



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

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

Net Manager – Terry, WB6N
Newsletter Editor – Yrs. Trooly (Ed, AI7H)

IMN for November: Sessions 30, QNI 300, QTC 33

NCS and Liaison to Other Nets

Day	NCS	RN7	MTN
SUN	KM7SM	W7XT	AI7H
MON	WB6N	WB6N	KA7YYR
TUE	AI7H	AI7H	AI7H
WED	KF7QNS	AI7H	KF7QNS
THU	VA7QQ	WB6N	AI7H
FRI	AI7H	AI7H	KA7YYR
SAT	WB6N	WB6N	KA7YYR

Holiday Greetings

We should take a moment at the top of the page to recognize the holiday season. The IMN staff wishes a very Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year to all of our tribe!

About Sunspot Cycle 25

We keep wondering when it will get here, but the experts say that “quite a few” (as opposed to Zero) sunspots have appeared recently with a cycle 25 signature. If we are finally getting started, then the Maximum should take place in about mid 2026 (which gives plenty of time to prepare the dream antenna farm). Predictions have been widely varied, mostly on the conservative side, but a new research paper says that this one *could* be a gangbuster, perhaps even better than cycle 19 back in the late 1950’s. (That was back when we could “work Australia on a coat hanger”). Good reading links below.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/?issue=2020-11-19>

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2006.15263.pdf>

The Contest Season Continues

While CW signals seem harder to find anywhere in the band these days, there is a crazy tribe called “Contesters” who roam the bands (especially in winter months) making CW and RTTY QSO’s wherever they find them. The normally placid 3572 Khz can become loaded with *them*, especially on weekend nights. Since we don’t “Own” our net frequency we must do our best to work around them. The normal procedure is for NCS to check the frequency just before net time, and if 3572 is “occupied”, then attempt to find a clear frequency just a little ways UP. NCS will then start the net saying something like “IMN UP” and lead us to the clear spot. Net

participants can also experiment with their bandwidth can receive-incremental-tuning controls to reduce or block out adjacent channel interference from the contesters.

About Web SDR

This is really cool. You have probably heard of Software Defined Radio (SDR). There are a number of locations around the US that have set up SDR Receivers accessible via the web. The receivers are capable of hosting a large number of users listening on different frequencies – all at the same time! So, for example, your editor can use the SDR station located near Half Moon Bay, CA to listen to IMN “from a distance”. This works very well when the “band goes long”. Go to www.websdr.org for more information. It takes some experimentation to get things going, but well worthwhile!

Bull Sheet: Modest quantity bull this month!

IMN NCS and ham's ham Otis (KM7SM) reports that a major upgrade is in progress at his QTH. A new operating site has been chosen in a basement room, painting is complete, a trial equipment setup is in place, and things work pretty well. Otis says there is a slight increase in SWR (new operating position vs previous one), but he is reserving outside work for the appropriate time. To quote Otis on the appropriate time, “Antenna work is best done in weather similar to Small Craft Advisory conditions in the Gulf of Alaska”, a powerful statement from a Louisiana boy!

Once again Jim (K7JV) our avid experimenter with things new, has a new iron in the fire (so to speak). Jim has been experimenting with Web SDR (see details in news paragraph above), he finds it works great when on SSB but challenging when on CW because of latency (see next paragraph).

Your editor is also a fan of Web SDR. A project is in progress to create a “TR Switch” (for switching headphone input from computer while receiving to rig sidetone when transmitting). This is one of those 15 minute projects that tends to take about three weeks for completion.

One little Chuckle?

Question: What did the raindrop say to the other raindrop?

Answer: “Two's company, three is a cloud”

November QNI and QTC (28 OF 30 DAYS IN AT PRESS TIME)

QNI: VE6ADM-11, VE6AWI-26, K7BFL-6, WW6D-24, KA7FTP-25, W7GB-11, AI7H-20, K9JM-26, WJ7S-22, K7JV-7, AB7MP-4, WB6N-17, W6PAP-3, KF7QNS-21, VA7QQ-10, KM7SM-26, K0SN-1, K7URU-20, W5UYH-14, W7XT-1, KA7YYR-5, total QNI 300

QTC: AI7H-7, VA7QQ-3, WB6N-6, KM7SM-11, W7XT-1, total QTC 33

Total Net Time: 248 Minutes (Average about 10 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

Mornings Getting a Bit Chilly!



"Latte, Jed?"