

MINUTES OF LIDXA INC. MEETING—November 21, 1997

Location: Polytechnic University, Farmingdale, N.Y.

The meeting of November 21 was called to order at 8:15 PM by the LIDXA President Frank, N2FF. The XYLs of members N2DXJ and K2ENT were welcomed.

OLD BUSINESS

Ed, K2MFY, LIDXA Secretary had the minutes of the October 17th meeting distributed in advance to the membership. Except for a minor change, the minutes were accepted as written. The membership was reminded that dues in the amount of \$25 for the 1997–1998 year were being collected by the Treasurer, Russ, W2RL.

In terms of DX, several members reported that openings on the 15 and 10-meter bands were becoming more frequent, although somewhat erratic. New heard/worked items:

- It was reported that a station signing 1X5AA from the Russian province of Chechnya was ex-RW6PA, and said to QSL him via W3HNK after the beginning of the New Year.
- Active on the bands were several TT8's from the Central African Republic.
- Jim Smith, VK9NS informed DXers that he still could not get permission to operate from VU7 (Andaman Islands).
- In terms of IOTA, a station from AS-128 would be shortly on the air.

Ed reminded the membership that the CQ WorldWide Contest—CW portion, is the weekend of November 29th. All members who participate, and would be sending in their logs to *CQ Magazine*, were urged to give their final scores to Ed for inclusion in a club effort.

NEW BUSINESS

Frank spoke briefly to the membership about the new FCC guidelines on human exposure for electromagnetic fields. This document proposes new guidelines and procedures for evaluating human exposure to environmental RF energy. The document can be obtained from the FCC or through their Web Site at: www.fcc.gov/oet/info/info/documents/bulletins and then download document number OET Bulletin 6SB.

Ed mentioned that he had received correspondence from the daughter of Member-at Large and past LIDXA President, Jules Freundlich, W2JGR (who now resides in Minneapolis, MN). Jules' daughter wrote that he was being made a special 80th birthday party at the end of November. Ed passed around a card for Jules that all members signed. The card would be sent to Jules' daughter. Marty, NN2C, LIDXA Vice President and Membership Chairman, mentioned that a Member-at Large certificate would also be sent.

Some of the members spoke about the recent HamVention, sponsored by Radio Central ARC, and held on November 16th at the Huntington Hilton.

Bob, W2SF, highlighted his recent DXpedition to the Florida Keys. He indicated that conditions were excellent (with even good openings on 10 meters) and he logged many DX contacts from his new IOTA spot.

Several members commented on the sporadic operation of the K2LS and K2GX packet nodes. A number of probable factors were mentioned. Lou, N2TU, brought up the thought that perhaps the LIDXA should get rid of our repeater operation, and set it up as a packet node. This idea was dismissed since packet nodes are restricted to below 146 MHz in the TriState area.

A discussion arose on the possibility of a holiday get-together in December, rather than a formal meeting. After much discussion it was decided to hold an informal get-together at some centrally located restaurant that could be found, which did not require advance arrangements or minimum number of attendees. It was decided to hold our annual "Holiday Party" at the Spartan Diner just north of our Polytechnic University meeting place. The dinner would be held at around 7:30 PM on December 19th (our normal meeting night). There would be no business conducted at this get-together. To make it more informal, separate checks would be given out at the end of the meal—you could come for dinner or just a cup of coffee with some camaraderie! The membership unanimously approved this plan. Marty said he would check into the logistics, however, since this diner is very large, it was not anticipated that there would be any problems. Approximately 15–20 members (including guests) indicated that they may show up.

The remainder of business was a discussion of the ARRL DXCC 2000 proposal. Copies were made available before and during this meeting. After much discussion, the membership recommended that the ARRL should address the following issues in their proposal:

- For a country to be on the DXCC list, a minimum number of QSOs must be made within a well-defined number of ITU zones or CQ zones.
- Once a country has been accredited for DXCC, its status on the list should be periodically reviewed in terms of its political situation regarding the viability of ham radio activities.

These views would be sent formally to N2FF in early January so they can be included at the next Membership Services Committee.

With no new business matters raised, this portion of this meeting then concluded at 9:45 PM. Frank then wished the membership a happy holiday season and hoped they he would see many of us at the Holiday Party. The next scheduled meeting is January 16, 1998.

Ed Whitman, K2MFY
LIDXA Secretary