

MINUTES OF LIDXA INC. MEETING—May 22, 1998

Location: Polytechnic University, Farmingdale, N.Y.

The LIDXA President, Frank, N2FF called the meeting of May 22 to order at 8:07 PM. Frank welcomed guest Phil, N2LVG. Also welcomed were the XYLs of members K2ENT, W2JE, KB2HK and N2DXJ.

In terms of DX, the following information was reported:

- A group from Hungary has been active from Mongolia as JT (possibly JU1HA). Present plans are that they will be there until June 2.
- It was heard that the station H75A, from Isle de Venado off the coast of Nicaragua, would be counted as a new IOTA209.
- Although sunspot Cycle 23 is on the rise, members commented that the solar flux was going down and that conditions on the higher bands were relatively poor.

OLD BUSINESS

The minutes of the April 24th meeting were distributed in advance to the membership. Except for a minor change these minutes were accepted as written. Russ, W2RL, LIDXA Treasurer, reported that the amount presently in the treasury was \$2001.63. He also added that the IRS was giving him a rough time in his processing a "Not-For-Profit" status for the club. Russ asked if the club had ever documented special functions it had served to the community. Ed said he had put such a list together when he attempted (without success—back in 1993) to get the club a Special Service status with the ARRL. Ed said he would send Russ the information.

In terms of packet activity, it was mentioned that the installation of a new 440-MHz antenna on the tower at W2JB is imminent. Another antenna for the link, at 220 MHz is also required. Once this link is established, the node at K2GX should have a line-of sight-path to the New Jersey repeater. In turn this path should ensure uninterrupted coverage into the Tri-State Packet system for nodes K2GX, K2LS, KD1F and N2TX. Larry, K2LS, added that the latest April 1998 *Buckmaster's* index for QSL addresses is now online at his with a simple "SH/BUC station" command.

NEW BUSINESS

Several members reported on the new equipment that was featured at the Dayton Hamfest last week. Attendance was down slightly to 25,000 people. Members who attended the DX Forum were upset by the fact that this year they did not hold it in the Dayton arena, but required shuttle buses to take attendees over to a neighborhood school auditorium.

It was suggested that the club permanently change the date of the May meeting so it does not always coincide with the Dayton Hamfest. Since this would require a constitutional change this matter was postponed until a draft is written.

Frank mentioned that there are presently some motions up before Congress that would affect Amateur Radio legislation. One is HR 3572 that deals with amateur radio spectrum protection, and the others are RM9267 and Docket 15928. He urged all members to review the details of the legislation in the amateur radio journals and contact the ARRL and/or local congressional representatives.

It was noted that in the June issue of *CQ* magazine there was an in-depth article on past member (SK) Harvey McCoy, W2IYX. All members were urged to read about the amazing exploits that Harvey did for the country and the field of communications from WWII.

Frank mentioned that we need a volunteer or volunteers to handle the Refreshment Committee starting in the September. Presently Al, W2NGC and Marty, NN2C have done the work. If no volunteer(s) is obtained, than the refreshment portion of the monthly meetings would be eliminated.

A question arose on the status of the Tri-State Amateur Radio Council (TSARC), which is an independent organization, which monitors and coordinates repeater frequencies in this area. Frank said that presently this group has ceased to function.

It was brought up that many members also have e-mail capability and that these e-mail addresses should be placed on the monthly membership roster. It was decided to get these address at the June meeting and give the results over to our Corresponding Secretary, John, KB2CB, for inclusion in the next membership list.

Frank reported on several amateur tower cases that are presently pending. These involve amateurs residing in Smithtown and the Town of Oyster Bay.

It was decided that the club sponsor a "Chinese Action" or "Blind Auction." at the June 19th meeting. Members of the club would be donating various items related to ham radio, computer software, electronics, test equipment, etc. to be "auctioned" off, sight unseen. Bids for these items would start 50 cents and higher. This activity would be firmed up shortly so that the sufficient advertising could be generated. Ed was asked to forward details, and directions to Polytechnic University, to the packet systems operators so that the auction event could be put up on packet in a timely manner. In the meantime, Marty urged all members to look around for items that could be auctioned, and in turn, raise needed revenues for the club.

Frank mentioned that the Hudson Division Convention would be held over the September 12–13 weekend at Briarcliffe College in Bethpage, with special dinner held at the *Maine Maid Inn* in Jericho on September 12. Forums, etc. would be presented at this annual convention. More details on this event would be made at a future date.

With the election of new officers for the 1998-2000 term to be determined at tonight's meeting, the final ballot was obtained at this time. The following names were entered as nominees:

- President: Marty, NN2C; Larry, K2LS
- Vice President: Pat, KE2LJ; Steve, K2WE
- Secretary: Ed, K2MFY; Frank, N2FF
- Treasurer: Russ, W2RL; Art, K2ENT
- Directors: Marv, W2FGD; Lou, N2TU; Dave, W2UQ; Lenny, KB2HK.

By an informal closed ballot the new officers for the LIDXA over the next two-year term were elected:

- President: Marty, NN2C
- Vice President: Pat, KE2LJ
- Secretary: Ed, K2MFY
- Treasurer: Russ, W2RL
- Directors: Marv, W2FGD; Lou, N2TU; Lenny, KB2HK.

The membership warmly applauded the new officers of the club success over the next two years. Ed said he would forward the election results to some of the DX/amateur radio magazines. The new president Marty then stepped up and presented Frank a plaque from the club for his continued services to the club during his 1996-1998 term.

Marty reminded the membership about the special "Chinese Auction" to be held at next month's meeting. Following this event, John, N2QW, will be showing slides of his recent DXpedition to Spratley Island in the South China Sea, as part of the 9MØC team. Marty also reminded the membership that volunteer(s) are needed in order for refreshments to continue.

With no new business matters raised, this meeting concluded at 9:40 PM..

Ed Whitman, K2MFY
LIDXA Secretary