Southwestern <u>REACTer</u>



May 2016

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

MAKING HISTORY The Art of Fine Tuning

Ever notice that today's car radios tune in steps? Both AM & FM go in steps; it was not always so, the tuning circuits were not accurate or stable and fine tuning for the best signal was normal. When TV sets first came out, they were channelized; you did not know or need the frequency, just the channel number; however, fine tuning was still necessary for the best picture and sound.

In amateur radio, we can take a frequency and channelize it in our radios and fine tune, if necessary. Well guys and gals, our Team is the same and needs your help in fine tuning. A committee has been formed to do exactly that. Most good leaders will say that if you see a problem; bring it to them with a possible **solution**. It is fine tuning time and time to use your fine-tuned communications skills. Maybe there may be a member or two with special mental skills to read minds, but I prefer the person-to-person method.

Channels?

So what has having channels to do with this? Consider the Team By-laws and Policies and Procedures as our rules (channels). Where they require review and modification, you have the fine tuning. As an example, how the General Meeting is to be conducted, items to be discussed, rules to be followed, are spelled out. If, as some have said, make the meeting shorter, then what, by agreement of the Team, should be changed, yet maintain its value?

The Wrap-up

Are you up to the fine tuning needed for better meetings, and more importantly, an improved Team? Talk among yourselves AND with your Team leaders. Be a leader and take charge. I don't think anyone is on the Team bandwagon for the ride. Take turns being a "radio teamster."

Is that short enough?

"Nuf said..."

Let's GIT' UR DONE!!! Roger McCollough / SWR 098 PRESIDENT

pres@southwesternreact.org

Hello Teammates and Friends of React.

Daniel McDougal Vice President

It is time once again to dust off that hand held of yours and slip it into the charger as it is time for Cycle Eastlake again.

They have requested for this year's event a total of 7 locations to be posted. Last year was SWR's first year to provide communications for this event and had a few learning curves to overcome. This year will be no different as they have almost completely changed the event routes. This may cause for some slight adjustments to providing good communications

as the majority of the communications will take place in the back country of East Lake. I am attempting to pre-run the route to check communications and I am making sure we have a good plan in place for all locations.

Last year we used Mt Otay repeater 146.640. which provided us with good communications through the majority of the needed locations, albeit with some minor adjustments that were made on the fly. This year will be the same.

This year's event will take place on Saturday May 21. Meeting time is 06:15. Briefing at 06:30 at East Lake Middle School which is located at 900 Duncan Ranch Rd, Chula Vista, CA 91914. You will need to be at your location after briefing by 07:30. The start of the event is at 07:30.

Please let me know if you are planning to work this event ASAP. We only have 2 operators signed up at this time and we are in need of 5 more to be able to meet the need for this event.

Event preliminary briefing and final briefing will be sent out next week. We are looking forward to seeing many of your smiling faces out at this event.



EVENTS/MEETING/NET

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 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 May 19th **REACT General Meeting** June 9th **REACT Board Meeting** May 26th **REACTive Net** June 2nd REACTive Net

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

board@southwesternreact.org.

Pensate Profunde:

Spring Checkup

By Lonnie Trammell

Possibly a word or two.... On checking all of the connection's to Txcvrs and Antenna's, now that spring is here, and the wx is warming up, it does not take much to make a 'diode', due to loose connections, and be heard on items not intended to be received on.....

Reactively Yours, Former SWR 128, KD6PFN, KAE1910, KAWH8806

Thanks from a SOUTH BAY SWAMP RAT

By Michael Ellis

I was stationed at Twenty Nine Palms and came home every Friday from 75 to 76, and when I got into Miramar I got on channel 9 on my CB and called REACT and it was KZN 3628 the Mariner to call home and let them know I was on my way.

And they did that every Friday for me. I saw your Advertisement in the East County Gazette and brought to mind the great job you did for me. At that time I belonged to the South Bay Swamp Rats. I just wanted to say thank you for all your help and I really appreciated all the work you did for me. Mike

Copy of the article from the *East County* Gazette, 2016 Lakeside Western Days Parade. Official Program page 2

Southwestern REACT Parade Volunteers

akeside Chamber appreciates the assisatance Southwestern REACT give to the parade ev-ery year. Members of Southwestern REACT volunteer their time to ensure the parade runs smoothly & safely.

Founded in 1966 in Imperial Beach, Southwestern REACT has 50 years of communication experience pro-viding radio communications for non-profit & community events (bike rides, horse rides, parades, marathons and much more), with preparation for emergency and disaster com-munications being their primary mission.



Southwestern REACT members are skilled communications volunteers providing a wide range of radio-related services to public, using radio systems that enable the members to talk from the border of Mexico through San Diego and Orange Counties.

SWR assists the California Department of Forestry (CDF/ CAL Fire) by participating in Red Flag Fire patrols in the back country, and the team has helped San Diego Police Department with lost person searches and special events.

For more information on REACT (and how to join), please visit our website at www.swreact.com

Thank you for the many years of volunteer hours working our annual Western Days Parade!

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

American Red Cross Communications Team Report By June McCollough

The ARCCT meeting for May was held on May 7th. After general announcements from Chapter and Lead; we discussed the Fry's Operating Day and Shelter HOT (Hands on Training) that

was held on April 30th. Fry's was well attended. The ECRT was there for show and tell and was used as a mobile CDOC for Shelter HOT. We also did training on RMS Express Winlink. This was the second practice with more to come.

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 on June 4th 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.

ACS

By June McCollough

The ACS meeting was held on May 2nd at the Office of Emergency Service (OES). ACS was down at Fry's Operating Day with RACES1. There was discussion on the upcoming opportunity at Mesa College on May 24th. There are three committees that are set up to help make ACS better; they are Training, Technical and Vehicles. They all deal with different parts of the ACS organization.

We have a net every Monday except First Monday or County Holidays at 1830 Hours (6:30 PM). It starts on frequency 147.195 and then moves to 223.800, 52.600 and 448.78(not necessarily in that order). 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.

If you are interested in joining ACS, please contact either Roger McCollough or myself and we will give you contact information. The next meeting will be on June 6th at 1830 hours (6:30PM). All are welcome.

Lakeside Western Days Parade AFTER ACTION REPORT

By George Reeves

Southwestern REACT deployed to work the Lakeside Western Days Parade on Saturday, April 23rd. REACT members who worked the event were: Carl Jensen (Coordinator),George Reeves (Co-Coordinator), Marilyn Jensen, Craig and Cindy Wilcken, Ralph Wilcken, Chris Wilcken and family, Don Dodson, Daniel McDougal, Wayne Oliver, Dan Willan, George DeLaBarre, and Mike Woods.

The Team members were posted at six Announcer Booths, located East along Woodside Avenue, and turning North along Maine Street.

Assignments were: Staging: R. Wilcken, Step-Off/Control: Carl & Marilyn Jensen, Ann. 1: Reeves, Ann. 2: McDougal, Ann. 3: DeLaBarre, Ann. 4 : Woods, Ann. 5: Willan, Ann. 6: Craig & Cindy Wilcken, Shadow: Dodson, REACT vehicles: Oliver and Chris Wilcken.

Briefing was held at 0700 at Mila's Lakeside Cafe , with all members present. All maps and pertinent information was provided to the Team at this time. The event utilized the Team Repeater, set up by McDougal the previous day, at a new, higher elevation. The Talk-In/Primary Frequency for this event was 446.860 (Team 13), with Secondary Frequency of 446.880 (Team 15). A sub-net on 145.555 (replacing FRS) was utilized between Staging and Step-Off to advise them of changes/drops, which were then announced over Primary by Control to all Announce Booths. .555 Simplex provided excellent signal for this purpose.

□ To avoid road closures, the Team dispersed from Briefing at 0815. A formal announcement opening the Net was made by Net Control at 0845, and upon reaching assigned locations, Team members reported "In Position". A formal radio check was performed, with all locations sending and receiving well.

□ The Event began on-time at 0935, with 135 floats, banners and vehicles. REACT vehicles driven by Oliver and Chris Wilcken (and family) took position #139 in Div. 12.

□ Two calls for Medical Aid call were received; one for a "person down" at the area of Ann. 5-6, and another for an equestrian rider who was thrown from her horse, in the Staging area. Police and Medics responded to both calls.

UPDATED: The rider who was thrown from her horse, a member of the Escondido Mounted Posse Search and Rescue, has passed away from the head trauma she received in the fall. This tragic accident occurred after the entrant had returned to Staging, and her horse reared, causing both to hit the pavement.

Our condolences will be forwarded for the REACT Team by Sunshine to EMPSAR.

□ As the last participant passed each Announce Station, Net Control released the REACT Team member and closed the post.

Last entrant finished the course at approximately 1145.

After the event, lunch was provided by the Lakeside Chamber of Commerce, and consisted of pulled pork, hot dogs, coleslaw and other side dishes. Noteworthy Items:

1. The coverage by the Team Repeater was EXCELLENT, reaching all areas with minimal path noise, thanks to Daniel's placement of the unit at a higher location. UTM Coordinate for the location was 34.84334/116.92959.

2. Some clarification related to activation of EMS/Police should be addressed at the next Logistics Meeting for this event; initial REACT notification came from Shadow (Dodson), as two motorcycle CHP units passed my location at Ann. 1, rolling Code. This would indicate someone other than REACT called 911, (which is ok), but in the event REACT requires PD/EMS units, we are to dial 911 and advise Net Control; Shadow will advise their Principle to initiate response. As the initial responding agency in this case was CHP, our Shadow position

(stationed with CHP) was in a good spot to pass information out to the Team immediately. Well done, Don!

3. "Gaps" in the line-up need not be put over the air, especially when the entrant is not listed on the Line-Up sheet. This may have caused some confusion for the Announcers (?). It is also EXTREMELY

important that each REACT member have the Parade Line-up, (Alpha AND Numerical) in their possession before leaving Briefing and staffing their Post.

Carl and I extend our sincerest thanks to all those who participated in this event, and we are proud of the professionalism shown by the REACT

Team...well done!

Respectfully submitted,

Carl Jensen, SWR 067 George Reeves, SWR 081

The Cloudy Side of Sunshine

By Cindy Wilcken

Overall we have quite a healthy team if it wasn't for "Miss Sunshine" herself. Cindy is having rotator cuff surgery first thing Monday morning. She is not looking forward to forced inactivity.



The Antenna WEB

By R Craig Wilcken

The Southwestern REACT websites <u>www.swreact.com</u> & <u>www.southwesternreact.com</u> are up and running just fine,.

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		
Inter-Organization	Liaisons	
Animal Rescue	Dee Osargent	
ARES		
CalFire		
Civil Air Patrol	Mike Woods	
ACS (formally RACES)		
Red Cross Roger	* & June McCollough	
SANDARCRoger McCo	llough, Grady Yearwood,	
George Reeves, June McCollough		
VOAD	_Roger McCollough	
Membership	Grady Yearwood	
Nominating		
Policy and Procedures		
Program	Dee Osargent	
REACT Net		
REACT Store	Mike Woods	
Sunshine	Cindy Wilcken	
Training		
Ways & Means		
Amateur Radio Club		
Junior REACT		
Management Information SystemTyler Klein		
Web Master		

ADDITIONAL TEAM JOBS FROM BY-LAWS

Article XI Team Bulletin Editor/Publisher_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 1700 (5:00 p.m.) on the Second Saturday of the **month** to the publisher either by e-mail or mail. 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

SWR 063 Daniel McDougal V.P. / Communication

SWR054 June McCollough Secretary

SWR 082 Cindy Wilcken Treasurer

SWR 142 Wayne Oliver Director-at-Large

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