



IDAHO MONTANA NET (IMN)
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IMN for August: Sessions 31, QNI 363, QTC 32

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

The New Traffic Organization

As discussed in the August newsletter, there will be some changes in the organization of what has been called the National Traffic System (NTS). First, all local and section nets (like Idaho-Montana Net) will continue to operate as part of the National Traffic System (no changes in names or net scripts). Some regional nets (like RN7) will continue to use their current names. At the area and national level, the system will operate pretty much the same as it always has, but using the name Radio Relay International (RRI). Some details are still being worked out, but that’s how we understand the new structure as of now.

And Still Another Way to Share Spectrum

This one is called “Orbital Angular Momentum” (OAM), and can be imagined as “twisted light” (or radio waves). The idea is that waves can be transmitted with a twist, at received with a filter tuned to that twist. Amazingly, waves with different twists don’t seem to interfere with each other, so a given frequency could accommodate a large number of signals simultaneously. At the moment the concept is being tested in the light spectrum (fiber optics) and the gigahertz bands (as in wi-fi networks), but could be applicable to lower bands sometime in the future. This is nicely explained in an online article:

<http://spectrum.ieee.org/telecom/wireless/twisted-light-could-dramatically-boost-data-rates>

And What About the International System of Units (“SI”)?

IMN'er Bruce (N7RR) recently brought up the point that there is an organization known as the General Conference of Weights and Measures (CGWM). (As an aside, the abbreviations in the title and the previous sentence are French, which is why some of the letters are transposed). Anyway, the SI group keeps tabs on the names assigned to various weights and measurements. As an example, a few of us still refer to “megacycles” and “microfarads”, but as everyone knows, the current names are “megahertz” and “picofarads”. For an interesting overview on this, visit https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_System_of_Units

Bruce has also developed a summary of electrical and time system of units in PDF format. Yrs trooly would be happy to forward a copy of the PDF if you'd like one for your shop or shack.

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

We have not heard much in the way of news from IMN'ers this month. Hopefully this is because we were all having a good August and getting outside for a bit.

Humor Division

Back to the “Dumb Engineer Jokes”

A software developer, a hardware engineer and a mid-level manager were on their way to a conference center located near the top of a mountain. After the conference they were driving down the steep mountain road and suddenly the brakes on their car failed. The car careened almost out of control down the road, bouncing off the crash barriers, until it miraculously ground to a halt scraping along the mountainside. The car's occupants, shaken but unhurt, now had a problem: they were stuck halfway down a mountain in a car with no brakes. What were they to do?

"I know," said the manager, "Let's have a meeting, propose a Vision, formulate a Mission Statement, define some Goals, and by a process of Continuous Improvement find a solution to the Critical Problems, and we can be on our way." "No, no," said the hardware engineer, "That will take far too long, and besides, that method has never worked before. I've got my Swiss Army knife with me, and in no time at all I can strip down the car's braking system, isolate the fault, fix it, and we can be on our way". "Well," said the software developer, "Before we do anything, I think we should push the car back to the top of the mountain and see if it happens again."

Advice for student engineers: Give girls a chance. Give her your phone # in binary codes, if she calls then she might have some potential.

Why do computer engineers get Halloween and Christmas mixed up?
Because 31oct = 25dec

An artists, and architect, and an engineer were at the bar discussing the relative values and enjoyment of mistresses and wives.

The artists decided, 'I would much rather have my mistress! It is always exciting and a little bit naughty and different.'

The architect said, 'I much prefer my wife. I like the stability and certainty.'

The engineer said, 'I like to have both. That way, my wife can think I'm with my mistress, my mistress can think I'm with my wife, and I can get back to the plant to get some work done.'

August QNI and QTC (31 of 31 days "in" at press time)

QNI: VE6ADM-5, VE6AWI-16, K7BFL-12, WW6D-3, N7DXT-9, W7EKB-4, KA7FTP-28, W7GB-11, AI7H-23, K9JM-25, K7JV-9, AB7MP-2, WB6N-23, KF7ONI-3, W6PAP-2, W7PKL-6, KF7QNS-21, VA7QQ-21, W7SAG-16, VE5SDH-1, KM7SM-7, K7TM-10, WI7U-3, K7URU-5, W5UYH-17, K7VK-7, W7VPK-25, W7XT-12, KA7YYR-18, AB5ZA-17, AI6U-1, N7RR-1, total 363

QTC: AI7H-8, WB6N-11, W7VPK-5, W7XT-6, W7EKB-1, KM7SM-1, total 32

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