



Southwestern REACTer



MAY 2024





**SOUTHWESTERN
REACT, Inc.**

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kk6sle@arrl.net

www.swreact.com

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

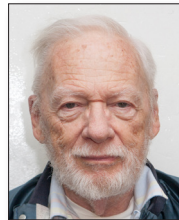
The Southwestern REACT board meeting is held the second Thursday of the month at 7 PM at the Mission Valley iHop restaurant. Any member is welcome to attend. Contact us for the address.

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.

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Our A-Team Lives

Roger McCollough, SWR 098, President

"I Love It When A Plan (Team) Comes Together!"

Prologue

With Five events down: 2-F.I.T.T. s, Touch-A-Truck, Campagnolo San Diego Gran Fondo, and Lakeside Western Days Parade, we have begun to awaken the reflexes of event communication. The F.I.T.T.s allows newbies to be exposed to a simple example of net operation, and to the experienced, a chance to warm-up their skills. The Touch-a-Truck puts that experience at an event "in motion" with the need to interface with the public, and resolve issues. Events, that are extended in scope, with distances between coworkers and stations, makes you the "Lone Ranger" for your event's checkpoint, an event decision maker. BUT WAIT! You are not alone. Nope! You may not have a live one, but you do have an electronic one: your radio. So how's that working out for us and the event? Let's see.

Subject: Getting It Together.

For those of us that have had a long time with the Team, we have seen people come and go. You would think you might see the Team purpose and responses change. To answer this question, you have to remember that what we do is limited by our membership size and other resources. In the 1980's TV show, "A-Team", Colonel John "Hannibal" Smith's tag line of "I love it when a plan comes together". Well this year, the two events that we had to insert into, the Campagnolo San Diego Gran Fondo, and Lakeside Western Days Parade, required a higher level of personal, mental, and physical response to the actives in their area.

One of our strengths is to assume the mind-set of becoming "Middle Management" for the event, making informed judgements on the spot, using their radio as an ongoing information

source. We have this advantage because we use 2-way radio that allows ALL to have group knowledge. As I have pointed out before, cell-phones limits any communication to one-on-one. This is a real advantage when one station has a need, everyone is aware and one or more listening can provide a solution.

So Let's Look Forward

I guess it goes without saying (but I will say it anyway) that we can always improve; we have all heard that a lot. One way is inviting others that have worked events with other groups, perhaps imparting something we can use or learn. That brings up one of our event planning principles, to try, at each assignment location, have two operators. This provides relief, sharing, introduction to events, of perhaps, to Ham radio.

A Short, But Important Message

Our mission's motto is "Can Do, & Git'er Done" and a history as "The Chaos Crew" (We handle them). That comes from our Team ability to "Think on our Feet. Moving on...."

"Nuf said..."

LET'S GIT' ER DONE!!! ↗

Southwestern REACT Board meeting, April 11, 2024

June McCollough, SWR 054, Acting Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President Roger McCollough at 7:03pm.

Quorum Check – Three (3) Board Members; George Reeves, Excused. Visitor – Jim Patterson & Heather Wright.

Special Motion – None

Board Meeting Minutes – Motion to accepted and filed; Moved by John Wright, Seconded by June McCollough.

Correspondence List – Reviewed

Treasurer's Report – June McCollough reported an ending balance as of March 31, 2024 of \$3,986.70

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

Unfinished Business:

Team ID Cards – 7 ID cards left to be delivered.

VOAD meetings are twice a week. A warehouse for supplies for disaster has been found. VOAD would like to put together a radio team to be used with volunteers during assessment activity.

Bylaw change – new changes for notification and quorum change.

Team Property – Garden cart for sale, need picture

New Business:

New spread sheet- Per has a spread sheet to show people signed up for events. It will be discussed later.

Post Events:

None

Upcoming Events:

See SWReact.com/events

Good of the Team:

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 pm ✨

Southwestern REACT General Meeting, April 18, 2024

June McCollough, SWR 054, Acting Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President Roger McCollough at 6:35 pm.

Quorum Check – Four (4) Board Members; Nine (9) General Members; 2 Guests

General Meeting Minutes – Motion to approve Feb. and March Minutes Moved by Marilyn Jensen and Bob Taylor.

Correspondence List – Reviewed

Treasurer's Report – June McCollough reported an ending balance as of March 31, 2024 of \$3986.70

REACT Editor – Latest issue was out before Board Meeting. **Webmaster** – Website is updated.

Unfinished Business

Status Report from Committees - By-laws and Policies and Procedures: New revision will be mailed out.

New Business

Team ID Cards -- 3 ID cards yet to be delivered 4 will be delivered at Grand Fondo.

VOAD – still working with Flood Relief.

Briefing for the Grand Fondo covered for April 21, 2024 Mike Bailey covered the event and assignments so that we could go directly to location rather have everyone come early.

Post Events

FITT (Fiesta Island Time Trials) Sun 04/13/2024 Event went well & good turnout of members and two (2) guests.

Upcoming Events*

Future Events	Event Date	Status	Coordinator
Campagnolo San Diego Granfondo	Sun 04/21/2024	Approved	#092
Lakeside Western Days Parade	Sat 04/27/2024	Approved	#067

*See SWReact.com for complete list

Good of the Team:

Meeting Adjourned at 7:45 pm ✨

After Action Reports

John Wright, SWR 042, Vice President and Communications Officer

Any time there is an event, participants should submit After Action Reports for the event. Not everyone needs to submit a report, but something should come from every assigned post for the event. Below is a suggested format for After Action Reports (AAR.) Once the report is completed, please submit it to me for review and inclusion in the REACTer.

After Action Report Input, (Event Name and Date)

Team Member Name, SWR No:

Event Position:

Observations:

Notable Occurrences:

What Didn't Work:

Work-Arounds, Solutions:

What Worked Well:

Suggestions for Next Time:

Lithium Ion Battery Safety

John Wright, SWR 042

There has been a lot of mention in the media lately regarding Lithium Ion rechargeable batteries and safety concerning their use and storage. I thought it prudent to review some of the information

We all have handheld radios (HTs) and most are powered by Lithium Ion (Li-ion) rechargeable batteries, (not to be confused with Lithium Iron Phosphate batteries. More on those later. Some older model radios still use batteries with NiMh (Nickel Metal Hydride) chemistry, but this article is only concerned with Li-ion batteries.

Improper handling of Lithium Ion batteries can result in fires — very hot, intense fires — or explosions. The biggest cause of this is improper charging, usually by using the wrong charger for the particular battery.

Every handheld radio comes with a battery and a charger. This included charger should be used to charge the included battery and nothing else. Unless... The charger or charging cradle is from the same manufacturer or it can reasonably assumed an after-market charger is appropriate.

Other precautions include:

- Never leaving a charging battery unattended or on a charger overnight.
- Removing the battery from the charger when fully charged to prevent over charging.
- When traveling always carry Li-ion batteries in carry-on luggage, not checked baggage, and insure batteries not installed on a device are protected

from accidental shorting of the terminals. This is a TSA Regulation.

- Batteries (of any type) that are no longer serviceable should always be disposed of at a proper recycling facility and never thrown in the trash.

Not only does this apply to HT batteries, but those built into a go-kit/go-box as well. However, there is a trend toward the use of Lithium Iron Phosphate (LiFePo or LIPO) batteries in portable applications. The advantages of LiFePo batteries are many but for this article, we're concerned with safety. LiFePo batteries don't have a reputation of causing fires, but common sense dictates that the same precautions be followed in their use.

For further information, here is a link to a very comprehensive breakdown on Lithium Ion battery safety put together by the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA.)

https://www.nfpa.org/education-and-research/home-fire-safety/lithium-ion-batteries?fbclid=IwZKhobgNhZWOCMTAAAR1MCP_5zagSZ8o5hLewGu-HKyhtcy9cuSVDylnvvhE4qhuMYPR6rcsfBhI_aem_AUQiYeLic8oWNIE4nfzzfQnhuXOttSr-bZiuOT-3DJsWlwRLA8-AMrsMQNy5NaUjrgcc9GgvoewVD-2PeKCM8jim2

(Apologies for the massive URL...) ↗





PowayNEC.com

“Neighbors Helping Neighbors”

10th ANNUAL

Poway Emergency and Safety Fair

In connection with:



Poway Kiwanis

Bicycle Safety Program including free helmets for children



Impact Martial Arts

Special Performance!



Saturday, May 11, 2024

9 AM – 1 PM OLD POWAY PARK

14134 MIDLAND RD, POWAY



The Poway Emergency & Safety Fair is sponsored by the Poway Neighborhood Emergency Corps.

INTERNATIONAL STYLE ON-FOOT T-HUNT & BBQ

Saturday May 18th, 2024

Mission Bay Park, Vacation Village, San Diego, CA.

Sponsored by the San Diego T-Hunt Group & CQ Magazine World Wide Fox Hunt Weekend

Starting times will be 10:00 AM to 1:30 PM at 5-minute intervals. If you start at 1:30 you will have until 3:30 to complete the course. **NO REGISTRATION FEES!** There will be 5 hidden T's using the MOE-MOI-MOS-MOH-MO5 format. You will be issued a "Punch Card" and there will be orange & white flagging tape at each punch located close to the hidden T. Antennas will all be vertically polarized with approximately the same radiated power from each "T". This is a flat, fun and easy course and there will be experienced Hams present to demonstrate hunting techniques for those that want to learn about "On-Foot" Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) and "Practice T's" to experiment with before you start the course. For information on International Style T-Hunts you may go to Joe Moell's, (k0ov) website www.homingin.com. You do not need a Ham Radio License to participate. Limited ARDF equipment will be available for practice and possibly to use for hunting for those that do not have small 2-M beams. Bring a connector to go from your HT antenna connector to a BNC cable (Chinese HT's not recommended.) You will be issued a map of the area with major features delineated. A compass, clipboard and pencil may be handy for plotting bearings. Check weather and dress appropriately. There are several restrooms in the park area.

A BBQ is planned starting 2-2:30 for those interested who would like to hang around, socialize and "Talk Radio". We will have burgers & hot dogs, buns, condiments, potato salad, drinks, cookies, chips and salsa. Bring a chair as seating is limited! BBQ donations can be made on site. For further information contact:

Joe Corones, N6SZO C-858-603-5545, jcorones@gmail.com

Joe Loughlin, KE6PHB C-619-403-3149, ke6phb@cox.net

DIRECTIONS: On W/B I-8, west of I-5, take the W. Mission Bay Drive exit and turn right. Stay on the main street (no turns). It changes name to Ingraham St. Proceed for about ¾ mile and after crossing the bridge turn left on Vacation Rd. Make a quick left and follow road south to Gazebo. Look for T-Hunt/Fox Hunt signs. Coordinates are: 32 46' 18" N. 117 14' 07 W.

COME OUT AND EXPERIENCE A DIFFERENT ASPECT OF HAM RADIO



www.sdthunters.com

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(Because I couldn't come up with anything to fill it with)