



Southwestern REACTer



FEBRUARY 2024





**SOUTHWESTERN
REACT, Inc.**

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OFFICERS

President: Roger McCollough
SWR 098

Vice-President: John Wright
SWR 042

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: June McCollough
SWR 054

Director-At-Large:
George Reeves
SWR 081

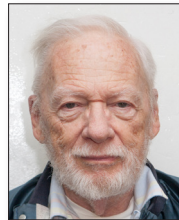
SWR's mission is to prepare for communications during emergencies and disasters. This preparation is accomplished through working community events such as: The Lakeside Western Days, and North Park Toyland parades, the Midnight Madness Bicycle Ride and Fiesta Island Time Trials, the Silver Strand Half-Marathon,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

The Southwestern REACT board meeting is held the second Thursday of the month at 7 PM at the Mission Valley iHop restaurant. Any member is welcome to attend. Contact us for the address.

The Southwestern REACT General Meeting is held the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM on the Zoom application. Contact us for the meeting link.

Reactive Team Net

See the website for net information.



How Bad Can It Get?

Roger McCollough, SWR 098, President

We May Soon Find Out.

Prologue

The winds are blowing and the rain is falling; today's weather? Sure seems like it. Rivers flowing where there was not a river before. Cars floating by with all of your neighbor's life possessions, along with their, and other's homes; not just a house but someone's home! We may just have become somewhat hardened by the news from other parts of the country, with their disasters caused by hurricanes, tornados, heavy and persistent rain, mud slides, snow, deeper than in memory, large portions of one or more states covered in hazardous choking smoke from massive wildfires where wildfires are very rare and fuel is so abundant. You get the idea.

So Let's Look Forward

And now, here we are where, for the most part, nothing really happens of concern, except wildfires and the threat of earthquakes. It's not that we don't want to help, but all those listed above is there, not here. Perhaps we need to think more like first-responders, and test our ability to act when the bell rings or sirens blares.

Statewide we do a "shakeout" exercise; well some do, but did you? We do a net; only twice a month, lasting 15 to 20 minutes at most. Yet often we get more guests than members. Why, others may ask? It takes less than 20 minutes out of 20,160 minutes in each 2 weeks, or 480 minutes out of 525,600 minutes annually (@20 minutes/net).

Efforts to provide training have shown little interest, leaving us with training through experience. That worked fairly well in the past, but over the past two plus Covid years we have had limited opportunities. That troubles the board and should concern you. What winning team does not practice working

with its members? We need to review and renew our responses and game plans. Those actions you do at an event are influenced by your expectations of other's response, strengths, experiences, and your instincts. In past articles I asked for ideas from you to reply to me or pass on to the board, hoping for your thoughts. In the last two years, two members made written suggestions that have provided direction that continues today.

By now you should have heard that, currently, we have 11 events this year. It is only fair to work toward all members being capable of working any duty of all events. Part of creating this ability, is pairing up with someone experienced and performing that task. Success in a task is very rewarding to you and the Team.

As a reminder or the obvious, more members make an event easier and helps assure all event needs are met; scheduling is easier, that the job will be done.

A Short, But Important Message

I think I have said my piece. My question now is who is listening? At the end of each of my articles I request: Let's Git Her Done!!! Today is no exception. It is now all up to each of you to keep our team viable and capable.

"Nuf said..."

LET'S GIT' ER DONE!!! ✈

Upcoming Events 2024

Event	Date	Status	Coordinator
Fiesta Island Time Trials	02/25/2024 (Sun)	Approved	GEORGE, 081
Touch-A-Truck	03/03/2024 (Sun)	Approved	082?
Fiesta Island Time Trials	04/13/2024 (Sat)	Approved	GEORGE, 081
Campagnolo San Diego Gran Fondo	04/21/2024 (Sun)	Approved	MIKE, 092
Lakeside Western Days Parade	04/27/2024 (Sat)	Approved	CARL, 067
Fiesta Island Time Trials	05/12/2024 (Sun)	Approved	GEORGE, 081
Giro De San Diego	06/08/2024 (Sat)	Approved	MCKENZIE, 037
San Diego International Triathlon	06/23/2024 (Sun)	Approved	GEORGE, 081
San Diego Triathlon Classic (NEW EVENT)	09/14/2024 (Sat)	Approved	GEORGE, 081
Fiesta Island Time Trials	09/29/2024 (Sun)	Approved	GEORGE, 081
Silver Strand Half Marathon	11/10/2024 (Sun)	Approved	GEORGE, 081

Partnerships: VOAD-Volunteers Active In Disasters

Roger McCollough/098, President

Over the past week Southern California has been hit by the Pineapple Express or Atmosphere River that has left many people displaced and homes damaged or destroyed. San Diego has been especially hard hit. Many non-profit and church-based agencies and organizations have stepped forward to assist the various government agencies responsible to respond, in times of disaster; and there are many parts to them.

So, what is VOAD?

It is an organization formed, nationwide, with chapters in communities having a history of, or the potential of a major emergency or disaster, to be a core of those government and non-profit groups; such as American Red Cross, Salvation Army, Team Rubicon, Crisis Clean-Up, etc. to name a few. VOAD does not control or direct these agencies, but rather a share point of information and contact. Southwestern REACT is an active member of VOAD.

Currently...

On January 25, 2024, we received an invitation to attend a VOAD Zoom meeting to discuss the destruction of residences and support of the residents. 50+ participants signed in and told of their efforts and problems. Most importantly were the responsible governmental agencies that needed any information that could be shared, to get a broader picture. Because of the scope of the disaster, the ICS protocol passed to San Diego County OES (Office of Emergency Services), and perhaps San Diego County Sheriff as a Joint Incident Command. Because these agencies have extensive communication systems, our Team involvement is currently not necessary. However some of our members also volunteer for various non-profit groups, they can, individually,

offer support to them as non-REACT representatives; Red Cross as an example. As a member of VOAD, it was felt that we should attend and monitor the activity and respond any useful information if asked. Team e-mail address and web site address were furnished to all, in the Zoom Chat, I did not see any other amateur radio groups attending (ex: ARES or ACS).

As of this writing, more storms are forecast over the next week to ten days. If you have been able to avoid damage, stay vigilant as infrastructure is subject to surprise failure. Should moisture invasion become a problem, find below are several web site URLs that were put out by SBP, a disaster mediation group.

[SBP AARP Mold Remediation Guide \(English\)](#)

[SBP Mold Remediation: Step by Step video](#)

[The Truth About Mold](#)

[SBP: Supplies for Mold Remediation](#)

So there you are. Please keep in mind that if things go sideways, YOU may be able to make a difference. If you can, keep your ears on the REACT repeater on Otay 449.440 (-) 107.2 (channel #1) and keep your gear at the ready. You never know.



Southwestern REACT Board Meeting, January 11, 2024

June McCollough, 054, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President Roger McCollough at 6:56 pm.

Quorum Check – Three (3) Board Members- George Reeves was excused; Visitor – Heather Wright.

Special Motion – Motion to appoint June McCollough as Secretary for 2024; Moved, Seconded, Carried (M,S,C).

Board Meeting Minutes – Motion to accepted and filed; M, S, and C.

Correspondence List – Reviewed

Treasurer's Report – June McCollough reported an ending balance as of Dec. 31, 2023 of \$3,501.70.

REACT Editor – Latest issue is out – **Webmaster** – Website is up to date

Unfinished Business:

2024 Renewals – 19 members renewed timely mailed renewal to REACT International on Dec. 29, 2023.

Status Report from Committees - By-laws and Policies and Procedures: Still on Going.

Team Property – Tower still waiting to hear if it has been picked up.

New Business:

Audit committee needed to complete report at February meeting.

Other discussion items – There is nothing at this time.

Events recommend to the team – Motion to recommend that the team work the following events: FITT Sunday 2/25/2024; Touch-A-Truck Sunday 3/3/2024; and FITT Saturday 4/13/2024. M, S, C.

Post Events:

None

Upcoming Events:

See SWReact.com/events

Good of the Team:

Craig Wilcken has been diagnosed with Ataxia. He has good days and bad days. Please keep Craig and Cindy in your prayers and thoughts.

Yaesu Fusion Repeater- possible sale to another amateur club?

Meeting Adjourned at 7:33 pm ✈

Southwestern REACT General Meeting January 18, 2024

June McCollough, Ø54, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President Roger McCollough at 6:37 pm.

Quorum Check – Four (4) Board Members; Five (5) General Members.

General Meeting Minutes – Motion to accepted and filed; Moved by Carl Jensen, Seconded by John Wright and Carried.

Correspondence List – Reviewed

Treasurer's Report – June McCollough reported an ending balance as of Dec. 31, 2023 of \$3,501.70.

REACT Editor – Latest issue is out – **Webmaster** – Website is updated to fix email address.

Unfinished Business

New appointment of Secretary – Board voted to appoint June McCollough Secretary for 2024.

2024 Renewals – 19 members renewed timely mailed renewal to REACT International on Dec. 29, 2023.

Status Report from Committees - By-laws and Policies and Procedures: Still on Going.

Team Property – Tower still waiting to hear if it has been picked up.

New Business:

Audit committee selected – Carl Jensen; Marilyn Jensen; and John Wright. Meeting will be February 4th at 11:30 am at 2650 Melbourne Ave. San Diego, CA.

Events recommend to the team– Moved by John Wright and Seconded by Carl Jensen to approve all events on the calendar below. Motion carried. **Need other members** to step up and Coordinate some of these events.

Other discussion items – Invite family and friends to come along and get to know what REACT does. Contact Kevin at ARES regarding Boy Scouts that may want to do a ride along to get their merit badge for Ham radio.

Sale of Yaesu Fusion Repeater – We have another amateur radio group interested in purchasing our repeater. After discuss there was no objection so SOBARS will be contacted. (John Wright abstained from the vote.)

Post Events: None

Upcoming Events: (Deleted by editor.)

Good Of The Team:

Craig Wilcken has been diagnosed with Ataxia. He has good days and bad days. Please keep Craig and Cindy in your prayers and thoughts.

More Antenna training scheduled for March General Meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 pm ✨



Last month I asked the members to pick which image they thought was the elusive Ready React. Here is their choice.

However, every good operator has a partner, so may I introduce Speedy React? (below.)

