



Southwestern REACTer



AUGUST 2019

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**SOUTHWESTERN
REACT, Inc.**

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OFFICERS

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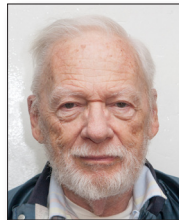
Director-At-Large:
Jim Patterson
SWR 151

SWR's mission is to prepare for communications during emergencies and disasters. This preparation is accomplished through working community events such as: The Lakeside Western Days, and North Park Toyland parades, the Midnight Madness Bicycle Ride and Fiesta Island Time Trials, the Silver Strand Half-Marathon, the San Diego International Triathlon and the Descanso Endurance Horse Ride

The Southwestern REACT General Meeting is held the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM at: 2650 Melbourne Drive, San Diego, CA

Reactive Team Net

The Team net is held on the first and fourth Thursdays of the month at 7:00 PM on the 449.060 REACT/ARES Repeater with a negative offset and a PL tone of 88.5 (Mt. Otay)



**Movies and the
Ultimate Disaster**

In 1951 movie maker George Pal, famous for his "Puppetoons" cartoons made, what I believe to be, the first major disaster movie. In the movie, "When Worlds Collide," a rogue star, Bellus, is on track to collide with and destroy the Earth. The only hope for the human race is a rocket built as an ark. That rocket would take a token group of humanity to a planet of the star. Seventy years ago the movie makers did not have the animation tools yet when our space vehicles crashed into the star we saw complete destruction without possibility of recovery on Earth. No need for REACT, I guess.

Many have followed including "Volcano" where a volcano is born in the heart of Los Angeles, The film "2012" has some of the best scenes as the West Coast is swept by destructive waves as the heroes escape by plane, flying through Los Angeles (again there goes LA) as buildings fall around them. And more recently, to the point, "San Andreas", where, the anticipated "big one" occurs, and the walls everywhere come tumbling down. Can REACT help?

**What, If Anything, Can We
Learn From These Films?**

First, and most obvious, is that they are all entertainment, and what they portray is extreme to create the plot line. But the concept displayed by the improved graphic animations portrays the destruction possible and how difficult or impossible the reconstruction required to bring our lives back to normal. Each movie warned of the pending hazard, built fear in the search for a solution, the disaster onset and its destruction capabilities and actions, with our hero's efforts to survive and

The Picture Of Disaster

By Roger McCollough, SWR 098, President

Response and Recovery

save others, and finally the aftermath.

If you look past what Hollywood has done to create entertainment value, you realize how helpless real life victims would be facing a lesser disaster. Perhaps we should consider several keywords such as Preparation, Response, Rescue, and Recovery.

Let's Talk About Recovery

Perhaps you are not aware that the 2003 and the 2007 fires recovery efforts were still occurring up to last year when the final case was closed on the 2003 fire. If you ever encounter anybody who suffered from any of the wildland fires, ask them how long it took to complete their claims and have a new home. As large as our fires have been, considered the various wildfires last year in California, such as the Camp Fire in Paradise, California, where the losses have exceeded the ability for insurance to provide recovery.

Let's Talk About Preparation

We constantly talk about preparation. We train, using the events that we select, to prepare ourselves and the tools we need to do the job. Our primary mission is to provide safety and welfare through communications. We describe ourselves as a Team. To any of you out there that are unfamiliar with REACT, we bring our communications talents and knowledge enhanced by our personal training and experience. Just as in football, each player knows what they and the other players are expected to do in each situation. More about this next month.

"Nuf said..."

let's GIT' ER DONE!!! ✈

Upcoming Events		
Event	Date	Status
Touch-A-Truck	09/22/2019	Approved
Silver Strand Half Marathon	11/10/2019 (Sun)	Approved

REMINDER!

The REACT net on the first and fourth Thursdays of the month is moving to a new time. Beginning with the August 22, 2019, net, the time will be 1900 hrs. That's 7:00 PM for all you civilians, and for everyone else, it's when Mickey's big hand is on the twelve and little hand is on the seven. The location is the same: 449.060 MHz (-) PL 88.5

Preparation, Preparation, Preparation

By John Wright, SWR 042, Vice-President

In his article this month, swr President Roger McCollough, talks about disaster preparation, response, rescue and recovery. Preparation goes beyond making sure one's communication skills are up to date or that their radio is programmed with the proper frequencies. Even something as minor as just awareness of the potential for disaster can go a long way in preparing for an event. A very good way of preparing for a major disaster is education.

When I say education, I'm not speaking of enrolling in a community college or university, but making use of resources available to those involved in the emergency response arena. Three ways of gaining additional knowledge are the FEMA Emergency Management Institute, the REACT International training program and the San Diego Urban Area Security Initiative (SDUASI).

The FEMA Emergency Management Institute (EMI) is an on-line collection of courses designed to increase the knowledge of first responders, emergency managers and volunteers that might be called upon in the event of an emergency. These independent study courses are self-paced and can be taken over time. Four FEMA independent study courses are a standard requirement for participation in major emergency and disaster communications in any volunteer emergency communications organization:

- IS-100 Introduction to the Incident Command System
- IS-200 ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents
- IS-700 National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction
- IS-800 National Response Framework, An Introduction

It is recommended that *all* REACT members take these four courses. There is a place on the back of the REACT

identification card to indicate the member has taken these courses.

In addition to the basic courses mentioned above, there is an entire series of professional development courses recommended for further study. The FEMA Independent Study website is <https://training.fema.gov/is/>.

REACT International has created an entire series of training courses designed to enhance the skill level of REACT members. A listing of these courses and their requirements can be found at <https://reactintl.org/training/>.

The San Diego Urban Area Security Initiative (SDUASI) is a part of the City of San Diego Office of Homeland Security and offers courses taught by the California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI) in such diverse topics as Emergency Management, Terrorism, and Public Information. By taking CSTI courses, it is possible to obtain Specialist Certificates in Public Information Officer, Terrorism & Homeland Security, and Emergency Management. The certificates are presented by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services. The link to the SDUASI training calendar is <https://sd-uasi.org/default.aspx/MenuItemID/133/MenuGroup/PublicHome.htm>.

Anyone wishing more information on SDUASI courses may contact the author.

Southwestern REACT members who are also members of San Diego ARES will be required to take some of these courses as part of the soon-to-be promulgated qualifications suggested by the ARRL for ARES members.

Don't let your qualifications stagnate. You will lose nothing and have everything to gain by improving your skills on a continuing basis. ✈

Southwestern REACT Team Members On The Job

