



Southwestern REACTer



MARCH 2017



Team Member Marilyn Jensen, SWR 068, staffs a post during the Descanso Horse Ride event, June 18, 2016. More event pictures on Page 4.

Dan Willan, SWR 061



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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 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 7:00 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 449.440 Community based Repeater with a negative offset and a PL tone of 107.2 (Mt. Otay)

From Your President

By Roger McCollough, SWR 098

How To Improve The Team: Preparation And Planning

Each month I write this article with the hope of creating something of interest and value. Some times the shoe is on the other foot when a team member shares an idea or plan that I and the Team can use. I thank you; the Team thanks you.

One of the primary rules in coordinating an up-coming event is collecting as much information about what the organizer has planed and the event location. If the event is new, then it is time to get out all the tools that will allow options, in case of unexpected problems. A simple example could be the FITT (Fiesta Island Time Trials) where you have two separate communication systems (Direct/Simplex and the Mission Hills Repeater) but are open to other variations.

But a new event, even one that seems similar to a past event, could be a trap "baited" by something unforeseen. The methods used in the past are the tools of experience and will always provide a basis for future activities, but may offer a chance to improve our methods; even by being creative.

"Yeah, yeah I know all this; it's nothing new" some may say, and they would be correct... Maybe. We must remember the purpose of all REACT teams; to serve our community through

specialized emergency communication based efforts and support and to strengthen other teams and agencies. Let's bring the best "toolbox" to the party. One way to do all this is our effort to invite new or inexperienced operators to work with us at any of our events. Their questions about how or why we do things may suggest a way of improvement. And to those that have a background in events may bring a improved procedure for our "toolbox". Bring it on!

At the next General Meeting we will explore using another of our tools. The opportunity to receive training must not be ignored; the efforts of others to add to our knowledge base must be honored. They are doing their best to make you the best. Have you expressed to a board member something you feel should be presented? Nothing has been brought to my attention.

Bottom Line: There is always room for team and personal improvement. Who is not willing?

So students, take your seat and let's learn together.

'Nuf said...

Let's Git 'Er Done!!! ♦

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March Training Topic

By John Wright, SWR 042

We all hear mention of this and that repeater but how many know just exactly how they operate and why they are so important to VHF/UHF communications?

The training topic at the March meeting will be "Repeaters And Their Operation." The discussion will include basic repeater operation and also a demonstration of how to set up and deploy the team's portable repeater. ♦

Auxiliary Communications Services (ACS)

By June McCollough, SWR 054

The ACS meeting was held on March 6th at the Office of Emergency Service (OES).

We also had hands on practice on the San Diego Regional Public Safety map website that is being used in lieu of the Thomas Bros. Maps. (Note: It will be discussed at an upcoming REACT meeting.)

The next training will be March 18th from 1300 – 1700. The topic will be Communication Test and Exercise. All ACS members are encouraged to participate from their home or other location that they frequent on a regular basis. This will be a radio test so you will not have to travel to OES to participate.

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.

Upcoming event:

Poway Safety Fair on May 13, 2017 (time to be determined.)

Tentative date for next training will be May 27th (0900-1300) - Subject to be determined but announced prior to date.

The next meeting will be on April 3, 2017 at 1830 hours (6:30 PM). All are welcome.

Upcoming Events for 2017

Event Name	Event Date	Status	Coordinator.
Encinitas Half Marathon (New Koz Event)	03-26-2017 (Sun)	Approved	067/068
Lakeside Western Days Parade	04-29-2016 (Sat)	Approved	081
Cycle Eastlake & Run	05-13-2017 (Sat)	Approved	063
Descanso Endurance Ride (FYI)	05-20&21-2017 (Sa-Su)	Pending	???/098
Touch-A-Truck	06-11-2017 (Sun)	Info	TBA
San Diego International Triathlon (Koz Event)	06-25-2017 (Sun)	Pending	TBA
Iron Horse Challenge Ride (New Ride)	09-23&24-2017 (Sa-Su)	Pending	TBA
Silver Strand HalfMarathon (Koz Event)	11-12-2017 (Sun)	Pending	TBA

American Red Cross Communication Team Report

By June McCollough, SWR 054

The ARCCT meeting was held on March 4th. We had a Seasonal Update. The presentation was a review and update on NVIS by Bill Calderwood, K1CT.

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 April 1, 2017 at 9:00 AM at 3950 Calle Fortunada, San Diego CA 92123. These are open meeting for anyone unless they are discussing confidential ARC business. ♦

Board Requests

In an attempt to improve communications in the event of a natural disaster, such as an earthquake, the Southwestern REACT board is requesting the following information from all team members.

The board would like to compile a list of which San Diego area repeaters each team member can hit from their own home location. Included should be the name of the repeater, the repeater owner and the frequency of the repeater. This information should be forwarded to Comm Officer Daniel McDougal, SWR 063 at the following e-mail address: ypswreact@gmail.com.

Additionally, attendance at the regular monthly meetings has dropped off markedly, to the point where it is barely possible to maintain a quorum. The board is interested in finding out why members are not attending meetings. the board understands the reasons might be personal and private, but if there is anything the board can do to make meetings more interesting, they would like to know.

This information may be forwarded to any board member's e-mail address. ♦

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)

By John Wright, SWR 042

The monthly ARES meeting was held March 11, 2017 at Scripps La Jolla Hospital. The training topic was a review of the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, HIPAA. Since ARES operates in a hospital environment, this is important

information for members.

As always, the meeting was followed by the Gateway Communicator class. ♦

Descanso Horse Endurance Ride, June 18, 2016

Photos by Daniel Willan, SWR 061

