



**IDAHO MONTANA NET (IMN)
3572 KHZ Daily – 0300Z
February 2015**

IMN Web: www.felge.us/imn/imn.html

Net Manager – Terry, WB6N
Newsletter Editor – Yrs. Trooly (Ed, AI7H)

IMN for January: Sessions 31, QNI 589, QTC 28

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 / W7XT	WB6N	W7VPK	WB6N
FRI	AI7H	AI7H	KA7YYR	AI7H
SAT	WB6N	WB6N	KA7YYR	WB6N

Big Month for Idaho Montana Net

Our January QNI was 589, with a total of 45 stations participating at least once during the month. This is the biggest QNI in recent memory! Compliments to Terry (WB6N) our Idaho STM and IMN - Net Manager, who does a lot of background work to make it all seem so simple. And thanks to everyone who participated, whether you're a rabid traffic hound, practicing your CW proficiency, or just being nosy – please come back often!

Where to Find ARRL Radiogram Information

If you want to get a copy of the Radiogram “blank form”, along with the ARRL “numbered radiogram” info, here's a great link: <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/NTS/N7YSS.pdf>
You might print two or three copies to have handy in the shack in case Net Control asks if you can take traffic some evening. (As an aside, the “standard” radiogram form has space for 25 words, or about 125 characters. It's interesting to note that telephone text messages can have a maximum length of 125 characters, as well.)

Winter 80 Propagation

It hasn't been too bad at IMN Time this year, and by March we're usually out of the woods. However, later in the evening, it's quite trying to hear nearby stations on 80M. The “Space Weather” site has a nice map that shows the condition clearly if you check it a few times during the evening. Link = <http://www.spacew.com/www/fof2.html>

News From Around the Circuit

W7EKB Chairs RFI Committee

IMN Regular Ken (W7EKB) has commented several times that there's a lot of RFI around Moscow, ID. (Editor's question: Is there a lot of RFI around all places named Moscow?) In recent developments, Ken's local Club, the Palouse Hills ARC (PHARC) has decided to take RFI on as a project, and Ken was nominated as Chairman of the committee. We'll be interested to hear how they go about this, and also if they have any luck with abatement.

K7JV in Snowbird Wintering Land

Jim (K7JV) continues to be heard on IMN, as well as FARM Net, blasting out a good signal via the ham-stick antenna mounted on top of their motor home. (Later we hope to hear from Jim about what secret tricks he uses to make that antenna work so well).

More QRP + More

Dick (W7XT) recently "dusted off" his Ten-Tec Argonaut 515 QRP rig, and fired it up both on SSB (for Montana Traffic Net) and CW (for IMN). Rig sounded great in both modes, possibly helped by the elegant W7XT Antenna Farm. Dick also mentioned that, while going thru old stuff, he found a "Region Net Certificate", dated 08/01/77, and signed by Honorary IMN member Vic (W7VSE). Dick says that one went back up on the wall in his shack!

Welcome to KF7ONI

Leo (KF7ONI) has joined us from near Whitefish, MT, to hear more about NTS stuff, as well as build up his CW speed. (Like most of us, Leo comments that it sure is easier on the arm to paddle a paddle than pound a J-38). Look at Leo's bio and pictures on QRZ, very nice!

A Visit from N7CM

Our friend Claire (N7CM) from OSN has often mentioned that she would stop by and visit us on IMN. (Yrs trooly figured this was the same as "let's do lunch sometime"). But was delighted to hear Claire was true to her word when she joined us a couple evenings ago. Great signal, as always!

The Humor Section (back to dumb engineer jokes)

My wife's favorite engineer joke:

Question: What do engineers use for birth control?

Answer: Their personality.

Progression of planner vs engineer education: a good planner needs to know at least a little bit about a great variety of topics, and engineers often succeed by specializing, so we planners like to say that over time, planners learn less and less about more and more until eventually they know nothing about everything. Engineers learn more and more about less and less until they eventually know everything about nothing.

So an architect and an engineer were in a bar, and the architect, holding up his glass, asks:

"Half-full? Or half-empty? I see it as half-full..."

The engineer ponders a second before replying:

"I see a liquid containment device twice as big as it needs to be."

End of Dumb Engineer jokes (thank goodness)

January QNI and QTC

31 of 31 days reported as of press time

QNI: VE6ADM-17, VE6AWI-31, K7BFL-6, K7CM-1, WW6D-11, VE7DWG-14, K7EK-12, W7EKB-4, KD7FAU-4, W7GB-23, AI7H-29, K6HRT-11, K7IRA-3, W7IZ-3, K9JM-28, K7JV-5, AL7KG-14, W7KXB-27, KE7LKW-21, NQ7L-7, W7MDK-2, AB7MP-6, WB6N-25, VE7OM-15, KF7ONI-24, W6PAP-2, W7PKL-12, KF7QNS-24, VA7QQ-14, VE6QX-1, N7RR-13, KM7SM-10, W4TVI-13, WI7U-12, K7URU-18, KE7UUJ-2, W5UYH-10, K7VK-9, W7VPK-17, W7XT-24, K7YB-9, N7YRT-5, W7YV-6, KA7YYR-28, AB5ZA-17, total 589

QTC: AI7H-11, WB6N-5, W7XT-5, N7YRT-3, W7EKB-1, W7IZ-1, VE7OM-1, W7VPK-1, total 28

Volunteers Always Needed

If you are interested in helping us out at IMN, we're all ears! A long list of interesting jobs is available. (For info, all staff members are in the same pay grade).

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