

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

## **MEETING – FEBRUARY 16, 2021**

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

The members present were: John, W2GW, President; Louise, K2MAU; Jim, W2KFB, NLI Section Manager; Bob, W2OSR; Tom, KA2D Steve, N2AJ; Walt, W2TE; Jack, NU2Q; Rick, K2RB; Richie, KB2ZPV; Adrian, KO8SCA; Karen, W2ABK; Dr. Dave, KA2HTV; Alan, W2KW; Art, N2KA; Jerry, K1NY. Special guests also in attendance included famed Australian DXers Chris, VK3FY and Lee, VK3GK (NE3M).

The meeting began at 8 P.M. with John, W2GW extending a warm welcome to both Australian amateurs. Both Chris and Lee are accomplished DXpeditioners having brought ham radio to many remote and deserted spots. Of the many DXpeditions they have been on, our Club's own Adrian, KO8SCA, was part of the team with both men on ZK3A, Tokelau and V84SAA, Brunei. Both Chris and Lee contribute to the advancement of amateur radio in their communities in a number of ways.

Both men gave the members updates on proposed DXpeditions. Mellish Reef and Willis Island are on hold. Lord Howe may still be an option. The men advised that expeditions are in jeopardy of occurring while COVID restrictions and lockdowns are in force.

Steve, N2AJ, heard from Dom re Bouvet in the Fall. Dom has most of the funding but he may consider another DX location.

There was a discussion of the recent 160 Meters Contest. Tom, KA2D worked 42 stations but the problem was the lack of European stations participating in the contest. John, W2GW added that the working conditions were really poor during this period.

The members were alerted to the ARRL CWDX contest which is coming up this weekend.

Dr. Dave, KA2HTV gave an update to the members as to the condition of his remote station located in Maine. The station so far has survived the winter. The antennas are fine, however, there is a problem with an amplifier. Dave said that his Flex radios are working fine. For an amplifier, Dave uses an Elecraft delivering 1500 watts. In his opinion, Elecraft is reliable and is less costly to run than the Flex. Adrian, KO8SCA, asked Dave to compare the Elecraft amp to the Expert brand. In Dave's experience, he found that the Elecraft is more reliable than Expert.

As the meeting concluded, John, W2GW, extended thanks to Chris and Lee for joining the group and John extended a warm welcome to them to return in the future.

The meeting concluded at 9:12 PM. John reminded the group that our next meeting will be held on March 16<sup>th</sup> at 8 PM on ZOOM.

John Then proceeded with the entertainment portion of the meeting with a video of the 2005 Kure Atoll Expedition – K7C. The QSOs were made from September 25<sup>th</sup> to October 5<sup>th</sup>. The video showed the journey and efforts of the team which netted a total of 50,000 contacts. The group also had a goal to implement a new near-real-time online system called DXA.