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**P A R A**



**>> GENERAL MEETING May 19, 2010 - 7:30 PM !! <<**  
**Lower Providence Township Building**  
**Eagleville, Pennsylvania**  
**New PARA Constitution Changes being proposed – Second Review**

**PARA WEB SITE: <http://para.buxcom.net>**

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# Philadelphia Area Repeater Association

## Membership Information

PARA is an association of members that operate and support Amateur Radio Repeaters and links in Southeastern Pennsylvania and Southern New Jersey. PARA was formed in 1970 and incorporated as an IRS 501c3 non-profit in 1973 through a merger of several repeater groups.

PARA repeaters serve the Amateur Radio community for normal everyday hobby communications as well as provide a system for emergency and disaster communications. PARA also promotes technical developments which ham radio has done so much of in the past.

PARA has four quadrant repeaters and one regional system on the 2-meter band as well as other repeaters on the 224 MHz and 440 MHz bands. PARA also has an Amateur TV System that relays television signals in the Philadelphia and Wilmington metropolitan areas.

Your membership dues support those repeaters listed below and help assure availability for emergency communications: 146.76 MHz, 146.82 MHz, 146.88 MHz, 146.94 MHz, 146.97 MHz, 443.90 MHz, 223.86 MHz, 224.94 MHz, 224.98 MHz, 52.41 MHz, 439.25 MHz (ATV), and all links between the remote receivers.

## Joining PARA

NEW MEMBERSHIP FEES AND DUES ..... \$ 25.00  
YEARLY RENEWAL ..... \$ 20.00  
5 YEAR MEMBERSHIP ..... \$ 85.00 (\$90.00 FOR NEW MEMBERS)  
LIFE MEMBERSHIP ..... \$400.00  
SENIOR LIFE MEMBER ..... \$100.00 (AGE 65 AND OVER)  
ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP ..... \$ 20.00 (non-hams) no voting privileges

Associate memberships, when licensed, may upgrade to full membership with no additional initiation fee.

Members also gain one free month on their membership for each new member you sponsor.

Corporate annual sponsorship memberships are also available: \$100, \$500, \$1000, \$5000, etc.

Annual sponsorships of \$500 or more will receive free advertising in PARA's newsletter.

Certificates of sponsorships are given to corporate sponsors.

Please detach & fill out (PRINT) the form below and mail with a check or money order to:

**PARA, POST OFFICE BOX 64, VALLEY FORGE, PA 19481-0064**

Membership Type: New  Renewal  Full individual Ham  5 Year  Life  Sr Life

Associate  Corporate  Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CALL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (REQUIRED) \_\_\_\_\_ OK TO LIST  YES  NO

E-MAIL (REQUIRED) \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL MEMBER (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_ SPONSORED BY \_\_\_\_\_

I CAN HELP WITH THE FOLLOWING: TOWERS  ANTENNAS  BLDG MAINTENANCE

Equipment Maintenance  WRITING/PUBLISHING  PUBLIC RELATIONS  Other \_\_\_\_\_ (01-02-2009)

# From the President - May 2010

Most important is the changes and vote coming up at the May semi-annual meeting on the proposed changes to the By-Laws and Constitution. This is the second reading and if the vote passes, the changes become permanent. They concern the number of directors (reduced to 5) and that they are elected from “at large” rather than from Quadrants.

I almost forgot about the President’s letter until Dick K3ITH reminded me, because I have been so busy with my Rotary Club’s Duck Race, the Radio Show, and cleaning up customers computers at my shop, now at the house. Thanks Dick!

Speaking of customer’s computers, ROGUE software or “fake” anti-virus now accounts for 15% of all infections. These are delivered as a popup and look very real. Unless you know to immediately close your browser and use the Task Manager to kill the popup rather than click anywhere on the popup, you will become infected. Spam is still winning for delivering the most links to infected web sites. If everyone would stop clicking on these links, it would make a significant reduction in the number of infected computers. It’s the social engineering where they get your attention with something that just makes you want to click on these links.

Last fall, I mentioned 2 of my favorite gadgets: the iPod Touch and MIFI. It was interesting to note that members enjoyed hearing about them. I will mention a few more that I use as some of you may also be interested. My ASUS Internet Radio was cloned, or should I say, I got a second one because I found it so useful. I use it for listening to my favorite radio station WCHE as well as Brandywine Radio and my own Internet Stream. I also find that my Fujitsu Scan Snap has become my scanner of choice for entering documents and even pictures into my computer. It is very fast and gives me a choice after scanning as to how to save the scan, such as to a graphic image or PDF. I also wouldn’t be without my label printer and netbook as they are used more often than ever.

I am hoping to be able to demonstrate WiMax 4G at our May PARA meeting. It depends whether the powers to be come through. WiMax is “Clear’s” 4<sup>th</sup> generation wireless technology that promises 6MB downloads. Coverage has been in the Phila area since last October and has coverage in the Eagleville area as well. My location is on the fringe until they turn on their new tower any day.

Speaking of new technologies, handheld HDTV is coming in 2 flavors. Already out is the version sold in Radio Shack using cell tower technology. Coming soon is the new technology where Channel 3, 6, 10, 17, 29, 57 start sending out a special digital signal optimized for handheld digital TVs. That would catch my attention sooner than a subscription based signal.

Is your data backed up? I have found that most of my customers just won’t take the time. I have put some of them on the “Click-Free” system which doesn’t require any more work than just plugging in the drive. Click-Free also has a gizmo that will let you use any portable drive you already have to automate the process. Check it out.

If you are not already listening to Computer Corner Saturdays, give it a try. If you can’t wake up at 8am, we have podcasts to listen on your schedule. Just go to [www.5DRadio.com](http://www.5DRadio.com).

# PARA General Meeting Wednesday November 11, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Gene Mitchell at 7:35PM.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

A motion to waive the reading of the previous minutes was carried since they were published in PARAGraphs. Treasurers report by Treasurer Kate: \$1509.80 in checking, \$309.91 in Savings, \$7598.15 in Vanguard as of Sept 30<sup>th</sup>.

It was noted that Lower Providence Township made another (and probably the last) donation last month to PARA in the amount of \$500.

It was also noted that the new treasurer did not have access to the Vanguard Fund and President Gene Mitchell would take care of that matter.

Dick K3ITH brought up that each phone line was costing close to \$50 each. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to eliminate both lines because their was radio control available on the proper bands. Hank would see that this was taken care of.

The Treasurer's report was approved.

President Gene gave the technical report. 94 was temporarily off due to relocation of that repeater onto another tower in West Chester on the new Court House. 88 was still off due to equipment problems. Eagleville input was temporarily moved due to tower work. The ATV repeater was still off due to the loss of that site.

The Technical report was approved.

President Gene asked Dick K3ITH about the membership barometer. There are 80 Paid members, 61 are life. 8 members are up for renewal. Dick was sending out notices.

President Gene brought up the constitutional/by-Law changes published in PARAGraphs and also discussed at the May meeting. Each change was read with reasons given. It was questioned whether changes would be allowed and Gene was to contact Bob K3RF, the organizations council. Membership approved all changes pending the OK from council. The notification and publication must also be repeated for the May (2010) meeting as required by the constitution.

Minutes by Acting Secretary/ President PARA Gene Mitchell

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44PM      Gene Mitchell, acting Secretary.

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## Listen to “Computer Corner”

### On the Fifth Dimension Radio Network

[www.5DRadio.com](http://www.5DRadio.com)

Saturday Mornings 8 – 9 AM

With Host Gene Mitchell K3DSM and

Joe Myshko N3YGW

# PARA Constitution - New Proposed Changes Start Here

Section 1 Article II shall read:

The officers of this association shall be: President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, and 4 additional Board of Director members.

Section 3 Article III shall read:

The Recording Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings and perform any other secretarial duties not otherwise delegated. He shall also assist the President to carry on designated correspondence and read communications at each meeting. He shall at the expiration of his term turn over everything in his possession belonging to the Association to his successor.

Section 4 Article III shall read:

The Membership Secretary shall keep a roll of members, receive member applications, and mail membership notices. He shall at the expiration of his term turn over everything in his possession belonging to the Association to his successor.

Section 6a Article III shall read:

The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers plus 4 additional members elected from the membership at large by majority vote of the general membership present.

Section 4 Article II shall read:

Vacancies on the Board of Directors occurring between elections shall be filled in the following manner:

- a. A vacancy of any director(s) shall be filled as soon as possible by appointment by the President and confirmed by majority vote of the current officers and Board members. This appointment shall be temporary until the next regularly scheduled General Membership meeting following such appointment. Members in attendance shall either confirm the appointment(s) or elect a replacement(s). If they elect a member not in attendance at that meeting, they shall first have secured written confirmation of his/her desire to serve.
- b. A vacancy of an Officer(s) other than President, wherein the Vice President shall serve shall be filled by appointment by the President and confirmed by a majority Board vote to fill the remaining term until the next regular General membership meeting.

Section 3 of the ByLaws shall be amended to read:

## MEETINGS:

- a. Regular Meetings of the general membership shall be held during the second and fourth calendar quarters at such place and time as the Board of Directors shall order. The fourth quarter meeting shall be designated as the annual meeting. Notice of such meetings shall be given by the regular newsletter PARAGraphs, by announcement on the official web site, and by email. Written notice will be provided to any member having a self-addressed stamped envelope on file with the Secretary for that purpose.

Section 4 of the ByLaws shall be amended to read:

DUES: A regular yearly assessment, the amount to be fixed by the Board of Directors, is hereby assessed in accordance with the provisions of Article VI of the Constitution for the purpose of providing funds for current expenses. Members shall be considered in arrears after their membership anniversary date and lose all privileges as provided by the Constitution.

Part X C of the PARA Officers Operating Policies shall be amended to read:

C. This Membership List will appear in the official web site and updated as resources allow

The original PARA Constitution with the proposed changes incorporated may be downloaded at:  
<http://www.g-c-o.com/para/Revised.pdf>

## MOVING ???

If moving, please notify **PARA** of your new address as soon as possible. The Post Office will **NOT** forward your mail after 30-days. With each issue of *PARA-graphs* several copies are returned by the Post Office marked “**RETURN TO SENDER, NO FORWARD ORDER ON FILE**”. Please forward your new address so we may keep our database up-to-date and, of course, *PARA-graphs* in your hands.

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## ADVERTISING in *PARA-graphs*

At the November 1999 Board meeting approval was received to accept ads in *PARA-graphs* to help offset ever-raising printing and postage costs. The following per issue ad schedule was approved:

Full Page \$125. Half Page \$75. Quarter Page \$50. Business Card \$25. Non-Commercial Classified 3 lines \$10.

Repeat ad in following issue(s) will receive a 10% discount. Contact Dick K3ITH to place an ad.

This and past issues of *PARA-Graphs* may be found at:

<http://para.buxcom.net> or <http://para.k3dsm.net>

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## INTERESTED IN WRITING FOR *PARA-graphs* ??

Several great articles have been submitted in past issues by your fellow **PARA** members such as Larry W2CAM, Hank W3GSC with help from Vince N3AGD, Gene W3ZXV, and Gene K3DSM. Please feel free to submit anything Amateur Radio related. Articles may be mailed to our PO Box, or e-mailed to [k3ith@arrl.net](mailto:k3ith@arrl.net)

Thank you. Dick K3ITH

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**BuxCom.Net, Inc**

**PO Box 1, Croydon, PA 19021-0001**

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**>>> PLEASE NOTE <<<**

**MEETING DAY: WEDNESDAY**

**MEETING DATE: May 19, 2010**

**Doors open at 7:15 PM, Meeting starts at 7:30 PM**

**MEETING LOCATION:**

**Lower Providence Township Building**

**100 Parklane Drive**

**Eagleville, PA 19403**

**(Some GPS units will show Norristown or Eagleville)**

**Directions:**

- 1. From King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, take Rt. 202 South to Rt. 422 West to the Oaks Exit.**
- 2. At the exit ramp turn Right onto Egypt Road and take the second Left onto Pinetown Road.**
- 3. Go to the second stop sign and turn Left onto Eagleville Road.**
- 4. Go to the traffic light at Ridge Pike and proceed straight into the Lower Providence Township property; bare right and follow the driveway to the township building which is beyond the public library.**

**Talk-in on the PARA 146.760 MHz Repeater (PL 131.8 Hz)**