



IDAHO MONANA NET (IMN)
3572 KHZ Daily – 0300Z
December, 2012

IMN Web: <http://home.earthlink.net/~k7bfl/imn/imn.html>

Net Manager – Terry, WB6N
 Yrs. Trooly – Ed, AI7H

IMN for November: Sessions 30, QNI 394, QTC 22

NCS and Liaison to Other Nets

Day	NCS	RN7	MTN	FARM
SUN	W7VPK	AI7H	W7VPK	W7VPK
MON	WB6N	W7EKB/WB6N	KA7YYR	W7GHT
TUE	AI7H	AI7H	AI7H	W7GHT
WED	W7EKB	W7EKB	W7EKB	W7EKB
THU	W7VPK	WB6N	KB7QQ	W7GHT
FRI	AI7H	AI7H	KA7YYR	W7GHT
SAT	WB6N	WB6N	KA7YYR	W7GHT

Semi-Annual Publication of IMN Preamble

IMN Founder Bill (W7GHT) explained to me that two important factors in keeping a net going are the use of a standardized preamble, and publication of a periodic newsletter. (The standardized preamble helps net participants get in the swing of things, and the newsletter helps maintain interest in the net). So, we're pleased to include a copy of the Preamble this month – just in case you lost your old one.

And Now the Winter 80M “Blahs”

In case you have forgotten, we have some interesting stuff that happens every winter on 80 Meters. The ionosphere goes to heck almost every night, which means that we have a tough time hearing other stations, especially those close-by. The scientific explanation is that the “Critical Frequency” goes below our operating frequency, meaning that most of our signals go radiating out into space instead of bouncing back down as we normally expect. (Space alien hams have their scanners going!). You can view a live “Critical Frequency Map” (updated every five minutes) at - <http://www.spacew.com/www/fof2.html> Traditionally the most trouble happens in January and February, but we are getting started a little early this year.

Net Tip of the Month: “Book” or “Bulk” Messages

You have all heard them – the message from someone you don't know, reminding you that your license is about to expire (or something similar). These are considered to be “training” by some, and “bulk mail” or “ham spam” by others. But, traffic is traffic and we deliver all mail.

Now for the secret (if you didn't already know it): There are lists of "frequent NTS Message Texts" around the web, so you can be a leg up on the situation if you get involved in transmission or delivery. Look at the IMN web page (the internet link is in the masthead of this newsletter), and scroll down to "other links related to IMN", then find the one about frequent NTS Message Texts. Thanks to Don, K7BFL for maintaining our web page and providing this and many other excellent links!

A "Fillable" PDF Radiogram Form

This is really cool. For those of us who sometimes forget the exact detail of how to send (or receive) radiograms, the "fillable" form (attachment to this e-mail) is just the ticket. Try "filling in" a test message, then you can (File)(Save As)(new name) and you still have the blank form ready for use on the next Radiogram.

Solar Activity – Did You Hear It?

The extreme opposite of the Winter "Blahs" happened on 11/13 – 11/14, and again on 11/20 – 11/21, when significant Coronal Mass Ejections (CME's) impacted the earth's magnetic field. (Brian Williams on NBC news called the second one a "Tsunami on the Sun"). In this particular case, we were all able to hear each other, but there was extreme "flutter" – you guys all sounded like rare DX to me!

News From Around the Circuit

Vick, K7VK has completed an upgrade to his antenna farm that includes an 80M loop antenna. To describe in technical terms, it puts out a killer signal!

We are pleased to report the "re-vitalization" of the Northwest Traffic Net (NWTN), a VHF FM net in northern Idaho and eastern Washington. This is sort of a "hybrid" net, getting newer hams into the "net" mode and exposing them to the idea that they can move message traffic around through NTS. They are several light years away from being a serious traffic net, but at least they are far enough along to pay attention to NCS, and to listen to announcements.

Many of us know Gil (W7LG) – a brass pounder who lives over in western Washington. Gil took a tumble while hitching up the leaf vacuum to his tractor, broke a hip and was stuck in the hospital for a couple of days. Gil's wife Bliss (N7MXE) reports that the hip repair was successful and he is doing well. (Gil is 94 years old). Best wishes to Gil for a speedy recovery, although most of us over age 25 have noted that "speedy" is a relative thing.

Miscellaneous Information Section

Lame Military Joke

An old soldier who has been exposed to mustard gas and pepper spray is known as a seasoned veteran.

More Miscellaneous Information

Stupid One-Liners to tell at Holiday Parties

Protons have mass? I didn't even know they were Catholic.

All I ask is a chance to prove that money can't make me happy.

If the world were a logical place, men would be the ones who ride horses sidesaddle.

I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not sure.

Experience is the thing you have left when everything else is gone.

One nice thing about egotists: they don't talk about other people.

Help Wanted: Net Control Station operators. Three positions available

Right now we have four regular NCS for IMN. We'd like to have a total of seven. Please write to enquire about the excellent pay and benefits: ai7h@arrl.net

Address Corrections

Let us know if you change your e-mail address, and / or if you don't wish to receive the IMN Newsletter any longer.

November QNI and Traffic (30 of 30 days "in" at Press Time)

QNI: VE6ADM 20, AD7AN 4, K7BFL 6, WW6D 9, VE7DWG 4, W7EKB 6, KD7FAU 24, W7GB 13, W7GHT 29, AI7H 20, K9JM 13, K7JV 6, AL7KG 7, W7KXB 4, NQ7L 2, KE7LKW 18, AB7MP 4, WB6N 23, W6PAP 2, W7PKL 5, VA7QQ 18, N7RR 10, KM7SM 14, K7TM 11, W4TVI 11, WI7U 4, K7URU 12, KE7UUJ 8, K7VK 4, W7VPK 17, WA7WBY 11, K7YB 4, W7YV 27, KA7YYR 21, VE6ZE 5, WB7DJ 1, KE7LOY 1

Traffic: W7EKB 9, AI7H 6, W7VPK 2, WB6N 4, AD7AN, 1

Best Holiday Wishes from the IMN Staff

Terry (WB6N), Bill (W7GHT), Gale (W7VPK), Ken (W7EKB), and Ed (AI7H) appreciate your participation in Idaho-Montana Net, and hope you will all continue to pound brass with us in the coming year. Invite your friends, we still have plenty of room!

73 // Yrs Trooly – Ed, AI7H