

LONG ISLAND DX ASSOCIATION MEETING OCTOBER 17, 2023

The meeting was held via ZOOM which 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; Walt, W2TE; Tom, KA2D; Steve, N2AJ; Richie, KB2ZPB; Art, N2KA; Dr. Dave, KA2HTV; Jerry, WB2ZEX; Lou, NO2C; Richie, K2KNB, President of LIMARC; Allen, N2KW.

The meeting began at 8 PM with a continuing discussion concerning how to bring in new members. There was a suggestion to reach out to other clubs in the area. Another suggestion was to speak about LIDXA during HRU. Jack, NU2Q, said that this was how he found out about the Club. He joined shortly after attending the HRU DX session.

Some members spoke about the recent increase in activity in the Pacific area including the Swains Island operation, W8S.

Jerry, WB2ZEX, spoke about a problem he had with his amplifier. He gave the members a refresher lesson - sometimes it is better to read the manual!

Lou, NO2C, has contacted over 6300 parks. This total includes Swains. He said that the ARRL is about to publish a book on the subject of working POTA stations.

Steve, N2AJ, reported that he is sleep-deprived after being a PILOT for W8S. He made 23 contacts with the DXpedition including one on 60 meters. Steve was asked about Pirates. He said that one appeared on 30 meters on the final day.

Jack, NU2Q, spoke about contacting W8S and many other DX during the past month. He was asked about the virtual background depicted on the screen behind him. Jack explained that these pics were a collage of images he took of the Solar Eclipse of the Sun in 2017 from a location in eastern Tennessee.

Tom, KA2D, spoke about Ham Radio University. This is the 25th year of this event. Tom said that there will be plenty of space for clubs to have a display. There will also be plenty of rooms available for forums. The planners are still working on AV issues and the possibility to have streaming.

Richie, K2KNB, said that the LIMARC Hamfest will be held on November 12th. He also advised that fewer vendors have been coming to the Hamfest than in prior years. He believes that some are advancing in years and it is more difficult for them to open up a venue. In the future, the format may turn into having a flea market style event.

Steve, N2AJ, described in detail the ordeal with his Hy-Gain/MFJ rotator. DX Engineering was very helpful with a speedy replacement. Ray also helped Steve to finish the work he needed so that he could act as a PILOT for W8S.

Tom, KA2D, said that he has the same rotator problem as Steve experienced.

A discussion of how to work DX arose: questions such as - do you scan the bands, look at clusters, rely on propagation charts, etc. John, W2GW, emphasized that the time of day will dictate the choice of bands in order to make contact with the desired DX area.

The meeting ended at 9:10 PM. John, W2GW, announced that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 8 PM on ZOOM.

For the entertainment portion of the night, John, W2GW, presented a video of the Microlite Penguins DXpedition Team's DXpedition to the Kermadec Islands. This occurred in October, 2006. The team used the call ZL8R. The video showed some of the preparations for the trip, a review of the geography of the Island and descriptions of the operation itself. The team managed to make over 40,000 QSOs.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Phelan, NU2Q
Secretary