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EVENTS/MEETING/NET

April 10th Fiesta Island Time Trails #4 of 6
April 23rd Lakeside Western Day Parade
April 30th Fry's Operating Day - San Diego
May 21st Cycle Eastlake
May 21st CALFIRE VIP Red Flag Patrol Training
June 18-19th Descanso Endurance Ride
June 26th San Diego International Triathlon
July 4th Alpine Fourth of July Parade
July 4th CALFIRE Red Flag Patrol
Sept 25th Fiesta Island Time Trails #5 of 6
Nov 6th Fiesta Island Time Trails #6 of 6
Nov 20th Mother Goose Parade
March 17th REACT General Meeting
April 14th REACT Board Meeting
March 24th REACTIVE Net
April 7th REACTIVE Net

If you would like to help with these events; please contact a board member at board@southwesternreact.org.

Southwestern React, What is in your vest?

By KK6DKX

As a new or newest or a seasoned member of Southwestern React, a vest can become one of your best tools while doing service for the public. It can be almost as important as our boots but I've known folks to wear slippers while at post, your secret is safe. Not only can you be seen but you also carry a sense of authority wearing a safety vest, "Hey look at me I am being safe so should you".

We might have started out with the cheapest orange hunting vest we found at a big box sporting goods store in the hunting section; only to find out that it was the most uncomfortable thing, only upped by your best friend's wedding rental tux that you didn't get your cleaning deposit back on.

There is a rainbow of colors for the vest you might be considering, really the two that most teams default to are fluorescent safety yellow or orange, usually listed as Class 2 due to the 2" safety strip. There are economy models with no pockets up to engineer or surveyor ones that have more pockets then you will remember where you store everything (My problem). Of course the prices vary from a few dollars to \$50, but wait there's more, you can get a custom vest and pay \$100's and be styling all of the time. Depending on what organization you are volunteering with, some want you to wear their colors and no one else's.

You get what you pay for; is the motto. Given that most groups ask you to buy your own Personnel Protection Equipment (PPE), you really only want to buy it once. Some of the functions I found helpful on the vest I chose; Plenty of pockets (Too many to remember where I hid everything), water bottle pocket x 2 (Always need to hydrate), Radio pocket and mic loop, Class 2 reflective tape, and fluorescent yellow as the vest color (Orange makes me look fluffy).

So, what do I carry:

1. SWR name Badge, React Int Picture ID
2. Whistle, attached to vest
3. Pen, Pencil, Sharpe, Paper, Note Pad
4. Flashlight, Extra batteries, Multi Tool, Belt Case
5. Pack of tissues, Lip Balm, Sun Screen
6. First Aid Gloves, Shears, Paracord
7. Radio, Headset, Manual, extra battery, Mic
8. Two Water Bottles, One for me and One for you
9. Snacks, Gum, Breakfast bars, \$20.00 small bills
10. Event Briefing, Map, Frequency List, Net Control Announcement

I have a go bag with extras of above items to restock or to transfer items from or to it when not needed depending on venue. Of course, the more you carry the more it weighs, so K.I.S.S principle applies. I am experimenting with a pair of workmen suspenders attached to the bottom of the vest to support the pocket weight on my shoulder verses on my neck via the vest, we will see how it goes (Snacks weigh a lot).

Now I have a simple off the shelf model but there are custom, fit to your needs, colors, pockets galore, meshed vented panels, labels, reflective tape and a price tag to go with it. And yes, I have Vest envy but I'll see where my vest journey takes me, I use my vest for SWR events only and have other vests set up for other service groups.

Hope this helps you in your equipment selection, KK6DKX Clear

Links to Vests

1. The Vest Guy
<http://www.thevestguy.com>
2. RJ Safety Supply
<http://www.rjsafety.com>
3. Home Depot <http://www.homedepot.com>

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

American Red Cross Report

By June McCollough

The ARC meeting for March was held on March 5th. We did training on the VHF/UHF Go Kit, and practiced sending message with RMS Express. The next meeting will be on April 2nd at 9:00 AM at 3950 Calle Fortunada, San Diego CA. 92123. This is an open meeting for anyone unless they are discussing confidential ARC business.

SANDARC

By June McCollough

The next meeting will be April 28th at 6:30PM at Sizzler's Steakhouse Restaurant. We are looking for delegates to represent Southwestern REACT at this meeting. If you are interested please contact a board member.

ACS

By June McCollough

The ACS meeting was held on March 7th at the Office of Emergency Service (OES). We reviewed the March 5th training we had on message handling and sending messages over the radio. We also discussed what ACS will be doing in the coming months. All members are encouraged to learn to operate the radio and do the weekly net. If you are interested in joining the new ACS, please contact either Roger McCollough or myself and we will give you contact information. The next meeting will be on April 4th at 6:30PM (1830 hours).

FITT AFTER ACTION REPORT

BY June McCollough

On March 13th, Southwestern REACT provided communication for the 3rd Fiesta Island Time Trials. The following members participated by showing up at 6:30 (*after springing forward for Daylight Savings Time*): Mike Bailey, Wayne Oliver, Don Dodson, George Reeves, John Wright and June McCollough. Event went well and weather was dry. We have a new race director, Mike Berrira. There were 66 riders so we finished by 8:30AM. The next FITT event is April 10th and I will be coordinating it once again.

ARES MARCH 2016 MEETING REPORT

By Roger McCollough

The meeting, was held in the Schatzel Center Nobel Room, on the Scripps La Jolla Hospital Campus, on the second Saturday of each month. The subject for discussion was how amateurs can construct and implement a node to what is called AREDAN (Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network).

The Mesh Network is an outgrowth of the 2 gigacycle portion of the Wi-Fi frequency band. As it turns out, two 5-megahertz channels are in the ham band. So what amateurs have been doing is using existing commercial radio equipment and tuning it onto these frequencies.

Proof of concept is in Del Mar where the amateurs have set up a local net, supported, in part, by the City Fathers funding. They linked their EOC with, among other locations, a repeater site and the Del Mar Race Track. The track was added because of its' use as a large-capacity shelter area.

During a recent trial run, "bugs" showed up but were solved. The system supports both VOIP (Voice over I P) and video. As a show and tell, a remote site was demonstrated. It included a remote control camera, mike, Wi-Fi transceiver, antenna, and car battery, all mounted on a pole with a tripod base. The unit "talks" to a portable unit that acted as a server.

As we "speak", more networks have been built creating separate networks, including into Tijuana. The Del Mar net is NOT connected to the Internet, but is currently a LAN (Local Area Network). Other items of business include the publishing of their latest Communications Plan for 2016. We will publish portions of this plan in following issues with their permission. Be sure to save this information as we make it available, and keep it handy.

Separately (in a near-by room) a training-familiarization class was held to acquaint any ham on the use of their hand-held. The bulk of students needed help with their Baofeng BF-5R.

The Cloudy Side of Sunshine

By Cindy Wilcken

San Diego has been experiencing some rain, winds and hail but our team has been keeping pretty healthy. Keep up the good work!

Planting Your Spring Garden **For the Garden of Your Daily Living**

Plant Three Rows of Peas

1. Peace of Mind
2. Peace of Heart
3. Peace of Soul

Plant Four Rows of Squash

1. Squash Gossip
2. Squash Indifference
3. Squash Grumbling
4. Squash Selfishness

Plant Four Rows of Lettuce

1. Lettuce Be Faithful
2. Lettuce Be Kind
3. Lettuce Be Patient
4. Lettuce Really Love One Another

No Garden is Complete Without Turnips

1. Turnip For Meetings
2. Turnip For Service
3. Turnip to Help One Another

To Conclude Your Garden You Must Have Thyme

1. Thyme For Each Other
2. Thyme For Family
3. Thyme For Friends

Water Freely With Patience and Cultivate With Love. There is Much Fruit in Your Garden Because You Reap What You Sow.

Author: Unknown Shared By: C. Wilcken

TRAINING MOMENT

By Dee Osargent

Due to a request to have training in "How to be a Coordinator", Don Dotson will present that topic at the March 17th Training Moment.

WHILE PERUSING OTHER CLUB NEWSLETTERS ON LINE, I NOTICED THIS ARTICLE IN THE CALFIRE NEWSLETTER:

R. Craig Wilcken

Hello again, It is it too soon to think about this year's fire season? If you answered yes, then you would be wrong. In California, there is no such thing as fire season. Fire season IS ALL YEAR LONG. And those of you who have lived here all of your lives, and those of you who have been here a long time know this to be true. Why am I bringing up this well-known subject? simple, to get all of you who are part of the CAL FIRE Red Flag Patrol ready for the upcoming training and the yearly call outs, and to ask all of you who wish to become a member of the Red Flag Team to sign up now. So you can get the training and be ready to go out on patrol with your fellow hams who work very hard to help keep our back country friends safe from fires. So, if you do want to "join" our ranks, you can call Eric T. Crosser at 619-579-6225, or e-mail him at wolpertinger!@msn.com ,or me Rich Beisigl at 619-444-5465 e mail isrbeisigl@csst.net. Remember, fires can happen to anyone at any time. Before I close, as always remember our brave men and women of our armed services and their families. Well, that's all for now, so until next time, stay safe and keep on smiling.

Rich, N6NKJ.

St. Patrick's Day Facts

As long as you celebrate safely, St. Patrick's Day can be fun for all.
Here are a few facts about the Irish holiday:

- St. Patrick's Day celebrates the traditional religious feast day of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland.
- The first St. Patrick's Day parade took place not in Ireland, but the United States on March 17, 1737, in Boston.
- More than 100 St. Patrick's Day parades are held across the United States. New York City and Boston host the largest.
- There are roughly 35 million U.S. residents with Irish ancestry, more than seven times the population of Ireland itself.
- There are approximately 144,588 current U.S. residents who were born in Ireland**.
- You may hear some phrases in Gaelic/Irish on St. Patrick's Day. The most common: Erin go braugh = Ireland forever; slainte = good health/cheers.



2016

TEAM JOBS FROM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Appointed officers (sect. 2)

Sergeant-at-Arms _____ Carl Jensen
Chaplain _____ Carl Jensen
Hostess _____
Historian _____
Parliamentarian _____
BB Repeater Trustee _____ Daniel McDougal
Amateur Repeater Trustee _____ Doug Waltman
Public Information Officer _____

Committee chairpersons (sect. 3)

Audit _____ [as needed]
Budget _____ [as needed]
Building & Planning _____ Tyler Klein
By-laws _____
Team Equipment _____ Mike Corum
Election _____ [as needed]
Inter-Organization _____ **Liaisons**
 Animal Rescue _____ Dee Osargent
 ARES _____ Mike Corum
 CalFire _____ Eric Crosser
 Civil Air Patrol _____ Mike Woods
 ACS (formally RACES) _____
 Red Cross _____ Roger & June McCollough
 SANDARC _____ Roger McCollough, Grady Yearwood,
 George Reeves, June McCollough
 VOAD _____ Roger McCollough
Membership _____ Grady Yearwood
Nominating _____ [as needed]
Policy and Procedures _____
Program _____ Dee Osargent
REACT Net _____ George Reeves
REACT Store _____ Mike Woods
Sunshine _____ Cindy Wilcken
Training _____ Carl Demas
Ways & Means _____
Amateur Radio Club _____
Junior REACT _____
Management Information System _____ Tyler Klein
Web Master _____ Mike Corum

ADDITIONAL TEAM JOBS FROM BY-LAWS

Article XI

Team Bulletin Editor _____ R.Craig Wilcken

*Southwestern REACT general meeting 3rd
Thursday of each month 7:00 pm at 2650
Melbourne Drive, San Diego CA*

The **REACTer** is a publication of Southwestern REACT of San Diego County Inc. It is published once a Month and contributions are accepted from officers and members of the TEAM. Opinions expressed are solely that of the author and/or the editor and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Southwestern REACT. Articles for the REACTer must be submitted by the Second Saturday of the month to the editor either by e-mail or mail and must be computer ready if possible. Any format is acceptable but Microsoft Word is preferred. The editor reserves the right to change and modify articles as needed.

Team officers 2016:

SWR 098 Roger McCollough
President

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V.P. / Communication

SWR054 June McCollough
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