



IDAHO MONANA NET (IMN)
3572 KHZ Daily – 0245Z
November, 2016

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

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IMN for October: Sessions 31, QNI 427, QTC 27

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

Late News Flash (In Case You Missed It On 10/31)

Boo!

Winter Time Change Coming Soon

The official change-over is the first weekend in November. On Saturday evening (11/05), remember to set your (non-atomic) clocks back one hour before going to bed. Time changes are always a bit confusing, as some nets stay on current local time and some stay on “Zulu” time. IMN always meets at 0245Z, so beginning on Sunday, 11/06 we will be on the air at 7:45PM MST, 6:45PM PST.

Band Conditions

Solar Cycle 24 is pretty much over. We’ve experienced a reduced number of sunspots during the decline, but also a lot of geomagnetic activity, which tends to wipe out the bands. (Band checks the past several days have been fair to poor, even on 80 Meters at night). The 80M band “goes long” quite early in the evening, meaning that we can hear distant stations like K9JM and WW6D (630 and 706 miles from my QTH) quite well, and just catch whispers from “local” stations within 300 miles or so. The “going long” situation gets worse as the evening progresses, so moving the net ahead one hour (winter time) will improve the situation. We attempt to track band conditions here using this link: <http://www.spacew.com/www/fof2.html> It is a “live” space weather map of “critical frequencies”. You’ll have to look at it a few times to understand how the critical frequency goes lower each evening, often below 3Mhz.

Antenna Farming

Bad Band Conditions tend to make the Amateur Radio operator think of Antenna Farming. It's a "Known Fact" that the best antenna farming is done on miserable days, preferably with rain or sleet, and the temperature around freezing. Be safe if you're farming this fall!

Simulated Emergency Tests

The ARES and RACES folks (includes some of us) traditionally hold a Simulated Emergency Test (SET) sometime during the fourth quarter of the year. (For example, the Idaho Section SET was on 10/15, Montana was on 10/19, and the Oregon Section is scheduled for 11/05). Typically the Section involved will develop a "scenario", then test the performance of practicing ARES or RACES groups against that scenario. We always have some surprises (good and bad), but it's much easier to practice during Simulated emergencies than during real ones.

What About Our Readiness?

So, what if we have a real emergency and there is a need to pass message traffic. Are you ready to create or receive an ARRL Radiogram? What about the "Handling Instructions" and "Numbered" Radiogram Texts? Here's a link to a very nice radiogram form with explanations of handling instructions and numbered texts, courtesy N7YSS:

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Public%20Service/TrainingModules/Radiogram.pdf>

And what about the Q-Signals used in nets? If you need a refresher on them, here's a very nice link: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/QN_Signals

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

IMN Regular (and sometimes NCS) Dick (W7XT) has been "promoted" to NCS on the RN7 one night per week. Dick is still getting used to the way things are done on that regional net (IMN and several others "report in" to RN7), but says the water is fine, once you get used to it.

IMN participant Dick (K6HRT) has "retired" from IMN as a regular. Dick says both he and the XYL have overcome some health situations, but the dynamic of how things work has changed a bit at their place down in southern CA. (But he's no slouch, view his bio on QRZ for info!)

As per previous forecast, Jim (K7JV) and XYL Angie are loaded out and launching for Lake Havasu, AZ within the next few days. Jim and Angie are our official IMN Snowbirds, it's always interesting to hear him check in to the net from far-away places.

Humor Division

Short Grandchildren Stories:

1. A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her own childhood was like.

"We used to skate outside on a pond. I had a swing made from a tire; it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods."

The little girl was wide-eyed, taking this all in. At last she said, "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!"

2. When my grandson asked me how old I was, I teasingly replied, "I'm not sure."

"Look in your underwear, Grandpa," he advised "Mine says I'm 4 to 6."

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

QNI: VE6ADM-3, VE6AWI-30, K7BFL-5, WW6D-8, W7EKB-5, KA7FTP-31, W7GB-12, AI7H-29, W7IZ-1, K9JM-26, K7JV-3, AB7MP-4, WB6N-25, W6PAP-2, W7PKL-14, KF7QNS-22, VA7QQ-16, W7SAG-22, VE5SDH-1, KM7SM-13, K7TM-1, W4TVI-7, WI7U-13, K7URU-26, W5UYH-17, K7VK-8, W7VPK-21, W7XT-11, KA7YYR-21, AB5ZA-20, N7ZM-2, total 427

QTC: AI7H-7, WB6N-2, W7VPK-5, W7XT-3, W7EKB-10, KM7SM-1, total 27

Newsletter Contributions Welcome!

If you have an interesting news story, or some reportable activity (ham or otherwise) is happening at your QTH, please send it in and we'll share with all in our newsletter family.

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