



# IDAHO MONTANA NET (II)

3578.5/7043 KHz Daily - 0300

## DECEMBER 2008



IMN Web: <http://home.earthlink.net/~k7bfl/imn/in>  
 Manager - Open Recorder: VE7DWG Yrs. Trooly: 1  
 IMN for Nov. Sessions 30, QNI 412 QTC 75

DAY	NCS	RN7	MTN	FARM
SUN	W7GHT	W7GHT	KA7YYR	W7GHT
MON	W7GHT	W7GHT	KA7YYR	W7GHT
TUE	VE7DWG	VE7DWG	W7EKB	W7EKB
WED	W7GHT	W7GHT	W7EKB	W7EKB
THU	W7EKB	W7EKB	W7EKB	W7EKB
FRI	W7GHT	W7GHT	KB7QQ	W7GHT
SAT	AK7U	KA7U	KB7YYR	KA7U



### HOMEWORK

Ken, W7EKB is bizzzy working on his antique surroundings. He's updating his Heath HW-101 and SB-102, and he hopes to get his SB-301/401 in operation soon so that he will have back-up rigs if necessary. He says if conditions don't improve he is thinking of building a 10-KW rig to get thru the QRN and other bad condx currently blessing us during the demise of the old sun spot cycle and birth of the new. Keep us informed, Ken. Let us know if we can hear you.



Talk about troubles, Yrs Trooly had some. It wasn't rig problems, but instead antenna connection. Specifically, I had a switch at the base of the tower that would switch from this to that antenna. The connection, from rig to any specific antenna, plus switch connection, had but one buried coax lead-in. The selector (in the shack) burned out.

How in the heck could a switch burn out? Well, I sent off for a replacement. This one had an external 12 volt transformer rather than a built-in supply. And the 12 volt transformer burned out as soon as things were hooked up and the machine turned on. A fuse blew too.

Then (and only then) I looked at the schematic and discovered the problem. My wide-band 80 meter antenna, is a so-called bazooka with a minimal SWR over the entire 80/75 band. It also is a closed circuit, thus creating an electrical short.

This all means that I've now got to have a separate coax to avoid shorting the brand new switching equipment. With this, I started looking. It seems that RG8U is a rare item these days. All outlets carry RG58 or else the 75 ohm TV stuff, but no longer coax capable of high power. Several friends recommended I contact a local (out of his home) dealer known as "Current Source". Chad Butler,



KC7JCY runs the store and he was most helpful and friendly. He promised home delivery, in fact. So I bought 150 feet for the reasonable price of only \$238.87 (No - - I'm definitely not used to these higher prices for metal, wire and related goodies). Now, I'll soon be back on the air and able to switch between antennas (I hope).

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## **CQ BUYS WORLD RADIO**

A historical occasion. World Radio magazine no longer exists. The reason? Armand Noble, N6WR, founder and publisher of World Radio has reached 74 years of age and decided it is time to retire.

CQ welcomes all of the World Radio subscribers and assures them they will have their subscriptions transferred to CQ Magazine.

Amateur Radio Newline says: At this time Worldradio plans to continue publication, but only as the online magazine with Editor Nancy Kott, WZ8C. Ask Google to tell us the address for "AR Newline".

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## **GEO EYE**

The December issue of Nuts and Volts magazine tells us there is a "Sharper Eye in the Sky", found at <[www.geoeeye.com](http://www.geoeeye.com)>. At the time of this writing, that web was only partially woking. Its ability to search out addresses and produce either a detailed map or picture is not yet very comprehensive. However, it is coming.

The photos are supposed to be much sharper than the current Google pictures. For instance a shot of Kutztown University in Pennsylvania shows 1836 x 1404 color images and this allows one to count the number of football players on the field. Not bad.

The satellite is moving north to south in a 423 mile high orbit at the speed of 4.5 miles per second.

Nuts and Volts says that Google has its fingers in the pie and reportedly will be adding GeoEye to Google Maps and Google Earth shortly. Sure hope so.

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## **LEONID METEOR STORM**

This year the Leonid meteor shower was on Nov 17-18. Rather bright moonlight probably spoiled the show for star gazers. Hams were thrilled with the pings, hits and QSO. They bounced their signals off the ionized trails of meteors burning up in the Earth's atmosphere. Contacts appeared to exceed past years. Good.

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## **SOURCE OF X-RAY**

(From WIA 11-23-08 NL)

Researchers at UCLA have been toying with the power that comes from peeling Scotch Tape from a roll in a vacuum. In fact a mere piece of tape can produce an enormous amount of power, which surprised researchers.

In an article published in the Journal Nature, researchers are suggesting that the finding could lead to the production of inexpensive and easy-to-use equipment that could be used by paramedics on accident scenes or for places where electricity is not available.

In this new research, a machine was used to peel ordinary Scotch Tape off a roll in a vacuum chamber at about 1.2 inches per second . This caused rapid pulses of X-rays, each about a billionth of a second long, to emerge from very close to where the tape was coming off the roll. And that is where electrons jumped from the roll to the sticky underside of the tape that was being pulled away. As those electrons touched the sticky part of the tape, they slowed down, emitting random X-rays.

So the question is, does this pose a danger for those of us slaving over wrapping paper this coming Christmas season? Not so . The research shows that this only works in a vacuum, and most of us are not wrapping presents in a vacuum,

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## **MARCONI COLLECTION**

The Museum of History of Science, Oxford, in 2004, received the Marconi Collection. This is a large and unrivaled archive of objects and documents which record the work of Guglielmo Marconi and the wireless telegraph company he founded. A detailed catalogue now is available on line at <http://www.mhs.ox.ac.uk/marconi.collection/>

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## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

ARRL reports a Dxpedition will operate from Desecheo Island February 12-26. Hat is a small uninhabited island, 14 miles off the western coast of Puerto Rico and currently is listed as number 7 on the Most Wanted list. They will be operating CW, SSB and RTTY on 160-6 meters.

Here's n easy way for each of us to snag a rare DX station. Mark your calender.

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## **LESSONS FROM RECENT STORMS**

(From Nov 26 ARRL ARES Letter)

In Aberdeen, WA hams now warn about the need to secure emergency equipment. The recent three-day hurricane wind storm caused power outages, and many used generators for a week or more. Unfortunately nearly 12 residents on one street had their generators stolen. An enterprising group of thieves located the generators from the noise and then swooped in during the day when residents were gone. From this we learn: Emergencies bring out the good and the bad, so be prepared and lock down your emergency equipment,

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## **LOCAL (BOISE) RACES PROGRAM**

Just prior to Christmas, each year, the RACES group in Boise partake in a rather interesting Christmas Program. They set up a 40-Meter (SSB ) station in the children's play room of one of the Local hospital Children's Hospice Ward. There the kids talk to Santa.

Elsewhere, someone who personally knows the kid (parent) gives personal info, such as certain toys, the kind and color of the dog, name of siblings, and other stuff not generally known. This info is passed on to Santa (across town) via 2-meters or fax. Santa then discusses the private info with the kid, along with what to stuff under the Christmas Tree. This is on 40 meters, with background noise from elements and static, running loud enough to be heard by the kid.

The kids who had doubts about the existence of Santa now are convinced.

If you would like to listen to Santa (and his gruff voice) I can forward to you the time and frequency when known.

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## ARRL CONTINUING EDUCATION

Now that digital technology has become an integral part of Amateur radio, hams interested in Emergency Communications now can take advantage of emerging modes such as Packet Radio APRS Winlink 2000, IRLP, EchoLink and WIRES-II, D-STAR, APCO224, HF sound card modes and Automatic Link Establishment (ALE). The ARRL Digital Technology for Emergency Communications Course will introduce hams to all of the ways Amateur radio operators are using digital technology as a valuable emergency communications tool. Watch for announcements.

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## BIRTHDAYS:

VE7DWG	12-4
K7TM	12-4
KB7GZU	12-7
VE7CZF	12-8
VE7ANG	12-10
W7ZIW	12-16
WA7WBY	12-21
W6PRI	12-21
WB7VYH	1-3
W7VPK	1-12



Note the twins

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

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## HOLLIDAY SEASON

Yes it's here. Thanksgiving is passed and Christmas and New Year is about to arrive. Yrs Trooly had Turkey with family on Thanksgiving and they promise to invite me over for Christmas.

I certainly hope you had a nice bunch of food on Turkey Day, and are looking forward to being with friends and relatives on Christmas.

And before I forget lemme wish each and every one of you a Happy Hangover on New Years Day.

**NOBEMBER QNI:** VE7ADN 16, K7BDU 8, K7BFL 9, VE7CZW 8, WW6D 17, VE7DWG 13, W7EKB 10, W7GB 4, W7GCL 28, W7GHT 27, K7GYN 3, KE7GYT 3, AI7H 19, K6HRT 10, K7JAL 7, W7JG 5, K9JM 21, K7JV , AL7KG 12, W7LG 3, VE7OM 16, W6PAP 6, W7PKL 16, K7PX 3, NB7Q 19, VE7QQ 9, N7RR 12, K7TM 11, W7TVI 17, KA7U 12, K7VK 4, W7VPK 11, W7WAT 14, WA7WBY 3, KA7YYR 15, VE6ZE 16, N7CM 1, KD7FAU 1, VE6AWI 1, KC7SRL 1. TOTAL 412.

**NOVEMBER QTC:** K7BFL 1, VE7DWG 10, W7EKB 22, W7GHT 28, VE7OM 4, W7PKL 1, KA7U 8, KA7YYR 1. TOTAL 75.

# **THE AMATEUR'S CODE**

(Copied from Pacific Area Web maintained by K7BFL)

## **The Radio Amateur is**

**CONSIDERATE**...never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

**LOYAL**...offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

**PROGRESSIVE**...with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

**FRIENDLY**...slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

**BALANCED**...radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

**PATRIOTIC**...station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

***--The original Amateur's Code was written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928.***