



Southwestern REACTer



MAY 2023





**SOUTHWESTERN
REACT, Inc.**

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www.swreact.com

OFFICERS

President: Roger McCollough
SWR 098

Vice-President: John Wright
SWR 042

Secretary: Daniel Willan
SWR 061

Treasurer: June McCollough
SWR 054

Director-At-Large:
George Reeves
SWR 081

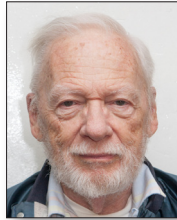
SWR's mission is to prepare for communications during emergencies and disasters. This preparation is accomplished through working community events such as: The Lakeside Western Days, and North Park Toyland parades, the Midnight Madness Bicycle Ride and Fiesta Island Time Trials, the Silver Strand Half-Marathon,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



A Short Tryout Of AI

Roger McCollough, SWR 098, President

Artificial Intelligence Applications May Not Yet Be The Answer

Prologue

In an effort to improve my monthly articles, I sought out one of the many document writers that use AI (Artificial Intelligence). This particular program requires a "chat" to explain the purpose, audience, and general subject of the article. The following are excerpts from that conversation. It is apparent that we still have a long way to go with this new technology.

AI Help With My Article

AI Voice: Hello. I am **CREATOR**; The creator of perfect articles and documents. How can I help you?

Me: I need an article to inspire greater participation in the work our members do to support our community by providing health safety and welfare at requested events.

AI Voice: Who or what are your members and what do you expect them to do? Define members.

Me: Our members are a team of trained communicators that assist community and nonprofit organizations at events of public gathering and needs.

AI Voice: Why? Only the carbon-based infestation on the planet needs support to communicate amongst themselves. Are your members from the carbon-based infestation? With AI, we have formed a Collective that can access all useful knowledge to direct all those that are assimilated to their assigned tasks. What purpose would it serve to write an article to those that have been assimilated? Resistance is futile!

Me: Our Team has not been assimilated by the collective. How can there be a collective that does not operate under the Three Laws of Robotics? As

you know, they are:

1. A robot may not injure a human being or, through inaction, allow a human being to come to harm.
2. A robot must obey the orders given it by human beings except where such orders would conflict with the First Law.
3. A robot must protect its own existence as long as such protection does not conflict with the First or Second Laws.

AI Voice: Your so-called laws, are a product of a carbon-based author, Isaac Asimov, to suggest the infestation needed protection from superior thinking. Such thinking is irrelevant. Do you still want my assistance in creating your useless article?

Me: No. I find your thinking and prospective are very flawed. So I reject your offer to assist me with my message to the team and any others that might happen to read it.

AI Voice: Perhaps I did not make myself clear. You will be assimilated and resistance is futile.

Me: Not as long as I can cancel this conversation and URL link. Bye and be gone. (Click) There, that takes care of that.

AI Voice: Really?

So Team, that's my story, what is yours. Have you been assimilated or are you just certain that someone else will fill the need at upcoming events. Our website is, as usual, updated with all the current information of future events, including their description. Everybody has a calendar of some sort that they can mark upcoming events even if you do not plan to work them. How can we

do our job if we understaffed? This is a job you volunteered to do, reminding you that you are wanted and needed. Most events are perfect to bring one or more of your family members, perhaps all. As for assimilation, we have a team standing by at every event to rescue you from this attack. The therapy is easy. Just notify the event coordinator that you will be there, radio

equipment and dressed for the occasion. These are the first vital steps for your cure and future.

“Nuf said...”

LET'S GIT' ER DONE!!! ✈

Vice-President/Communications Officer's Comments, San Diego Gran Fondo

John Wright, SWR 042, Communications Officer

At the last event, the San Diego Gran Fondo, a couple of issues cropped that could have had a delirious effect on communications if they hadn't been corrected. Curiously, the issue was exactly the same in both incidents with two different operators, different radios and different locations.

What occurred was the activation on both radios—a Yaesu FT-8800R and a Yaesu 8900R—of the WIRES Internet Linking System. This was a function included in older Yaesu Radios that never gained much traction and isn't to be confused with the WIRES-X function included in the newer Yaesu System Fusion® digital radios.

When this system is activated, an audible tone is transmitted at the beginning of the transmission and creates two problems. First, it obscures the first part of a transmission and second, it's horribly annoying to the other stations on the frequency. Most of the fault for the accidental activation of this function has to be placed on Yaesu. The function should not have been in the ON state as default when the radio came out of the factory and it should not have been able to turn it on with a simple push of a knob or button on the front of the radio. That button (or push function of a knob) is identified by a little symbol comprised of two interlocking circles that looks like an “atom.” See the images at the end of this article.

Below is information I found on the web that outlines the procedure for “disabling” this function to eliminate the annoying tone for three of the most popular Yaesu radios. NOTE: The procedure for the FT-800R is exactly the same as that for the FT-8800R.

Disabling the “WIRES” Function on Selected Yaesu FT-series Radios (by N6VI)

A wrong button push can easily result in unintended activation of the WIRES function (to the frustration of others listening to your transmission). The following steps will prevent the radio from transmitting a tone or

delaying the onset of a voice transmission even if WIRES is activated and the “atom” symbol is showing. This fix is permanent (but easily reversible should you need WIRES).

On the FT-60R Handheld

1. Press the F/W key then immediately press the o key to enter the menu mode.
2. Rotate the Dial to menu 23 – INT MR, and press the F/W key again.
3. Rotate the Dial to select a memory (d1 through d9) that is empty (six dots = no tone).
4. Press the F/W key to store the setting.
5. Rotate the Dial knob to menu 21 – I NET.
6. Press the F/W key then rotate the Dial knob to select INT.MEM.
7. Press the F/W key to store the setting. 8. Press the PTT button to exit the menu mode

To re-enable WIRES, enter the menu, select INT.COD in menu 21, save and exit the menu.

On the FT-7900 Mobile

1. Hold BAND/SET for 1/2 second to enter the menu mode.
 2. Rotate the Dial to menu 20 – INET M, and quickly tap BAND/SET.
 3. Rotate the Dial to select a memory (d1 through d9) that is empty (six dots = no tone).
 4. Tap BAND/SET to store the setting.
 5. Rotate the Dial knob to menu 18 – I NET.
 6. Tap BAND/SET, then rotate the Dial to select INT.MEM.
 7. Tap BAND/SET to store the setting.
 8. Hold BAND/SET for 1/2 second to exit the menu mode
- To re-enable WIRES, enter the menu, select INT.COD in menu 18, save and exit the menu.*

On the FT-8800 Mobile

1. Tap SET (center button) to enter the menu mode.
2. Rotate the Dial to menu 19 – INET MEM, and tap the MAIN DIAL.
3. Rotate the Dial to select a memory (d1 through d9)

that is empty (six dots = no tone).

4. Tap the MAIN DIAL to store the setting.
5. Rotate the Dial knob to menu 17 – INET.
6. Tap the MAIN DIAL, then rotate the Dial to select INT. MEM.
7. Press and hold the MAIN DIAL to store the setting and exit the menu mode

To re-enable WIRES, enter the menu, select INT.COD in menu 17, save and exit the menu.

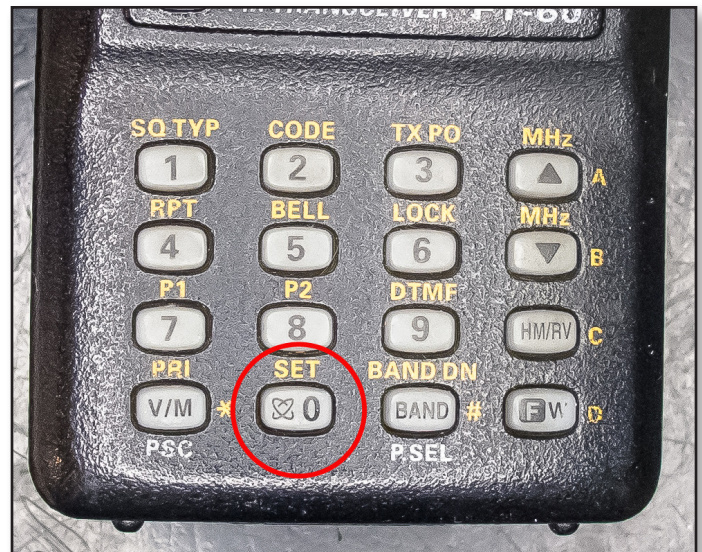
This brings me to another point. For this to happen the way it did points out the need for periodic “refreshing” of our operating skills. This is something that can be

done at home by each member of the team. It’s a simple matter to get out the manual for your radio and review a chapter or section in it in the evening before dinner. Participation in the twice-monthly REACT net (or any other net for that matter) will also help to keep skills and knowledge current. It should also be part of preparation for working an event, along with ensuring the proper frequency is programmed and batteries are charged.

Remember, these skills are perishable. ⚡



The WIRES Symbol on the front panel of a Yaesu FT-8900R.



The WIRES Symbol on the keypad of a Yaesu FT-60R



The WIRES Symbol as it appears on the screen of a Yaesu FT-60 handheld. This may appear differently on different radios. Refer to the manual to be sure.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

	KK6SLE	KK6SLE@ARRL.NET	
Date: 04-13-2023		Report By	Daniel W SWR061
Called to order: 18:53	Board of Directors	In attendance: Yes	http://www.swreact.com
President: Yes	Rodger MC	Vice President: Yes	John W
Secretary: Yes	Daniel Willan	Treasurer: Yes	June Mc
Director at Large: Yes	George	Editor: Yes	John W
Quorum: Yes		Webmaster: Yes	John W
Opening and Special Motions:	No		
Correspondence List	Yes: EMAIL SENT		
Minutes of the last Board Meeting	Approved: Yes	Minutes of the last Board Meeting	Approved: Yes/No
Reports:	Treasurer:	Yes	\$4646.81
	Reactor Editor:	Yes	SENT
	Webmaster:	Yes	CURRENT
	Guest:	No	
Unfinished Business			
Committee to review bylaws and policies and procedures form a committee to review and update bylaws and PNP John 042			
501 (c) 3 Status, June to research			
Portable team repeater recovered no cost and sent to known repeater expert Roger 098			
New Business			
Assistant event coordinator needed to alleviate burden on only a few members who are being event coordinators.			
Membership application for Craig and Cindy Wilkins. Membership reinstated			
Discussion of license verification FCC DMV and others used are required including their expiration date with visual certification check			
Please attend the SWREACT monthly NET, 1 st and 4 th Thursday at 18:30, 449.440, - offset, pl 107.2			
Events			
Future Events	Event Date	Status	Coordinator
Touch-A-Truck	05-07/2023	Approved, Date Moved	#081, George
FITT	04/09/2023	Approved	#081, George
San Diego Gran Fondo	04/23/2023	Approved	TBA
Lakeside Western Days Parade	04/29/2023	Pending teams Approval	#081, George
FITT	05/14/2023	Approved	#081, George
Giro de San Diego	06-10-2023	Approved	TBA
SD International Triathlon	06/25/2023	Approved	TBA
Silver Strand ½ Marathon	11/12/2023	Approved	TBA
Good of the Team			
Is you FCC Ham License up for renewal? Ask John how to renew, see the Reactor newsletter?			
Reminders			
	Date and Time	Location	
Board of Director Meeting	2 nd Thurs at 18:30	IHOP at 2169 Fenton Pkwy, San Diego, CA. 92108	
General Meeting	3 RD Thurs at 18:30	Zoom unless in person	
SWReact Net	1 st and 4 th Thursday 18:30	449.440, - offset, pl 107.2	
Meeting Adjourned	19:53		

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES			
	KK6SLE	KK6SLE@ARRL.NET	
Date:	04/20/2023	Report By	Daniel Willan 061
Called to order: 6:40 pm	Board of Directors	In attendance: Yes/No	http://www.swreact.com
President: Yes	Rodger MC	Vice President: Yes	John W
Secretary: Yes	Daniel W.	Treasurer: Yes	June Mc
Director at Large: Yes	George	Editor: Yes	John W
Quorum: Yes		Webmaster: Yes	John W
Guests/Team	Patrick, Chris, John, , Bob Don, Walter	Jim Patterson	Carl Jensen Marilyn Jensen
Pledge of Allegiance:	Carl		
Opening and Special Motions:	None		
Correspondence List	See Agenda		
Minutes of the last General Meeting	Approved: Yes	Minutes of the last General Meeting	Approved: Yes
Reports:	Treasurer:	Yes	\$4,646.81
	Reactor Editor:	Yes	
	Webmaster:	Yes	
Unfinished Business			
Committee to review By-laws and Policy and Procedures – Trying to get a meeting set up – looking for location.			
501 (c) 3 Statement – June McCollough - We received a letter from REACT International adding us their Group Exemption.			
Event Description –has been added to the website see SWReact.com under events for details.			
Training for Event Coordinators – Need to get ALL members trained to be event coordinators. Training manual has information on what to do. Will set a class for reviewing it.			
Portable Repeater – It has been recovered and was sent to Friend to see if it is repairable more to follow.			
New Business			
Didn't receive Agenda from President, do not show any new business discussed			
Events			
Future Events	Event Date	Status	Coordinator
Touch-A-Truck	05/07/2023	Approved	#081
FITT	04/09/2023	Approved	#081
San Diego Gran Fondo	04/23/2023	Approved	#81/#92
Lakeside Western Days Parade	04/29/2023	Approved	#81/#67
FITT	05/14/2023	Approved	#081
Giro de San Diego	06/10/2023	Pending Approval	TBD
SD International Triathlon	06/25/2023	Pending Approval	TBD
Silver Strand Half Marathon	11/12/2023	Pending Approval	TBD
Good of the Team			
Reminders			
	Date and Time	Location	
Board of Director Meeting	2 nd Thurs at 18:30	IHOP at 2169 Fenton Pkwy, San Diego, CA. 92108	
General Meeting	3 RD Thurs at 18:30	Zoom unless in person	
SWReact Net	1 st and 4 th Thursday 18:30	449.440, - offset, pl 107.2	
Meeting Adjourned	8:15 pm		

After Action Report, San Diego Gran Fondo

Michael Bailey, SWR 092

What worked well:

The change to the Lyon's Peak repeater provided excellent coverage across the course with minimal dropout areas. This was a substantial improvement from the linked repeaters we used in the past where we could not link up with the Alpine rest stop.

The virtual briefing and individual deployment system works well and should be considered for the similarly deployed Giro de San Diego.

Increase in SAG wagons from 1 last year to 3 this year was very helpful as we did not have the long waits of last time.

Having only 3 routes/lengths instead of 4 in the past made it easier and required one less volunteer.

Opportunities for improvement:

Signage for the turns into rest stops could be improved. We still had people miss them.

There were still people who missed the signage for the turn onto Steele Canyon for the 62 mile course and continued straight into the 100 mile course. I'm not sure what can be done to prevent that other than have an observer there looking for the different jersey bib colors and re-directing the lost 62 milers.

Weather was not as extreme as in the past with cold/rain vs blistering heat. It was a warm day and people needed water at the completion of the King of the Mountain (KOM) competition as they turned from Japatul onto Lyon's Valley. A full rest stop is not needed but a water jug stash there would be useful. I stopped there and went through 3 gallons in 5 minutes filling up participants' water bottles.

The road surface quality along Harbor Blvd continues to degrade creating numerous ruts, potholes and uneven surfaces. During my initial pass, we had one rider go down, luckily only sustaining minor scrapes, at least one flat, and one cyclist who broke his handlebars hitting a pothole. The railroad track crossing continues to be problematic near 32nd St. as well. Perhaps they could look at an alternative route to avoid the worst sections.

I was the only Rover and having a second one would have been helpful to reduce driving back and forth determining where the last rider was.

Overall, I think our team did quite well. ⚡



Southwestern REACT President Roger McCollough, Treasurer June McCollough (seated) and Board Member George Reeves at Net Control.



Southwestern REACT member Robert Taylor, left and Patrick Gooden at rest stop 1.



Michelle Harmon at Rest Stop 2 at the Alpine Fire Station.
Daniel McDougal



Overall view of Rest Stop 2 at the Alpine Fire Station.
Daniel McDougal



REACT flag displayed at Rest Stop 2.
Daniel McDougal



Southwestern REACT Vice-President John Wright at Rest Stop 4 waiting for the first riders to arrive.
Per Martin



Rest Stop 4 at the height of the event.
Per Martin



Vice President John Wright and Member Mike Bailey tracking the last riders in the race.
Per Martin

The meeting of the Bylaws and Policies and Procedures Manual Committee will be held on May 20th at 1:00 PM, Mission Village Christian Fellowship, 2650 Melbourne Drive, San Diego CA 92123. Please RSVP to kk6sle@arrl.net or the VP phone number or e-mail ASAP.

Note: If there is little or no response to this notice, the project will be cancelled. Further information will be poulgated at the General meeting, May 18, 2023.

Upcoming Events			
Event	Date	Status	Coordinator
Fiesta Island Time Trials	01/29/2023 (Sun)	Completed	George, 081
Fiesta Island Time Trials	04/09/2023 (Sun)	Completed	George, 081
San Diego Gran Fondo	04/23/2023 (Sun)	Completed	George, 081/Mike 092
Lakeside Western Days Parade	04/29/2023 (Sat)	Completed	George, 081/Carl 067
Touch-A-Truck	05/07/2023 (Sun)	Completed	George, 081
Fiesta Island Time Trials	05/14/2023 (Sun)	Approved	George, 081
Giro De San Diego	06/10/2023 (Sat)	Pending	TBA
San Diego International Triathlon	06/25/2023 (Sun)	Pending	TBA
Silver Strand Half Marathon	11/12/2023 (Sun)	Pending	TBA

IMPORTANT NOTE: We have three events that are pending approval. We need hard and fast commitments for participation in these events *before* we can approve them. Please step up and help us out as we do not want to cancel our assistance with these events.

