

## MINUTES OF LIDXA INC. MEETING —September 17, 2013

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

John, W2GW, the LIDXA President, called to order the meeting of September 17, 2013 at 8:20PM after a brief socializing period. John welcomed back members after our summer hiatus. Members present included John, W2GW, and XYL Louise, K2MAU; Bob, N2DXJ, and XYL Tanis; Karen, W2ABK; Ed, K2MFY; Art, N2KA; Steve, N2AJ; Bob, W2PNJ; Rich, KB2ZPB; Warren, W2WGK; and guest and ex-member Allen, N2KW.

### OLD BUSINESS

A number of comments were made about the poor DX conditions during the past two months. There were a number of solar flares and the SFI was down. Evenings seem to be the best for DX propagation but with few daytime openings on 10 and 12 meters. Seventeen meters seemed to be about the best overall DX band during daylight hours. Some members indicated that there were good 6 meter openings. The following DX was reported:

- The Wake Island commemorative team is expected to assemble in Hawaii in early October and depart for the atoll around October 5. Operation from Wake Island, under the callsign K9W, will be from October 7 through October 18. Lou, N2TU, ex-member of LIDXA, is an active participant of this DXpedition. Follow their activities on their site at <http://wake2013.org>. The LIDXA made a sizeable donation to this DXpedition.
- A planned DXpedition to Amsterdam Island in the south Indian Ocean operating under the callsign FT5ZM, continues to progress. The start date will be in January 2014. Further details are found on their site at: [www.amsterdamdxdx.org](http://www.amsterdamdxdx.org)
- It was mentioned there is a limited DXpedition to Lord Howe Island as VK9LL. Due to poor propagation no club members have reported any contacts.
- There is a present operation by JH1AJT as XZ1Z from Myanmar. He is expected to be in the country until September 23. Although some club members have heard the station, due to poor propagation on the East coast of the US, no contacts have been made.
- A few club members did report working some US military T6 stations from Afghanistan in the mornings on 15 meters.
- Ed indicated that a few nights ago on 17 meter phone he worked a loud Australian station, VK4SY, in Queensland. He shortly found out that the station was operating via a remote transmitter in Florida.

Starting the business portion of tonight's meeting was the approval of the June 18 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 September meeting notice. Thanks to the efforts of KE2LJ, Pat, the minutes appear in the LIDXA web site at: <http://www.qsl.net/lidxa>. John also presented the Treasurer's report. One of the major expenses recently paid was the club's liability insurance through the ARRL.

Guest member Allen, N2KW, was setting up a demonstration during the DX portion of tonight's meeting. What he was attempting to demonstrate followed Ed's comment about working an Australian station via a remote transmitter in Florida. Allen had set up a small laptop, assorted cables and hardware on the table, and was going to demonstrate that he would connect to a remote transmitter located in Munich, Germany. If the connection was made to the remote site, Allen could be able to easily work stations, probably in Europe, via just his laptop in Bethpage, NY. Unfortunately it was found out that the internet in the *TOB Rink* must have some firewall that prevented Allen from making the internet connection.

A discussion then ensued about the implications of remote operations—especially when it comes to logging in DX contacts and applying for awards.

## NEW BUSINESS

John indicated that a few months ago he had attended a Hudson Division meeting held for local clubs in Levittown Hall hosted by our new Division Director (and club member), Mike, N2YBB. Mike spoke on a number of club issues and also commented on Log Book of the World (LOTW) and remote operating.

Ed mentioned that over the summer he had met with personnel from the *Town of Oyster Ice Skating Center*, and had gotten a contract that guarantees our present meeting room through December 2014. The membership thanked Ed for his efforts.

It was sadly mentioned that recently two long-time radio amateurs had recently passed away; namely, Tom Christianson, VP6TC (ex-VR6TC), of Pitcairn Island fame, and Wayne Green, W2NSD, former founder of "*73 Magazine*" and editor of "*CQ Magazine*." Wayne was a very controversial individual and there hardly was an issue that he would not confront. Besides ham radio, Wayne expounded a variety of unconventional science, health, and medical theories—from cold fusion and the moon landing, to AIDS and cancer cures. He continued to write and speak frequently on these topics and others, as well as on public policy.

During the June meeting several members brought up the possibility of purchasing hats with the LIDXA logo, providing there is club interest. A brief discussion developed on setup charges, prices/quantities. Steve, N2AJ, mentioned that he has high resolution LIDXA logo artwork and could furnish it to a supplier. After looking into this matter Bob, W2PNJ, indicated that he has a contact for the hats and indicated that the initial setup charge would be about \$40, and hat prices would vary from \$13 to \$15. John took all the information from Bob, including the suggested manufacturer's web site/telephone number, and said he would get all the details and report his findings to the membership in the October meeting.

With the business portion of this meeting concluded, John presented a DVD on the October 2009 K4M DXpedition to Midway Atoll located in the Pacific Ocean. This DXpedition netted over 61,000 QSOs.

This meeting concluded at around 10PM after all the scheduled business and entertainment had finished. The next LIDXA meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 15, 2013.

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Ed Whitman, K2MFY  
LIDXA Secretary