

MINUTES OF LIDXA INC. MEETING —October 21, 2014

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

Tom, KA2D, the LIDXA Vice President, called to order the meeting of October 21, 2014 at 8:10PM after a brief socializing and introduction period. John, W2GW, the LIDXA President was away for this meeting and Tom was ask to chair the meeting. Members present at tonight's meeting included Tom, KA2D; Ed, K2MFY; Bob, N2DXJ, and XYL Tanis; Aaron, WC2C; Rich, KB2ZPB; Art, N2KA; Mark, WB2QJ; Jane, KC2NOT; and Ken, KC2YRJ.

OLD BUSINESS

Members reported that radio conditions have been picking up, with recent SFI numbers around 150. The higher bands; namely, 10 and 12 meters have, although somewhat erratic, DX openings all over the world. Considering that we are supposed to be around the peak of the present sunspot cycle #24, it was hoping that conditions would improve as we approach the Fall season.

Some of the following DX was reported:

- Several members reported about a DXpedition in early 2015 to Navassa Island (KP1), off the coast of Puerto Rico. The last DXpedition was back in 1993. Further details are covered on the site <http://kp1-5.com>. One of the team members is Lou, N2TU, an ex-member of the LIDXA.
- Activity has been reported from Marquesas Islands (OC-027) as TX7G. The group will be active October 18-26, 2014.
- Also from the Pacific have been reports from VK9DLX on Lord Howe Island. They seem to have an excellent long path signal in the afternoon on 20 meters.
- Another Pacific DXpedition very active is ZK3Q and ZK3E from Tokelau. Activity is from October 10 through October 30. QSL to SP7DQR.
- A large group of amateurs are headed out to Madagascar and will be operating October 20-November 3. QSL to IK2VUC.
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- The Tromelin Island DXpedition is proceeding as scheduled for October 30–November 10. Our club has made a donation to this DXpedition. Details can be found at <http://www.tromelin2014.com>.
- Among other stations heard/worked were SØ1WS, 3B9FR, 8Q7SN, VK9XSB (Christmas Island), CEØY/DK5VP and /DL8LR, A35RT, W1AW/KHØ, 4W6DD and 4W6LU.

NEW BUSINESS

Starting the business portion of tonight's meeting was the approval of the September 16 meeting minutes. These minutes were accepted as issued. In addition the minutes were prepared in advance by the LIDXA Secretary, Ed, K2MFY and sent out to the membership with the October meeting announcement. Thanks to the efforts of KE2LJ, Pat, the minutes appear in the LIDXA web site at: <http://www.qsl.net/lidxa>.

Ed mentioned that at the conclusion of last month's meeting Ken, KC2YRJ, had joined the LIDXA. The membership warmly welcomed Ken as a new member of the club.

The ARRL centennial stations are quite active. Two new special stations, operating portable in each state and most territories, signing W1AW/#, go on the air starting every Tuesday night for one week. Full details on this event and all activities for the year can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/centennial-qso-party>.

It was mentioned that some of the old LIDXA Sunday night nets can be heard on www.youtube.com. The author thanked K2MFY for use of Ed's old cassette tapes. Ed checked and seemed to recall that back at a meeting back in 2006 he had brought in some old tapes he made from a LIDXA net in 1982, and had loaned them to member N2ZN. Apparently they were then copied and archived on *YouTube*.

It was noted that the annual CQ WW DX Contest, SSB mode, will be held over the weekend of October 25–26. The CW portion of the contest will be held the last weekend of November.

The membership was reminded that the 2014 ARRL Hudson Division Awards Luncheon is to be held at the *Towers on the Green* in Floral Park, NY on November 8 between 12 noon to 4:00 pm. Several members indicated that they planned on attending this luncheon since it is a local event this year.

On the subject of upcoming events, the club discussed the Annual Holiday Party. Since both John, W2GW and Ed, K2MFY may be away for the first two weeks of December, it was suggested that perhaps the club hold the dinner after the Christmas holiday. It was suggested that perhaps Monday, December 29 or Tuesday 30 might be acceptable to the membership.

As far as a venue, Steve, N2AJ suggested we return to *DJ's International Buffet* on 1100 Stewart Avenue in Garden City (<http://djsbuffet.com>). That was where the party was held in 2013.

Ed suggested that we should also look into *Rosemarie's Restaurant* (www.rosemariepizza.com) in Farmingdale. That restaurant was where some members took our guest speaker Les, W2LK, prior to his giving a presentation at the May 2014 LIDXA meeting. Also Ed suggested the newly renovated *Farmingdale Diner* on Hempstead Turnpike in Farmingdale. Ed said he would get further details on these two restaurants and report back to the membership in the November meeting. We would then have to firm up the date and decide on the restaurant at the next meeting.

Tom, KA2D, HRU Chairman, reminded the membership that the 16th annual "*Ham Radio University*" will once again be held. The date is on Sunday, January 4, 2015 at *Briarcliffe College*. This year HRU will feature 28 forums and two workshops. Keynote Speaker will be Mike Corey, KI1U, ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager. As in past years, the club will be presenting the DX Forum. Members W2GW, and K2MFY have indicated their willingness to participate in the program. Further updates in HRU 2015 can be found on www.HamRadioUniversity.org.

With the business portion of this meeting concluded, Tom presented a DVD on the 1997 DXpedition to Heard Island as VKØIR, entitled "Outpost at the Edge."

This meeting concluded at around 10:00PM after all the scheduled business and entertainment had finished.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 18, 2014.

Ed Whitman, K2MFY
LIDXA Secretary