



IDAHO MONTANA NET (IMN)
3578.5/7043 KHz Daily - 0300
AUGUST 2009

IMN Web: <http://home.earthlink.net/~k7bfl/imn/imn.html>
Manager - Open Recorder: VE7DWG Yrs. Trooly: W7GHT

IMN for July: Sessions 31, QNI 358, QTC 67.

W7EKB OUT AND IN

Saturday, July 4 Ken W7EKB sent a “Happy Independence Day” e-mail to Net managers telling us all that he was being withheld from the rig and ham radio because of problems arising with his family. In response, Yrs Trooly sent an e-mail to all on the IMN e-mail list asking for someone willing to take over.

Dave, VE7DWG is the only one responding, saying he could cover part of Ken’s dooties. Then two days later word came from Ken, via e-mail calling the “panic off”. Whatever had inspired the family crisis was withdrawn and Ken was back to his radio (thank Gawd).

Therefore, there is no change in the NCS and LIAISON list published on page one of the July IMN NL. Very happy to report this. And we all forgive you for this frightening news, Ken.

Sea Pac Pix

Scott, W7IZ sent an e-mail identifying most of those in the pix show in the July IMN NL. Grab your old copy and the look at the following. AND Thanks, Scott.

IMN newsletter addendum:

Page 1, right picture/in bottom left Claire N7CM and OM next to her Ernie K7EAJ; standing in red jacket is Don KK7TN (active in Beaver State Net and ARES); same page bottom left the guy across from Rob and me is Alan VE7TRM. Len VE7XLH was sitting next to Alan, and W7GB in the white ballcap across from Claire. Leroy has his call letters on his blue ballcap. (thanx Leroy that made it easy!)

2nd page left photo: Betty N7DRP active in Beaver State Net and ARES, had been DPAN Mgr till it closed. Don KK7TN in red jacket.

2nd page right photo: Don W7GB on right, Leroy N7EIE/blue ballcap. Directly behind Leroy is the elusive Alan VE7TRM, and Len VE7XLH visible to his right.

Skip to far left and the man with the hat is Dave N7YSS, Net mgr of NTTN/Asst NM on BSN; Betty N7DRP to his right. Deb KK7DEB, W7ELI Eliza (both active ARES and NTTN); not sure of the next guy.

3rd row back on left is Don KK7TN, N7CM (hidden), K7EAJ peeking thru.

Thanx Ed AI7H for taking the pix! Very nice to see these.

73/Scott W7IZ

RIG PROBLEMS

Monday, June 28 I loaded up my Ten Tec Omni and took it to the local UPS store for shipping back to the factory. I also asked UPS if they would package two other transceivers and ship them. The answer was "yes". Then back home, I called Kenwood in the San Diego area, asking if they would repair a couple of slightly old (30 years) pieces of equipment. The answer was no. So upon suggestion I called an outfit called AAVid in Mabank, TX. The guy said YES, he works on those all the time. The rigs, are a Kenwood 440 and a Kenwood 940. So back to the UPS Store I went with those rigs to be packaged and shipped.

Later in the day, I talked with Gale, W7VPK. He told me one of his 40 meter nets really talks up some guy in Texas, saying he is the only one in the world to whom used stuff should be sent. So I looked up the guys name and call, and for sure, I had the recommend repairman. Nice bunch of luck.

In the mean while, I was on the air with an Elecraft K2, using an MFJ antenna coupler showing very low SWR and 12 watts out.

My thanks to all IMN'ers for bringing my signal up to where you could read it.

And my thanks to Ken, W7EKB, for his July 3 e-mail of condolence. He reported that he's having problems with his Heathkit SB-200. First, his HM-2140 PEP Wattmeter won't properly measure the output. He suspects that some of the "precision" resistors may have decided to vary their resistance.

Additionally, Ken had nothing but trouble with the tubes used by his SB-200. No sooner had he installed the best of the Cetron (U.S. made) tubes than one tube flashed and the filament lost at least ½ of its brightness. Total power, of course dropped. So he yanked those two and installed two of his new Chinese made tubes. After about an hour's use, one of those tubes flashed and the antenna relay slammed shut and stayed here. The filaments in one tube had shorted to the grid, grounding the grid and keying the relay. He replaced that tube and things began working right.

Ken doesn't know how long the new tubes will last. He hopes for longer times, however.

Back to the QRP at this location, he says my signal sounds very good. Thanks Ken.

And now, I've at least got my Ten Tec back and working. The Kenwoods are supposed to be on their way - - and then I'll also be back in business, I hope.

Let's all pray the rest of our IMN'ers are not being abandoned by their rigs. Such events are not nice.

ARRL TO BROADCAST WITH DIFFERENT DIGITAL MODES

July 14 ARRL announced that on August 17 it will replace its AMTR and ASCII transmissions with PSK-31 and MFSK-16. RTTY (Baudot) will continue to be used. The frequencies and times for all digital transmissions will remain the same.

W1AW operating schedule, complete with times and frequencies, can be found on the ARRL Web page at <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html#w1awsked>.

FIELD DAY

I thought that by now more info on this year's Field Day would have been received from more IMN'ers. But NO. Just from Jun, KD7FAU and Yrs trooly. Both of us used an Electcraft K2 - - and with good luck. I operated with a local club, using the club call K7BSE. Our own Jim, K7JV, hopped on the operating table and took over every now and then. Between the two of us (using the K-2) we worked several KL7s and KH6s, up and down the east coast and all spots between. We were there Saturday only, and our operation was interrupted so that we could partake in a really good tasting pot luck lunch.

Jon, KA7FAU also was quite bizzy, using his K2. He was alone and set up in a State park near the summit of Battle Mountain, about 15 miles south of Pilot Rock in Oregon. His lap-top was used for PSK contacts. He reports the same contacts, KL7 and KH6, plus the rest of the US and Canada..

Weather, throughout the country, for the most part, was good. However, the July 15 ARES E-Letter reports that southern New England was affected by severe weather flooding and golf ball size hail, plus bad thunder storms and high winds. Not much fun being in those parts of the country, where you have to QRT and go help locals with emergency communications.



John, KF7FAU's Field Day Station.

RON, KA7U, OUT

Have you noticed a different NCS on Saturday evenings? It's because Ron, KA7U and xyl Donna are traveling in their motor home. What's more, they expect to be gone most of the rest of the summer. No definite time for their return back home and to normal living.

Ron also is NCS FARM on (I think) Thursday evenings. So he notified the FARM Net Manager, Ford K6ONE, and told him to find a sub.

Sounds like a wonderful way to spend the rest of the summer, Ron. Naturally, we all are jealous of you two. And in a month or two we all look forward to headlines reading "Ron, KA7U, Is Back". See you then.

HAMFESTS:

Washington, Spanaway, Aug 8 9AM-2PM Bethel J High School

Washington, Spokane, Aug 7-8 - 54th Annual Pacific Northwest DX Convention, Marabeau Park Hotel and Convention center

BIRTHDAYS:

WV7Z	8-2
W7TC	8-6
KS7R	8-17-42
W7GCL	8-20-14
NB6M	8-23-43
N7UM	8-30-32
AA7TX	9-1-34



NOTE: No record in my files for the year of birth for two IMN'ers. Please send the data to me at w7ght@cablone.net Thanks.

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

ARRL NEWSLETTERS, ETC

The following from the July 17 ARRL Letter is of interest to all of us.

“Did you know he ARRL offers more newsletters than just the ARRL Letter? One of the many ARRL membership benefits includes other newsletters, such as he ARRL Contest Update (a bi-weekly contest newsletter), the ARES E-Letter (sent monthly, containing public service and emergency communications news), the ARRL Club Newsm the ARRL Instructor/Teacher E-Letter and the VE Newsletter

“You can also elect to receive news and information from your Division Director and Section Manger (keep in mind tha not all Divisions/Sections send notices), as well as W1AW bulletins that relate to DX, propagation, satellites and Keplerian reports. The ARRL also offers a free modification service to members letting them know when their membership and license are due to expire.

“Sign up for these newsletters, bulletins and notifications on the Member Data page of the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/memdata.html>> “

NEWSBRIEFS: Ed, AI7H took a trip into Oregon during July. He says it was a “family affair” with folks in the younger generation getting married. Ed took a dipole with him to check into the Net. Donno if he was heard while on the trip. Hope so.

Neil, NB7Q, is in Wisconsin helping his mother move from a rehabilitation place to an assisted living. He plans to be back mid September. Best wishes, Neil.

THE BPL FIGHT

Following a recent Circuit Court Ruling, the FCC issued a new proposed regulations for Broadband Over Powerline Internet access. In the Notice of Proposed Rule Making, FCC is seeking comments on the power levels that should be permitted for BPL systems, so they won't cause interference with other services. The Circuit Court summarized its recent ruling: “The Commission failed to satisfy the notice

and comment requirements of the Administrative Procedure act by redacting studies on which it relied in promulgating the rule and failed to provide a reasoned explanation for its choice of the extrapolation factor for measuring Access BPL emissions.”

ARRL again is taking part in the stressful task in finalizing regulations, which hopefully will result in no interference heard on the ham bands. We all can but hope for the best.

RECENT ARRL BOARD MEETING

July 17 and 18 the ARRL Board held its second meeting of 2009. This meeting was devoted to reviewing and revising the ARRL Strategic Plan adopted in October.

During the two day gathering the Board considered and acted on a number of organizational, regulatory and operating issues, including the formation of an ad-hoc committee to study and prepare guidelines to identify inappropriate use of Amateur Radio. Also, it looked at updating the terms of reference of the Volunteer Consulting Engineer Program, establishing an Emergency Liaison Station appointment at the national level to link ARRL HQ to the affected areas during disasters; the formation of a study committee to conduct research and consider developing a plan for narrow-band channel spacing in the VHF and UHF bands.

Several other items were also acted upon, including the creation of the George Hart Distinguished Service Award to be given for extraordinary service in the ARRL Field Organization, and updating the terms of reference for the Bill Leonard, W2SKE, Professional Media Award.

Several awards were given deserving amateurs.

A very busy meeting.

JULY QNI: VE6AMD 2, K7BDU 4, K7BFL 4, N7CM 6, VE7CZW 6. WW6D 12. VE7DWG 13. W7EKB 14, KD7FAU 24, W7GB 16, W7GHT 29, AI7H 6, K6HRT 2, WA2IAX/7 7, W7JG 12, K9JM 28, K7JV 9, AL7KG 5, NQ7L 2, W7LG 2, VE7OM 8, W6PAP 5, W7PKL 18, K7PX 9, NB7Q 15, VA7QQ 12, K7TM 6, W4TVI 17, AI6U 2, KA7U 3, W7VEO 3, W7VPK 18, W7WAT 7, WA7WBY 5, K7YB 6, K7YD 2, KA7YYR 7, VE6ZE 4, K7JAL 1, K7LMT 1, N7RR. TOTAL 358.

JULY TRAFFIC: VE7DWG 8, W7EKB 15, W7GHT 30, WA2IAX/7 1, W7VPK 8. TOTAL 67.