



**IDAHO MONANA NET (IMN)
3572 KHZ Daily – 0245Z
March 2018**

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

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IMN for February: Sessions 28, QNI 322, QTC 19

NCS and Liaison to Other Nets

Day	NCS	RN7	MTN	FARM	NWTN
SUN	W7XT	W7XT	KF7QNS	W7XT	AI7H
MON	WB6N	WB6N	KA7YYR	WB6N	AI7H
TUE	AI7H	AI7H	AI7H	AI7H	AI7H
WED	W7XT	W7XT	KF7QNS	W7XT	AI7H
THU	VA7QQ	WB6N	K7ONI	WB6N	AI7H
FRI	AI7H	AI7H	KA7YYR	AI7H	AI7H
SAT	WB6N	WB6N	KA7YYR	WB6N	AI7H

Spoiler Alert: Daylight Saving Time (Again!)*

This year Daylight Saving Time (DST) begins at 2AM (your local zone) Sunday, March 11. Things are getting a little easier in the home with more “atomic” clocks and automatic changes on the computer; but in the Amateur Radio world, not quite so much. MOST nets (including IMN) observe “ZULU” or UTC all year long, which means that IMN will meet One Hour Later in your local time zone (7:45 PM PDST, 8:45 PM MDST, 9:45 CDST). SOME nets (like RN7) stay on Local time all year long, and RN7/1 will continue at 7:30 PDST/ 8:30 MDST. Then the odds-and-ends: Staff Snow Bird Jim (K7JV) and XYL Angie are in AZ (which doesn’t change to DST); IMN regular Helen (KF7QNS) will have a station conflict because OM Mike (WB7RBH) has a busy net at 7PM local and they share an antenna farm; IMN regular Summer (VE5SDH) (our IMN outpost in SK) will have to stay up late; and all of us have to remember the new routine.

*(it’s called Daylight Saving – not Daylight Savings time. Savings is something you put under the mattress or in the bank).

QRM On The IMN Frequency

During February we encountered the usual number of “QRM Events”, especially from Digital stations on weekends (because of Digi contest events). Also, a few occasions with RMS or Winlink stations, as well as FT-8 and those other new-fangled Digi modes. And once with a nonsensical CW station. While CW is permitted over the entire 80-Meter band, the ARRL band-plan does indicate that the Digital Modes are to operate in the 3570-3600 Khz, so we’re

in a busy area of the band. If a Digi station is active on 3572 when the net begins, listen “up” or “down” (not far) for NCS. 3572.5 or 3571.5 (for example) might be QRM free.

Terrestrial Season and Weather Commentary

Well, February certainly went by fast! And I’m a little suspicious about this whole ground-hog thing. After a really nice January, we had a cold spell and quite a bit of snow at your editor’s QTH. Good thing I was lazy and didn’t plant any garden in January.

Idaho QSO Party

For those in Idaho who would like to be “DX Station of the Day”, and for those outside of Idaho who would like to work rare DX (Idaho): the season is upon us! The Idaho QSO Party will take place on Saturday March 10-11, operate as little or as much as you like, voice, CW, Digi modes. Complete information is available at www.idahoarrl.info, click on the Idaho QSO Party button on the lower left. There are a lot of operating events every weekend (Oklahoma QSO Party is also on 03/10-03/11), that’s all part of the fun! Hope to work some of you during the Idaho QSO Party.

Band Conditions Way Better (Sort Of)

Maybe the worst is over (?) In February we had a number of IMN sessions with a large QNI. And a few signals so strong they almost bent the s-meter. Southern outpost IMN staff member Jim (K7JV) boomed in several times from Yuma, AZ. We’re not quite talking with Australia using a coat hanger from an antenna, but better than the worst of times (we hope)!

More on the 600 Meter Project

We actually have stage one of the homebrew 600-Meter rig finished (sort of). Now scrounging through buried treasure in the junk-box looking for just the right this-or-that. And studying old tube data-sheets from the internet (where everything is known to be true). Because of the low frequency, the coils and capacitors will have to be quite large. (An 18-ounce oatmeal tube is four inches in diameter, looks like a good coil form). Many thanks to W7EKB for his free counseling on “things”. More boring notes on this next month.

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

IMN Regular Helen (KF7QNS) has added two notches to her belt as an NCS. (Reminds me of that song from the 1980’s about the “Smooth Operator”). Compliments to Helen!

IMN Regular Dick (W7XT) suffered a blown-down antenna during one of our February wind storms. Back in service after things settled down, but a couple feet lower than before.

An “Uncle Elmer” story. It turns out that Don (K7BFL) was the Elmer (oh-so-long-ago) to Jim (K7JV), who became Net Manager and was an NCS for several years. Fast forward to Dick (W7XT) who has been Elmer to Helen (KF7QNS) over the past several years, and Helen has taken on a QNB and NCS role in “modern times”. Pure poetry! I’m sure there are additional stories like this, if you had an Elmer experience, please share with your editor.

Humor Division

Current Worst Knock-Knock joke:

Knock-Knock

“Who’s There?”

“Armageddon”

“Armageddon Who?”

“Armageddon tired of you locking the door every time I go out to take a walk”.

Current Worst Logging (as in Forestry) joke:

“Ironically I knew that I was fired when they DIDN’T give me the axe”.

February QNI and QTC (28 of 28 days in at press time)

QNI: VE6ADM-3, AC7AF-4, VE6AWI-25, K7BFL-10, KA7FTP-20, W7GB-9, AI7H-22, K9JM-23, K7JV-5, AB7MP-5, WB6N-19, K7ONI-2, W6PAP-2, W7PKL-5, KF7QNS-23, VA7QQ-19, W7SAG-20, VE5SDH-6, KM7SM-9, K7TM-11, W4TVI-12, K7URU-15, W5UYH-15, K7VK-2, W7XT-10, KA7YYR-26, total 322

QTC: AI7H-8, WB6N-1, VA7QQ-4, W7XT-6, total 19

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.

73 // Yrs Trooly – Ed, AI7H