

As the covid19 pandemic continues, and stay-at-home advisories remain in effect , the Long Island DX Association held its second virtual meeting via Zoom on April 28, 2020 at 8:00 PM.

Attending were:

Steve N2AJ, Tom KA2D, Art N2KA, Jim W2KFV our ARRL Section Manager, Richie KB2ZPB, Pete W2JV, Bob K2YGM, Dave KA2HTV, Gerry K1NY, Jack NU2Q, Karen W2ABK, Adrian KO8SCA, Lou NO2C, Salli K2RYD, Bob K2TV, Walt W2TE, Louise K2MAU, John W2GW.

Karen took notes, and John hosted the meeting.

The members present expressed that they preferred our discourse at our Zoom meetings to be in a natural conversational style rather than in the round-robin format used for many amateur radio nets.

We recognized that while the pandemic and generally poor solar conditions are combining to make traditional DXing opportunities scarce, the FT8 and FT4 digital modes provide some exceptions. European stations are active throughout the day, and Asian stations, such as, Indonesia, China, and Nepal have been workable from the US East Coast in recent days on the 14 mHz frequencies of these new modes at around 1200 UTC.

Walt proposed that we ask other local clubs that have inactive repeaters whether our members might use them occasionally to alert one another in the event that a rare DX station is heard. Karen offered that the Grumman RC repeater on 145.330 mHz (136.5 Hz PL) might be available for the purpose. John asked her to inquire.

Lou reported on the K2H (for heroes) project being undertaken by the Great South Bay ARC to honor and thank first responders and medical workers in New York State. These special people put themselves at grave risk to assist victims of the pandemic. GSBARC is seeking hams in each of the State's 62 Counties to operate their stations using the K2H special event call sign during the whole month of May.

Tom mentioned that the Dayton Hamvention's Contest University will be online via Zoom this year, due to the pandemic. Registration is available on the CTU website. Also, he said that dues for Yankee Clipper Contest Club could be paid online.

We discussed briefly the poor quality of some antenna hardware replacement parts sourced from abroad. Hose clamps from Mexico being a case in point. hi!

Discussion concluded at 9:15 PM, followed by the entertainment: James Brooks' video of the DXpedition to Amsterdam Island in 2014.

The meeting adjourned at around 10:15 PM.