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# ❖P.A.R.A. Newsletter❖

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Official Journal of the Philipsburg Amateur Radio Association

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## PARA Elections of Officers for 1996 Term...

By: editor - Dave AA3EJ

### Minutes...

The 5/2/96 monthly PARA meeting was called to order at 7:30pm at The Church of the Nazarene, Philipsburg and several issues were discussed. The following are the highlights of that meeting:

1. Elections: New officers elected are:  
President: John Szwarc N3SPW  
Vice Pres.: Dave Posmoga K3MGC  
Treasurer: Jim Warg N3ONE  
Secretary: Dave Runk AA3EJ  
Repeater Trustee: Pete Scharler N3BIC

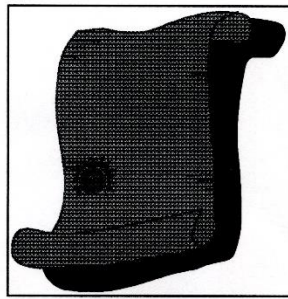
2. Treasurer's report given by Jim N3ONE with 1996 dues solicited. To date \$87.00 was in the club account.

3. 1996 club dues ARE DUE ! Send funds to Jim N3ONE

4. In Memory: Regrets passing of Paul Douglas N3ARB last Tuesday

5. PARA Summer Picnic: Was discussed and will be held again this year at Bill Foreman's QTH. Tentative date is set for third Saturday in August (8/17/96) at 3PM?? eyeball QSO's, feasting, swimming, birdwatching, lots of fun for everyone. don't miss the good time. It was great last year.

6. ARRL Affiliation was discussed and agreed that the club would investigate club affiliation with ARRL filling in the required forms and returning them as



### *New Club Officers elected ...*

per included instructions. A fifty-one percent membership with ARRL is required for PARA which we presently meet.

7. Philipsburg Bi-Centennial was discussed with Bill N3QLE acting as coordinator. An approximate time frame of 6/97 was the target centennial date with more discussion to follow as more info becomes available.

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## Prez sez...

By: Pres. John N3SPW

### **B** Building Toward the Future...

In November of 1992 PARA was founded for the purpose of helping interested people become amateur radio operators. A "Elmer Club" if you will. Sure, this wasn't the only goal, but a very important part of why PARA was conceived. Over the years more than a dozen individuals have become hams with the help of our organization. This is something all of us can be proud of. We did this ... together!

So where do we go from here? PARA is continuing to grow by testing new Amateur Radio Operators, but there must be more. If our only purpose is to bring new people into the hobby, we are missing the boat. Today, when someone gets a new ticket, usually the first thing they want to do is get on the 2 Meter band. The local repeaters. The problem is that PARA doesn't yet have a operational repeater. Our new hams look for activity on the 2 Meter band and get involved in other area ham radio clubs. If we want to maintain these (Cont. Page 3 Col. 3)

## Qrp Corner ...

**Q** ...-by dave aa3ej  
Qrp is defined by the *Amateur Radio Club International* as the output power not to exceed five watts.

The saying... "If you can't hear 'em, you can't work 'em" is especially true when working low power operation, but interestingly enough, provides a very good challenge to the seasoned as well as the newcomer.

### 1. Several factors:

a. QRP and low power can be had with inexpensive rigs, no longer need \$1k-\$3k.

b. Equipment manufacturers now amount to several quality kit suppliers, similar to the good old "heath-kit" days. These suppliers are engineers which design state of the art kits which range from single banders from \$80 to \$150 to quad banders costing \$295 and finally the QRP+ from Index Labs using state of the art microprocessor covering all the bands with digital display for \$595. The equipment makers are listed on the Internet and are gathering steam. Some manufacturers are:  
OHR - Oak Hill research  
Kanga Products  
Wilderness radio  
Ten-Tec  
Heath Company  
Ramsey Electronics  
(Note: See Dave, aa3ej for addresses)

### 3. QRP frequencies:

(by KE2DI)  
1910.....SSB  
3560.....CW  
3579.....CW, colorburst  
xtals  
3686.....CW Novice alter-  
nate,  
using computer timebase  
xtals  
3710.....CW Novice  
3985.....SSB  
7040.....CW  
7030.....CW Europe  
7060.....Europe  
7110.....CW Novice

7285.....SSB  
10106.....CW  
14060.....CW  
14285.....SSB  
18080.....CW  
18130.....SSB  
21060.....CW  
21110.....CW Novice  
21385.....SSB  
24910.....CW  
24950.....SSB also 12 meter  
calling frequency  
28060.....CW  
28110.....CW Novice  
28360.....SSB Novice/tech  
28385.....SSB Nov/Tech  
28885.....SSB  
28965.....AM (SSB)

### 4. Nets:

*"... you can't work 'em if  
you can't hear 'em..."*

a. Knightlite net: -by Paul AA4XX  
The Knightlites QRP  
Group invites you to check  
into our laid back  
80 Meter net each Sunday  
night at 0200 UTC (10PM  
EDT) on 3710 KHz.

The net protocol has  
evolved over the last few  
months, with the  
intention of balancing a  
reasonable time schedule  
against the desire to  
provide an opportunity for  
each check in to share a  
few comments with  
the net. This net is open  
to all amateurs, running  
either QRO or QRP.

The protocol is as  
follows: The Net Control  
Station sends "CQ  
KnightLite's Net, QNI K."  
Stations wishing to check  
in then send their  
call ONE TIME, checking-in

in groups. After no more  
calls are heard,  
the NCS acknowledges each  
check in and asks them to  
wait while the above  
sequence is repeated three  
or four times, or until no  
other check-ins  
are heard. The NCS then  
starts at the head of the  
list, asking for brief  
comments concerning, rig,  
power, antenna, etc. Addi-  
tional stations may  
feel free to check in dur-  
ing any pauses that are in-  
tentionally provided  
by the NCS. The NCS will  
also periodically call for  
additional check  
ins during the Roundtable  
part of the net session.  
This revolving door  
approach maintains flow and  
ensures that new stations  
have ample  
opportunity to check in as  
the net progresses.

The nets often go on  
for 45 minutes or more, but  
HEY, our purpose  
is to promote the fun of  
operating and to encourage  
as many folks as  
possible to join in the  
fun--not to strive for  
strict time management.  
Those who can't stick  
around for the duration are  
free to check out  
(QNX) at any time.



## PARA Membership

**M** by dave - editor, aa3ej  
The PARA group is gaining strength, here is a membership update:

**Active: (\*)**

\*Dave Runk AA3EJ R.R.1 Box  
299, Philipsburg  
\*John Szwarz N3SPW PO Box 207  
Kylertown  
\*Dave Posmoga K3MGC P.O. Box  
1109, Clearfield  
\*Jamison Warg N3ONE 215 S.  
Front St, Philipsburg  
\*Dick Thompson K3BIE RFD 3, Box  
277, Philipsburg  
\*Jerry Bush WA3GFL RD1 Box  
586B, Osceola Mills  
\*Peter Scharler N3BIC 318  
N. 5th, RD3 Box 96 Philipsburg  
P Hans Scharler N3SPV 318  
N. 5th, Philipsburg  
\*Norm Van Cleve N3PJA 401 Hamp-  
ton st. Philipsburg  
\*Bill Foreman N3QLE RR3, Box  
403, Philipsburg  
Tom Foreman N3SPU 904 Locust  
St., Philipsburg  
Tony Chaiyasena N3SWC 1700  
S. Atherton State College  
\*Russ Franek N3SFJ 300  
N. Front, Apt 809, Philipsburg  
Tim Lumadue N3PUL RD1 Box  
263 West Decatur  
\*Paul Zipf N3QLC RD1 Box 7,  
Coalport  
\*Rex Evans N3TVK/HH3 GMC  
MFI POB 15665 W. Palm Beach FL  
33416  
Roy Gilham N3SPT 191 Creekside  
Dr., Houserville  
Angel D. Reiter N3WWU RD1 Box  
458 Morrisdale  
Doug Rowles KA3DWR RD1 Box  
493 Morrisdale  
Jeff Rowles KA3FHV RD1 Box 493  
Morrisdale  
Scott Thompson N3??? 421 E. Beaver  
Ave. State College  
Boyd Paul WA3NTL 15 Nectarine,  
Snow Show  
Boyd Houck W3CDR 131 S. 2nd

St., Philipsburg  
George Patrick N3HBJ 206 Hemlock  
St., Philipsburg  
Bill Marcoux, Jr. N3??? RD3 Box  
113, Philipsburg  
John Bennese N3PAY 623 Barclay  
St., Clearfield  
Aaron Bennese N3QET 623 Barclay  
St., Clearfield  
Jim Whited KA3SFQ R.D.1 Box  
151, Clearfield  
Lynn Hummel N3IZA 24 NW 4th  
Ave., Clearfield  
Rick Hummel Sr. N3IYZ 24 NW 4th  
Ave., Clearfield  
Rick Hummel Jr. N3IZE 24 NW 4th  
Ave., Clearfield  
William Krasinski N3??? RD1 Box 234  
Morrisdale  
Jim Undercoffer N3??? RD1 Box  
391A West Decatur

... *PARA Membership*  
grows ...

**Minutes (Cont. Page 1) ...**

8.. The Philipsburg 146.04/64 repeater project was discussed and report made by Dave K3MGC. It was mentioned that if \$700 could be raised by pledges, additional pro-rating of dues, etc. and that amount be reached, the duplexor (4-cans) could be ordered and 146.04/64 would be a REALITY!. Jim N3ONE mentioned that the proposed new repeater location site would still be good (1650ft elevation!). Lets get those dues, pledges in to the treasurer Jim Warg N3ONE immediately and then we can show some progress with this machine.

9.. Use 146.640 Simplex frequency now in this local area to monitor until the

machine gets on the air!.

10. Next PARA meeting scheduled is June 6, 1996 Thursday eve at 7:30pm at the Church of the Nazarene in the conference hall.

**Pres Sez (Cont. Page 1)...**

new hams as active members in PARA it is IMPORTANT that our 146.04/64 Mhz machine become operational. This machine will be the "gathering point" for our members to keep in touch. From this platform we can build new interests and share amateur radio experiences. There's a whole other world out there beyond 2 Meters waiting for you to explore, but we'll never have the chance to help new hams beyond 2 Meters if we loose them.

By the time you read this PARA will already be conducting a class to move some of our Technician grade people up to General class amateurs. We seem to have progressed from a "introductory level". I hope that the General class is followed by an Advanced class for those of us that are interested. Other activities include the 2nd Annual PARA Cookout and planning for a special event station at the Philipsburg Bi-Centennial in 1997. For a time there was even a HF net for PARA members. Maybe this is something we should think about again.

Our organization is in a position to grow. New members are adding to the enthusiasm and we are very close to actually getting our repeater on the air. If having a active radio club in the Moshannon Valley is important to you, it should also be important to get the PARA

(Cont. Page 4 Col 1)

## Cooking for Hams...

-Contributed by J.Runk, XYL aa3ej

### Ham'N Cheddar Broccoli Quiche

1 (15-Oz) pkg. Pillsbury refrigerated Pie Crusts  
 1 cup milk  
 4 eggs, slightly beaten  
 1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon dry mustard  
 1/8 teaspoon pepper  
 1 cup cubed, cooked ham  
 1-1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese  
 1 cup frozen broccoli cuts, thawed  
 1 teaspoon chopped onion

Prepare pie crust according to package directions for filled one-crust pie using 9-inch pie pan. (Refrigerate remaining crust for later use). Heat oven to 350°F. In medium bowl, combine milk, eggs, dry mustard and pepper, set aside. Layer ham, cheese, broccoli and onion in pie crust-lined pan. Pour egg mixture over ham, cheese and broccoli. Bake at 350°F. for 40 to 50 minutes or until knife inserted in center comes out clean. Cool 5 minutes; cut into wedges. Garnish as desired. Refrigerate any

## Pres Sez...

(Cont from Page 3 col3)

enthusiasm and we are very close to actually getting our repeater on the air. If having a active radio club in the Moshannon Valley is important to you, it should also be important to get the PARA repeater on the air. If we all work together, just like we do to bring new hams into the hobby, we can get the repeater on the air and help each other build a better amateur radio club in the Moshannon Valley.

01c

## Treasurer's Report...

by Jim N3ONE, Treasurer

Report as of Mid-May...

As of Mid-May our county National Bank account stands at \$100.00 even. This is mainly a result of eight members paying their 1996 dues. Last year the number of dues paying members stood at 12, so we're 2/3 of the way toward this goal and should succeed or better the past results. Keep the dues coming, they are \$10.00, the same as last year. -N3ONE

## PARA VE Testing...

By aa3ej, CVE (W5YI VEC)

Update to our Novice, tech and Tech Plus VE status...

1996 regularly scheduled testing session dates for Elements 1a, 2 and 3a for Novice, Tech and Tech + exams are:

**6/20/96** at 7:30pm, Church of the Nazarene, pre-registration required, contact dave, aa3ej at home: 342-0696, work: 2370309 x391 or e-mail Runk@AccuWx.com

**0/17/96** at 7:30pm, Church of the Nazarene, pre-registration required.

**Note:** If anyone needs a special closed session for personal advancement for one of these elements, be sure and let me know **in advance** of our monthly meeting so the correct materials will be present for your exam.



## PARA Missionary...

by Jim N3ONE, Treasurer

As of Mid april, Rex Evans and family returned to Haiti after a 7 week visit which kept Rex fairly busy. Since his return, however, there have been no contacts via the 20 meter band. From information recieved (landline?) it appears that Rex's TS-830S has a problem and will have to be brought home in June for repairs. There remains the possibility that Meriam in Port-au-Prince might be in contact, we'll see.

We'll keep everyone posted on any news available. -N3ONE

**Calendar of Exams...**

(A) = ARRL/VEC (L) = LAU-REL/VEC (M) = MOUNTAIN/VEC (5) = W5YI/VEC \*P\* = Pre-registration requested \*N\* = No walk-ins

**JUNE**

1 Erie, 8 AM. RA of Erie. Norma Vanderhoff, 814-665-9124 (A)  
1 New Eagle. William Cioccio, 412-751-4373 (5)  
9 Uniontown, 1 PM. Uniontown ARC. John Cermak, 412-246-2870 (A)  
11 New Castle, 6:30 PM. ARL of Lawrence Co.. Gary Pirkkala, 412-667-1166 (A)  
13 Ambridge, 6:15 PM. Triple A ARA. Mike Emerling, 412-846-2667 (5)  
15 Elco, 6 PM. Elco ARS. Lou Furlong, 412-938-8125 \*N\* (5)  
15 Erie, 12:30 PM. Gannon

Wireless Soc. John Duda, 814-871-7539 (day) (A)  
15 McKeesport, 9 AM. Two Rivers ARC. Chuck Gessner, 412-672-0915 \*P\*  
17 Oakdale, 7 PM. Steel City ARC. Mark Strayer, 412-833-6049 (A)  
27 New Castle. Fred Van Natten, 412-667-9451 (5)

**For Sale...**

Butternut HF6 HF vertical, used, coils and caps in good condition. CPX counterpoise included. \$75.00 or BO see Dave aa3ej 342-0696

Epson dot matrix printer, circa 1985 LX?? see John N3SPW

**P.A.R.A. Newsletter**

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