

# HAM CHATTER



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



Volume 43 Issue 7

An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication

July 2009

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Email: [barc@w4amc.com](mailto:barc@w4amc.com)

Associate Editor, Tim Nelson, WA4TMN

## Meet the Member, Brenda Malinauskas, KJ4GDS

Although Brenda recently joined BARC, she has been an active participant in BARC activities. That can be seen in the picture below at the Field Day in 2008. She was showing Ted Bertrand, KI4PWX, how the tower work was suppose to be done! He learned his lesson.

She passed the Technician exam in August 2008 and received her call sign, KJ4GDS (goin' down south).

Her other interests include running, cooking, eating healthy and ordering Ted, Bernie, and John around. They need all the help they can get and this could be the most complicated job she has ever attempted!

Brenda is originally from Oak Ridge, TN. She said she use to be Ted's paper girl! Wonder if he waiting on the porch every day?

When asked about her education, she said, "Got plenty of that!" She said her occupation was a teacher (Nutrition) at East Carolina University. She has a bunch of letters after her name that looks like some kind of secret code starting with PhD! She received her BS and PhD (Nutrition) from Auburn University, Auburn, AL and her MS (Nutrition) from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). War Eagle! She is Assistant Professor in the Department of Nutrition & Dietetics at East Carolina University.

She didn't say if she had a ham rig yet but she will be getting a nice one in September when she and Ted will be taking the big step and getting married. It shouldn't be too hard to transfer it from Ted's car to her car! I'm sure it will be easy when she orders Ted, Bernie and John to git'r'done!

Ted is the lucky one here! We all wish them the best.

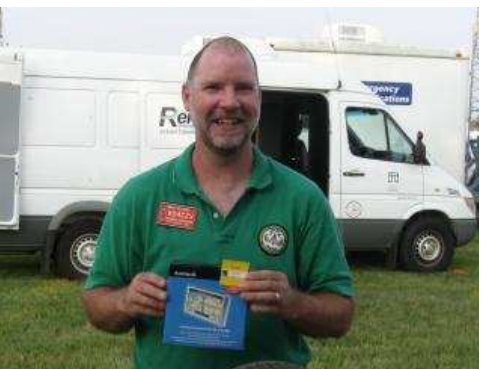
## Next Meeting July 14

*The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next meeting on Tuesday, July 14 at 7:30 PM at VFW Post Home 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville.*

*The program will be Emergency Preparedness by Mike Langley, KD4MTT. All members, families and guests are invited to attend.*

*The next board meeting will be July 28 at 7:30 PM at 631-B Dickinson Avenue - entrance at back of the building. All members invited.*

## Dave Pulver, KG4CZV, wins GPS Raffle



The drawing for the 2009 BARC Raffle was held on Saturday, June 27, 2008 at Field Day.

Greenville Mayor Pat Dunn pulled the winning ticket. And the winner is.....**Dave Pulver, KG4CZV.**

Thanks all for helping make this years raffle another successful event.



## President's Corner, Bob Moore, N4USB

Another successful field day is complete and I think was enjoyed by all that participated. I would like to thank all the members that planned, organized, directed, setup, operated, and took down the necessary materials and task and for field day. I was going to name the contributors but I knew that I would miss some one and that would be a terrible slight to those missed. So in an effort to not make that mistake I will thank all that contributed and a special thanks to the field day chairman.

This month we have had two practice sessions for emergency operations. Hopefully that will be all the emergency operations we will experience this storm season but as you well know that is not likely so to emphasize the information that Mike Langley, KD4MTT, has shared with us "Be Prepared". Plan and prepare for your family needs first and then be prepared to assist others in the community who will be in need of your expertise both in communications and in managing emergency situations. Let us use the knowledge we have and be not the ones that are in need of help but to be the one who can help others.

W4YDY has hinted that I have

become a little longwinded so I will stop at this point.

Hope to see you at this months meeting.

*Bob Moore, N4USB*

## June VE Session Results

Three candidates were successful in passing Amateur Radio exams at the June 12 BARC VE session. They were Drew Tingen, **KJ4MUZ**, from Washington, passing the Technician, Dalton Heath, **KJ4MGE**, Kinston, upgrading to General and Turner Bond, **KC2FVT**, Williamston, upgrading to General. Drew's new call sign, **KJ4MUZ**, was effective 6/16/09. BARC congratulates all for their achievement.

The VE's were Acting VE Liaison Ted Bertrand, **KI4PWX**, Richard Cox, **K4CRD**, and Dave Langley, **W4YDY**.

Tom Parsons, **W4TEP**, VE Liaison, was in the hospital so he was not able to be at the session. Thanks to Dave Pulver, **KG4CZV**, for bringing the materials. Due to not being able to use the regular VE site, Dave allowed us to use his facilities for the exams. Thanks again very much for his help.

The next regular VE session will be **August 14, 2009**.

## Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

**Charlie Wells, K4SKI**

**Tom Parsons, W4TEP**

Please inform Albert Sanchez, **WA7FXB**, [albertsanchez@suddenlink.net](mailto:albertsanchez@suddenlink.net) of any changes.



## Next VE Session

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on **August 14**. Exams will be held at St. Peter's School on 5th Street and will start promptly at 6:30 PM. Tom Parsons, **W4TEP**, 355-2815. [w4tep@arrl.net](mailto:w4tep@arrl.net). Please bring the following:

- ◆ Photo ID (drivers license)
- ◆ Original Amateur Radio License
- ◆ Copy of Amateur Radio License
- ◆ Original CSCE's
- ◆ Copy of CSCE
- ◆ Test fee is \$15.00 (\$1 increase in 2009)
- ◆ Proof of Tech Plus if before 3/21/87 and doing paper upgrade to General.

**Be sure to bring ORIGINAL and COPIES of your Amateur Radio license and / or CSCE if upgrading.**

## NC ARES Internet

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



Hamfest Calendar on **W4AMC.COM**  
<http://www.w4amc.com/hamfests.html>

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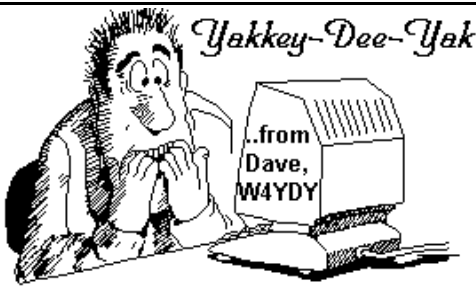
## Happy Birthday

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

2	KC4YIP	Jay Edwards
12	KG4CZW	Bonnie Pulver
13	K4SKI	Charlie Wells
19	K2OGD	Don Reed
24	WA4MOK	Bernie Nobles
29	W4YDY	David Langley

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

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Thanks to Dave Pulver, KG4CZW, for his outstanding job as the 2009 BARC Field Day manager. There were a lot of others that assisted him in getting everything done that needed to be done. There was a lot of planning and work by many. There were not as many at Field Day as in the past but for the ones that were there, a good time was had.

Greenville Mayor Pat Dunn came out again this year and spent about 3 hours there. She had supper with us and then got on the 40 meter band to make a few contacts with the assistance of Ted Bertrand, KI4PWX. While she was on the radio making contacts, WNCT-TV arrived and spent a while making videos of the operation. Videos were also made of the Mayor making several contacts and answering with the club report, "Three Alfa, North Carolina". About a 1 minute version was

shown on the 6 PM news and a 2 minute version was shown at 10 PM news on the CW Network station. It was also shown on the 11 PM WNCT news and again the next morning on 2 occasions on the WNCT morning show.

In the 2 minute version, several interviews were shown. Mayor Dunn, Murray Merner, K4MHM, Dave Pulver, KG4CZW and Bill Dawson, WA4SLC, were all on camera answering questions about Field Day and Amateur Radio. Mayor Dunn said she enjoyed her time there and was looking forward to next year. A new ham in the works?

Everyone that assisted Dave with the Field Day setup and tear down did a very good job. Thanks to all.

There should be pictures and video on the web site before the end of the month. It will take a little longer this time because Ham Chatter was due a week after Field Day instead of FD weekend. There hasn't been much time to go through the 48 minutes of video and over 130 pictures. That's more video and pictures that I usually have but I've already thought of some that I should have taken. Can we do a 'take two'? Oh well, the cameraman came cheap. I asked for a pay raise so it was doubled.  $0 \times 2 = 0!$  - W4YDY

## Tom Parsons, W4TEP, steps down as VE Liaison.

BARC Life Member Tom Parsons, W4TEP, has served since January 2002 as the BARC VE Liaison. Due to



**Tom Parsons, W4TEP**

health reasons, he has stepped down but will still be active at as many sessions as he can. Tom has done an

outstanding job in this very important position. He has coordinated the facilities at St. Peter's School and it is a very good place to have the exams. The exam sessions were always conducted in a professional manner and several examinees emailed later on to complement about how well it was administrated. Candidates came from Eastern NC, VA and SC.

Ted Bertrand, KI4PWX, has stepped forward and volunteered to become the BARC VE Liaison. Since he received his Amateur Radio license, he has been very active in the club and helping with the VE sessions. He has served as Acting VE Liaison when necessary.



**Ted Bertrand, KI4PWX**

BARC Life Member Brother Simon Jaworski, KQ2V, became the first BARC VE Liaison in the middle 1980's. He moved from Greenville in 2000 and completed his last session in June 2000. When he left, Cliff Kendall, N3LEX, stepped up and became the BARC VE Liaison. Due to his job requirements, he had to put Amateur Radio on the back burner and his last session was in December 2001. Tom took over the reins in January 2002.

BARC thanks Tom for his service to the club and his continued participation. Also thanks to Ted for stepping up to assist the club with this very important position.

## 2009 BARC Field Day



The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club held its annual Field Day event on June 27 and 28 at the intersection of Arlington Blvd and Turnbury Drive in Greenville. The event was attended by 31 club members. Also attending were approximately 20 guests, including 5 other licensed amateurs, Greenville Mayor Pat Dunn as well as Noel Lee and Allen Everett from Pitt County Emergency Management.

The event was run with three fixed stations and a Get on the Air

(GOTA) station. 373 contacts were made using voice, CW, digital (WinLink/PSK) and satellite.

Every year we say that there are two things you can count on for Field Day. It is going to rain and it will be hot. It was definitely hot. However, the rain didn't get us this year. Instead it was wind from a nearby storm that threatened our setup. One antenna was almost lost and the public information tent was moved a few feet, knocking over the GOTA station. Luckily, nothing was damaged and nobody was hurt.

I would like to thank the many people who helped make this event successful, from helping plan the event, operating the radio and helping set up and tear down the site. A good time was had by all that participated. Hopefully, 2010 will be just as fun.

*Dave Pulver, KG4CZV*

# BARC 2009 ARRL Field Day - June 27/28



How many does it take to install a Tarheel Antenna for the GOTA station? 2 workers and 3 supervisors!



Dave, **KV4CN**, working with David Landry at the GOTA station. David is studying for his Amateur Radio license.



Ted, **KI4PWX**, helping as Greenville Mayor Pat Dunn makes contacts on 40 meters. WNCT-TV did a story on Field Day and she was one of those featured on camera



Murray, **K4MHM**, and Drew Tingen, **KJ4MUZ**, licensed just 11 days earlier, making FD contacts.



Gerry, **K4IDD**, works CW on 20 meters.



Terry, **K4ZYD**, still working stations while **K4MHM** and others tear down and pack up.

## 2009 Shelby Hamfest

This year our club, in an effort to save money on postage, has decided not to mail brochures. Attached is a PDF with information on the 2009 Shelby Hamfest in Dallas, NC. September 5th and 6th. Tickets can now be purchased via paypal through our website at <http://www.shelbyhamfest.org/hamfest.htm>

We are giving away 14 radios this year and you do not have to be present to win. \$6 in advance, 12 & under free. Mail to SARC, PO Box 2206, Shelby, NC 28151-2206

Thanks for your time and your patronage to our hamfest. We love to see folks from all across NC.  
Susan Melvin, K4ZXXN, VP, Shelby Amateur Radio Club

# 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](mailto:barc@w4amc.com) (no spaces)

**For Sale:** Vitamaster Treadmill, Very Good condition \$75 Richard, K4CRD, 252-717-8036, [k4crd@embarqmail.com](mailto:k4crd@embarqmail.com)

**For Sale:** 4-drawer file cabinet; 15"W x 18" D x 52" H; one drawer missing a handle. \$10. Call Murray, **K4MHM**, 757-3429.

**FREE:** 72 foot tower, 4 inch steel pipe with ladder attached. Four guy wires. Heavy duty rotator, control box and cable, 20 meter 3 element with 36 foot boom, 140 feet of RG8 cable. You take down. Charlie Wells, **K4SKI**, 355-5188

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## BARC Meeting Minutes - June 2009

### BARC Membership Meeting Minutes 06/09/09

Call to order: Al Sanchez called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm. The Pledge or Allegiance was said. There were 19 members present.

**Minutes** – The minutes from the May membership meeting were approved as published in the June Ham Chatter.

**Secretary** – No Report

**Treasurer's Report** – Dave Pulver, KG4CZV, gave the report. The cost of the web site for 2009 exceeded the budget by \$2.89. The membership voted to increase the budget to cover this additional expense. Further information regarding the treasurers report and records is available to members upon request.

**Health and welfare:** Dave Pulver, KG4CZV, reported that Tom Parsons had fallen at home and was recovering at PCMH

**Ham Chatter** – No report

**VE Session** – Next session Friday June 12

**Equipment** – There was a trailer cleanup day on May 30. The trailer was unpacked and repacked. It should be ready now for Field Day.

**Pitt County ARES** – Dave Pulver, KG4CZV, reported that there was a meeting on May 20 with ten people in attendance. Good progress was made on determining what information

should go into an ARES manual for operators to use. Peter Van Houten, KG4WEZ, talked about computerless digital communications, which is something he is experimenting with. He will report in future on his progress.

**Old Business** – None

**New Business** - John Prokop discussed a proposal made at the Board Meeting for the club to purchase a small pop up tent for use by club at small events. The tent could be put up by one or two people. He reported that the cost for decent 10 x 10 pop up tent with 3 sides is around \$350. A motion to spend no more than \$350 to purchase a tent for the club was passed by the members present. John Prokop will take care of the purchase.

**Announcement** – Dave Langley discussed what various local television stations are doing about the analog television being turned off on June 12,

**50/50:** There was no 50/50 drawing

**Program:** Dave Pulver, KG4CZV talked about the upcoming Field Day.

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

*Dave Pulver, KG4CZV*

Substitute Minute Taker

## BARC Board Minutes - June 2009

### Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club

#### Board Meeting Minutes 06/30/2009

**Call to Order:** President Bob Moore, N4USB, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

**Board Members Present:** President Bob Moore, N4USB; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Ted Bertrand, KI4PWX; Secretary Bonnie Pulver, KG4CZW; Treasurer Dave Pulver, KG4CZV; Trustee John Prokop, N8MPX

**Others in Attendance:** Taylor Millar, W4WTM; Dave Langley, W4YDY; John McCoy, K4KBB; Pat Williams, KG4NSC

**Minutes:** Approved as published in the Ham Chatter.

**Treasurer's Report:** Dave Pulver, KG4CZV, gave the report. It is available to members upon request. Raffle ticket sales have been down two years in a row. A decision should be made in January as to whether a raffle should be held for 2010.

**Health and welfare:** Tom Parsons, W4TEP, is out of the hospital and improving.

**Equipment:** Ted Bertrand, KI4PWX, recommended that BARC purchase some safety equipment. He will report back on quotes for hard hats, safety glasses and a storage bin to keep them in. A new first aid kit should also be purchased before our next field day, since first aid kits do expire. There was discussion about purchasing another Yaesu FT-897 station and headset. Ted will report back on quotes. Discussion ensued about the need for a new trailer. If BARC decided to trade the trailer for a larger one, there will be weight issues and it will be more

difficult to tow. If BARC gets another trailer of similar size in order to have more storage, care would need to be taken to not duplicate items in each trailer. Extra storage space to keep the trailer would also be needed. Items used only for Field Day could be stored in a rental until. Some of the equipment that has not been used this field day could be sold to produce more space in the trailer. Ted will research this further. A clean up day for the trailer will be scheduled this fall.

**Ham Chatter:** Dave Langley, W4YDY, reported that this next issue will be a color issue and that several pictures of Field Day will be included.

**History Committee:** Pat Williams, KG4NSC, has been given a notebook and a CD of past BARC history by Dave Langley, W4YDY. Pat will report back with a method of gathering and storing the information.

**New Members Presented:** Brenda Malinauskas, KJ4GDS, has been approved as a member.

**Programs:** Ted Bertrand, KI4PWX, reported that the next meeting will either be on emergency preparedness or mobile antennas. This will depend upon the availability of speakers.

**VE:** Dave Langley, W4YDY, reported that one person became a new ham at the last exam. Tom Parsons, W4TEP, has decided to pass on being the VE liaison due to health issues. Ted Bertrand, KI4PWX, has agreed to become the new volunteer examiner liaison.

*(Continued on page 7)*

## BARC Board Minutes - June 2009

(Continued from page 6)

**Old Business:** The board voted to recommend to the membership that a contribution of \$ 100.00 be made to the Pitt County Repeater Association. This recommendation will be brought to the membership at the July meeting.

**New Business:** There was discussion regarding the lack of clarity of how much a new member owes for dues when joining BARC at different times during the year. The board recommended that dues be pro-rated by the quarter for new members. This will be presented to the membership for approval at the July meeting.

A nominating committee was appointed by Bob Moore, N4USB, for forming a presentation of officers in September. This committee exists of Bob Moore, N4USB; John McCoy, K4KBB; John Prokop, N8MPX; Dave Langley, W4YDY and Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK. Bernie was not present at the meeting and therefore had not accepted this nomination by this writing.

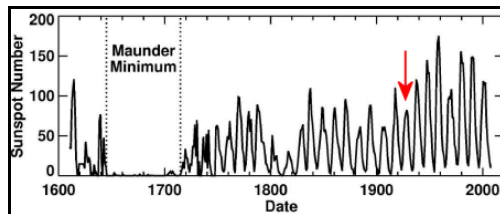
**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

*Bonnie Pulver, KG4CZW*

## NASA, NOAA releases new predictions for Solar Cycle 24

An international panel of experts -- led by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and sponsored by NASA -- has released a new prediction for the next solar cycle: Solar Cycle 24 will peak in May 2013 with a below-average number of sunspots <[http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2009/29may\\_noaaprediction.htm?list13\\_00638](http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2009/29may_noaaprediction.htm?list13_00638)>. "If our prediction is correct, Solar Cycle 24 will have a peak sunspot number of 90, the lowest of any cycle since 1928 when Solar Cycle 16 peaked at 78," said panel chairman Doug Biesecker of NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center. This report clarifies a NOAA report from May 2009 that stated that Solar Cycle 24 would



This chart from NASA shows the yearly-averaged sunspot numbers from 1610 to 2008. Researchers believe upcoming Solar Cycle 24 will be similar to the cycle that peaked in 1928, marked by a red arrow.

bring "90 sunspots per day on average" <[http://www.noanews.noaa.gov/stories2009/20090508\\_solarstorm.html](http://www.noanews.noaa.gov/stories2009/20090508_solarstorm.html)>.

The latest forecast revises a prediction issued in 2007 <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2008/01/07/100/>>. At that time, a sharply divided panel believed solar minimum would come in March 2008 followed by either a strong solar maximum in 2011, or a weak solar maximum in 2012. "It turns out that none of our models were totally correct," said Dean Pesnell of the Goddard Space Flight Center and NASA's lead representative on the panel. "The Sun is behaving in an unexpected and very interesting way."



Right now -- June 2009 -- the solar cycle is in a valley, the deepest of the past century. In 2008 and 2009, the Sun showed some of the lowest sunspot counts on record, as well as weak solar winds and a low solar irradiance, going more than two years without a significant solar flare. "In our professional careers, we've never seen anything quite like it," Pesnell said. "Solar minimum has lasted far beyond the date we predicted in 2007." - Excerpts from ARRL Letter Online 6/5/09

For more information, go to <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/06/02/10851/?nc=1>

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## 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, Monday 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/>

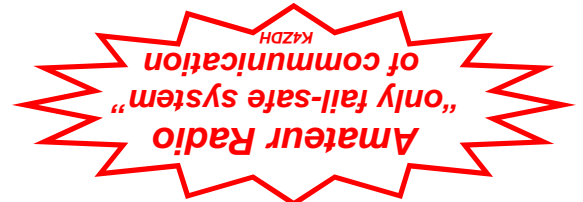
# BARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jul 11/12. ....	IARU HF World Championship	<b>Aug 27</b> .....	<b>HAM CHATTER DEADLINE</b>
Jul 14 .....	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	Sep 5/6. ....	Shelby Hamfest - Dallas, NC
Jul 18 .....	Cary Swapfest	Sep 8 .....	<b>Regular Meeting</b>
Jul 18/19. ....	CQWW VHF Contest	Sep 12/13 .....	Virginia Beach Hamfest
Jul 18/19. ....	North American RTTY QSO Party	Sep 26/27. ....	CQWW RTTY Contest
Jul 28 .....	<b>Board Meeting</b>	Sep 29 .....	<b>Board Meeting</b>
<b>Jul 30.</b> .....	<b>HAM CHATTER DEADLINE</b>	<b>Oct 1</b> .....	<b>HAM CHATTER DEADLINE</b>
Aug 11 .....	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	Oct 3/4 .....	ARRL SET
Aug 14 .....	BARC VE Session	Oct 13. ....	<b>Regular Meeting</b>
Aug 25 .....	<b>Board Meeting</b>		

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 9:00 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**



Next Meeting  
July 14

**July 2009**

To:



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