



Southwestern REACTer



October 2016



Children attending the Lakeside Touch-A-Truck event September 18th investigate a lineman's exhibit.

Walter Wallenborn, SWR 089



SOUTHWESTERN REACT, Inc.

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SWR's mission is to prepare for communications during emergencies and disasters. This preparation is accomplished through working community events such as: The Mother Goose (El Cajon) and North Park Holiday Parades, Descanso Endurance Horse Ride, San Diego International Triathlon, Fiesta Island Time Trials, the Silver Strand Half Marathon and CalFire Volunteers In Prevention Red Flag Patrol.

OFFICERS

President: Roger McCollough
SWR 098

Vice-President: Daniel McDougal
SWR 063

Secretary: June McCollough
SWR 054

Treasurer:

Daniel Willan
SWR 061

Director-At-Large:

Wayne Oliver
SWR 142

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 monthly on the first and fourth Thursdays at 8:00 PM on the 449.440 Mhz Community Based Repeater with a Negative offset of 5Mhz and a PL tone of 107.2 Hz (Mt Olay).

Follow Me Boys

By Roger McCollough, SWR 098, President

The Shout of a Leader

In just one month you will be asked to select who you want on the ballot to run our Team into the next year. I think some of you feel I am not that person. Abraham Lincoln put it well in the Gettysburg Address when he said "The world will little note or long remember what we say here..." I am beginning to feel that his observation, as incorrect as it proved to be, applies to my monthly messages.

Each month I am called on to impart something worth the time to read and consider. Often the message attempts to suggest ways of improving the team or things that are relevant or interesting. Sometimes my message is "Follow me boys", but when I look back, I find I am, like Don Quixote, followed only by his faithful companion. Forgive me but I don't think I'm tilting at windmills, but rather, trying to form a trained and needed service when that windmill blows large quantities of brown stuff across the land (you know, when "the s*** hits the fan.") If you don't participate in your team activities, it says that you feel its value not worth your time. Again, perhaps it's the leadership.

Over the years we have worked to receive recognition for what we can do for the community through communications. It has been a tough struggle to achieve, but we are closer than ever. This brings me to the second part of this message.

You need to select or become the leader

that this Team needs, to fulfill the mission that attracted you when you joined. You all have demonstrated the ability to lead those in need, to safety and comfort. A few members have left the team for a variety of reasons, real and imagined, and some could not make the sacrifice needed to serve. To all, I thank you for your efforts.

Before we go any further, this article is not intended to be a resignation, but rather, to be clear about my stand on the Team's responsibility to support. The Team needs to have the best Board that will strengthen and grow our Team. I joined the Team over 40+ years ago, serving various jobs, duties, and assignments; Big deal! I knew that was part of my membership when I joined. What reward do we get? Well, I for one, can enjoy how the Team interfaces with the event, the special things that happen and are resolved, and the feeling of filling a need, and, oh yes, an occasional T-shirt. Then there is the camaraderie of teamwork with friends, both at the event and at the occasional get-together after the event, to share those priceless and training happenings. In the end we know we have made a positive difference. Not many people can say that.

So "Follow me boys", now choose who will be "ME" next year.

"Nuf said..."

Let's Git' Er Done!!! ▶

pres@southwesternreact.org

ACS

By June McCollough, SWR 054

The ACS meeting was held on October 3rd at the Office of Emergency Services (OES).

October 15, 2016 1300-1700 training will be held on Earthquake Preparedness and ACS Response. This is a repeat of the class held in September for those that missed it.

ACS will participate in the Great California Shakeout on October 20th at 1020. Members are requested to check in on 147.195 and report any earthquake activity. There will be training on November 5th on the vehicles. In order to participate in the Radio Rodeo Interoperability Exercise, you will need to attend this training. ACS will be participating in the San Diego Fry's Operating Day on November 6th. There will also be a Radio Rodeo Interoperability Exercise November 15th at the Del Mar Fair Grounds. More information on the Radio Rodeo Interoperability Exercise will follow.

ACS has a net every Monday except First Monday or County Holidays at 1930 (7:30 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.

The next meeting will be on November 7th at 1830 hours (6:30 PM). All are welcome. ►

American Red Cross Communication Team Report

By June McCollough, SWR 054

The ARCCT meeting was held on October 1. After the usual reports from Jer (AK6QJ), we had hands on training on the GPS units that are in the Go-Kits.

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 November 5th 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. ►

ARES Report

By John Wright, SWR 042

The monthly ARES meeting was held on October 8. Topics discussed included the after-action report for the Miramar Air Show, the on-going credentialing with San Diego County and the upcoming hospital drill scheduled for November 17. Jim Brauer, N6DAR, spoke about injects we plan on putting into the drill, including a simplex mapping exercise. A sign-up sheet for the drill was circulated.

The meeting was followed by the Gateway Communicator training class. ►

Lakeside Touch-A-Truck AAR Sept.18, 2016

By June McCollough, SWR 054

Because of our work with the Lakeside Chamber of Commerce on the Lakeside Western Days Parade, they contacted us to help with their first time event. Walter Wallenborn, Roger & June McCollough attended two planning meetings and added input for the event. Although there were some last minute changes, we were able to work with the Chamber Members and it was a well-run event. They are looking forward to doing it again next year. It may be at the same site or a larger site if they can find room for all the big trucks.

Wayne Oliver, Roger and June McCollough showed up at 0700 to place Wayne's car for show and tell in the line-up of vehicles. Then about 0900 the rest of the team members showed up. They were John Wright, Carl Jensen, Marilyn Jensen, Daniel McDougal, Michelle Harmon, Walter Wallenborn and Daniel Willan.

As always, we could have used a few more members.

The weather was warm to hot but we had no major medical problems. We had our easy-up there to provide shade and there was a fair breeze part of the time.

Some of the problems we encountered were that the Chamber did not have enough planned parking assistants for the one lot. Daniel McDougal was a great help to them and also gave them good briefing thoughts on how to do it better next year. Vigilante Road at Highway 67 was also a problem. Although there were signs saying "ROAD CLOSED", people still wanted to drive through to go to Barona. Members had to turn a lot of people around in the road that was crowded with parked cars.

Roger & June McCollough went to the after action briefing, and the Lakeside Chamber of Commerce was very

excited about the number of children and parents that attended the event and will be starting to plan for this after the Western Days Parade in April. ►

Editor's note: As one of the team members that attended this event, I noticed that the team members that were directing traffic at either end of the event had no shade

from the sun. A useful item to add to your "kit" for an all-day event would be a pop-up canopy and a couple of camp chairs. You may not need them, but to paraphrase a local television commercial: "Better to have it and not need it than need it and not have it..."

Touch-A-Truck Pictures



John Wright, SWR 042



John Wright, SWR 042



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