



Southwestern REACTer



OCTOBER 2018





**SOUTHWESTERN
REACT, Inc.**

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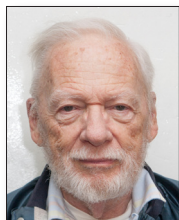
Director-At-Large:
Jim Patterson
SWR 151

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 8:00 PM on the 449.060 REACT/ARES Repeater with a negative offset and a PL tone of 88.5 (Mt. Otay)



How Do We Decide?

By Roger McCollough, SWR 098, President

The Ever Changing World of Communication

Let's take a look of some of the changes that occur almost daily. Our world really opened up when, shortly after the end of WWII, war surplus hit the radio world. The amateur radio world had access to tons of surplus radios retired from the military, such as the "ARC" radios, with more to follow. At almost the same time new technology developed, allowing new and improved 2-way radio communications, including additional higher frequencies up into the UHF band. This allowed growth of Part A of the Citizens Band for businesses, eventually leading to the Part D explosion in the late 50's.

With solid-state emerging in the mid 50's, improved circuits were developed, including PLL (Phase-Locked Loop) and lower power consumption. FM had been around since the 40's but required involved circuits to generate and detect (demodulate), but it led to growth in two-meter and above. Most of this took almost 50 years. From there on change really accelerated after computers entered the mix. With the influence of computers and other digital methods, we really have a mixed bag to choose from.

Looking to the NOW...

The big attraction today is digital. First there is several different formats of digital voice modulation, scanning, noise reduction, and on it goes. The combinations available would bankrupt most of us if we had all the combinations.

Editor's Note:

The Incident Command System (ICS) courses mentioned above are mostly free and many can be taken online. The basic ICS 100, 200, 700 and 800 courses are available at <https://training.fema.gov/nims/>. Advanced classes are usually taught in a classroom environment and can be found locally at <https://sduasi.org/>.

So what should you and the team do?

The team needs guidance to what tools we should have in our toolbox to be effective. We have committed to building a second Go-box with multipurpose capabilities to support most mobile or portable radios, including HF. Why HF? Because, if repeaters or the internet go out, High Frequency (HF) has shown the capability to do comms over great distances where VHF & UHF fail. Remember, communication need to go both ways. We can serve either in the disaster or outside; but only if we have the stuff.

Various disaster groups such as Red Cross and ACS have indicated they have HF in their plans for support. Currently half the team is qualified to operate in the HF bands, but the rest can work HF when an appropriately licensed operator is present (\$97.3[13] Control Operator.)

So, facing reality of the weather, stronger earthquakes, and major fires that have been getting worse each year, many others around us think they can jump into the role of Disaster Service Worker without being active in ICS training and field event experience, not acknowledging they are sorely deficient. Spontaneous volunteers are not often welcome. You, that are current in these skills and training, are the best.

"Nuf said..."

LET'S GIT' ER DONE!!!

pres@southwesternreact.org ➤

Upcoming Events	
Event	Date
Giro di San Diego	10/21/2018 (Sun)
ARES Hospital Drill	11/15/2018 (Thurs)
Silver Strand Half Marathon	11/11/2018 (Sun)
Event Notes:	
Southwestern REACT has a formal event invitation from ARES to assist with the hospital drill taking place on November 15. A representative from ARES should be at the October general meeting to answer any questions team members may have about the drill. ➤	

Southwestern REACT After Action Report

By Jay Pistiolas, SWR 046

Event – Touch A Truck

Location – Lakeside, CA

Date – Sunday, Sept 16, 2018

Sponsor – Lakeside Chamber Of Commerce

Event Organizer – Kathy Kassel

REACT Event Coordinator – Jay Pistiolas SWR 046

Synopsis:

This was the third year that Southwestern REACT assisted with this event. There were numerous public safety & local companies such as Barona Fire, Lakeside Fire, Cal Fire, SD County Fire, EDCO Waste, SDG&E, Granite Rock and others.

The Lakeside Chamber of Commerce, who sponsored this event were helpful in organizing the vendors in the huge lot which was separate from parking. SW REACT had a booth staffed to answer questions from the public and to educate as to what we do.

Objective:

SW REACT's objective was to provide radio communications for the event. There were four ham radio operators stationed in the parking lot to direct customers to the main entrance to purchase tickets. There was a temporary fence up around the perimeter of the parking lot to prevent people from jumping over without purchasing tickets. There was a small gap in the fencing and we had two operators there to keep people from getting through and directing them to the entrance. We also had an operator walking around the parking lot looking for open spaces and conveying that information to the parking lot attendant.

SW REACT had a booth set up for the event and to make a presence to the public by educating as what we do, handing out pamphlets and answering questions.

What worked:

The event ran smoothly with a few glitches. The crowd was larger this year and well organized with the vehicles and vendors located evenly and plenty of space for customers to maneuver through. The parking lot ran fairly smooth with a parking attendant and SW REACT operators assisting motorists to areas where parking spaces were available. SW REACT originally used a repeater on Rattlesnake Peak but then switched to Simplex which worked well.

Room For Improvement:

There should be signage in the parking area to where the main entrance is located for tickets. Signage should be placed for motorists to exit the parking lot. We noticed that some drivers were driving in circles looking for the exit not realizing that the entrance was the same as the exit. Again, SW REACT operators were directing lot traffic.

Conclusion:

All in all, things went smooth, no incidents took place, SW REACT Operators worked as a team, traffic flow was fairly consistent and any confusion was quickly resolved in regards to parking lot operations.

SW REACT Operators:

Roger McCollough, President #098

June McCollough, Treasurer #054

Jay Pistiolas, Secretary #046

George Reeves #081

Craig Wilcken #083

Raul Mendez, Friend of REACT

Jim Patterson #151

Touch-A Truck

Photos by Jay Pistorias, SWR 046



The Southwestern REACT Team banner.



Not sure what's going on here...



Team members setting up a shade canopy.



Team Members Jay Pistorias, 046 and George Reeves, 081.



No, George, Friends of REACT are not required to kiss your hand.



President Roger McCollough doing what any good leader does: Supervising the setup of the Go Kit.