

MINUTES OF LIDXA INC. MEETING –September 17, 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. John welcomed the membership back after our two-month summer hiatus. Present at tonight's meeting included John, W2GW; Louise, K2MAU; Ed, K2MFY; Steve, N2AJ; Jack, NU2Q; Rich, KB2ZPB; Art, N2KA; Frank, N2FF; Dave, KA2HTV; Rick, K2RB; Karen, W2ABK and OM Bruce; and guests Allen, N2KW; Ray; W2RE, old-timer ex-LIDXA member Maurice, AA2A.

John went around the room and had the membership and guests introduce themselves to the all attendees.

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. Some limited openings were reported on 17 and 15 meters.
- A report was made that the present sunspot cycle may reach its minimum between July 2019 and September 2020, followed by a slow recovery of Solar Cycle 25 toward a weak maximum in 2023-2026.
- Several members indicated that they were successful in working the present DXpeditions to Nauru, C21WW, and Somalia, 6O7O. Also reported, and currently operational, is T6AA from Afghanistan.
- A number of German amateurs were very easy to contact portable from Lichtenstein. They are using their home calls /HBØ.

NEW BUSINESS

First order of business was the approval of the June 18 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.

Ed mentioned that the Great South Bay ARC operated the special event callsign K2M, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 launch, moon landing and splashdown. GSBARC and LIDXA member, Lou, NO2C, coordinated efforts.

Also, Ed told the membership that over the summer he had utilized the services of Mike, N2GC, to have antenna/tower maintenance work performed at his shack. Mike previously did similar work at the shack of member Bob, K2YGM, and highly recommended his work to Ed. Mike, a local member of YCCC, can be reached at (516) 935-5050 or contacted at N2GC@aol.com.

Finally Ed indicated that he had reserved our meeting room in the Town of Oyster Ice Skating Center through the year 2020. The membership thanked Ed for his efforts.

Steve, N2AJ, reminded the membership that he has made arrangements at *DJs International Buffet* in Garden City, for Tuesday October 8 at 1:30PM, to host guest Japanese DXer, Katsu, JA1DXA, and his daughter Remy for this luncheon. If you haven't already told Steve that you are attending, please do so as soon as possible so he can reserve the large table at the restaurant.

With the business portion of the meeting concluded, John presented guest Ray, W2RE, to talk about his background in tower building and remote ham radio. Ray explained that he is the CEO of Hudson Valley Towers, Inc. (HVT) and COO of Remote Ham Radio (RHR). RHR secures the best possible land to build and maintain antenna sites throughout the USA, which as of today consist of over 50 radio towers and over 300 antennas. In 2015, the RHR team purchased a farm house over 60 acres by the Atlantic Ocean, in the most northeast corner in the Maine, to set up a 100-foot tower and equipment for remote ham use and RHR.

Full details on Ray's ventures can be found through his W2RE www.qrz.com web site. Some of Ray's activations since 2013 include DXpeditions from TF/W2RE, VP2EZZ, J8/WW2DX, S9TM, FJ/N2IEN, FJ/W2RE, OY6A, CY9C, HH2/W2RE, KP4/W2RE, 4O/W2RE, KH6/W2RE, HH2AA, VY2/W2RE.

At the conclusion of Ray's presentation, John showed the scheduled DVD on the September-October 2011 DXpedition to Kiritimati (Christmas Island) as T32C, which grossed over 213,000 QSOs.

The meeting then concluded at 10:05PM after all the club business and entertainment had finished. Our next scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 15.

Ed Whitman, K2MFY
LIDXA Secretary