

HAM CHATTER



Amateur Radio
"only fail-safe system"
of communication
K4ZDH



Volume 46 Issue 7

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July 2012

Editor, Dave Langley, W4YDY

Email: barc@w4amc.com

Great time at BARC Field Day



Gerry Clayton, K4IDD, operates 20 meters with other stations in the background.

"CQ CQ FD DE W4AMC" was heard many times this Field Day. A hard working group of hams joined the co-chairmen Richard, W4JNC, & Thomas, KB7L, to set up the area at the historic Voice of America site C. In the shadow of the silenced huge 1000 foot rhombic and tall log periodic antennas the intrepid hams set up the modest wire and beam antennas.

The group met Friday evening to scope out the site. Saturday 8 AM came early but the crew was hard at work setting up the site. The site was rated "3 Alpha" as there were three operating stations transmitting on emergency power. Bernie's WA4MOK 6 meter beam was silent all night but in the AM there was a flood like opening that Josh, KB3VKH, worked. Terry, Bill and Richard piled on the points via phone on all bands. Gerry, K4IDD, came out and racked up the points on CW.

About 1:30AM he was enticed to try an Elecraft K3 and love was in the air! At the same time Ted, KI4PWX, was having difficulties with the Yaesu and was offered to try an Elecraft K2 with a similar happy result. Peter, KG4WEZ, worked digital magic on PSK31 after most had gone to bed. All three stations were busy non stop until 4 AM.

Saturday's picnic dinner was BBQ pork and chicken with all the trimmings. Great baked beans, pasta salad and chocolate pie were brought by supporting spouses to round out the feast. After dinner the entertainment was watching the flight of the remotely controlled drone with a forward facing camera. Aerial photos from antenna height were taken and the videos will eventually be on the web page.

Nathan, KK4FRP, from Pitt Community College was a trooper in helping set up the site as well as when one of the dipole separated in the middle of a QSO. The Carolina Windom 160 Special was quickly put up with poles that were available in the BARC trailer. Nathan brought his special home made launcher to assist but no opportunity to use it came up. In the wee hours of the morning before daylight, a large stag appeared in the fields checking out what was happening.

Next Meeting July 10, 2012

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next meeting on Tuesday, July 10 at 7:30 PM at VFW Post Home 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. Program will be radio controlled planes by Peter Van Houten, KG4WEZ. All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

The next board meeting will be July 31 at 7:30 PM at VFW Post Home 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. All members invited.

A fog developed near the ground only to clear a half hour later revealing the stars. It was a magic night made great by great radios, a fantastic quiet radio environment and good friends enjoying a common hobby.

Set up and take down crew: Richard, W4JNC, Thomas, KB7L, Ted, KI4PWX, Terry, K4ZYD, Josh, KB3VKH, Nathan, KK4FRP, Peter, KG4WEZ, Bill, WA4SLC.

Historian/reporter: Dave, W4YDY
Operators and support: John, K4KBB, Taylor, W4WTM, Brenda, KJ4GDS

It was a small group but a determined group to have a great time, and they succeeded! Hope to see you all at Field Day next year.

73, Peter, KG4WEZ.



Sixteen element log periodic antenna next to the BARC Field Day site.

Thanks to Field Day participants

This year's Field Day Chairmen Richard, **W4JNC**, and Thomas, **KB7L**, would like to express our sincerest gratitude to all who made this year's Field Day possible. The location was perfect with respect to QRM and the noticeable lack thereof, and the weather could not have been better! Insects were at a minimum considering the location but also thanks to insect repellents and a light breeze. There was plenty of food and the camaraderie was great, but we had hoped more would have come out and experienced them and *what is amateur radio*. Nevertheless, we had a great time, we made a bunch of contacts, and most importantly, no one was injured. Those combined made it a successful Field Day.

Special thanks to the few who helped with Field Day but could not make it out over the weekend. Thomas, **KB7L**, would like to thank Dave Pulver, **KG4CZV**, who has entertained all of his questions and concerns, from not only the monthly ARC meetings but also this year's Field Day. Thanks also to Dave LeMoine, **KV4CN**, and Paul Fletcher, **KS4YF**, who came through with logging software, networking equipment, computers, and this year's FD location; and Mike Langley, **KD4MTT**, who ensured the generator was ready for Field Day! Without any of you,

field day might have been more challenging, to say the least.

Also thanks to those tireless individuals who were there the whole weekend for setup, operation, and tear down: Ted Bertrand, **KI4PWX**; Bill Dawson, **WA4SLC**; Terry Monday, **K4ZYD**; Josh Steele, **KB3VKH**; and Peter Van Houten, **KG4WEZ**. Let's face it- for two days you were manual laborers and without you, Field Day might not have happened. Thank you for all of your help!

Finally, thank you to the club operators who came out and made at least one contact. Dave Langley, **W4YDY**, came out to operate but more importantly to document the event for the Ham Chatter with pictures and the website with pictures and videos. He does a great job and without him, well, we wouldn't have a Ham Chatter and these few words about Field Day might not capture the spirit of the event. 'Remember how much a picture is worth'

Nathan Hatchel, **KK4FRP**, from Pitt Community College actually came out to help set up and operate. We hope he felt welcome and had fun, and hopefully he left with a sense of belonging and a better understanding of amateur radio. Those are essences of Field Day and we'd like to have even more operators experience them next year. - *Thomas, KB7L*

Next VE Session

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held **Tuesday, August 21** at the VFW Post Home 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road and will start promptly at 6:30 PM. Ted Bertrand, **KI4PWX**, 756-3734. bertrandf@ecu.edu. Please bring the following **required**:

- ◆ **Photo ID** (drivers license)
- ◆ **Original** Amateur Radio License
- ◆ **Copy** of Amateur Radio License
- ◆ **Original** CSCE's
- ◆ **Copy** of CSCE
- ◆ Test fee is \$15.00 .
- ◆ Proof of Tech Plus if before 3/21/87 and doing paper upgrade to General.
- ◆ SS Number will be needed if you don't have an FRN number.

Go to <http://www.w4amc.com/barcinfo.html#VE> for more information.

NC ARES Internet

<http://www.ncarrl.org/ares/>

Pitt County ARES

<http://www.pittares.com/>



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Happy Birthday

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club members birthdays in **July**.

- 8 **KB3VKH** Joshua Steele
- 12 **KG4CZV** Bonnie Pulver
- 13 **K4SKI** Charlie Wells
- 24 **WA4MOK** Bernie Nobles
- 29 **W4YDY** Dave Langley

Please let me know of any additions or corrections. - *W4YDY*

Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

Lucy Adams, WA4BVH

Charlie Wells, K4SKI

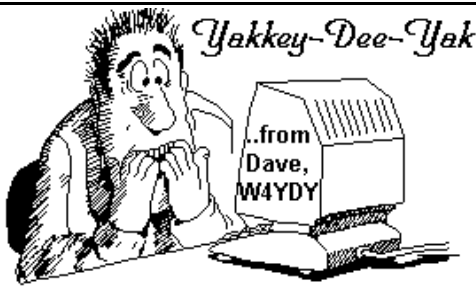
Tom Parsons, W4TEP

Phyllis Nobles, wife of Bernie, WA4MOK
Home from the hospital June 29 after 8 months.

Please inform John McCoy, K4KBB, k4kbb @ earthlink.net of any changes.



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Co-chairs Thomas Styron, **KB7L**, and Richard Campbell, **W4JNC**, Ted Bertrand, **KI4PWX**, Brenda Bertrand, **KJ4GDS**, Terry Monday, **K4ZYD**, Peter Van Houten, **KG4WEZ**, Josh Steele, **KB3VHK** and Leigh Hileman, Bill Dawson, **WA4SLC**, Taylor Millar, **W4WTM**, and wife, Billie Millar, John McCoy, **K4KBB**, Gene Underwood, **KE4JZU**, Dave Langley, **W4YDY**, and PCC student Nathan Hatchel, **KK4FRP**.

June 19, 2012 BARC VE Session Results

Two applicants took and passed exams at the June 19 BARC VE session. BARC members Albert Sanchez, **WA7FXB**, Greenville, upgraded to Amateur Extra and John Johnston, Jr., **KK4IUB**, Fountain, upgraded to General. Congratulations to both for their accomplishment.

The VE's that attended were VE Liaison Ted Bertrand, **KI4PWX**, Thomas Styron, **KB7L**, Richard Campbell, **W4JNC**, Tom McLaughlin, **KE4NQP**, Dan Wallace, **K4HMW**, Terry Monday, **K4ZYD**, and Dave Langley, **W4YDY**.

The next regular VE session will be August 21, 2012.

New Amateur Extra Class Question Pool Effective July 1



The new Amateur Extra class (Element 4) question pool -- released by the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) in January 2012 -- becomes effective on Sunday, July 1. The current Amateur Extra class pool expires on June 30, 2012 and cannot be used after that date. This new question pool -- including graphics and diagrams -- will remain valid until June 30, 2016. The new Amateur Extra pool contains 702 questions, from which 50 are selected for an Element 4 examination.

As of June 13, three questions -- E1D09, E2A14 and E6E10 -- have been removed from the new pool. The current Technician class question pool that became effective July 1, 2010 is valid through June 30, 2014. The current General class pool that became effective July 1, 2011 is valid until June 30, 2015.

BARC Field Day 2012

Well if you didn't participate in the 2012 BARC Field Day, you missed a lot of fun. The only disappointment was that more didn't participate but several of the regulars were not able to because of previous plans or commitments.

The move to the former VOA Site C turned out to be a good place for Field Day. Only wire antennas (except for the 6 meter beam) were used taking advantage of nearby tower for support. Sure would like to have used the 16 element log periodic antenna nearby.

The engine generator courtesy of Mike Langley, **KD4MTT**, who is cooling his heels in way North Alaska, performed flawlessly for the event. It was parked behind the BARC equipment trailer about 100 feet from the operating tent. The noise was not objectionable at all. One person showed up late and didn't notice noise from the engine generator and commented that it was the quietest he had head at the BARC FD site.

Terry Monday, **K4ZYD**, climbed a couple of nearby towers to hang the wire antennas with ground support from several others. There will be a video and pictures posted on the w4amc.com web site as soon as I can get them done. Also there may be some aerial video from the **KI4WEZ** drone aircraft!

There was a great meal catered by Skylight Inn BBQ from Apex that consisted of BBQ, slaw, potato salad, cornbread and banana pudding. Also, several brought covered dishes and deserts. The club furnished beverages. There were also snacks for the participates for the duration of the operation.

The participants and visitors were



Some of the crew that set up the Field Day shelters, antennas and equipment. L-R, Thomas Styron, **KB7L**, Ted Bertrand, **KI4PWX**, Bill Dawson, **WA4SLC**, Terry Monday, **K4ZYD**, and Richard Campbell, **W4JNC**. *KG4WEZ photo*

Shelby Hamfest motel rooms scarce!

If you are planning to go to the Shelby Hamfest in Dallas, NC on Labor Day weekend, you had better reserve a motel now! The hamfest is less than a mile from Gastonia where a lot of motels are located. But the Democratic National Convention starts in Charlotte the day after the hamfest and most of the rooms in Gastonia are reserved for the convention people.

The Shelby Hamfest web site has a notice that "There are also rooms available in Kings Mountain, Lincolnton, Shelby, Hickory, NC and Gaffney, SC which will be a short drive to the hamfest." One that plans to go to the hamfest said nothing was available in Gastonia when called in June. A room was reserved in Shelby, 23 miles from the hamfest site.

If you plan to go to the Shelby Hamfest, it behooves you to make reservations now if you plan to stay in a motel. - **W4YDY**

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BARC Field Day 2012



Nathan Hatchel, **KK4FRP**, and Josh Steele, **KB3VHK**, getting the tower ready while Ted Bertrand, **KI4WPX** and Thomas Styron, **KB7L**, set up the Tarheel Screwdriver in the background.



Ted Bertrand, **KI4WPX**, and Richard Campbell, **W4JCN**, working stations on 40 meters.



A great meal from Skylight Inn BBQ and fixing (including banana pudding) was enjoyed by everyone with a lot left over!



Josh Steele, **KB3VHK**, and Brenda Bertrand, **KJ4GDS**, making contacts on 20 meters. She's having a great time.



Nathan Hatchel, **KK4FRP**, PCC student and Thomas Styron, **KB7L**, keep 40 meters busy into the night.



Early Sunday morning operations. A great time was had by all. *KI4WPX photo*

Ham Ads

Ham Ads will be run, free of charge in Ham Chatter for three months for each renewal. Ads must be received by the last week of the month to be included in the following issue. Send ads to: **Ham Chatter, PO Box 8387, Greenville, NC 27835, ATTN: Dave Langley** or email to: barc@w4amc.com (no spaces)


FOR SALE: Realistic Pro 2006 Programmable Scanner for \$125.00. Grundig Satellit 700 Communications receiver also for \$125.00. Richard Campbell, W4JNC 252-758-1244 or email at richardecu@gmail.com.

WANTED: Sony 2010 and a Kenwood RA-5 VHF/UHF Telescoping HT Antenna.

Neal, NC4RR, Ph: 946-3840, Email; nscsxrr@centurylink.net

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BARC Meeting Minutes - June 2012

BARC Meeting Minutes

Date: June 12, 2012

Call to Order: 7:33 pm

President Richard Campbell, **W4JNC**, opened the meeting.

There were 18 members and 1 guest present as recorded in the sign in book.

Pledge of Allegiance: was recited by the club at large.

Minutes: The minutes from the May Board Meeting were approved as published in Ham Chatter.

Secretary's Report: Brenda Bertrand, **KJ4GDS**, had nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report: Ted Bertrand, **KI4PWX**, gave the report. Further information regarding the Treasurer's Report is available to members upon request.

Equipment: Ted Bertrand, **KI4PWX**, had nothing to report.

VE: Ted Bertrand, **KI4PWX**, reported that the next VE session is scheduled for Tuesday, June 19 at 6.30 pm at the VFW Lodge. Further information can be found on the BARC website.

Health and Welfare: Richard Campbell, **W4JNC**, reported that the Well Wishes are as published in the Ham Chatter. We are thankful to see Stan Barney, **KJ4GDR**, present at tonight's meeting. Stan reports that he is recovering well from his recent surgery. Dave Langley, **W4YDY**, reported that Phyllis, wife of Bernie Nobles, **WA4MOK**, is continuing to improve. Our well wishes are extended to the wife of Hollis Thigpen, **KC3X**, who was recently hospitalized.

Ham Chatter: Dave Langley, **W4YDY**, reported that the club roster has recently been updated.

Publicity: Taylor Millar, **W4WTM**, reported that club meetings and upcoming VE sessions are reported in Sunday editions of the Daily Reflector.

Pitt County ARES: Bill Dawson, **WA4SLC**, encouraged anyone interested in being the Emergency Coordinator for Pitt County to contact him. The next Area 1 & 2 Meeting is Saturday, August 11 at 10.30 am at the Golden Skillet restaurant.

Public Service: Richard Campbell, **W4JNC**, had nothing to report.

Future Programs: Terry Monday, **K4ZYD**, reported that anyone interested in presenting or who has program ideas for July should contact him.

Old Business: Byron Highland, **K4BMH**, reported that the Down East Hamfest is June 30 at Lenoir Community College in Kinston.

New Business: Paul Fletcher, **KS4YF**, reported that on Thursday, July 19, there will be an emergency management drill with Newport weather service from 1:30 to 3 pm. Anyone interested should contact Paul.

Announcements: Nothing to report.

50/50 Drawing Winner: Terry Monday, **K4ZYD**.

Program: A program about Field Day was presented by co-chairs Richard Campbell, **W4JNC**, and Thomas Styron, **KB7L**.

Adjournment: 8:11 pm

Respectfully submitted by

Brenda Bertrand, KJ4GDS

BARC Board Minutes - June 2012



BARC Board Meeting Minutes

Date: June 26, 2012

Call to Order: 7:30 pm

Members Present:

President Richard Campbell, **W4JNC**; 1st VP John McCoy, **K4KBB**; Treasurer Ted Bertrand, **KI4PWX**; Secretary Brenda Ber-

trand, **KJ4GDS**; Taylor Millar, **W4WTM**.

Minutes: The Board Meeting minutes published in the June Ham Chatter were approved as published.

Secretary's Report: Brenda Bertrand, **KJ4GDS**, had nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report: Ted Bertrand, **KI4PWX**, gave the report. Further information regarding the Treasurer's Report is available to members upon request.

VE: Ted Bertrand, **KI4PWX**, reported that the next VE session is August 21 at the VFW Lodge at 6:30 pm.

Equipment: Ted Bertrand, **KI4PWX**, had nothing to report. We discussed the disposition of old, unused equipment.

Health and Welfare: John McCoy, **K4KBB**, reported that Well

Wishes are as published in the Ham Chatter.

Ham Chatter: Richard Campbell, **W4JNC**, had nothing to report.

Publicity: Taylor Millar, **W4WTM**, reported that announcements for upcoming club meetings and VE sessions are posted in the Daily Reflector.

Pitt County ARES: Richard Campbell, **W4JNC**, had nothing to report.

Programs: Richard Campbell, **W4JNC**, had nothing to report.

New Members: Ted Bertrand, **KI4PWX**, reported no new members were presented.

Old Business: Richard Campbell, **W4JNC**, had nothing to report.

New Business: Field Day was amazing! Thanks to all who participated – Richard worked Hawaii twice on 15 meters! We had discussion about Field Day recommendations for next year. Our gratitude is extended to Field Day co-chairs Richard Campbell, **W4JNC**, and Thomas Styron, **KB7L**.

Announcements: Richard Campbell, **W4JNC**, had nothing to report.

Adjournment: 8.26 pm

Respectfully submitted by

Brenda Bertrand, KJ4GDS

Amateur Radio License Class at PCC Starts August 16, 2012

Pitt Community College will be offering a revamped Electronic Communications (ELN234-71HY) class this fall that will basically be a preparatory class for obtaining a ham radio license. The ARRL Handbook and the ARRL License Manual will be the textbooks for the class. At the end of the class, exams will be offered to those actually wanting the ham license. The class will meet on Thursday nights at 6PM for 16 weeks, starting August 16th, 2012. The class will teach radio fundamentals related to ham radio, and will be filled with labs centered around actually using ham radios (HF, VHF, and UHF) and digital equipment, using and building antennas, researching new technologies, and much more! Best of all, this class will count as 4 hours of college credit, applicable toward a future certificate or degree!

Seats in this class are very limited. Early Registration will open on July 16th, with normal registration available at the start of the semester.

For more information, please feel free to contact Prentice Tyndall, N4VBH. Info below.

What: Electronic Communications (ELN234-71HY) night class

Where: Pitt Community College, AB Whitley building, room 222.

When: Thursday nights at 6PM, starting Aug. 16th, 2012 (Fall 2012 Semester)

Who: Those interesting in taking a class that teaches ham radio basics, how to operate real equipment on-the-air, and prepares me for the license exam.

Why: Learn a new hobby and obtain college credit during the process, hopefully encouraging you to further your education. It will also be simply fun.

Note: The PCC Amateur Radio Club has a fully operational ham radio station that will be used for this class. Here are some of our toys that you will learn to use:

Icom IC-7600 HF/6m transceiver

Icom IC-7000 HF/VHF/UHF transceiver

Icom IC-736 HF/6m transceiver

Yaesu FT-8900R Quad band VHF/UHF transceiver

MFJ 949 Antenna Tuners (2)

MFJ 259B SWR Antenna Analyzer

Ham Radio Deluxe software

Tigertronics Signalink USB

Hy-Gain TH-3JRS Tri-band Yagi antenna

Yaesu G-450 Antenna Rotator

Comet Multiband VHF/UHF verticals (2)

Hamstick portable antennas for HF bands

Hustler BTV-5 Multiband Vertical

Ramsey COM-3010 Radio Service Monitor

various test instruments (o'scopes, counters, generators, meters, etc.)

...much more!

Hope to see you here this fall!

Prentice Tyndall, N4VBH

Instructor and ARC Advisor

Electronics Engineering Technology

Pitt Community College

AB Whitley, Office 229

(252) 493-7335

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ATTN: Dave Langley, W4YDY or

email barc@w4amc.com

Help support *Ham Chatter* and the club.

Donations accepted!

NETS

VHF

- ◆ BARC Net, Mondays, 2000 on 147.09 MHz, W4GDF Repeater.
- ◆ Pitt County Emergency Communications Net, Mondays, 2100 on 147.09 MHz. (131.8 Hz Tone)
- ◆ Kinston Amateur Radio Society Net, 1,3,4 Tuesdays, 2000 hrs. on 145.47 MHz., W4OIX repeater in Kinston.
- ◆ Eastern North Carolina Traffic Net, Every night, 2030 on 146.685 MHz.
- ◆ Wilson Amateur Radio Club Net, Thursdays @ 2000 on 146.76 MHz.
- ◆ Piedmont Coastal Traffic Net, Nightly 2030 on 146.88 MHz.
- ◆ Newport WFO SKYWARN Net, Tuesday, 2100 on 145.21 MHz
- ◆ Carteret County ARS (CCARS) Emergency Net, Tuesdays, 1930 on the Newport 145.45 (-) MHz.
- ◆ Coastal Emergency Linking Net, Wednesday, 2100 ET on Ahoskie 145.13, Buxton 145.15, Columbia 146.835 & 443.30, Elizabeth City 146.655, Greenville, 145.35, Hertford 147.33, Williamston 145.41 & 444.25

HF

- ◆ Tar Heel Emergency Communications Net on 3923 kHz Nightly 1930.

NTS CW Nets

- ◆ 3.571 2000 hours, slow speed (5-8 wpm) Carolinas Slow Net
- ◆ 3.573 1900 hours, high speed (20 wpm)
- ◆ 3.573 2200 hours, slow speed (12-14 wpm), South Carolina/North Carolina

Pitt County Repeater Association

<http://www.pcra.us/>

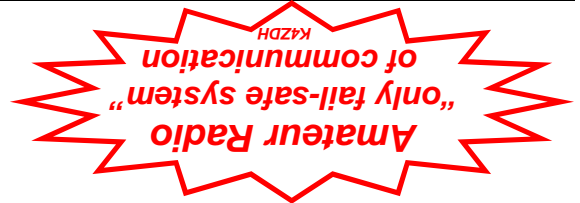
BARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jul 10.....	Regular Meeting	Oct 9.....	Regular Meeting
Jul 14/15.....	IARU HF World Championship	Oct 14.....	Maysville Hamfest
Jul 21.....	Cary Midsummer Swapfest	Oct 16.....	BARC VE Session – TUESDAY
Jul 31.....	Board Meeting	Oct 27/28.....	CQ WW SSB DX Contest
Aug 2.....	HAM CHATTER DEADLINE	Oct 30.....	Board Meeting
Aug 14.....	Regular Meeting	Nov 1.....	HAM CHATTER DEADLINE
Aug 21.....	BARC VE Session – TUESDAY	Nov 3/4.....	ARRL CW Sweepstakes
Aug 28.....	Board Meeting	Nov 13.....	Regular Meeting
Aug 30.....	HAM CHATTER DEADLINE	Nov 17/18.....	ARRL SSB Sweepstakes
Sep 1/2.....	Shelby Hamfest	Nov 18.....	Benson Hamfest
Sep 11.....	Regular Meeting	Nov 27.....	Board Meeting
Sep 25.....	Board Meeting	Dec 11.....	BARC Christmas Party
Sep 27.....	HAM CHATTER DEADLINE		
Sep 29/30.....	CQ WW RTTY Contest		

Regular Meeting - 2nd Tuesday @ 7:30 PM
Board Meeting - Last Tuesday @ 7:30 PM

BARC 2 METER NET - MONDAY NIGHTS AT 8:00 PM - 147.09 W4GDF REPEATER - 131.8 Tone
 PCEC 2 METER NET - MONDAY NIGHTS AT 8:30 PM - 147.09 W4GDF REPEATER - 131.8 Tone
 BRIGHTLEAF AMATEUR RADIO CLUB STATIONS

W 1 V O A - W 4 A M C - W 4 U H S



**July 2012
Next Meeting
July 10**

To:



Ham Chatter
 Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club
 PO Box 8387
 Greenville, NC 27835