

## **MINUTES OF LONG ISLAND DX ASSOCIATION - MEETING – June 16, 2020**

The COVID Virus lockdown continues and the June meeting of the Long Island DX Association was held online via ZOOM.

John, W2GW, the LIDXA President, called the meeting to order at 8:04PM. Present via ZOOM at tonight's meeting included John, W2GW; Louise, K2MAU; Jim Mezey, W2KFFV, NLI Section Manager; Steve, N2AJ; Jack, NU2Q; Dave, KA2HTV; Adrian, KO8SCA; Bob, K2YGM; Art, N2KA; Rich, KB2ZPB; Rick, K2RB; Karen, W2ABK, Lou NO2C; Salli K2RYD.

John welcomed all attendees and the meeting proceeded in the informal way it has been conducted since using the ZOOM format.

Preliminary discussions soon focused on the operational limitations for those stations living under HOA regulations. Generally speaking, HOA rules make it extremely difficult if not impossible to operate a ham station where an exterior antenna is to be used.

John then asked Lou, NO2C to give a summary of the K2H program which ended its special activity on May 31, 2020.

Lou gave a summary of the K2H special event which was sponsored by the Great South Bay ARC. The purpose was to express gratitude to all in New York State who tendered to the needs of those stricken with the virus as well as to the healthy and also to remember those whose lives were taken during the COVID crisis. Amateurs from each NY county were able to use the call K2H followed by the abbreviation for the county from which they were operating. Lou presented the final totals for the event:

73,000 lookups for K2H on QRZ.com  
60 operators participated  
50 NYS counties represented  
135 countries contacted  
1,682 US counties (more than half of total US counties) contacted  
24,466 QSOs - these included  
    7 EME  
    2 SSTV  
    18 MSK144

A total of 650 logs were submitted.

9,000 emails were sent to amateurs informing that their certificates could be downloaded.

7,000 certificates were downloaded as of this evening.

Lou showed copies of certificates for those who contacted K2H, for those who operated the callsign K2H, and a special certificate that was given for those who actually provided care to those affected by the COVID virus. Lou stated that the event was a success far beyond imagination when it was initially conceived.

After Lou finished his report, John W2GW introduced the guest speaker for the evening.

The LIDXA welcomed Les Kalmus W2LK, who is an honorary member of the Club.

Many members know Les as a former Club member, an experienced DXer and active DXpeditioner. Les has previously participated in DXpeditions to Campbell Island, ZL9HR, Mellish Reef, VK9NT, Chesterfield Island, TX3X and Ducie Island, VP6D. Tonight Les spoke of his experience on the Dxpediton to the South Orkney Islands, VP8PJ, from mid February to early March of this year as part of the Perseverance DX Group.

Les has only been back from South Orkney for a few months. His talk presented the members with many details of how this operation progressed. While there was somewhat smooth sailing to and from the islands, Les pointed out the many potentially dangerous situations which included landing on Signy Island, the actual site of the DXpedition, bringing equipment on shore, setting up camp in a very inhospitable location, continual battling of high winds, fog and snow storms as well as the daily and nightly near frigid temperatures. And of course there were seals whose space on the island needed to be respected.

Les included many photos of the camp and surrounding area. The photos showed the position of the tents and the many antennas erected for the stay. The QSL picture of the group was taken in front of Orwell Glacier. Les gave a breakdown of results by band and mode. However, the final total can be summarized by saying that 83,782 QSOs were made with 20,521 being unique calls.

A short question and answer period followed during which Les was able to provide additional details.

At the conclusion of the talk, John, W2GW with the agreement of the members scheduled the next meeting of the LIDXA to be held using the ZOOM format on July 21, 2020 at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Phelan, NU2Q  
Secretary