

MINUTES OF LIDX INC. MEETING—September 18, 1998

Location: Polytechnic University, Farmingdale, N.Y.

The LIDX President, Marty, NN2C called the meeting of September 18 to order at 8:05 PM. Marty welcomed back all members to our first meeting after the summer hiatus. Also welcomed were guests Emile, KD1F, N2HYD, and the XYLs of members K2ENT and N2DXJ.

All members were reminded that the deadline for submissions to the DXCC for the present calendar year is September 30. A fee of \$10 is now required for this yearly submittal. QSL cards from the recently announced countries: Austral, Marquesas, and Temotu island groups, could not be included in with this present submittal. Cards for these three countries would be accepted after October 1, 1998.

In terms of fees, it was also mentioned that beginning January 1999, the *ARRL Outgoing QSL Service* is increasing its outgoing QSL-handling rates from \$4 to \$6 per pound.

OLD BUSINESS

The minutes of the June 19th meeting were distributed in advance to the membership by NN2C for the LIDX Secretary, Ed, K2MFY who was visiting his in-laws down in Florida. These minutes were accepted as written. Mary, W2FGD agreed to take tonight's meeting minutes, and forward them to Ed for typing, editing, and publication.

Marty added that we need a volunteer or volunteers to handle the Refreshment Committee starting immediately. If no volunteer(s) is obtained, than the refreshment portion of the monthly meetings would be eliminated.

In terms of packet activity, it was mentioned that work is continuing on the link over to W2JB in New Jersey. Once this link is established, the node at K2GX should have a line-of sight-path to their repeater. In turn this path should ensure uninterrupted coverage into the Tri-State Packet system for nodes K2GX, K2LS, KD1F and N2TX.

The club repeater, W2LDX, operated satisfactorily over the summer.

NEW BUSINESS

Along with June's meeting minutes, Marty handed out some papers to the membership. Included was several documents, including the *Long Island Explorer*, which Marty anticipated would be a monthly club newsletter (to be included in with the monthly mailing prior to the meetings) informing the membership as to the latest club news, bulletins, and DX information. Volunteers who would be helping Marty in this endeavor so far are Ed, K2MFY and Pat, KE2LJ—additional contributors are urged to forward Marty any information. Other suggested content in this newsletter might include health and welfare, articles for sale, announcements, planned travel, DXpeditions (past or future), etc. In this month's handouts were the July copy of the *ARRL Hudson Division Newsletter*; an editorial on sunspots by K2MFY along with highlights of his first DX contact and the follow-up correspondence 43 years later; and finally a Yaesu time-zone world map. Marty also mentioned that he is working on a Web page for the LIDX.

On the subject of Good & Welfare, Bob, W2SF sadly reported the recent death of Irv, W2GMT former member of the LIDX. Also over the summer it was reported that Ben Friedland, K2BF president of the NJDXA, unexpectedly passed away.

Marty suggested two new amendments to the LIDX Constitution. One would permanently change the month for elections of new officers from May to April. This is now necessary due to conflicts

between the LIDX A election meeting, and the heavily-attended *Dayton Hamvention*. The other amendment suggested, was to keep the start time for the Sunday night LIDX A net permanently at 8 PM local time and not 0100 GMT (which always changes when we go to EST, *etc.*). He would submit these suggestions in writing to the membership shortly for review and vote.

Some activities were reported over the summer. The *Hudson Division Convention*, held September 12 and 13, was somewhat of a disappointment due to low attendance. Although our Hudson Division Director, Frank, N2FF sent out over 9000 announcements in his newsletter, it was felt that some of the division's members might not have gotten or read about this event. LIMARC had only 400 paid admissions at their outdoor flea market.

Marty mentioned that he has heard that a number of local amateurs would like to get the *TriState Amateur Committee* (TSARC) revitalized. TSARC regulates and coordinates VHF activities on the metropolitan repeater frequencies.

Lenny, KB2HK, spoke on his summer trip to Africa. He was fortunate to meet several radio amateurs along the way. One of the hams he met in Kenya had been sent out of the hospital in which he was recuperating, due to the influx of casualties from the recent American Embassy bombing.

Marty concluded the business portion of tonight's meeting by indicating that he would be leaving for London October 8 to attend the IOTA/RSGB convention. He hopes to bring back information about British licensing plans, new DX IOTA activities, and some souvenirs.

The business meeting then concluded at 8:55 PM. Following this, a video was shown on the activities from the Knights of Malta station, 1AØKM. At the conclusion of the meeting, Marty reminded the membership that dues, in the amount of \$25, is due starting with the October meeting.

Ed Whitman, K2MFY
LIDX A Secretary
(per notes taken by W2FGD)