

MINUTES OF LIDXA INC. MEETING — May 15, 2012

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

John, W2GW, the LIDXA President, called to order the meeting of May 15th at 8:25 PM, after a brief socializing period. Members present included John, W2GW; Bob, N2DXJ and XYL Tanis; Ed, K2MFY; Steve, N2AJ; Tom, KA2D; Woody, K2UU; Mike, N2YBB; Warren, W2WGK.. John also welcomed guests Bob, W2II; George, N2GA; Mel, KS2G; and Joe, W2BMP. Due to a number of guests, introductions were made by all attendees.

OLD BUSINESS

- DX discussion centered on the fair propagation conditions. DX is prevalent on the HF bands although the solar flux index has dropped somewhat from the highs of the past Fall. There are limited openings on 10 and 12 meters; however, the other high bands still have good propagation. Several members noted that the bands seem very noisy.
- The past month brought two major DXpeditions into focus. The 7O6T operation from Socotra Island, off the coast of Yemen, resulted in massive pileups. The island lies 240 km east of the Horn of Africa and 380 km south of the Arabian Peninsula. The ham group (mostly Russian amateurs) are expected to be on the island until May 16. The other DXpedition, also operating from east Africa, is an Italian group in Somalia as 6OØCW. They are expected to be in the country until May 18.
- World traveler, Vlad, UA4WHX, will be operational from Palestine shortly. He is expected to be active through the end of May.
- A few stations from New Caledonia have been worked. In particular FK8CE and FK8DD have been active on the HF bands.
- In celebration of Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee, all UK amateur stations can use the special prefixes GQ, MQ, 2Q from May 5th through June 10th.

Starting the business portion of tonight's meeting was the approval of the April 17th meeting minutes. These minutes were accepted as presented. In addition, the minutes were prepared in advance by the LIDXA Secretary, Ed, K2MFY, and sent out to the membership with the May meeting notice. Thanks to the efforts of KE2LJ, Pat, the minutes appear in the LIDXA web site at:
<http://www.qsl.net/lidxa>.

John, W2GW, LIDXA Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's report. Members were reminded that dues (in the amount of \$25) for the year 2012 are overdue. John suggested that members give or mail him their dues at the earliest convenience.

NEW BUSINESS

The club voted a donation of \$100 to the Campbell Island DXpedition team (tentatively assigned the callsign ZL9HR). The operation is expected in mid-November. This island is about 700 km south of New Zealand.

At this time in the meeting, John stated that we would have our elections for all officers and Board of Directors for the club (years 2012-2014). The following members were informally elected:

- President: John, W2GW
- Vice President: Tom, KA2D
- Secretary: Ed, K2MFY
- Treasurer: John, W2GW
- Directors: Steve, N2AJ; Bob, N2DXJ; and Frank, N2FF.

The membership applauded the new/incumbent club officers and offered them support over the next two years. Ed said he would forward the list of the new club officers to the leading ham radio newsletters for publication. Officers selected will begin their term at the June meeting.

John informed the club that he was filling out the paperwork to put down his address as Trustee of the club callsign, W2LDX. This was necessary since the present Trustee, Marv, W2FGD, passed away earlier this year.

Ed mentioned that he had just filled out an update of the club's status on the ARRL Club Resources link.

A brief discussion arose on a design for a new, or modified club logo, that would introduce a color scheme into the artwork. The item was tabled to the June meeting.

At the conclusion of the business portion of tonight's meeting Tom, KA2D, LIDXA member and Yankee Clipper Contest Club (YCCC) NYC/LI area manager, discussed the origin, activities and goals of the YCCC. Tom then gave a PowerPoint presentation on "Getting Started in Digital Contesting," (prepared by Steve Ford WB8IMY). This overview highlighted contesting techniques, awards, logging programs, station automation, and "the fun of contesting." Detailed resources are available on the YCCC web site (<http://www.yccc.org>).

This meeting concluded at around 9:45PM after all the scheduled business and entertainment had finished. The next meeting of the LIDXA is scheduled for Tuesday June 19th, our last meeting before the summer hiatus.

Ed Whitman, K2MFY
LIDXA Secretary