



# Southwestern REACTer



JANUARY 2018

*Welcome to  
2018!*





**SOUTHWESTERN  
REACT, Inc.**

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**OFFICERS**

**President:** Roger McCollough  
SWR 098

**Vice-President:** John Wright  
SWR 042

**Secretary:** Jay Pistiolas  
SWR 046

**Treasurer:** June McCollough  
SWR 054

**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 7:00 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 8:00 PM on the 449.440 Community based Repeater with a negative offset and a PL tone of 107.2 (Mt. Otay)

## Thoughts For The New Year

By Roger McCollough, SWR 098, President

### "Thanks For The Memories"

Bob Hope had a radio program, back when home and car radios broadcast programs from networks that covered the U.S. and beyond. His closing theme song for the show and on his shows for the troops was "Thanks For The Memories." Well I got to thinking about that title and it occurs, as the year ended, I should thank you all for what you do. Not only your efforts for the Team but the other stuff that you do for family, friends, your community, and beyond.

I wonder, from time to time, where each of you began your personal path into the various elements of your available time and interests. Was it something your parents did or suggested? Perhaps a friend had a hobby or other interest that was attractive; School events, scouting, military, your religion, or something from your work? I guess it really boils down to the natural response that comes to each of us when we realize the good we can do with our hobby; a hobby that is a service to the needy.

Let me be clear about the image I am painting. Although I speak from a position within REACT, for REACT is certainly not the main or exclusive holder of volunteer public service. Some of those reading this deserve our thanks for their efforts, may have chosen to support other organizations, groups, or clubs. Throughout the U.S. these people have risen to the cause, often going to or beyond their limit.

Team membership has varied over the years. Most of you must have heard at one time or another that Southwestern REACT was the largest team with a membership of over 150 members; that was, of course, back in the hey-day of CB radio. At the beginning of each year we face the loss of several members due to various reasons. Maybe it is caused

by the loss of interest or desire to practice skills. Perhaps work, the economy, or family issues have made it difficult to find the time to serve; most of us have been there before.

In case you have not heard, Southwestern REACT has an open policy supporting the ARRL's GOTA (Get On The Air) Campaign, by offering open mentoring at events to develop or practice their skills. We work with other organizations and agencies offering support, guidance, or training, if desired. To achieve this, we hold membership in VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster) and SANDARC (San Diego Amateur Radio Council). We are open to improve our communication and position with any and all disaster agencies.

Like most organizations, REACT needs financial support to exist and grow. It needs a cadre of active and prepared members, available at *any* time. And then there is leadership. The leadership comes in two parts: 1) In an event of disaster or event we have the position of Middle Management between the incident organization, and the public. 2) This is our leadership; the Board and Event Coordinators. Well, for another year, you have selected the 2018 leadership Team. This begs the question: Who will on the 2018 membership team? January has just begun and we already have six Event Requests received (but not yet approved), including two new events.

You are our strength and future. I look forward to working with and for you. I do look back to recall your past efforts and successes, and think...

Thanks for the memories.

"Nuf said...>

**Let's Git 'Er Done!!!**

[pres@southwesternreact.org](mailto:pres@southwesternreact.org)

## American Red Cross Communication Team Report

By June McCollough, SWR 054

The ARCCT meeting was held on Dec. 2, 2017; did not attend but there is planning for Boot Camp training for the communication team for American Red Cross and RCV training.

ARCCT has a net every Tuesday night at 2000 hours (8:00 PM) on the ACS Frequency: 147.195; all amateur

radio operators are welcome to check-in.

The next meeting will be Jan 6, 2018 at 9:00 AM at 3950 Calle Fortunada, San Diego CA 92123. These are open meetings for anyone unless they are discussing confidential ARC business. ➤

## Auxiliary Communication Services (ACS)

By June McCollough, SWR 054

The ACS meeting was held on Dec. 4, 2017 at the Office of Emergency Service

ACS provided a few members for the Encinitas Christmas Parade on December 2, 2017, there were 100 entries in the parade and a good time was had by all.

ACS has a net every Monday except First Monday or County Holidays at 1930 hours. It starts on frequency 147.195 and then moves to 448.78, 52.600, and 223.800. If you would like to check it out, please feel free to

check-in as visitor when requested at the end of the formal part of the Net.

ACS upcoming event(s) and training: There will be a training moment at the next general meeting and everyone is encouraged to bring their hand-held radio for this training.

The next meeting will be on Jan 8, 2018 at 1830 hours (6:30 PM). All are welcome. ➤

## Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)

By John Wright, SWR 042

The December ARES meeting was held Dec 9, 2017 at Scripps Memorial Hospital, La Jolla.

Discussion centered around the November 16 hospital drill and the addition of Skilled Nursing and Clinical sites to future drills. This will necessitate a major recruiting effort in the near future.

If you are looking for a way to improve your operational skills and broaden your horizons, becoming a member of ARES is a good step. In addition to the twice-yearly

hospital drills, ARES also supports the annual MCAS Miramar Air Show, Jamboree On The Air and the Gateway Communicator Class, held each month following the regular meeting.

The next ARES meeting will be held January 13, 2018 and will feature the annual EC Roundtable discussion.

For more information see the ARES website at [www.sdgares.net](http://www.sdgares.net). ➤

## Dues Are Due For 2018

Please send or bring your dues to the next general meeting. They are the same as 2017.

Regular members \$35.00  
Family Members \$20.00

The next General Meeting is Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 6:30 PM. ➤

## Upcoming Events

Event	Date
Campagnolo San Diego Granfondo	04/28/2018 (Sun)
Encinitas Half Marathon	03/04/2018 (Sun)
Lakeside Western Days Parade	TBA
Descanso Endurance Horse Ride	05/19-20/2018 (Sat-Sun)



## North Park Toyland Parade, December 2, 2017

Article and photos by Jay Pistiolas, SWR 046

Southwestern REACT provided communications for the North Park Toyland Parade. We had an appropriate number of operators (10) to cover all bases of the parade. The communications went smoothly and were handled in a professional manner. There were three (3) announce booths, a check in position, shadow position and net control. Communications were on simplex (145.555) which worked well with a few minor dead spots. Net control, Roger McCollough (098) KF6HBU, had some background noise from the parade but was understandable.

### Operators in attendance:

Roger McCollough (098) Net Control, Step Off  
June McCollough (054) Check In  
John Wright (042) Step Off  
Jay Pistiolas (046) Shadow for Matt  
Marilyn Jensen (068) & George Reeves (081) Announce 2  
Daniel Willan (061) & Raul Mendez (friend of REACT) Announce 1

Daniel McDougal (063) & Michelle Harmon (064) Announce 3

Step off was at 11:00 hours with five divisions, Flag Team, and a Vanguard Division. A few high school bands participated as well as local businesses within North Park and beyond. University was the main route heading eastbound and heading south on Herman St. then west on North Park Way and finally west on Gunn St. The parade concluded at 12:00 Noon with Santa aboard San Diego Fire Department Truck 14.

The parade went smoothly and REACT Team Members handled communications well. No major incidents took place and questions from the public were answered by team members. A debriefing was conducted at the Lion's Club shortly after the conclusion of the parade. Everyone had a good time and enjoyed the nice weather that made our work more enjoyable. ➤

