

Southwestern



<u>REACTer</u>

April 2016

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

LOOK FOR MORE MAGIC FROM BEHIND THE CURTIN

VHS or Beta-max or...



Some of you may be too young to remember the advent of similar ideas using different methods that became rivals to become THE version that would become the standard.

Going back about a century there was the war between Edison promoting Direct Current and Tesla's claim that Alternating Current was the answer. Well science, the public, and the government chose what we have today; AC.

We move to the late 49's where, after years of testing and development, it came down to two methods of making color TV. One used a special picture tube mixing beams from a three color guns or a giant spinning wheel that was twice the size of the picture tube. Of course the three guns won that contest. Recording and playback was VHS vs. Beta-max. Although VHS won the consumer's heart, the TV world continued to use Beta-max cameras for the news coverage.

Audio went from records with different speeds and grove sizes vs. LP vs. stereo, to 4-track, vs. cassette, to C.D.'s to digital memory. Each change usually required a fight for consumer interest to spend \$\$\$ (read as BIG bucks).

Well on our side AM was a simple choice as early FM was limited to expensive commercial radio equipment on the Class A (462MHz band that became GMRS) was available. CB (which was Class D) was in most of our price range; again it is \$\$\$. When GMRS radios (new and used) price came in range, it was our radio of choice. Then the FCC stepped in to help (themselves) with a huge price and rules change and it was decided to join the amateur world. With the change of Part 97 Rules (no code), most of our members got their licenses'.

Now we get to chose Door 1, or 2, or 3.

Because of the way the amateur world works, we don't have to choose until we decide what works better for our operation. Let's look at some of the choices. The one technology that is growing in our world is digital. The history timeline starts with C.W. (dot-dash stuff), then teletype (dots & spaces) to create characters. Down the road came computers sending packets over the radio.

The Future: Good or Bad - Your Choice

Now on the horizon and at a store near you are D-STAR, D4FM, and Mototurbo, all digital. Each of these is now activated, to some degree, in San Diego. Currently there is no radio that can work with all three, but each of them has radios that also work FM. So keep on peeking behind the curtain and let us know what you find and how you feel about what you discover.

Remember, you get to vote with your \$\$\$.

"Nuf said..."

Let's GIT' UR DONE!!!

Roger McCollough / SWR 098

PRESIDENT

pres@southwesternreact.org

EVENTS/MEETING/NET

April 23rd Lakeside Western Day Parade May 21st Cycle Eastlake May 21st CALFIRE VIP Red Flag Patrol Training

June 18-19th Descanso Endurance Ride
June 26th San Diego International Triathlon
July 4th Alpine Fourth of July Parade
July 4th CALFIRE Red Flag Patrol
Sept 25th Fiesta Island Time Trails #5 of 6
Nov 6th Fiesta Island Time Trails #6 of 6
Nov 20th Mother Goose Parade
April 21st REACT General Meeting
May 12th REACT Board Meeting
Watch your E-mails for farther information

If you would like to help with these events; please contact a board member at board@southwesternreact.org.

Pensate Profunde:

In my humble opinion

BY Walter Wallenborn

I just came from the Southwestern REACT board meeting. They discussed many things. One of the issues that seems to be reoccurring is attendance at meetings and events. Why are members paying \$35.00 a year to be a member and then not show up for meetings and events. Well, I can not attend every event or meeting because I have a life. I volunteer to many different organizations. Church comes first, and when the choir practices it is always on Thursday evenings, but I attend when I can. And sometimes I even drive from Santee to Serra Mesa to catch the last half of the general meeting.

Several members have told me they are tired of the stories of yesteryear. Some tell me they have to get up early the next day, I do recall that from working at the school district. That begs the question, "Why does the meetings go so long?" And we are back to stories of yesteryear. Why is it that some people can't curtail their ramblings? They have been asked several times to save their stories for after the meeting, but we just keep being ignored.

I respectfully request that each board member come to the meeting with focus and preparation. That means printing out reports in sufficient numbers for each member to have a copy. If a board member needs money to pay for paper and ink, let's get it to them, the Team is not broke. All the board member has to do is request funds to reimburse them for printing costs.

As for training, at the general meeting is not the proper time for training. A five or ten minute training moment is fine, but until we get the general meeting to under an hour and a half, I say suspend the training moment. We have business to take care of. Decisions to be made by the membership.

The question you need to ask yourself is "When was the last time you attended a general meeting or event?" If you can count more than a few months, you need to ask yourself "Why am I a member?"

That is my thoughts at the moment, what are yours? You need to let someone in the Team know.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

American Red Cross Communications Team Report

By June McCollough

The ARCCT meeting for April was held on April 5nd. We had training on the **Emergency Communication Response** Trailer (ECRT). We went out and had actual hands on training on how to set up the trailer, antenna, awning and radios. Then we trained on putting it all away again. 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 May 7th at 9:00 AM at 3950 Calle Fortunada, San Diego CA. 92123. This is an open meeting for anyone unless they are discussing confidential ARC business.

SANDARC

By June McCollough

The next meeting will be April 28th at 6:30 pm at Sizzler's Steakhouse Restaurant. The delegates for SANDARC are Roger & June McCollough, George Reeves and Daniel McDougal. We are allowed to have two voting delegates at each meeting.

ACS

By June McCollough

The ACS meeting was held on April 4th at the Office of Emergency Service (OES). We had a program of "Net Control Operator Training presented by Craig Williams. We have a net every Monday except the First Monday or on County

Holidays at 1830 Hours (6:30 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. Next we reviewed the Baker 2 Vegas event and thanked those who were there to help. If you are interested in joining ACS, please contact either Roger McCollough or myself and we will give you contact information. The next meeting will be on May 2nd at 1830 hours (6:30PM). All are welcome.

ARES APRIL 2016 MEETING REPORT

Reported by Roger McCollough

The meeting was held in the Schatzel Center Nobel Room, on the Scripps LaJolla Hospital Campus, on April 9; the second Saturday of each month. The subject for discussion was their upcoming drill on Wed, May 4th (Statewide and County Disaster Drill) - ARES Support Roles and Planning. Also discussed was ARRL Section Leadership Updates, Event and Goal Planning for 2016.

Another activity conducted after the meeting is a training class on various HT's Instructors ("Elmers") work with groups of up to 5 guiding them through loading and using their radios. Consider going to one of ARES Gateway training sessions on the second Saturday of each month, at the above location, at 10:00 AM.

The next ARES meeting will be May 14th.

FITT AFTER ACTION REPORT

BY June McCollough

On April 10th, Southwestern REACT provided communication for the 4th Fiesta Island Time Trials. The following members participated by showing up at 6:30 AM: Mike Bailey, Wayne Oliver, Don Dodson, George Reeves, John Wright, Dee Osargent, Mike Woods Cindy Wilcken, Craig Wilcken, Jim Patterson and June McCollough. Friends of REACT also helping out were Nancy Crosser, Eric Crosser and Walter Schmalgemeier. I would like to thank all that came out to work this event even with the threat of rain. But, like all the radio operators, the SUN also came out. The event went well. There were 61 riders so we finished by 8:30AM. The next FITT event is September 25th. If you would like to coordinate this easy event, please contact Daniel McDougal at vpswreact@gmail.com

A couple of pictures of the sky from the 4th FITT.





The Cloudy Side of Sunshine

By Cindy Wilcken

San Diego has been experiencing some rain, winds and hail but our team has been keeping pretty healthy. Keep up the good work!



The Antenna WEB

By R Craig Wilcken

The Southwestern REACT websites www.swreact.com & www.southwesternreact.com are up and running and getting more hits all the time.

We are still working to regain control of the original SWR website (southwesternreact.org). We have paid for a place on the backlog list again. This means we will get first option on the site when it is up for renewal on 12 June, unless R. Bugtel pay's for it again.

At the March team meeting I was once more offered advice on how to regain the original website. Though I had done it already, I gave it another try. Direct quote from Chuck at GoDaddy, March 25, 2016 "I see the domain is in the name of Robert Bugtel. That means they are listed as the owner of the domain currently. If you do feel you have a legal right to the domain then you would

need to hire a lawyer to go through your claim to it and reach out to the owner of it and see if they will give it back to the organization."

As I continue to be the recipient of all kinds of advice, concerning the Web sites, I sometimes wonder where all this helpfulness was while the site sat dormant for a year and a half, which allowed R. Bugtel to get a hold of the domain in the first place.

FINAL THOUGHTS

R. Craig Wilcken

In the March issue of the SWReacter, the president asked, by relating to a song from Peter, Paul, and Mary: Where Have All the Flowers Gone? where have all the members gone?

I spent a lot of time over the past couple of weeks asking myself why I was reluctant to go to the monthly meetings, why wasn't I as happy and looking forward to attending events as I once did. I came up with a couple of reasons.

As I was thinking about the team meetings the Bruce Springsteen song *Glory Days*, kept running through my mind:

"...I hope when I get old I don't sit around thinking about it

but I probably will

Yeah, just setting back trying to recapture a little of the glory of,

well times slips away and leaves you with nothing mister

but boring stories of glory days"

I found myself thinking that for the most part team meetings are a waste of time, they are a 45 minute meeting crammed into 2 ½ hours. This phenomenon has been present at all meeting that I have attended for the past three years. No matter what we do to shorten the meeting (I even stopped bringing in snacks and went for coffee and cookies) all that seems to happen is more time for "good old days" stories.

And now they are talking about mandatory attendance at meetings and forced

participation at events. (Just a thought and not meant as any kind of threat but just as a statement of fact, the moment forced labor becomes a fact at SWR, I will no longer be a member). Lately being a "Friend of SWR" is sounding more and more appealing. You get to work the events you want without all the drama and having to put up with the "good old boy network" and the political B.S.

Then my thoughts turned to events. We tell the public that we use the events to train for emergency situations. But all I hear is complaining that their calendar of events hasn't been handed to them on a silver platter, that we have to jump though loops to get the job done, and I asked myself isn't that what emergencies are. If it was all laid out and normal it wouldn't be an emergency. So we go about crying and belly aching about what we claim we are there to do. What has happen to the "Crisis Managers" attitude?

As far as training at an event goes, it is a laugh, proper Net Control Procedures are there in name only. The longer the event lasts the less the net control procedures are followed. I have seen better communication courtesy at an Irish pub on St. Patrick's Day than at some of our events. There is nothing more exasperating than to be trying to get any and all important facts pertaining to the event, and you get continually interrupted by irrelevant and worthless traffic. So unless I misread all the magnets stuck on the sides of a lot of member's vehicles, we are at events to provide EMERGENCY COMMICATIONS not worthless blather.

And finally are we a Team or a fraternity which has pledges? If we are a Team then that is this term "newbie"? No one reading this was born with a radio in their hand or a FCC license tattoo to their butt. It is a childish and hurtful term and has cost or nearly cost the team active members, yours truly being one.

2016

TEAM JOBS FROM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Appointed officers (sect. 2)

Sergeant-at-Arms Chaplain	Carl Jensen Carl Jensen
Hostess	
Historian	
Parliamentarian	
BB Repeater Trustee	Daniel McDougal
Amateur Repeater Trustee	Doug Waltman
Public Information Officer_	

Committee chairpersons (sect. 3)		
Audit	[as needed]	
Budget	[as needed]	
Building & Planning	Tyler Klein	
By-laws		
Team Equipment	Mike Corum	
Election	[as needed]	
Inter-Organization	Liaisons	
Animal Rescue	Dee Osargent	
ARES	Mike Corum	
CalFire	Eric Crosser	
Civil Air Patrol	Mike Woods	
ACS (formally RACES)		
Red Cross Roge	er & June McCollough	
SANDARCRoger McC	ollough, Grady Yearwood	
George Reeves, June McCollough		
VOAD	Roger McCollough	
Membership		
Nominating		
Policy and Procedures		
Program		
REACT Net		
REACT Store		
Sunshine		
Training		
Ways & Means		
Amateur Radio Club		
Junior REACT	<u>-</u>	
Management Information SystemTyler Klein		
Web Master		

ADDITIONAL TEAM JOBS FROM BY-LAWS

Article XI Team Bulletin Editor/Publisher R.Craig Wilcken

Southwestern REACT general meeting 3rd Thursday of each month 7:00 pm at 2650 Melbourne Drive, San Diego CA

The REACTer is a publication of Southwestern REACT of San Diego County Inc. It is published once a Month and contributions are accepted from officers and members of the TEAM. Opinions expressed are solely that of the author and/or the editor and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Southwestern REACT. Articles for the REACTer must be submitted by 1700 (5:00 p.m.) on the Second Saturday of the month to the publisher either by e-mail or mail. Any format is acceptable but Microsoft Word is preferred. The editor reserves the right to change and modify articles as needed.

Team officers 2016:

SWR 098 Roger McCollough President

SWR 063 Daniel McDougal V.P. / Communication

SWR054 June McCollough Secretary

SWR 082 Cindy Wilcken Treasurer

SWR 142 Wayne Oliver Director-at-Large

Contact: Southwestern REACT of San Diego County Inc.

> P O Box 632955 San Diego CA 92163-2955

619-309-4299 board@southwesternreact.org