

Ham Chatter



Volume 54 Issue 2

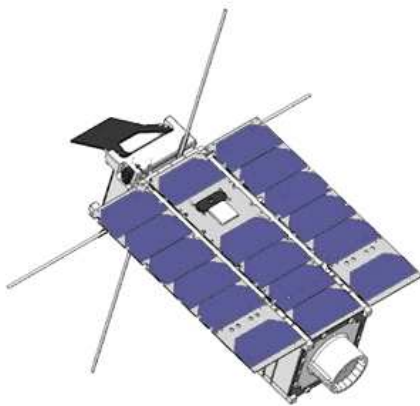
An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication

February 2020

Editor, Dave Langley, W4YDY

Email: hamchatter @ w4amc.com

HuskySat-1 with VHF/UHF Linear Transponder Set to Deploy



The University of Washington's HuskySat-1 3U CubeSat, launched November 2, 2019, is set to deploy on January 31 after the vehicle that carried it to the International Space Station undocks. HuskySat-1 has remained stowed aboard a Northrop Grumman Cygnus supply vehicle. Within 24 hours after Cygnus' departure from the ISS, HuskySat-1 and SwampSat 2 will be deployed into orbit. After deployment, HuskySat-1's 1,200 bps BPSK beacon on 435.800 MHz should be active and decodable with the latest release of AMSAT's FoxTelem software. HuskySat-1 is expected to carry out its primary mission before being turned over to AMSAT for amateur radio operation.

HuskySat-1 features a 30 kHz wide V/U linear transponder for SSB and CW. The uplink passband will be 145.910 – 145.940 MHz LSB/CW. The downlink passband will be 435.840 – 435.810 MHz USB/CW (inverting). Telemetry will be transmitted on 435.800

MHz, 1k2 bps BPSK with an experimental downlink at 24.049 GHz. The "Fox-in-a-Box" FoxTelem software has been updated for HuskySat-1 operation at its download website. The new release now contains the SD card image, FIAB-distro8-V1.08w.zip. This file, when unzipped and written to a 16 GB SD card will provide the latest software for FoxTelem and will run on a Raspberry Pi 4. The 1.08 versions can switch bands between listening on VHF and UHF, based on which Fox and Husky satellites are overhead at the time.

The linear transponder and telemetry system carried aboard AMSAT's Fox-1E was designed for use in different CubeSats merely by adding an interface adapter for connection to the host bus. Noting the prevalence of CubeSats built and launched by universities and other organizations, AMSAT adopted a goal of "amateur radio in every CubeSat." Interested CubeSat programs wanting to fly an amateur radio payload may partner with AMSAT to carry one of these modules on their spacecraft.

By providing amateur radio capability, the CubeSat program gets a worldwide ground station network to receive telemetry and experiment data, while the amateur radio community gets a transponder to use in orbit. Additional information is posted on the University of Washington Husky Satellite Lab site. *Thanks to AMSAT News Service via the HuskySat-1 Team, AMSAT Engineering, AMSAT Operations, the Fox Telemetry Team, and NASA - via arrl.org 01/27/2020*

Next Meeting February 11, 2020

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next meeting Tuesday, February 11, 2020. The meeting location is Room 1200 in ECU Greenville Center - 2200 Charles Blvd. Enter the building on the side closest to Charles Blvd. and Inside here - Go Straight ahead and Room 1200 is at the end on the Left – just ahead of the exit doors. (This building is just North of the State Employees' Credit Union).

Program by Chuck Till, **K4RGN**, Raleigh. He will have a presentation on the "FT8 internal workings, ie what happens behind the FT8 screens we see on our computers".

BARC's BIRTHDAY. CAKE and ICE CREAM!

All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

Board Meeting - February 25, 2020

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, February 25, at 7:00 PM at the Offices of Monday & Monday, (CPA), Suite D, East Victoria Court. All members invited.

BARC Dues - January 1, 2020

Those who have not renewed their dues by March 1, 2009 will be removed from the roster and the Ham Chatter mailing list. Membership will be reinstated upon receipt of 2020 dues.

If there are any questions concerning membership status or dues, please contact Jim Lowe, AC4JL, (2020 Treasurer) at <treasurer@w4amc.com> or (252) 320-6545.

Thank you for your continued support and participation in BARC.

See Page 4 for more details.

President's Corner– Dave Wood, W4EJ

Next VE Session



Dave Wood, W4EJ

I am writing this from Camp Legeune as we are giving the Technician

and General tests to 18 Marines. Hopefully all of them will pass the test. I will give a detailed update on the results at the next meeting which is coming up on Feb 11th.

We have a great program on board for the February meeting by K4RGN on the use of FT8. It is also the club birthday party with cake and ice cream being provided, so bring your sweet tooth! As usual there will be an informal get together for supper at Sam Jones BBQ on Firetower Rd. at 6:PM which is open to anyone who wants to attend. 73 and see you there! *Dave*

NEW LOCATION

Exams will be held on Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at 2200 Charles Blvd, ECU Greenville Center in Room 1200, in Greenville, NC. Exams will start promptly at 6:30 PM. For more info email Gary, **KK4GC**, at ve@w4amc.com. (remove spaces) Study material at <http://www.arrl.org/courses-training>. Walk-ins welcome.

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.**

Swains Island DXpedition Team is Ready to Roll



The W8S DXpedition team heading to Swains Island in the Pacific in March reports, "All lights are green." Team members will leave from home in early March, and all will convene in Pago Pago, American Samoa, to board the vessel Manu Atele, which will transport everyone to the atoll. The voyage will take 24 hours.

Smaller vessels will ferry the operators and equipment to the island at high tide, which the update called "a serious challenge." The ship will not remain offshore while the DXpedition is under way, "hopefully picking the team up again after 14 days." An international team of 10 operators will be active from March 10 to March 25 on all HF bands on CW, SSB, FT8, and RTTY. Operation will be 24/7 from two separate camps on the island, each with two stations.

Visit the Swains Island 2020 DXpedition website <https://swains2020.1ldxt.eu/> for more information. - via [arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org) 01/27/2020



Happy Birthday

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

- | | | |
|-------|--------|------------------|
| 02-04 | KI6AEU | John Brawl |
| 02-10 | AC4JL | James Lowe |
| 02-11 | KK4GC | Gary Coriell |
| 02-15 | N4PVH | Peter Van Houten |
| 02-17 | K4ROK | Doug Ferris |
| 01-22 | K4HMW | Dan Wallace |

Please let me know of any additions or corrections. hamchatter@w4amc.com

Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

- John McCoy, K4KBB
Doug Ferris, K4ROK

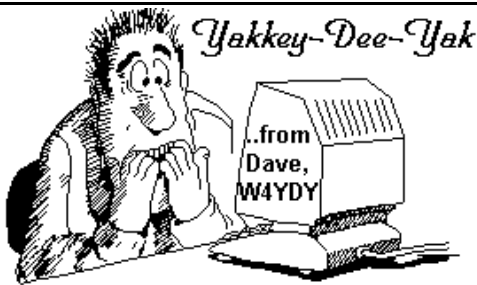


Please inform Peter Van Houten, N4PVH, of any changes.

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NEWSLETTERS

That picture above is a live shot of me right now as I am writing this column. Oh what will I write today? Many times, I will think of something to write but a little later when I sit down at the computer, I can't remember what it was. Guess that has a lot to do with age.

I have written Yakkey-Dee-Yak columns many times since the first one for the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society News in August 1969. I must have been standing on the railroad track when the 'train' got me! Anyway, I was ask to edit a club newsletter because we had only been sending out postcards for meeting notifications the first few months. It was only suppose to be for a few months but lasted for over 5 years and 63 columns. Moving to OKC helped me get out of that one! The first few columns I wrote were named "QRM from the Editor". It's

probably the most appropriate name now. I wrote 7 columns for the *Collector and Emitter* in Oklahoma City in 1977 when I was President of the Aeronautical Center Amateur Radio Club. That column was called 'Yakkey-Dee-Yak from the President'. I may reprint one from the March 1977 newsletter next month. The newsletter had 7 OKC area clubs in it so it had a lot of hams that got it in the mail. I got out of that job when we moved back to North Carolina.

It was June, 1977 when I took over as editor of Ham Chatter and 'Yakkey-Dee-Yak from Dave' started again. I've managed to think of something to write no matter how boring it may be. This is the 273rd column I have written for Ham Chatter. Total columns for the three clubs is 343. Even got one out when I was in the hospital recovering from back surgery in 2011. Tnx laptops!

I've been timing myself on how long I spend reading and researching articles and editing to make things fit in this month's newsletter. By the time I finish, it will be about 25 hours. I usually finish up late on the weekend or Monday after the club board meeting so I can publish it the week before the next club meeting.

VE Session Counts

The ARRL has a web page at

<http://www.arrl.org/ve-session-counts> that you can use to look up session counts of current and actively accredited ARRL Volunteer Examiners. I checked the one's I could find that have participated with BARC VE session. The numbers reflect only ARRL session on any club they might have worked with. I came up with the following present club members: AC4JL 3, W4EJ 15, W4JNC 15, KN4CKL 19, K4GOE 23, AK4MU (SK) 29, KK4GC, 30, K4HMW 40, W4YDY 137. I looked up several that were not listed since they haven't been to a session for some time or I goofed. I apologize if that is the case. - W4YDY



Dr. Marvin Hoffman, WA4NC, ARRL NC Section Manager, beginning April 1, 2020

BARC teaches a second Amateur Radio License course to Camp Lejeune Marines

The Brightleaf ARC taught a second Amateur Radio course to U.S. Marines with the 2nd Radio Battalion, II Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group, at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. The course was taught again by Dave Wood, W4EJ, and Jim Lowe, AC4JL, on the last week of January.

It was to help those that got their first license at the October class by teach-

ing the course for Element 3, the General Class license. But there were some new candidates so some of Element 2 had to be included for those people.

Volunteer Examiners (VE) Dave and Jim were joined by other VEs from BARC on the January 31 to give exams. They were VE Liaison Gary Coriell, **KK4GC**, Gerald Sighman, **KN4CKL**, and Dave Langley, **W4YDY**.

A total of 27 exams were administered to 13 candidates, 11 Element 2 exams (including a retake), 12 Element 3 exams and 4 Element 4 exams. The final result was 1 new Tech, 2 upgrades from Tech to General, 3 new Generals and 1 upgrade from General to Amateur Extra. One CSCE was issued for Element 3 only with no license earned for a candidate who failed Element 2 but passed Element 3.

Retired Marine Colonel Robert Pievell, **KN4YXD**, passed the Technician license on October 4. He came to the BARC VE Session on December 17 and passed the General Class exam. Then he took the exam and upgraded to Amateur Extra on January 31. Rob is the coordinator between the Marines and BARC. Don't be surprised to see him as a Volunteer Examiner (VE) in the near future.

BARC congratulates all for their accomplishments. - W4YDY

BARC Instructors



Dave Wood, W4EJ



Jim Lowe, AC4JL

BARC Monthly Minutes - January 2020

Meeting location was ECU Greenville Center at 2200 Charles Blvd in Greenville.

CTO at 7:06 pm, January 14, 2020

Recited Pledge of Allegiance
Introductions
Minutes from December 2019

board meeting read and accepted.

Treasurer's report

Program: Murray Adams... what it's like to be at a DXpedition site: St Paul Island.

SES event at Camp Lejeune was last weekend.

Motion made and approved for a

lodging expenditure for Brian Harrison (KN4R) to give a presentation on the life and disappearance of Amelia Earhart.

Meeting adjourned at (unrecorded).

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Coriell, KK4GC

BARC Board Minutes - January 2020

CTO at 7:05 pm, January 28, 2020

Attendance:
Peter Van Houten, Dave Langley, Gary Coriell, Gerald Seighman, Terry Monday, Bill Dawson, Lou Demko; Dave Wood and Jim Lowe (by phone)

Minutes from January club meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report

Dave and Jim are at Camp Lejeune giving training for Tech and General test prep. He forecasts 20 tech and



18 general exam candidates.

Dave will bring cake, plates, etc., Gary will bring drinks and ice for the club birthday party at the next club meeting.

Dave is coordinating with the

USMC for a possible visit to the June Field Day activity.

Peter is working on setting up logging and digital mode laptops for the ARES trailer as well as a how-to-use book for the trailer.

Peter and Jim will contact the insurance companies regarding liability and contents coverage for the club trailer and equipment.

Bill and Richard are coordinating to set up the LoTW certs for the club. Discuss interest in the NC QSO party at the next club meeting.

Research upcoming events (MS Walk, etc.) that the club might be interested in.

Re-engage Paul Fletcher regarding the VOA site.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Coriell, KK4GC

2020 Membership Dues

It's that time of the year once again. Membership dues for BARC will be due January 1. Membership dues are as follows and are the same as 2019:

- Regular Member \$20.00
- Family Member \$2.00
- Associate Member (Non-Licensed) \$5.00
- Life Member \$0.00
- New Hams: 18 and younger (1st year) \$5.00
- New Hams: 19 and older (1st year) \$10.00

We are requesting that you send the application form in, so that we can have your correct information on file. The form can be downloaded at <http://www.w4amc.com/barc-application.html>.

Please give the application and dues to the Treasurer at the meeting or mail your dues, along with the member application form to:

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 8387
Greenville, NC 27835

Those who have not renewed their dues by March 1, 2009 will be removed from the roster and the Ham Chatter mailing list. Membership will be reinstated upon receipt of 2020 dues.

If there are any questions concerning membership status or dues, please contact Jim Lowe, AC4JL, (2020 Treasurer) at <treasurer@w4amc.com> or (252) 320-6545.

Thank you for your continued support and participation in BARC.

Former BARC Member & VE Morris Lewis, AK4MU, SK



MORRIS, AK4MU, was a Brightleaf ARC board member in 2014 and 2015. He was very active as a

Volunteer Examiner (VE) and served in 29 ARRL sessions for BARC.

Following from Farmville Funeral Home

James Morris Lewis Sr., age 70, died Sunday, January 19, 2020.

Mr. Lewis was preceded in death by his wife, Gennie Lewis; and his parents, James and Mary Lewis.

He is survived by his son, James Morris Lewis Jr. of Wilson.

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club sends its condolences to the Lewis family.

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.**

FOR SALE: BUDIPOLE ANTENNA - A complete budipole antenna system, with extra parts to make a 3 ele 2 mtr, or a 3 ele 6 mtr beam. All contained in one carrying bag. \$375.00. Email Bernie Nobles, **WA4MOK** <wa4mok @ embarqmail.com>

Classic Collins station FOR SALE

KWM-2 Transceiver, Serial # 149 - Winged Emblem. Original box, 3 "KWM-2" Instruction books, dated Aug 1959, Oct 1959, Apr 1960. One "KWM-2 and KWM-2A" Instruction book dated Feb 1969. Collins Service bulletins and modification, Collins cables, mod records. Set of spare tubes and a spare relay. Heathkit Q Multiplier GD-125, used as peak and notch filter on KWM-2. \$500. One owner. See the station at <https://www.qsl.net/w4ydy/>.

512F-2 Power Supply, Serial # 2200 - Winged Emblem. Original box. Parts list and schematic in KWM-2 instruction books. Replaced tubes and all of the electrolytic capacitors in May 2018. One owner. \$250. Both: KWM-2 & PS, \$650.



GREAT PRICES! Internet prices **higher!**

30L-1 PARTS: New plate transformer in OEM box. \$200. New fan \$60. Email **w4ydy @ arrl.net**
Will consider best offer for all above.

Pitt County Repeater Association

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

BARC on FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/w4amc/>

Facebook and Group details

<http://www.w4amc.com/barcnews.html#BARC>

Commercial Ad Rates

1/8 page, Business Card Size

\$10 per Month - \$100 per Year

Send ads to: **Ham Chatter,
PO Box 8387, Greenville, NC 27835**

Help support *Ham Chatter* and the club. **Donations accepted!**

Monday & Monday, CPA's, PA

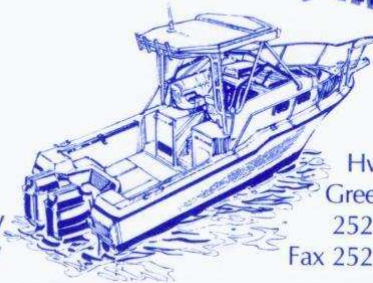
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New Amateur Extra Question Pool Released



The new Amateur Extra-class license examination question pool, effective from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2024, has been released and is available at the National Conference of Volunteer Coordinators (NCVEC) website.

The 2020 – 2024 Extra-class pool <http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=356> incorporates significant changes compared to the current 2016 – 2020 question pool, which expires on June 30.

The number of questions in the pool was reduced from 712 to 622. The result was 239 modified questions, 49 new questions, and 139 questions removed due to changes in what was felt to be an abundance of outdated questions, while areas of new technology and subjects were added.

In addition, an effort was made to balance the difficulty level, removing or replacing some questions deemed too easy or too difficult compared to the rest of the pool. The 2020 pool has 10 diagrams, which have been renumbered because the new question pool has two fewer than the 2016 question pool. - *via arrl.org 01/27/2020*

State QSO Party Challenge Announced

The State QSO Party Challenge <http://stateqsoparty.com/> is a competition comprised of other contests, namely state and provincial QSO parties. As explained on the website, the annual cumulative score program is open to any radio amateur who participates in any approved state QSO parties (SQPs).

Participants just need to submit their QSO party scores to 3830scores.com to enter the challenge. Participants' cumulative scores will be calculated by totaling up the number of reported contacts and multiplying by the number of SQPs entered in the year to date. Periodic standings will be posted to 3830scores.com, <https://3830scores.com/sqpsummary.php> the QSOParty Groups.io forum, <https://groups.io/g/QSOParty>

and the StateQSOParty.com website.

“Using the number of QSO parties entered as a multiplier is expected to encourage radio amateurs to enter more state/province QSO parties,” the program’s organizers said. “The first SQPs in 2020 are the Vermont, Minnesota, and British Columbia QSO Parties in the first weekend of February.”

Entrants must make at least two contacts in a QSO party for it to count as a multiplier. Full details are available on the State QSO Party Challenge website. Challenge sponsors expressed appreciation to Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, for developing the SQP Activity Tracker on 3830scores.com. - *via arrl.org 01/28/2020*

Spanish Radio Amateurs May Exchange Current Call Signs for Permanent 2 x 1 Call Signs



Regulators in Spain are now allowing radio amateurs there to exchange their current longer-format call signs for

permanent 2 x 1 call signs, and some familiar Spanish call signs are likely to be changing. Salva Moreno, EA5BB, told ARRL that hams in Spain who decided to make the change are now awaiting the official license documents, so they can use their new call signs on the air. Moreno’s new call sign will be EA5U. To be eligible, applicants must have held a license issued by Spanish authorities without any sanctions and have at least 15 years of experience in “international amateur radio.” -*via arrl.org 01/21/2020*

NETS

VHF/UHF

♦**BARC Net**, Mondays, 2000 on 147.09 MHz, W4GDF Repeater.

♦**Down East Hospital Net**, 2nd Tuesday of each month at noon

Greenville 444.725 MHz, 91.5 tone N4HAJ

Fountain 444.425 MHz, 88.5 Tone N4HAJ

♦Newport SkyWarn Tues. nights 2100E Grifton-146.685-88.5 tone

♦Newport-145.450..... IRLP 8561 links to Columbia

♦Jacksonville-147.000- 88.5 tone

♦Oriental-147.210-151.4 tone

♦444 Newport-444.825- 88.5 tone

♦Swansboro-146.760- 88.5 tone

♦Grantsboro-145 230 - 85.4 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.

♦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 (20wpm)

♦3.573 2200 hours, slow speed (12-14 wpm), South Carolina/North Carolina

National Traffic System

Eastern North Carolina Traffic Net (ENCTN) 146.685 (146.085 in) Mhz (PL 88.5) 2030E

BARC Email Addresses

*President @ w4amc.com

to Dave Wood, **W4EJ**

*Treasurer @ w4amc.com

to Jim Lowe, **AC4JL**

*VE @ w4amc.com

to Gary Coriell, **KK4GC**

*Hamchatter @ w4amc.com

to Dave Langley, **W4YDY**

*QSL @ w4amc.com

to Richard Campbell, **W4JNC**

*BARC @ w4amc.com

to Mike Monteith, **KM4OLT**

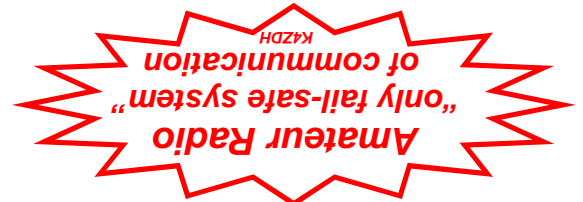
BARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb 8/9..... CQ WPX RTTY Contest
 Feb 11..... **Regular Meeting**
 Feb 15/16..... ARRL CW DX Contest
 Feb 18..... BARC **VE Session**
 Feb 21/23..... CW WW SSB 160M Contest
 Feb 25..... **Board Meeting**
 Feb 29..... Ham Chatter **Deadline**
 Mar 1..... **NC QSO Party**
 Mar 7/8..... ARRL SSB DX Contest
 Mar 10..... **Regular Meeting**
 Mar 28/29..... CQ WW SSB WPX Contest
 Mar 31..... **Board Meeting**
 Apr 4..... Ham Chatter **Deadline**
 Apr 11..... RARSfest - Raleigh

Apr 14..... **Regular Meeting**
 Apr 21..... BARC **VE Session**
 Apr 28..... **Board Meeting**
 May 12..... **Regular Meeting**
 May 26..... **Board Meeting**
 Jun 9..... **Regular Meeting**
 Jun 16..... BARC **VE Session**
 Jun 27/28..... ARRL Field Day
 Jun 30..... **Board Meeting**
Regular Meeting - 2nd Tuesday @ 7:00 PM
Board Meeting - Last Tuesday @ 7:00 PM
 Contest Calendar: All the rules.
<https://www.contestcalendar.com/weeklycont.php>

BARC 2 METER NET - MONDAY NIGHTS AT 8:00 PM - 147.09 W4GDF REPEATER - 131.8 Tone
 Down East Hospital Net - 2nd Tuesday at noon - Greenville 444.725 MHz, 91.5 tone N4HAJ
 BRIGHTLEAF AMATEUR RADIO CLUB STATIONS

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



Next Meeting
 February 11, 2020

February 2020

To:



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