

MINUTES OF LIDXA INC. MEETING — November 15, 2016

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

John, W2GW, the LIDXA President, called to order the meeting of November 15, 2016 at 8:15PM after a brief socializing period. Members present at tonight's meeting included John, W2GW; Louise, K2MAU; Ed, K2MFY; Tom, KA2D; Jack, NU2Q; Art, N2KA; Steve, N2AJ; Bob, W2OSR; Bob, W2PNJ; Rich; KB2ZPB; Woody, K2UU; Rick, K2RB; and guests from the Yankee Clipper Contest Club (YCCC). Mel, KS2G; Andy, K2LE; Gary, KD2IBQ; and Bob, K2TV.

OLD BUSINESS

Some of the following DX was mentioned:

- General comments were made on the poor DX conditions during the last few months. The solar flux numbers are still falling accompanied with noisy conditions and several flares causing blackouts. Most DX activity are on the low bands
- A number of UK amateurs were active from Chatham Island as ZL7G. The operation was to end on November 9th.
- Several members reported hearing TL8AO operating from Bangui, Central African Republic. The operator, Ken, LA7GIA, will be at this site from November 11- November 22.

NEW BUSINESS

Starting the business portion of tonight's meeting was the approval of the October 18, 2016 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 November meeting announcement. Thanks to the efforts of our webmaster Pat, KE2LJ, the minutes appear on the LIDXA web site at: <http://www.qsl.net/lidxa>.

John W2GW, LIDXA Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's report. The current membership totals are 32 members. Several members also have just paid up their 2017 dues in advance.

Word had been received from Hrane, YT1AD, as team leader of a large-scale DX expedition to Baker Island in the Pacific Ocean, (DXCC prefix KH1), that he has not yet received the special US Fish & Wildlife Permit to operate on the island. Since the Dxpediton is scheduled for the September/October 2017 timeframe, John recommended that the club hold off any LIDXA donation to this Dxpediton until the USFW permit has been granted.

The membership was informed that LIDXA member Adrian, KO8SCA, will be operating from St. Barthelemy (FJ) down in the Caribbean from November 19-26. For this 7-day holiday style Dxpediton Adrian plans on operating SSB, CW and digital modes (RTTY, JT65 and SSTV).

The membership was reminded that the annual CQWW DX contest (CW) will be held over the November 26-27 weekend.

The 18th annual “*Ham Radio University*” will once again be held early next year. The date is on Sunday, January 9, 2017 at *Briarcliffe College*. This year HRU will feature 30 forums and two workshops. Keynote speaker will be Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, Chief Executive Officer of the ARRL. 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 2017 can be found on <http://hamradiouniversity.org/>.

Although the club voted to have our annual Holiday Party at *Rosemarie’s Restaurant* in Farmingdale on Tuesday, December 13 at 6:30PM, Ed announced that their special weekday dinners would not be available for large groups. Since separate dinners might be expensive, Steve, N2AJ, was able to confirm that *DJ’s International Buffet* on 1100 Stewart Avenue in Garden City (<http://djsbuffet.com>), would be offering their standard buffet selections. The club had a numbers of parties there in previous times. This Holiday dinner will be in lieu of a December LIDXA meeting.

Steve, N2AJ, contacted the restaurant and placed our reservation for 20+ people for Tuesday, December 13th at 6:30pm. The buffet would be \$20.95 per person plus tax & tip. That price includes sodas or tea. Beer and wine is additional. Separate checks will be available. Steve requested the large table in the back corner behind the glass room. Ed said he would send out reminders to the membership on this dinner.

With the brief LIDXA meeting concluded at 8:45PM, John turned over the meeting Tom, LIDXA Vice President, and YCCC NYC/LI Area Manager.

Tom presented a number of awards that LIDXA/YCCC members achieved in the past year as a result of their high scores in major DX contests. At the conclusion of the awards presentation, YCCC member Mel, KS2G gave a very interesting *PowerPoint* presentation on “Maximizing HF Contest Scoring and Fun When There’s No Sunspots.” With the falling solar flux as we approach the sunspot minimum for the present Cycle 24 this topic was very applicable and useful. Mel said he would also deliver this presentation at HRU 2017.

This meeting formally concluded at around 10PM after all the scheduled business and entertainment had finished. There will be no meeting in December; instead we will have our annual party at *DJs Buffet* on Tuesday December 13. John wished the membership a good holiday and hoped that he would see us all at the holiday party or at HRU 2017 on January 9, 2017. The next regular meeting of the LIDXA will be held on Tuesday January 17, 2017.

Ed Whitman, K2MFY
LIDXA Secretary