



IDAHO MONTANA NET (IMN)

3578.5/7043 KHz Daily - 0300

MAY 2008

IMN Web: <http://home.earthlink.net/~k7bfl/imn/imn.html>
Manager - Open Recorder: VE7DWG Yrs. Trooly: W7GHT
IMN for April: Sessions 30, QNI 391, QTC 100

DAY	NCS	RN7	MTN	FARM
SUN	W7GHT	W7GHT	W7EKB	W7GHT
MON	W7GHT	W7GHT		W7GHT
TUE	VE7DWG	VE7DWG		
WED	W7GHT	W7GHT	KA7YYR	W7GHT
THU	W7EKB	W7EKB	W7EKB	W7EKB
FRI	W7GHT	W7GHT		W7GHT
SAT	W7GHT	W7GHT	KA7YYR	W7GHT

TITANIC COMMERATED

We all know quite a bit about the sinking Titanic, which was way back (about a century ago) on April 15, 1912. Well, several Amateur Special Events were sponsored to commemorate the event. The "White Star Line" was on the air from the Titanic Museum in Branson, MO April 12-13, sponsored by the Nixa ARC and the Southwest Missouri ARC.

The Special Event Station, W1MGY, similarly was on the air from the Titanic Museum in Indian Orchard, MA.

Several other celebrations were held that weekend. Anyone of us happen to make contact with one or more of the special event stations? If so, please e-mail me a copy of the QSL you received, for publication in this NL.

EARTH HOUR

Remember the "Earth Hour" when everyone was asked to turn off their electric lights? Well I guess amateur radio also was a part of it, because certain clubs ran tests during that time. Most notable was in Ontario. They conducted a test of the repeater system in the Southern Ontario area during Earth Hour, the control station operating from the mobile command center. They logged in more than 60 reporting stations, all on emergency "back-up" power sources and ranging in area from Hamilton to Oshawa and north to Barrie, ON.

N7RR TO HIKE PACIFIC CREST TRAIL

Quoted from the ARRL April 11 Letter

You already know that Bruce, N7RR is walking the Pacific Coast Trail. His trip was noted in the April 11 ARRL Letter. Here's what ARRL had to say:

"Bruce Prior, N7RR, a contributor to QST, has announced plans to hike the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) later this month. The PCT is 2650 miles long, ranging from the California-Mexico Border all the way to the Canadian border and reaching an altitude of 13,153 feet. On April 19, Prior will begin the journey near Campo, California with hopes of reaching Manning Park, British Columbia in late September or early October. Prior will bring along his Elecraft KX1 with the 30 meter/80meter module, as well as resonate half-wavelength dipole antennas for the 80, 40, 30 and 20 meter bands. While not planning to do any pedestrian-mobile contacts. Prior said he will wait until he has set up camp for the evening before getting on the air: For more information on frequencies, times and nets that Prior will be on, please visit his blog <<http://www.n7rr.com>>. According to the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTYA), approximately 300 people attempt to hike the entire trail from end-to-end each year. The trip usually takes between four and six months. Around 180 complete the hike each year. The route is mostly through National Forest and, where possible, protected wilderness areas. The trail avoids civilization in favor of scenic and pristine mountainous terrain with few roads, passing through the Laguna, San Jacinto, San Bernardino, San Gabriel, Liebre, Tehachapi and Sierra Nevada ranges in California, and the Cascade Range in California, Oregon and Washington."

Thanks to Doug, WW6D for suggesting that this whole article be reprinted here.

CW TRAINER

Free CW trainer! There are several free Morse code training programs available from the web by Googling "Morse code program". Novices might find the program from G4FON valuable. It gets good reviews from the eHam.net. An experienced fist might use it to determine his/her current speed.

Check out <http://www.g4fon.net/CW%20Trainer.htm>.

CALIFORNIA NEW CELLPHONE BAN

Effective July 1, California will have a law which bans the use of cell phones while driving. The new law tries to, but some say it does not, exempt two-way radios such as Citizen Band transceivers, walkie-talkies and the like. However, assuming this new law does exempt these uses, the person using the exempted communication gadget, while behind the wheel, must be 18 years or older.

How long will it be before our own states incorporates similar ban on cell phones?

RADIALS

(From ARRL Contest NL)

"Go mow the yard! Spring is a good time of year to play "Hide the Ground Radials". If the thought of trenches in the sod raises the blood pressure of you and your spouse, here's a time-tested, no-digging procedure. Get out the mower, sharpen its blade, and cut the grass as short as possible. Yes, that short! Scalp it! Then Lay out the radials and hold them down against the crew-cut blades with short U-shaped pieces of wire placed every couple of feet or so along the radials. (Cheep iron wire will do nicely and

rust away fairly quickly.) In a couple of weeks the grass will have completely covered the radials and you'll never trip over them nor hit them with the mower! The grass will continue to work the wire down until it hits the soil. Grass clippings and earthworm, activity will contrive to bury it."

7-LAND QSO PARTY

7TH Call Area QSO Party will happen May 3-4, 2008. Time is 1300Z Saturday to 0700Z Sunday (6 AM Saturday to midnight PDT - the first Saturday in May). 7th call area stations work everyone. Others work 7th area stations only. Work stations once per band/mode. Mobiles may be worked in each new county.

Frequencies: CW - up 40; SSB - 3855, 7235, 14225, 21355, 28455.

Exchange: 7th Area send signal report plus 5 letter state/county coded. Other stations send signal report state/province. DX send 2-letter code.

Web: <<http://www.7qp.org>>

HAMFESTS

May 10 - Stanwood Camano ARC, Stanwood, WA
May 30 - Jun 1 - NW Divn Convention (PAC) - Seaside, OR
Jun 6-8 - Wenatchee Hamfest, Dryden, WA
Jun 14 - Kootenai Hamfest, Rathdrum, ID
Jul 12 - Chehalis Swapmeet, Chehalis, WA
Jul 18-20 - Montana State Convention (Glacier Waterton), Essex, MT
July 19 - Coos County Radio Club, North Bend, OR
Aug 1-3 - Pacific NW DX Convention, Portland, OR
Aug 1-4 - Alaska State Convention, Anchorage, AK
Aug 9 - Radio Club of Tacoma. Spanaway. WA
Oct 5-6 - Pacific Northwest VHF Conference, Moses Lake, WA
Oct 11 - Bozeman Hamfest, Bozeman, MT
Oct 11 - Hamfest and Electronics Swapmeet, Bremerton, WA
Oct 25 - Swaptoberfest - Rickeall, OR

BIRTHDAYS:

W7VSE	5-11
W7GB	5-12
K6YR	5-15
K7PX	5-18
AL7KG	5-22



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to each of you. May you have many more.

ARMED FORCES DAY

Armed Forces Day will be May 17, 2008. This is an annual cross-band SSB communication

voice test. All copy the Secretary of Defense message via digital mode. QSL cards will be sent to those stations making contact with military stations. Special commemorative certificates will be awarded all who receive and copy the digital Armed Forces Day message (from the Secretary of Defense).

Military-to-Amateur cross band operations will take place on the dates and times listed on the Army MARS Web. Info, time and frequencies also are on the Army Mars Web:

<http://www.com.army.mil/mars/about.aspx>

ARRL DISCONTINUING WEB CLASSIFIEDS

April 30 ARRL discontinued its Web Classifieds Ads in the “Radios On-Line”. Apparently ARRL experienced an increasing number of complaints by members and users regarding postings and practices that do not conform to the Radios On-Line Web site’s original intent. These including posting for guns and “personal” ads. Even after the ARRL Staff would delete the objectionable advertisement, they would appear back on the listing within two days.

“We are spending a disproportionate amount of staff time dealing with this matter; it is no longer worth the cost of maintaining the service when other online services have been established to handle the specific need for online person-to-person sales”.

Gee - - how many of us knew this Web existed? How many used it?

HURRICANE SEASON

Hurricane season runs from June 1 to November 30. It is doubtful the we, who are way west of the Mississippi River, will have any direct effects of hurricanes. We nevertheless should watch the Nets and volunteer only when needed. The MAIN Hurricane Watch Net is on 14,325 MHz with web sites at <http://www.hwn.org>. The National Hurricane Net works closely with its hams at <http://www.wx4nhc.com>. The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATER) is 14.264 KHz, while the Maritime Mobile Service Net (MJMSN) is on 14.300 MHz. Their web is <http://www.mmsg.org>.

If you can, monitor one or all of the emergency nets, please do so. If needed arises, jump in there.

AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE

The April 25 AR Newsline contains an “Alert”. It says: “If you receive an unexpected e-mail with our return address of newsline@arnewsline.org with a message written in Cyrillic Russian and asking you to call a strange telephone number, delete that e-mail at once. Is not from us and there is every reason to believe that calling that number could be a hoax or scam.”

“Be wise. Do not click any link or call any phone number that came unsolicited. Make Internet safety your top priority and you will not only protect your computer but also your personal information as well. Information that the crooks on the Internet will stop at nothing to get.”

NEWSBRIEFS:

Don, W7GB announced that he will be retiring as WARTS Net Manager. He has served in

that position for 20 years. The new manager will be named and will take over June 1, 2008. We all are sure that the WARTS members are sorry to see you go, Don.

Don, K7BFL and Angie again were traveling. This time it was April 7-19, while they visited their granddaughters in Shelly, Idaho (that's just south of Idaho Falls).

Former IMN'er Angela, VE7ANG, will be gone the entire month of May. She and husband will be in the Liverpool, England area visiting her family. She by the way, migrated to Canada to work as a Nanny, and that turned her into becoming a housewife and a NTS'er. We're lucky.

Above, towards the first of this NL, you read about Bruce, N7RR and his intention to QNI traffic nets on his way from Mexico to Canada. Well, so far he has succeeded twice to pass traffic to W9JM on IMN. Jim is hearing him better than the rest of us. I can say I heard him and copied him once, though. Nice to know he is still wandering the trails.

APRIL QNI: VE6ADM 12, K7BDU 4, K7BDL 3, N7CM 10, VE7CZW 12, WW6D 17, VE7DWG 8, W7EKB 7, KD7FAU 23, W7GB 18, W7GCL 24, W7GHT 26, KE7GYT 7, K6HRT 7, W7JG 10, K9JM 23, K7JV 10, AL7KG 6, W7LG 2, VE7OM 11, W6PAP 2, W7PKL 13, K7PX 5, VA7QQ 3, N7RR 5, K7TM 8, W4TVI 24, KA7U 9, W7WAT 18, WA7WBY 13, W9WV 24, K7YB 7, KA7YYR 12, VE6ZE 3, W7EK 1, AI7JW 1, AI6U 1, KC7SRL 1, VE7TRM 1, N7RFR 1, W8OHO 1. TOTAL 391.

APRIL TRAFFIC: N7CM 2, VE7DWG 10, W7EKB 22, W7GB 8, W7GHT 32, W7JG 2, W9JM 2, K7JV 1, VE7OM 8, VA7QQ 1, N7RR 2, W9WV 9, N7RFR 1. TOTAL 100.