



IDAHO MONANA NET (IMN)
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IMN Web: www.felge.us/imn/imn.html

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IMN for July: Sessions 31, QNI xxx, QTC xx

NCS and Liaison to Other Nets

Day	NCS	RN7	MTN	FARM	NWTN
SUN	W7VPK	W7XT	W7VPK	W7VPK	AI7H
MON	WB6N	WB6N	KA7YYR	WB6N	AI7H
TUE	AI7H	AI7H	W7VPK	AI7H	AI7H
WED	W7XT	W7XT	W7XT	W7XT	AI7H
THU	WB6N	WB6N	W7VPK	W7VPK	AI7H
FRI	W7VPK	AI7H	KA7YYR	AI7H	AI7H
SAT	WB6N	WB6N	KA7YYR	WB6N	AI7H

Trouble between ARRL and NTS

This is complicated to explain but our IMN members should at least hear that something is going on. The trouble started because there was alleged communication between NCS and FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) without explicit approval by ARRL HQ. Things have gone downhill from there. At this time, we expect life at the Section Net level (like IMN) to go on as in the past. Hopefully the dust will settle sufficiently within the next month or so to give us better visibility as to how NTS will operate in the future.

A Different Way to Share Spectrum

A local ham friend is quite a high-tech guy and recently mentioned to your editor that the “Defense Advance Research Projects Agency” (DARPA) is working on a project known as the “Spectrum Collaboration Challenge (SC2)”. The idea is as follows: radio spectrum is currently divided up by rigid “allocations” (the ham band allocations, for example). A different way to do it would be to have all spectrum consuming networks autonomously keep in touch with each other, and re-allocate spectrum dynamically, on a moment-to-moment basis. DARPA is inviting contestants to submit their ideas, and the team whose radio design most reliably achieves successful communication could win a prize of up to \$2 MILLION! So, if you’d like to win some big bucks go to <https://spectrumcollaborationchallenge.com/> and start reading...

News From Around the Net (Sometimes Known as the “Bull Sh e e t”)

As mentioned in an earlier newsletter, Ken (W7EKB) has been working for some time on home remodeling, which included addition of a room. This resulted in a struggle between hamming and home ownership, as he had to bring down his 55-foot vertical antenna to complete the room addition. The antenna vacuum gave Ken time to design a miracle antenna (a “vee-beam”), to be fed via 600 ohm open wire line, matched up to the rig by a heavy-duty homebrew balanced antenna coupler. The new antenna (with coupler) is designed to enable operation on 160M thru 6M. (Editor’s note: sounds like material for a future *QST* magazine article!)

Sadly, trouble strikes when and where least expected. A pair of Swainson’s Hawks have established residence in the 110-foot fir tree which is the planned support for one end of the antenna. So Ken will have to wait until fall when the hawks leave to complete the installation. (He has made arrangements with a local RC airplane enthusiast to use a large “tri-copter” drone to haul a line over the top of the tree when the time comes). In the meantime, Ken has re-installed his original vertical antenna (which was loaned to his local Club for Field Day and of course suffered damage) and it actually sounds quite good! Best of luck to Ken on moving out hawks, flying tri-copters, and all the other unusual stuff that happens when pulling together a large project like this.

Mark (AB7MP) has completed a “bucket list” item! He was on the air at K6KPH at Point Reyes, CA on July 12 for the annual “night of nights” celebration. Since Mark also holds a commercial ticket, he sat at the commercial position and sent a commemorative message that he had to create at the last minute (no pressure!). Mark simultaneously keyed up stations KSM, KPH, and KFM on several commercial frequencies, a total of 13 transmitters at 5KW! On the ham side, he was assigned to work the 15M position, where he completed 14 QSO’s. An interesting note regarding the station: they have separate transmitter and receiver sites about 20 miles apart (a typical arrangement for commercial and military communications stations). The operators actually sit at the receiver site, so they hear their transmitted signals on their receivers (true on-the-air transmitter monitoring and true QSK). Mark says the local operators were very helpful and thankful that visitors were willing to work at the station. Go to QRZ.com and look up K6KPH for much more information.

Bob (K7YB) is officially off the air locally, and will be relocating to San Ignacio, Belize by about 09/01. Bob and XYL have vacationed in Belize a number of times and feel comfortable there. The new home is located about 70 miles inland, on an acre of land with fruit trees as well as plenty of tall trees suitable for antenna farming. Bob plans to be on 40-10 Meters with the call V31YB (they call 160 and 80M the “noise bands” down there). Best of luck on this excellent adventure, Bob!

Humor Division

Good writing intensity

The fourth grade teacher was working her students on spelling and usage of certain words, including “deduct”, “defense”, and “detail”. After a lengthy discussion of the words and their meaning, the teacher asked the kids to write sentences using each word. Little Johnny managed to get all the words into a single sentence, as follows: “Deduct jumped over defense, dehead before detail”.

Ham Radio Food for Thought (courtesy of WA0OFO)

1. Why is the lowest frequency amateur radio band called "Top Band?" Shouldn't it be called "Bottom Band?"
2. Why are there "Q" signals, but no "P" signals or "G" signals or "F" signals?
3. Why is Morse Code called Continuous Wave, when it isn't continuous? CW signals are never "continuous," instead, the dits and dahs start and stop every few milliseconds.
4. If 160 Meters is the “Gentlemen s Band,” is 2 Meters the "Moron's Band?"

July QNI and QTC (29 of 31 days at press time)

QNI: VE6ADM-2, AC7AF-4, VE6AWI-14, K7BFL-8, WW6D-3, N7DXT-6, W7EKB-5, KA7FTP-14, W7GB-9, AI7H-25, K9JM-21, K7JV-5, KE7LKW-4, AB7MP-5, WB6N-22, VE7OM-1, KF7ONI-3, W7PKL-9, KF7QNS-16, VA7QQ-19, W7SAG-13, VE5SDH-3, KM7SM-10, K7TM-14, W4TVI-1, WI7U-3, K7URU-18, W5UYH-13, K7VK-9, W7VPK-25, W7XT-10, K7YB-2, KA7YYR-11, AB5ZA-20, total 347

QTC: AI7H-5, WB6N-2, W7VPK-5, W7XT-2, W7EKB-3, total 17

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