



THE October 2021
REACT **ER**[®]
THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC.



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

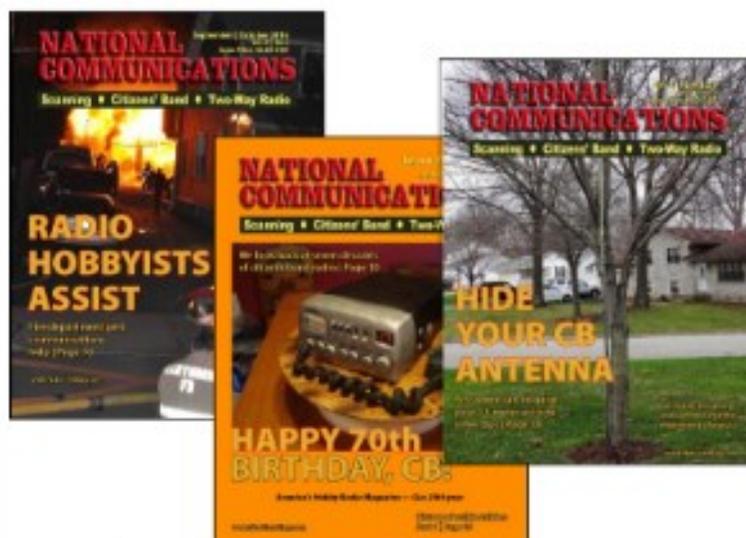
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Editor's Position

REACT International is looking for a Editor for The *REACT*er! This position offers a nominal salary, which will be determined at the time of hire. The successful candidate will have excellent writing skills, the ability to collect information and news, particularly Team News, for the magazine, and be able to work either with Adobe InDesign, Adobe Page-maker. The *REACT*er is the primary communications tool between the members and *REACT* International and so plays a very important part in the organization.

Contact *REACT* International Office at (301) 316-2900 or email at RI.HQ@REACTIntl.org



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John Capodanno
Editor

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

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(301) 316-2900 (International)

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

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

REACT Teams and Councils may reproduce articles and information from The *REACT*er with appropriate sourcing and credit.

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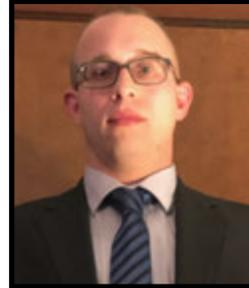


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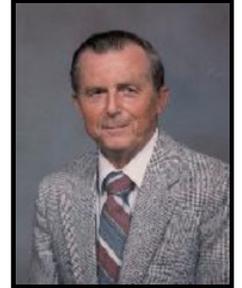
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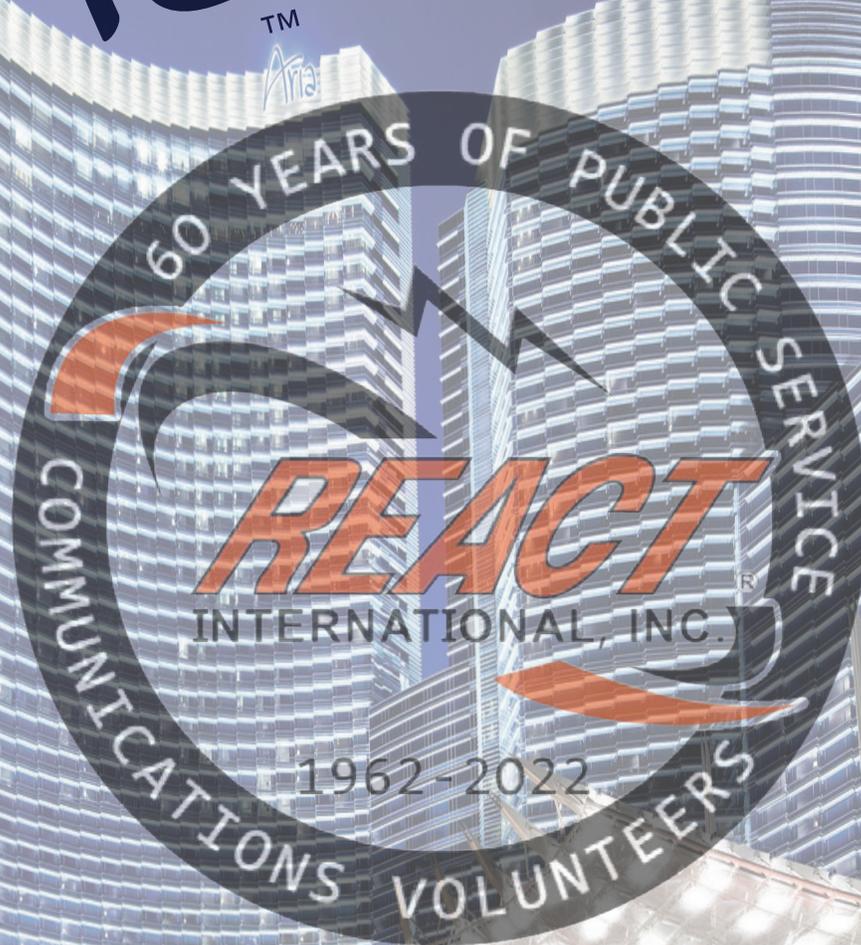


Position Open
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REA



Register Today For The
60th Anniversary Celebration
August 8th 2022
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA



60th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

August 8, 2022 - ARIA Resort & Casino - Las Vegas, Nevada

Registration Form

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE OR PROVINCE _____

ZIP OR POSTAL CODE _____ COUNTRY AND MAIL CODE (IF NOT US) _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

REACT MEMBER NUMBER _____ LIFE MEMBER NUMBER (IF A LIFE MEMBER) _____

E-MAIL:

HOW DO YOU PLAN TO GET TO THE MEETING? CAR BUS AIRLINE

WHERE ARE YOU PLANNING TO STAY? ARIA HOTEL RV/CAMP OTHER _____

SEND FORM & MENU SELECTION AND PAYMENT TO:

REACT INTERNATIONAL INC., POST OFFICE BOX 21064, GLENDALE, CA 91221 BY JUNE 1, 2022

Payment Type: Check Money Order PayPal Payment Plan

US DOLLARS ONLY—DO NOT SEND CASH

ALL INCLUSIVE FEE (includes Celebration Awards Dinner and Conference attendance)

REGISTRATION FEE per person \$200

!! NO REFUNDS !!

ALL ATTENDEES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN TRANSPORTATION & LODGING COSTS

If you have any questions, Please Call (866)732-2899 or (301) 316-2900

See reverse side for Menu and Payment Plan

DINNER SELECTION

The Awards Dinner will have a selection of three different Entrées for you to choose from. Please place a check mark in the box next to your selection.

BEEF

Seared Filet Mignon | Green Peppercorn Sauce

CHICKEN

Mary's Pasture Raised Chicken Breast | Roasted Chicken Jus

FISH

Scottish Salmon | Warm Tomato, Fennel-Orange Vinaigrette

The dinner will include Freshly Baked Bread, Butter, and a Simple Salad with a Balsamic Vinaigrette. Entrée will be accompanied with Garlic Whipped Potato, Farmed Glazed Carrots and Fava Beans. Dessert will be a Lemon Cheesecake. Beverages will include coffee (regular or decaf), tea, sodas and water.



Please Wear Business Casual Attire for the Celebration Awards Dinner

Payment Plan

I would like to pay my Registration fee in payments. I understand that the entire \$200 (Per Person) must be paid in full no later than June 1, 2022.

I also understand that if, for any reason, I change my mind or am not able to attend, any fee or any portion of that fee will be considered a donation to REACT International.

(NO REFUNDS). A \$50 Minimum fee is required with this form. I am sending \$_____ with this form by:

Check ,Money Order or PayPal

Through the "DONATE NOW" link on the first page of REACT International's web page (reactIntl.org)

I will pay the balance (if any) by June 1, 2022 subject to the terms above. If sending check or money order, be sure to have your name and address on each one so we can match all of your payments.

Explore Las Vegas and Surrounding Areas

There are over 500 + things to do during your stay in Las Vegas. These are just a few.

Prices below are current as of this document creation, and subject to change.

For more selections, please see the Website: visitlasvegas.com/things-to-do/

Helicopter Fly Over Tour

Website: maverickhelicopter.com

702-261-0007

\$94-\$124 per person

Big Double Decker Bus Tour of the City

Website: bigbustours.com/en/las-vegas/las-vegas-bus-tours/

702-685-6578

\$45 per person

The Discovery Children's Museum

Website: www.discoverykidslv.org/visit

702-382-3445

\$14.50 per person

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866-292-9191

\$35 Adults \$17 Ages 2-17

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Website: www.venetianlasvegas.com/resort/attractions/gondola-rides.html

877-691-1997

\$34 Mon-Thur \$39 Fri-Sun

Adventure Dome Theme Park

Website: circuscircus.com/the-adventuredome/

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\$40 Adults \$20 Juniors



Amateur Radio Training—Become A Licensed Ham Technician & General Class Sessions Available On-Demand

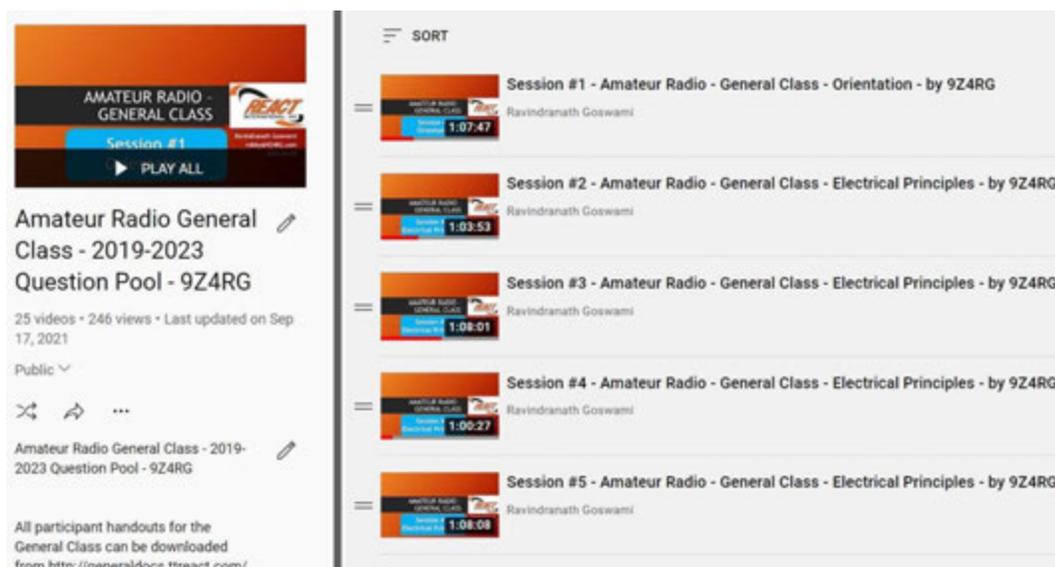
Submitted by: Ravindranath “Robby” Goswami, 9Z4RG/NZ4RG, Region 9 Director

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought immense challenges but has also presented opportunities. One such opportunity is training. Many of us would have gone through, and may still be going through, periods of “lockdown” where movements are restricted in an effort to reduce the spread of the virus and to keep the health systems from becoming overwhelmed. Persons could suddenly make productive use of this extra time to take training courses.

While it would have been traditional to have in-person training sessions, an increase in the adoption of virtual training has been observed since 2020. There has been a strong demand for Amateur (Ham) Radio training. However, gathering in a classroom was severely curtailed. As such, *REACT* took to the Zoom/YouTube platforms to deliver the content necessary to prepare candidates to take the license exams. The curriculum is based on the FCC system in the US but also applies to several other territories that have exams based on the FCC syllabus.

Last year 2020, the Technician Class level was completed and is available on-demand at the link <http://tech.ttreact.com/>. Sixteen (16) 1-hour sessions were delivered and streamed/recorded for future playback/revision. The approach taken is to lightly touch on the theory for each topic, with an exam focus. All questions in the question pool are tackled. Additionally, persons who missed the opportunity only need to view the recordings, stop and resume, at their convenience. The question pool is good until 2022. All handouts, including slides, are also available for download. The videos can even be viewed on a Smart TV via the YouTube app.

Last month, September 2021, we concluded the General Class level. Certificates of participation are issued to persons that have attended at least 75% of the sessions. The complete course, comprising twenty-four (24) 1-hour sessions, is now available in a playlist at the link <http://gen.ttreact.com/>. The General Class question pool is



The courses, while targeted at persons who are interested in obtaining their Amateur Radio license, can be of benefit to any radio operator. So we encourage everyone to consider having a look at the sessions.

There are plans to do the Extra Class level in the coming months, so stay tuned for the announcement. Also, remember the *REACT* Training Department offers at least seventeen (17) courses with certification via the website <https://reactintl.org/training/>. Training is key to developing our capabilities as *REACT*ers.

Happy Virtual Training!

The *React* International Traffic System

Part 1

Kirk Paxson *REACT* Training Director

If you were to interview successful leaders in Fire, Emergency Medical Services, Law Enforcement, or the military. I would venture to say that effective communications becomes the second most important function next to well trained personnel in their area of expertise.

In the case of *REACT* whose roots are in communications, there is no other organization whose primary mission, is to provide communications services to the public and local public safety. Most successful teams have this role in their communities by providing other value added services. Given the incredible advances in personal communications, successful teams have honed in on an expanded role to ensure their long term viability in providing a multitude of services. Communication technologies is only one of the tools teams can utilize to further support the needs of their communities.

REACT Traffic System History and *REACT* International Partnerships

The *REACT* Traffic System was officially established as a branch of *REACT* International Headquarters in 2017 whose function is to manage all aspects of communications and information systems support for *REACT* International. The traffic system is not a team but is *REACT*'s premier large-scale communications special operations force, and it is made up of some of the most elite *REACT* members from teams around the world. The Traffic System members specialize in joint communications special operations with *REACT* Teams, local public service, state and federal organizations. We also support a number of organizations through both formal and informal memorandums of understanding. These organization include the ARC, ARRL, NTS, RRI NWS/NOAA, SATERN, National Hurricane Net, FEMA, DHS, SAFECOM, and Civil Air Patrol.

REACT Traffic System Mission

The mission of *REACT* International Traffic System is to support emergency communication and coordination between *REACT* Teams, *REACT* International headquarters, and supported emergency response and relief organizations by:

- Operating a traffic handling system to receive, transmit, and deliver formal messages in standard formats to support disaster communications.

- Supporting training for *REACT* members in disaster messaging through use of the traffic handling system.
- Providing alerting and warning messages to and receive situation reports from *REACT* Teams during disaster exercises and actual major emergencies and disasters.
- Operating alternate communications pathways in disasters for supported organizations.

Common Operating Picture

In order for the Traffic System to accomplish its mission requires a number of interrelated functions. That begins with building a Common Operating Picture using flexible communications and information systems. That allow all teams, served agencies, emergency management and response partners to establish and maintain a common operating picture or overview of the incidents as they become a threat the community. Establishing and maintaining a common operating picture requires gathering, collating information such as traffic, weather, actual damage, resource availability of any type (voice, data, etc.) from agencies/organizations in order to support decision-making.

In order to assist in establishing a Common Operating Picture in order to mitigate real and potential risks, the traffic system focuses on these components, this is not a complete list

- **Interoperability:** Ensuring that emergency management/response personnel and their affiliated organizations can communicate within and across agencies and jurisdictions.
- **Common Terminology:** Using common terminology or plain English to avoid confusion or misunderstandings.
- **Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreements:** Using specified communication protocols and information-sharing arrangements in mutual aid and assistance agreements.
- **Exercising:** Establishing partnerships and testing communications protocols scheduled prior to the incident so when the actual incident occurs everyone is comfortable and prepared.

Next month in part 2, the article will focus on *REACT* Traffic System routine daily operations, pre-event operations, response operations and potential recovery operations as they pertain to support, *REACT* Teams, supported agencies and the public.

If you would like become *REACT* International Traffic Handler representing your team, email your request to nets@reactintl.org If you would like to share any question, comments or suggestions please send an email to training@reactintl.org

GREENSBORO *REACT* ATTENDS SHELBY HAMFEST

Two members of Greensboro *REACT*, Will and Rita Stanley, attended the Shelby Hamfest in Shelby NC over the Labor Day weekend. Billed as the “Granddaddy of them all”, the Hamfest attracts hundreds of vendors for the Saturday session. Most are sold out and gone by Sunday. The Stanleys saw many types of products being sold, most of it ham radio oriented but not all. It was quite an interesting event.

Friday evening, the Stanleys got together with their local host, Jay Flora and his team member, Hubert and Region Three Director Joe Zych and his friend Sharon for dinner at Ruby Tuesdays. Then on Saturday evening, after leaving the ‘fest, the group went to Kozi Italian Restaurant for dinner. The Stanleys returned to Greensboro on Sunday to prepare for their next adventure, a trip to Nebraska.

On September 8th, The Stanleys left for a two week trip back home to Nebraska. The roads were rough and you couldn’t go 15 miles in any direction without running into construction or detours but overall, it was a good trip.

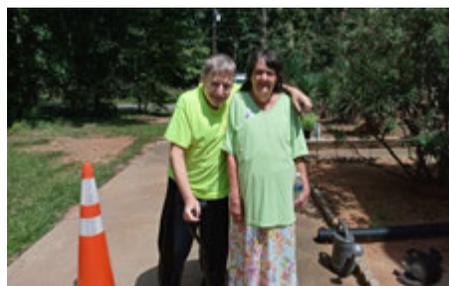
Along the way, they stopped in Riverside IA, the location of “the future birthplace of Captain James T. Kirk”. If you don’t know who James T. Kirk is, well.... move along.

It was nice to be home but it’s always good to get back to your own bed! While there, the Stanleys tried to make contact with Dodge County *REACT* to see what the team was up to but was unable to locate them.

Sidenote... the Stanleys own two ‘rescue cats’ (or do the cats own them?) Upon their return to Greensboro, one of the cats hid under the bed and hissed at them, the other one sat in the corner with a look on its face that clearly said, ‘Oh, you decided to come home finally, did you??’ Ask any cat owner if this is not possible...



L to R Joe Zych of Star Mountain *REACT* from Etowah, TN and Hubert Seirer and Gray Kitty of Cleveland County *REACT* in Shelby, NC



L to R Hubert and of Cleveland County *REACT* in Shelby, NC with Sharon of Star Mountain *REACT* from Etowah, TN



L to R Hubert of Cleveland County *REACT* in Shelby, NC Joe and Sharon of Star Mountain *REACT* Etowah, TN and Rita and Will Stanley of Greensboro *REACT* from Greensboro, NC

Article submitted by Greensboro *REACT*—Will Stanley

Photos submitted by Star Mountain *REACT*—Joe Zych

Public Service through Communications

On September 18, 2021 in Concord, Massachusetts, 282 cyclists rode 20 miles to raise \$355,402 to raise awareness of Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and to fund patient support, programs, resources, library & education programs and funding research to find a cure. Southeastern, Ma *REACT* Team #6240 supported the ride with our member owned trailer, Mobile Auxiliary Communication Center and APRS trackers.



MS is a disease in which the immune system eats away at the protective covering of nerves. In MS, resulting nerve damage disrupts communication between the brain and the body. Multiple sclerosis causes many different symptoms, including vision loss, pain, fatigue, and impaired coordination. The symptoms, severity, and duration can vary from person to person. Some people may be symptom free most of their lives, while others can have severe chronic symptoms that never go away. Physical therapy and medications that suppress the immune system can help with symptoms and slow disease progression.

Cyclists rode back in time as they cycled through the colonial suburbs of our nation's history, riding by the North Bridge located at a brick mansion built in 1911 by descendants of the Buttrick family. Major John Buttrick was the colonial officer who first ordered his militia to fire upon British soldiers. A brass cannon, dubbed "The Hancock" in celebration of its storied past. In 1775, this cannon, recently smuggled out of Boston, was one of four brass cannons hidden in Concord and its recovery was one of General Gage's chief motives when he sent British troops to Concord on April 19, 1775. It is one display courtesy of the Bunker Hill Monument Association.



The American Flag is always with us and proudly flown to thank one and all, past, present and future, service members and their families for their sacrifices.

The Mobile Auxiliary Communication Center was set up at the Concord-Carlisle High School which served as the ride start finish. The MACC served as the Operations Center with an MS Society staff member, as well as serving as Net Control on two amateur radio repeaters and APRS tracking of route support vehicles.

The Diamond x50A is dual-band base/repeater antenna that stows away easily at only five foot six inches. This gives us medium gain on 144 MHz with 4.5db and on 440 MHz with 7.2db and will handle 200 watts. All sitting on top of twenty-five feet of mast. The RG8U cable connects to UHF bulkhead connectors. We use low loss jumpers to the radio(s) we plan to use with the base antenna versus the roof mounted antennas.

COVID-19 had a considerable effect on event planning and execution details. Pre-Event health screening of all staff, participants, and volunteers. Cyclists must bring their own water bottles. Individual water bottles will be available for refills. Reduced touch points to minimize physical interactions. Hand sanitizer was available throughout the event including packet pickup locations, higher traffic areas, and in and around portable toilets.



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Face coverings were required for all riders, volunteers, and staff throughout the event regardless of vaccination status for COVID-19, riders were allowed to remove their masks when out on the road, eating, or drinking. Event signage to promote safe social distancing practices including maintaining 6 feet of distance or more between others. Dedicated lanes and waiting spots were provided as an aid in physical distancing in areas where cyclists congregate such as packet pick-up, start line, and restrooms based on local guidelines. Anyone at increased risk or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 was directed to stay home.

Both the 25 miles and 60 miles routes included fully-stocked rest stops every 10 to 12 miles with some of the best snacks and communications volunteers around. Members served as route support and guidance (SAG) using our own vehicles and equipment, provided rest stop communications and tracked key assets with the APRS (Automatic Packet Reporting System) trackers. We not only supported the ride, members went the extra mile to help staff, participants, and volunteers by getting ice, fix a flat tire and providing transportation back to the high school because the riders could not finish.



Thanks to our Team Vice President Jim Bradley, KB1JKJ, who created the route overlay that was imported into aprs.fi so we could follow the six APRS trackers running. This was especially handy to identify the closest route support vehicle to an incident between a cyclist and a vehicle. There were no injuries, just angry people who had to be reminded by the police officer to share the road.

There is enough space for three operators comfortably, a fourth would be doable. The racks house a 2 meter and 220 amateur repeater, one UHF mobile repeater, 60 amp power supply, rack mounted power stations, back up batteries and wireless printer. The 40 inch monitor to track APRS and weather radar or a status board on a split screen. The radios are usually mounted to the shelves, but we are in the process of updating radios, connections, adding a closet and storage bench seat to help our storage needs.



One of the most important aspects of any event is good planning of every aspect of the event. We always dedicate a route support vehicle to sweep the route, follow the last cyclist to help ensure nobody is left out on the route with a flat, broken chain or something worse. This is usually a very long drawn out day if you stuck doing the entire route all day. Some NCS operators do plan that way, some break it up between each rest stop to allow bio-breaks, eat or just relax for a while. Many radio operators sitting at a rest stop may want to drive for a while if not heading out for the wife's list. Changing task's helps keep volunteers from getting board, keep them moving and interested in the event.

There is so much more to providing route support than driving around with lights flashing all over the place. Emergency Warning lights are intended to indicate a road hazard, a dangerous situation may exist that should tell drivers on the road to slow down in case they have to suddenly stop. We always discourage members from driving with their Emergency Warning lights flashing all the time while driving around because it tends to confuse and desensitize the motorists around you. When motorists are not paying attention to the lights any longer, they stop driving as cautiously, until you slam on your brakes to help someone, risking the possibility of causing an accident. Driving with care and leaving the use of your Emergency Warning lights for when you need to warn the public about a dangerous or hazardous situation. Remember, everyone around you needs time to *REACT*.



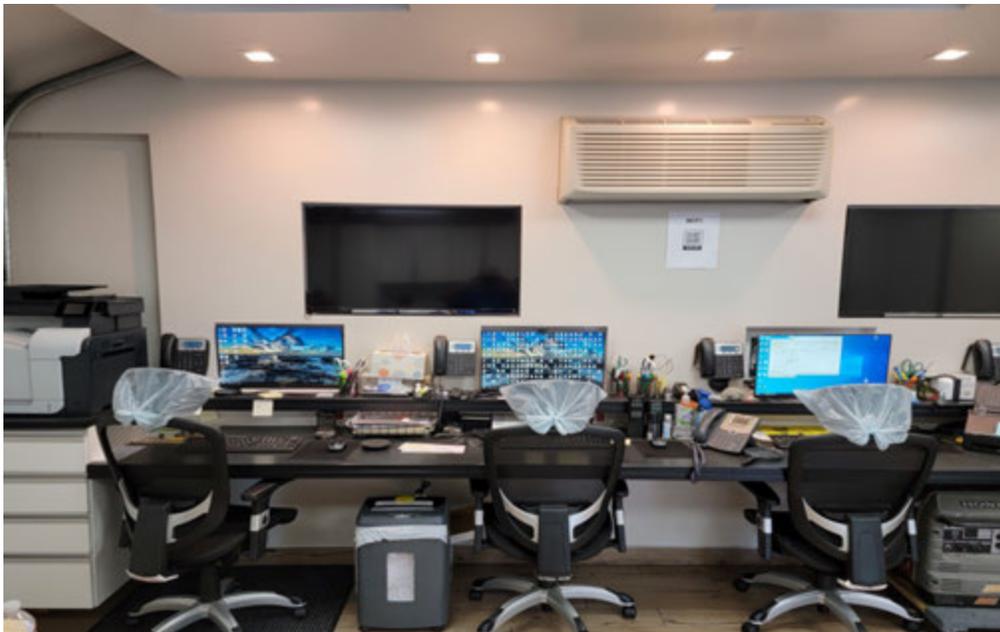
South Central Kansas *REACT* Providing Security



In August 2021, South Central Kansas *REACT* provided security for the Demolition Derby at the Harvey County Kansas Fair. This was their first event and got a donation for doing the event.

Photo and Article submitted by South Central Kansas *REACT*—William Roberts

TIME TO RENEW *REACT* DUES FOR 2022



REACT HQ OFFICE



**TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE
EARLY BIRD SPECIAL**



RENEW BEFORE

DECEMBER 31st

Get your dues in today and save!

SUBMITTING **TEAM NEWS**

Is EASY!

Just follow this guideline...

NAME of Person Reporting— **TEAM NUMBER**— **TEAM LOCATION**

DESCRIPTION of **ACTIVITIES** (Who, What, Where, When, Why, and How)

Provide this info for each event in your report

INCLUDE PICTURES—attach them to your email—don't send .PDFs

(Caption: **WHO**, **WHAT** and **WHERE** each picture shows)

NAME of Photographer

SEND the entire report (with pictures attached) to:

EDITOR@THEREACTER.COM

SEE HOW EASY THAT WAS?

So Easy, even a caveman could do it! (sorry, Geico, I couldn't resist)



REACT INTERNATIONAL WORLDWIDE ZELLO NET

Please join us every Saturday night at 9 pm EST
(8 pm during Daylight Savings Time) on the
REACT MEMBERS
Zello Channel

All Communicators Are Welcome!

NO LICENSE REQUIRED

use your Internet connected computer or smart phone.
The Zello app is available for download from <http://www.zello.com>



Saturday Zello Net @ 9 p.m. AST (9 p.m. EST
during Daylight Savings Time, otherwise 8 p.m.
EST) on **REACT MEMBERS CHANNEL**

**Download the Zello Walkie-Talkie app for your platform.
Create an account with a username (i.e: a call sign) and
password, then add the *REACT MEMBERS* channel.**

Press the Push-to-Talk button to transmit.

**VOLUNTEER TO BE A
NET OPERATOR!**

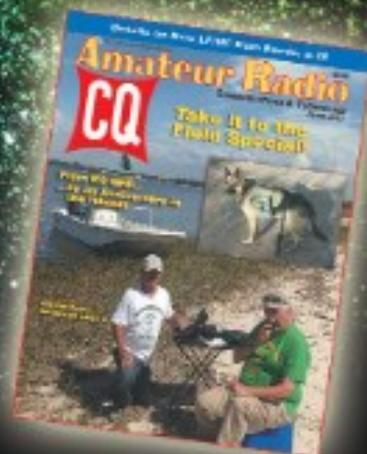


Amateur Radio



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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.



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