IDAHO MONANA NET (IMN)
3572 KHZ Daily – 0245Z
January 2021

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

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Newsletter Editor – Yrs. Trooly (Ed, AI7H)

IMN for December: Sessions 31, QNI 242, QTC 16

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

After Holiday: Bah, Humbug

There is a change to the fine print in 47CFR Part 97 (ham regs) that goes into effect on 06/29/2021. The short story is that the FCC will start doing most everything electronically via the Universal Licensing System (ULS), and they want to have an e-mail address for every licensee. You can read all about this on this exceedingly long link:

https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/12/29/2020-28779/completing-the-transition-to-electronic-filing-licenses-and-authorizations-and-correspondence-in-the

Yes the link ends with “in-the”. The upshot of the long publication is that it includes ALL FCC-Controlled communications services, and you can save about three hours reading by scrolling to the very end of the document, Section 35.

GMAIL TAP (?)

We have heard about this from several sources and it appears to be recycled from a few years ago. You can decide whether you believe Google or it’s Fake News. Here’s the link:

https://gmail.googleblog.com/2012/03/introducing-gmail-tap.html

More About Web SDR

As mentioned last month, you can use an online SDR to provide a “remote receiver” for your station. There are a number of SDR stations in North America, most of them cover the entire MF and HF spectrum, and each station can simultaneously accommodate a large number of users (there were 88 users on the Northern Utah SDR when I listened there last evening). Often when propagation is strange, one can hear stations (from IMN, for example) much better on SDR than on the home rig. To try this, go to www.websdr.org then fill in the “Filter Band” and “Region” boxes, choose the desired location, and you’re off and running. There are a lot of things to click and boxes to fill in, so it takes a while to get things going. (Hint, try 40M or 75M SSB, you can find stations on the panoramic display, they’re fairly easy to tune in). No worries if you get all messed up with your tuning choices, just exit the website and the choices are erased.

Bull Sheet:

IMN NCS and ham antenna experimenter Otis (KM7SM) says he is now ready to commence work out at the antenna farm, and he sent a pic to show what is going on.

In case you’re not familiar with the icy buildup on the wire, it’s caused by “freezing fog” and is often referred to as hoar frost. (Spoken as a single word, hoarfrost).

You will recall that we have been following the adventures of “Experimental Jim” aka IMN Regular Jim (K7JV). To keep the story fairly short, Jim and XYL Angie decided Not to do the snowbird thing this year, which gives more time for home QTH experimentation. Jim lives in a condo, immediately adjacent to another ham (who is not real active on the air at this time). The condo complex is quite modern, with LOTS of electronics. It turns out the “Security System” (fire alarms, door/window monitors, water leak detectors) includes 26 devices that

report to a central console by RF on a regular basis; the “Home Automation System” includes 34 devices that may talk to each other over 120v or wireless; the “Weather Station” that reports via RF; a fleet of eight “Ring Cameras”; and a ham station switching power supply. Jim’s FLEX Radio has a panoramic display that shows noise level to be in the -90 to -100dB range, but of course it does not ID what home devices (if any) are contributing. So, the plan is to go “cold iron” at an opportune time (read: when both XYL Angie and the neighbor ham’s XYL are out for the day) and assess how much quieter things would be when the FLEX radio is on battery power. This is an excellent small-scale representation of what happens when NASA is sending a deep space mission to Pluto and beyond!

As reported last month, your editor is now “enchanted” by web SDR. We have completed a footswitch operated Transmit/Receive (TR) switch to hop between audio from the rig and audio from the computer. (Needed because the signal from the computer is about 0.25 second behind the signal sent from my QTH. The ¼ second delay makes this operator go daffy.) Yes, it did take three weeks to complete because a small audio amp was required, easy for most everyone to build but old parts and shaky hands don’t help.

December QNI and QTC (xx OF 31 DAYS IN AT PRESS TIME)

QNI: VE6ADM-8, VE6AWI-16, K7BFL-6, WW6D-22, KA7FTP-22, W7GB-4, AI7H-19, K9JM-26, WJ7S-16, K7JV-8, AB7MP-2, WB6N-12, W6PAP-5, KF7QNS-18, VA7QQ-4, KM7SM-19, K7URU-10, W5UYH-13, KA7YYR-12, total QNI 242

QTC: AI7H-8, VA7QQ-2, WB6N-1, KM7SM-5, total QTC 16

Total Net Time: 237 Minutes (Average about 8 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