



**IDAHO MONANA NET (IMN)  
3572 KHZ Daily – 0245Z  
March 2020**

IMN Web: [www.felge.us/imn/imn.html](http://www.felge.us/imn/imn.html)

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IMN for March: Sessions 31, QNI 323, QTC 39

**NCS and Liaison to Other Nets**

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

**The Corona Virus**

This has been a huge change in all of our lives. Every state and province (except Nunavut in far northern Canada) has reported cases of Covid-19 (the Coronavirus Disease). You have probably read discussion about “Flattening the Curve”, a term used to describe how to slow down the spread of Covid-19. For an excellent display of “The Curve”, view this interactive map by Public Health Canada:

[www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html)

So far we have not seen any “real” health and welfare traffic because commercial internet has not experienced any large interruptions. But it’s possible that we may be called upon if trouble occurs with commercial systems. Keep your Radiogram pad handy with a couple sharp pencils!

**The Band is OPEN (More or Less)**

Exciting News, fellow IMN’ers! Beginning about March 15, the 80M Band was suddenly open almost every evening, with everyone bending the S-Meter needle of everyone else. If you have not been with us recently because of poor band conditions, please come back and join the fun. Even with no sunspots (see below).

**Sunspots = 0**

The sunspot math has been quite easy again in March. Zero (0). This is a characteristic of the bottom of the 11-year sunspot cycle, according to NOAA.

## **Those Other Activities**

Still plenty of other “operating activities” going on, especially during weekends. For fun, take a look at the WA7BNM “Contest Calendar” link: [www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html](http://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html) Bruce (WA7BNM) does a terrific job of maintaining this, another example of how the internet can be a very useful tool for all of us. IF a contesting station claims “OUR” frequency for his/her event, NCS will normally move UP far enough to avoid mutual interference. So if a stranger is there doing “something else” at net time, try tuning UP (not DOWN) to find NCS.

## **Food for Thought: Net Time**

We’ve had comments from several IMN’ers regarding a possible change of net time during winter months, beginning with the 2020-2021 season. (You will recall, the proposition was to move net time forward, from 0245Z to 0045Z, when band conditions appear to be more favorable). Washington State Net (WSN) made the move-forward change in the 2019-2020 season, with 100% reliability. No decision has been made for IMN, possibly the Sunspot Cycle 25 will kick in this year and we won’t need to change time.

## **The Idaho QSO Party**

It went quite well! On the basis of logs received (254 in total), this was about 2.5 times the number of stations that have participated in the past. Very satisfying news for those of us who have been involved in the back office at IDQP. Saw some IMN’er Calls in there, too!

## **Bull Sheet**

Jim (K7JV) keeps your editor informed of “stuff” on the Snowbird trail. There was difficulty with RF in the RV (suddenly), traced to oxidation of ground lugs on the RV roof. Problem solved with careful troubleshooting and some new hardware. There was joy (sometimes) with a new rig, something called a “FLEXZ-6400” with Maestro. And there was relief when Jim and XYL Angie safely returned as of 03/27. Ya that Snowbirding is quite a gig!

IMN regular Otis (KM7SM) says: Pleased to report that the Admiral Halsey Key located at Station KM7SM has been enshrined in a wooden sarcophagus. The top of the sarcophagus is made of glass that can be easily broken in the case of an emergency. Otis sent a photo along with his note, it’s a bit “fat” for posting in the newsletter but would be happy to forward it if anyone wants to see. It appears that Otis also has excellent woodworking skills.

Vick (K7VK) also reported being a Snowbird to AZ, and has returned home to Missoula, MT early.

**March QNI and QTC (31 OF 31 DAYS IN AT PRESS TIME)**

QNI: VE6ADM-9, VE6AWI-26, K7BFL-9, WW6D-13, KA7FTP-14, W7GB-13, AI7H-19, K9JM-25, WJ7S-21, K7JV-10, AB7MP-4, WB6N-23, W6PAP-4, KF7QNS-24, VA7QQ-23, KM7SM-21, K7URU-24, W5UYH-12, K7VK-3, W7XT-8, KA7YYR-10, AB5ZA-6, W7RGZ-2, total QNI 323

QTC: AI7H-9, WB6N-17, VA7QQ-3, W7XT-9, KM7SM-1, total QTC 39

Total Net Time: 293 Minutes (Average about 9.4 Min/Session)

**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

How to remember the appropriate "Social Distance"....

