

## MINUTES OF LIDXA INC. MEETING — February 16, 2012

Location: *Town of Oyster Ice Skating Center, Community Room 1, Bethpage, N.Y.*

John, W2GW, the LIDXA President, called to order the meeting of February 16th at 8:20 PM, after a brief socializing period. This new date for the February meeting was due to the unavailability of Community rooms at the TOB Ice Skating Center during the week of February 20th. Members present included John, W2GW; Louise, K2MAU; Ed, K2MFY; Bob, N2DXJ and XYL, Tanis; Karen, W2ABK; Art, N2KA; Frank, N2FF; Andy, W2VZQ; Bob, N2DET; Aaron, WC2C; Mark, WB2QJ and YL, Jane, KC2NOT.

### OLD BUSINESS

- Members discussed the fair propagation conditions. DX is prevalent on the HF bands although the solar flux index has dropped somewhat from the highs of the past Fall. There are limited openings on 10 meters; however, the other high bands still have good propagation. A few members using some of the new digital modes indicated that DX activity was on the rise.
- Operators HA5UK and HA5AO are currently active from the Pacific Nauru Island as C21HA. They should be on the HF Bands from January 10 through February 6.
- A major DXpedition to Niue Island in the Pacific Ocean is in progress by several German operators. They have been heard/worked on most HF bands and modes. This DXpedition will last until February 17th. QSL to DL7JAN.
- The operator Darko, E7ØA, is doing some training in Somalia. He has been operating as 6O3a during his spare time. He will be there until February 20th.
- Laci, HAØNAR, and two other operators will leave Budapest on 21st of January 2012 to arrive on Wallis Island (IOTA OC-054) in the Pacific Ocean. They plan to operate as FWØNAR between 25th of January and 23rd of February 2012. Focus will be on the low bands, especially 160, 80, 40 and 30 meters with Spider (18m) verticals.
- German operators DK9FN and DG1PK are operating from Nendo Island, Temotu Province, Pacific Ocean, as H4ØFN and H4ØFK, resp. until February 24th.
- Since the joint Russian/Finnish 50-year lease over the DXCC entity of Malyj Vysotski Island (MV Island) (DXCC prefix R1MV) will be ending on February 17th and it is expected that this “country” will be moved to the deleted list. Also, due to environmental conditions, there may be difficulties to operate from the Norwegian island of Jan Mayen (JX).
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- It was reported that the 2013 DXpedition to Heard Island (VKØ/H) has been put on hold until further notice. The decision is due in part to the current global financial situations, plus the extremely high financial cost, estimated at \$500,000 USD.

Starting the business portion of tonight’s meeting was the approval of the January 17th meeting minutes. These minutes were accepted as presented. In addition, the minutes were prepared in advance by the LIDXA Secretary, Ed, K2MFY, and sent out to the membership with the January meeting notice. Thanks to the efforts of KE2LJ, Pat, the minutes appear in the LIDXA web site at:

<http://www.qsl.net/lidxa>.

John, W2GW, LIDXA Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's report. Members were reminded that dues (in the amount of \$25) for the year 2012 are expected. John suggested that members give or mail him their dues at the earliest convenience.

John gave an update on the health conditions of member Marv, W2FGD. Marv had suffered a stroke a few weeks ago and had major surgery. His current condition is stable and the doctors are waiting for his strength to improve before releasing him to a rehabilitation facility. The membership all wished Marv a healthy and speedy recovery.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

John gave an update on the health conditions of long-time member Marv, W2FGD. Marv had suffered a stroke a few weeks ago and had major surgery. His current condition is stable and the doctors are waiting for his strength to improve before releasing him to a rehabilitation facility. The membership all wished Marv a healthy and speedy recovery.

John mentioned that in Marv's absence he will continue the weekly DX LIDXA net on Sunday night at 9 PM local time on the Grumman Hauppauge repeater at 145.330/144.730 MHz (with 136.5 Hz PL).

Members were reminded the annual ARRL DX contest (CW mode) will be the weekend of February 18-19. The SSB portion of this contest will be over the March 3-4 weekend.

With the business portion of this meeting concluded, John presented a DVD on the July 2011 DXpedition to the new Republic of Southern Sudan as STØR. Operating from the capital city of Juba the international group of hams made over 121,000 QSOs during their two week DX operation.

This meeting concluded at around 9:30 PM after all the scheduled business and entertainment had finished. The next meeting of the LIDXA is scheduled for Tuesday March 20th.

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Ed Whitman, K2MFY