

LONG ISLAND DX ASSOCIATION MEETING
JUNE 20, 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 the meeting were: John, W2GW, President of the LIDXA; Louise, K2MAU; Jack, NU2Q; Bob, W2OSR; Art, N2KA; Karen, W2ABK; Jerry, WB2ZEX; Aaron, WC2C; Chris, VK3FY; Richie, K2KNB, President of LIMARC; Adrian, KO8SCA; Richie, KB2ZPB; Rick, K2RB; Steve, N2AJ; Dr. Dave, KA2HTV.

Richie, K2KNB, spoke about LIMARC setting up for Field Day at a new location. The Club will run '6A.' LIMARC will also be present on July 20th at the Cradle of Aviation to commemorate the Apollo Landing.

Karen, K2KNB, plans to operate Field Day at the site used by GSBARC at the Town of Babylon Town Hall.

Art, N2KA, reminisced about operating Field Day at the Floyd Bennett Airfield.

A discussion then ensued around the topic of the current Ducie Island DXpedition operation. Steve, N2AJ, began by stating that FT8 is mostly being used because there is a noticeable transmission delay on CW and SSB. This delay is due to the choice of operating remotely through satellites.

Adrian, KO8SCA, then continued with an additional explanation. He said that the goal of this expedition was not to make contacts but to act as a "proof of concept" The type of operation at Ducie has been called, "radio in a box." Transmitters are placed on the island. Antennas are installed. Operators from around the world operate the transceivers on the island to make contacts. Here the operation was done over the internet using a Starlink satellite. Signals are downloaded to a dish on the boat. They are then sent to the transceivers on land which actually make QSOs. As Steve noted, the latency effect is due to the rocking motion of the boat on the water. The satellite cannot adjust quickly enough which then leads to many overlapping transmissions.

A question arose about the validity of a QSO for qualifying for DXCC. There was agreement that as long as the transmitter is physically on the DX location, it counts. Here, the signal is being broadcast from Ducie Island itself.

John, W2GW, and Steve, N2AJ, spoke about recently working from Eisenhower Park. They tried to get John's EFHW antenna to work. They had difficulties.

Bob, W2OSR, said that he would avoid these problems by using a 1979 whip antenna with a base coil. But John maintained that he still wanted to work with the wire antenna. He said that he has had many contacts using 5 watts.

Rick, K2RB said that he plans to operate Field Day from Connecticut.

Adrian, KO8SCA, then spoke about WRTC which is happening in Bologna, Italy during July. Adrian said that there will be 62 teams consisting of operators from around the world. Each will operate with only 100 watts. Each also will be using a special call sign. Adrian urged the members to make at least one contact to get a nice QSL card.

The meeting ended at 8:59 PM. John, W2GW, said that there will be a July meeting on July 18th, 2023 at 8 PM using ZOOM.

The video portion of tonight's session was about the DXpedition to Christmas Island, Kiritamati, between September and October, 2011. The DXpedition made a total of approximately 213,000 contacts.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Phelan, NU2Q
Secretary