

## **MINUTES OF THE LONG ISLAND DX ASSOCIATION**

### **MEETING – JANUARY 19, 2021**

The COVID virus lockdown continues and the January meeting of the Long Island DX Association was held via the ZOOM format.

The members present were: John, W2GW, President; Louise, K2MAU; Jim, W2KFV, NLI Section Manager; Bob, W2OSR; Art, N2KA; Adrian, KO8SCA; Jack, NU2Q; Karen, W2ABK; Rich, K2RB; Tom, KA2D; Richie, KB2ZPB; Rich, K2KNB, Pres. of LIMARC; Dr. Dave, KA2HTV; Lou, NO2C.

The meeting started at 8:05 PM with a discussion of the various types of antennas which members are using to operate on 160. John, W2GW, Art, N2KA, and Rich, K2KNB spoke. Dr. Dave said that 160 is a noisy band, even at his location in Maine. As an aside, Dave mentioned a YouTube video which describes the construction of his station in Maine. The video is good because it describes the background work and preparations which go into developing a super antenna site. This is the work that must be done before towers are erected and antennas raised.

Tom, KA2D, spoke of the efforts made to erect a 70 foot tower for Pete, W2JV's Navassa 5 antenna. Many amateurs from different clubs helped in this project. The antenna is on a 12 foot boom.

Tom, KA2D, gave a report about HRU. His first point was that over 800 persons attended. Donations were good. Tom mentioned that the HRU team missed the contributions of John, W2GW who was not able to participate this year. The presenters expressed a disappointment in their not being able to see the audience. However, all questions of participants were answered. Videos will be available online for those who missed sessions.

Jim, W2KFV, NLI Section Manager, made some comments: 1) People from all over the world attended HRU; 2) ARRL made a strong statement that Amateur Radio is not supportive of any coup or covert activities surrounding the events of January 6<sup>th</sup> or of any attempt to disrupt the inauguration; 3) ARRL is seeking to define ARES with the goal of getting more youth involved; 4) COVID has hit HQ. There are still activities but the efforts are reduced; 5) LOTW will soon be changing servers. Jim referenced the Long Island COVID situation. Northwell Health just recently lost their computers. There are sites to receive vaccinations but appointments are difficult to make as reinforced by comments from members.

Adrian, KO8SCA, spoke about DXpeditions. He began by saying that if borders open up, more trips can be planned. Swains may still happen later in the year but Adrian said that in the meantime he may go to the Andaman Islands. Adrian commented favorably on the thoroughness of the Johnson Island email and all the good information it provided.

Rich, K2KNB, President of LIMARC, spoke about his club. He said that there have been good speakers for meetings which were also held on ZOOM. On February 28, LIMARC will hold a virtual hamfest from 9:30 AM – 12:00 Noon. There will be separate screens for breakout rooms. There will be items for auction, items for sale and door prizes.

Karen, W2ABK spoke of a QSL card she received from the Light Ship/Light House Special event held on August 22, 2020. The card is from the USCG Icebreaker Mackinaw WAGB-83, part of the WWII war effort to help the US meet the demands for materials for iron and steel.

John, W2GW, advised the membership that there are as of tonight's meeting, only 7 members who have paid their membership for the current year. Club dues are \$25.00 and become due on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Please send money to John via US mail.

John announced that the next meeting will be held on February 16<sup>th</sup> at 8PM on ZOOM.

The meeting closed for business at 9 PM.

For the video portion which followed, John showed a video of the Kermedec DX Association's January 1999 DXpedition to Campbell Island, ZL9CI. This was an interesting video showing the efforts of a team of amateurs who netted a total of over 96,000 QSOs.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Phelan,

Secretary