

## MINUTES OF THE LONG ISLAND DX ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 21, 2023

The meeting was held via ZOOM which the members continue to prefer. Our meetings in this format are informal and conversational.

All those who share our interest in the Amateur Radio specialty of DXing are invited. New members should contact a member if they would like to have the ZOOM link.

Present at this meeting were: John, W2GW, President of the LIDXA; Louise, K2MAU; Karen, W2ABK; Jack, NU2Q; Bob, W2OSR; Rich, K2RB; Aaron, WC2C; Richie, KB2ZPB, Tom, KA2D; Walt, W2TE; Richie, K2KNB, President of LIMARC; Steve, N2AJ; Art, N2KA; Jerry, WB2ZEX.

The meeting started at 8 PM.

Steve, N2AJ, spoke to the group as being the North American East Coast Pilot for 3Y0J. He was also the media representative. The entire meeting was devoted to the topic of Bouvet.

The updated information concerns the present location of the DXpedition. Steve estimated the group was about four days out of Cape Town. Some members were ill due to travelling over very rough waters for days.

The team trained for over a year for various scenarios, some of which were dangerous in nature. When the operators arrived at Bouvet, the conditions were much worse than anticipated. The first operators spent the first night on Bouvet without a tent, without heat, and without any place to sleep. These operators slept on the freezing ground, under the stars, in the company of seals and penguins with freezing temperatures and extremely high winds.

At some point, equipment and personnel were brought ashore attached to a makeshift buoy line. The only power source that could be brought ashore was a gasoline generator with some fuel. These were much lighter than the diesel generators that were supposed to be used. The limitation of having one gas generator, and limited fuel, led to the result that the original goals of the DXpedition had to be scaled back enormously.

Steve received a tremendous amount of commentary from the ham community: some positive and some negative. Steve reminded us that Bouvet is the nastiest place on earth. Anyone criticizing should be on the island themselves to appreciate the enormous obstacles and dangers these operators faced.

On the operational side, one problem with having no internet on the island was that timely uploads to Clublog could not be made. Those who made or thought they contacted 3Y0J had to wait for a delayed upload to confirm a QSO.

Another problem concerned FT8. With no internet, there was no way at first to synchronize the computer clocks.

This had the effect of the timing to be off by almost 14 seconds, causing the Fox of F/H to send on odd cycles. This prevented hams using WSJT-x from making an F/H contact. Eventually this problem was realized, and a correction was made using a Sat. Phone.

Steve mentioned some negatives, namely some intentional jamming and some unkind comments. But the effort of the 3Y0J team to bring about 18,000 Qs to the ham community can only be seen in the light of true dedication and heroism to the ham community.

Richie, KB2ZPV, spoke of an oddity that occurred when Bouvet, the number 2 desired location, contacted FT8WW on Crozet, the number three desired location.

The meeting ended at 9:07 PM. The next meeting will be on March 21, 2023, at 8 PM using ZOOM.

The entertainment portion of the evening consisted of a video of the November 2006 Dxpedition to Lybia. The group made approximately 112,000 Qs using all modes and bands including 6 meters. They also made many EME contacts.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Phelan, NU2Q

Secretary