

MINUTES OF LIDXA INC. MEETING –May 21, 2019

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

John, W2GW, the LIDXA President, called to order the meeting at 8:15PM. Present at tonight's meeting included John, W2GW; Louise, K2MAU; Ed, K2MFY; Tom, KA2D; Steve, N2AJ and YL Margaret; Jack, NU2Q; Rich, KB2ZPB; Art, N2KA; Walt, W2TE; Frank, N2FF; Adrian, KO8SCA; Rick, K2RB; Bob, K2YGM; and guests Allen, N2KW; Mel, KS2G; and Mike, N2GC.

Tonight's meeting was our club's annual joint session with members of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club (YCCC).

OLD BUSINESS

Some of the following brief DX was briefly noted:

- General comments were made on the low solar flux during the past month which has been around or below 70. The low bands are fairly good, but noisy.
- It was reported that the only resident amateur radio operator from Mount Athos (SY), Monk Apollo, SV2ASP, had recently passed away.

NEW BUSINESS

At the outset of tonight's meeting Steve, N2AJ, announced that today was his birthday, and his wife Margaret had brought in some home-baked birthday cake for the membership. Plates were passed around and after the club sang "Happy Birthday" to Steve, and thanked Margaret for the cake, the membership were given slices of the cake.

Guest and ex-LIDXA member Allen, N2KW, then spoke on a number of radio issues dealing with low power operation and then presented the club with a large club banner with LIDXA logo. This colorful banner would eventually be used for club display purposes at various ham radio functions; such as, HRU, and other venues. The club thanked Allen for his generous gift and unanimously voted him as a new LIDXA Member-at Large.

First order of business was the approval of the April 16 meeting minutes issued by LIDXA Secretary, Ed, K2MFY. These minutes were accepted as issued. 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 annual 2019 dues of \$25 are now overdue. Two-thirds of the membership has already paid their dues.

As a result of a request from Stan, LZ1GC, who is heading up a DXpedition to Tarawa Atoll (IOTA OC-017) in Western Kiribati, the club voted to send them a donation of \$100 to assist the DX team financially. The operation will occur between October 7 and October 23, 2019. The team will be using the callsign T3ØGC and the web site is <http://www.c21gc.com/index.php/sponsors>.

Adrian, KO8SCA, briefed the club on his recent trip to the annual HamVention/ARRL National Convention which was held in Xenia, OH over the May 17–May 19 weekend. Adrian felt that the attendance was lower than previous years. He did talk about the new K3 radio from *Elecraft*. Adrian also indicated that last year's KH1/KH7Z DXpedition, to Baker Howland Islands, was awarded the DXpedition of the Year (2018).

With the business portion of the LIDXA meeting concluding at approximately 8:45PM, guest Mel, KS2G, of the YCCC, prepared a *PowerPoint* presentation entitled “Smarts in the Place of Sun Spots,” which highlighted tactics and techniques useful for contesting during the present cycle of poor solar conditions. It was mentioned that the minimum of the present sunspot cycle is not expected to be reached until late 2019 or 2020.

The meeting then concluded at 9:30PM after all the club business and entertainment had finished. Our next scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 18. This will be our last meeting before the summer hiatus.

Ed Whitman, K2MFY
LIDXA Secretary