



IDAHO MONANA NET (IMN)
3572 KHZ Daily – 0300Z
August, 2013

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

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

IMN for July: Sessions 31, QNI 364 QTC 24

NCS and Liaison to Other Nets

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

It's Storm Season (Again)

Thunderstorms (with associated lightning and wind) can be more ominous during summer. We trust that all of our IMN participants and friends have a plan for disconnecting ham gear and antennas prior to the onset of a local storm. Also, it is helpful to have an idea if storms are approaching... Yrs trooly likes these internet pages to help keep track of things:

thunderstorm.vaisala.com/explorer.html – national map with lightning strikes past 2 hours
northwesternweather.net/lightning.php – regional (NW US) map similar to above
weather.com – (set it up for your ZIP code, then use the “weather in motion” map)

And of course, you are excused from participating in IMN if there is an active storm in your area!

Not Ham Radio, but Real Interesting

This year is the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the American ZIP Code system for mail. Until 1963, the address on every piece of mail was physically “read” by a postal employee, so that it could be forwarded to the next sorting facility (called “Zones” in their lingo). The word “ZIP” is actually an abbreviation for the words “Zone Improvement Plan”. It took a while to catch on, but now almost all mail in the US is automatically sorted (with employees only physically reading the addresses on those items rejected by the machines). Although it would be possible to have 100,000 ZIP Codes, only about 45,000 are actually in use. (And, the “ZIP” system is now connected with the American 9-1-1 System).

Still Not Ham Radio, but Closer to it

Our friend Claire (N7CM) from Beaverton, OR shared an interesting picture and article from the Wall Street Journal, regarding the telegraph system in India. The Indian government (who "owned and operated" their system) officially shut it down on Sunday, 07/28 – after it had been in operation since 1850, a total of 163 years. (As an aside, things are more complicated in India, since many messages must be translated from Hindi to English to Morse Code, and back again). At time of shutdown, the system still handled about 5,000 messages per day, although many of them were service messages between government offices. The reason for shutdown (of course) was the internet. Of interest to Yrs Trooly was part of the India Telecom telegraph logo, which looks like Amateur Radio AR (End of Transmission symbol). Use your favorite internet search engine to look for the phrase "India Telegraph Services" to find a lot of good reading about this.

The Muppets and Radio

This is in the "too cute" category. Point your internet browser to:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z_trSIBCgF0

(Not to give the story away, but two Muppets from Mars discover RAY-DI-O, yup, yup, yup)!

QNI and QTC Information for July, 2013

QNI: VE6ADM-9, AD7AN-4, K7BFL-5, WW6D-7, VE7DWG-8, K7EK-2, W7EKB-4, KD7FAU-13, W7GB-12, W7GHT-28, AI7H-19, K6HRT-5, K7IRA-1, K9JM-23, K7JV-6, AL7KG-2, KE7LKW-14, NQ7L-1, AB7MP-12, WB6N-25, W6PAP-1, W7PKL-8, K7PX-1, VA7QQ-6, N7RR-2, KM7SM-10, K7TM-9, W4TVI-17, WI7U-3, K7URU-24, W7VPK-20, WA7WBY-6, W9WV-1, K7YB-6, W7YV-18, KA7YYR-27, VE6ZE-5, TOTAL = 364

QTC: AI7H-10, W7EKB-6, W7VPK-5, K7BFL-1, VE7DWG-1, WB6N-1, TOTAL = 24

Silly Humor Section

Another Fish Story

Two fish were swimming in the lake, and they ran into a concrete wall. The one fish turned to the other, and said "Dam".

And Another Engineer Story (With Possible Amateur Radio "Twist")

There once was a young engineer, who having worked for several years, decided that he and his family should have a weekend getaway place. He searched the surrounding country, and found a lovely spot with frontage on a small river. They built a cabin, and began spending time there every chance they got. The kids loved it, and friends came for the quiet and fishing.

The engineer, however, wanted something unique for his cabin. He had been an award-winning pole vaulter in college. He therefore built a set of poles with a crosspiece, and a mulched run. He bought a new carbon fiber vaulting pole, new shoes, and was set. He would set off down the run, plant his pole, soar over the crosspiece, and land in the river with a satisfying splash. What a great way to spend a hot afternoon. He tried to teach a few friends to vault, with no success.

He enjoyed his cabin for years, and went out early in the spring one year. It had been a very wet winter. When the family arrived, the river was high, and flowing at a good clip, with twice the usual current. The engineer was determined to enjoy a few vaults into the water, but his wife didn't think it was safe. But, he was a good swimmer, and proceeded to have a go at it. His run and jump were flawless, he hit the water in good form, but upon surfacing, he was swept downstream and disappeared. His body was found later that day, tangled in streamside debris. It was a sad end for the engineer, and the family sold the cabin, with no desire to return to the scene of such tragedy.

Our lamented engineer was a Civil Engineer. Had he consulted one of his Electrical Engineer brethren, he would have been warned that "It's not vaultage that kills you, it's the current!"

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.

73 // Yrs Trooly – Ed, AI7H