Shelby Police at the 4th of July Celebration at Shelby City Park.

Shelby Police Capt. Fraser and I rode around the park

in the Shelby Police pickup with all the markings on it,

*REACT* will have a booth set up at the 2019 National Night Out, uptown Shelby at the City Pavilion.

checking to make sure everything was going good. Then, around dusk, Capt. Fraser set the drone up and got it flying to get pictures of the fireworks.

On Tuesday August 6th, Cleveland County

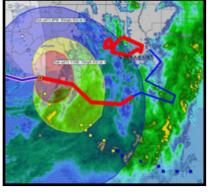


## South East Louisiana *REACT*

(Louisiana) Submitted by Joe Glorioso

On July 11 2019 the Southeast Louisiana REACT and

the Crescent City Amateur Radio Group joined forces to prepare for Hurricane Barry. At 6 pm on July 11, 2019 the National Hurricane Center & the Hurricane VOIP organization activated their Hurricane Net. In addition, we activated the Ham Radio station



at the St. Bernard EOC. The New Orleans EOC also



checked in.

We passed weather conditions, power outages, trees down, street flooding and levee over topping etc. to the National Hurricane Center via Ham Radio repeaters (Echo Link WX Talk Conference). In addition, we were linked to the REACT conference on Echo Link.

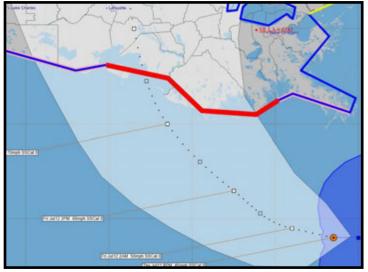


Even though the storm was a

category one hurricane, our immediate region only suffered minor damages and power outages.

As for as outside our region some areas suffered levee over topping, causing some flooding in neighborhoods. Baton Rouge, Louisiana received at least 15-20 inches of rain and experiened some street flooding.

As of July 14, 2019, Louisiana had over 67,000 customers without electricity and Mississippi had 3,500 without electricity. Over all, New Orleans made it through with minimal damage.



#### **Cleveland County REACT**

(North Carolina) Submitted by Jay Flora

On 7/16/2019 Jay Flora of Cleveland County *REACT* in Shelby, NC was dispatched to help Shelby Police and Shelby Fire Department with traffic control due to a residential house fire on James Love School Rd.



Jay took over the road block so the Shelby police officer could return to service. Jay was blocking James Love School Rd at Charles Rd. He was out from 4:46 p.m. to 6:35 p.m. when all Police and Fire units were clear and he was able to re-open the road.

Cleveland County *REACT* has a good working relationship with the Shelby Police and Shelby Fire Dept as well as the Cleveland County Sheriff and Cleveland Volunteer Fire Department. We also have working relationships with the Lawndale Fire Department, Number-7 Fire Department, the North Carolina Highway Patrol and the local Amateur Radio Clubs in and outside Cleveland County.



A good working relationship with your local Law Enforcement and EMS is essential for all *REACT* Teams!

EDITORS NOTE: You may have noticed that Teams in this issue have more than one entry. This is due to the fact the events covered in the stories are not related and came in at different times. THIS IS PERFECTLY ACCEPTABLE. Send In That News!

#### Abington REACT

(Pennsylvania) Submitted By Dave Rondinelli



This will be our 20th year doing the National Night Out. We are very much involved with the Abington PD.



We will also be doing the March of Dimes Walk. This is our 20th year for that as well.

#### **Delaware County REACT**

(Pennsylvania) Submitted by Lisa Zacker

Delaware County *REACT* stays quite active. We assist the PD with vehicle crashes and truck wrecks.

We work events where we keep people safe and help park cars at festivals and such.





## **McCracken's Musings**

Ronald W. McCracken LIVE! from Canada! LM 52

#### Safety Vests.

Does your Team have them? Your members' safety at events is paramount. If you don't have them, the time is now. Traffic is more dangerous by the week, it seems. You won't see police or EMS without them. That means your *REACT* members need them too.

Safety vests should be easy for your Team to acquire. They would make a great 'first grant' project for any Team. If your Team is an old hand at securing grants, you have no excuse for not equipping your members with them pronto. Your Team's safety needs will strike a chord with most service clubs or other community organizations.

How? Approach a service club member that someone on your Team knows, preferable one that your Team has helped in the past. Explain to him/her that your Team has a need for safety vests. If your Team has supported an event for the club, they will likely know the need. Offer to provide a speaker for one of their club meetings to outline *REACT*'s role in the community. Send someone who will be a real credit to your Team. Remind him/her that a grant hangs in the balance.

#### **Homework Helps**

Do your homework. It will show the club that it is dealing with a well-organized group. Know before you approach that club contact just how many vests the Team will need. Be sure to order several extra so you will have them on hand for new members. You want them all to be the same. Know the total grant amount your Team is requesting. Tell them that if they can't handle the full amount you can approach another group for a portion of it. That will usually prompt them to grant the full amount so they get full credit. Either way, your Team gets its safety vests.

Choose the vest you want carefully. High-visibility green ones are best. They seem easiest to see, and thus offer the greatest degree of safety. They also contrast

well with your *REACT* logo colours to emphasize them. They will also contrast well with *REACT* colours in your Team uniform. All of these are important factors, both from the safety and PR points of view.

#### **Double Duty**

The hi-viz green has PR value, as well as its safety benefits. It will enable people who need your help to locate you more quickly. Likewise, it will enable your police or EMS partners to spot you easily. In an emergency, 'when seconds count', these capabilities become critical.



Get out those photos your Team members have been taking at events with their cell phones. Have a Team member arrange a 'slide show' that your speaker can use at the club's meeting. Remember, 'a picture is worth....'. Take some of your speaker at the meeting to add to your collection.

The photos will do double duty for your Team, too. When you receive your grant, have a Team member

write up a media release. Include photos of the club meeting and the *REACT* speaker, along with one or two of events where *REACT* has provided safety communications. This part is extremely important. It will endear you to the granting club, and you will both get favourable news coverage. A win-win, again.

As you can see, gaining a grant is a bit like making a quilt. There are several pieces to fit together for the result you want. Good planning will almost certainly ensure success. Once you have a pattern worked out, applying it to future grant requests becomes fairly routine. Give it your best shot.

#### REACT International Event Calendar

AUGUST 2019	OCTOBER 2019
1	1
15Deadline for September <i>REACT</i> er 15 <i>REACT</i> Traffic System Net (9:15 p.m. ET) 17Zello World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET) 20 <i>REACT</i> World Wide Net (9 p.m ET) 22 <i>REACT</i> Traffic System Net (9:15 p.m. ET) 24Zello World Wide Net (9 p.m. ET) 27 <i>REACT</i> World Wide Net (9 p.m ET) 29 <i>REACT</i> Traffic System Net (9:15 p.m. ET) 31 <i>REACT</i> Traffic System Net (9:15 p.m. ET)	15Deadline for November <i>REACT</i> er  15REACT Worldwide Net (9:00 p.m. ET)  16REACT Traffic System Net (9:15 p.m. ET)  19Zello World Wide Net (9:00 p.m. ET)  22REACT Worldwide Net (9:00 p.m. ET)  23REACT Traffic System Net (9:15 p.m. ET)  26Zello World Wide Net (9:00 p.m. ET)  29REACT Worldwide Net (9:00 p.m. ET)  30REACT Traffic System Net (9:15 p.m. ET)
( I	31HALLOWEEN (U.S.)
SEPTEMBER 2019	31HALLOWEEN (U.S.) NOVEMBER 2019

To add items to this calendar, contact: REACT International: 301-316-2900 (Inter-Office Phone: Ext 114) email: editor@thereacter.com

Items on the calendar are as accurate as we can make them but are subject to change.

Any questions ... contact the person in charge of the event

Most National/International Holidays are now in the calendar. They are in CAPITAL PRINT



# 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.



Join us on our monthly journey through the broad and varied landscape of the world's most fascinating hobby. Subscribe today!

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