



September 23, 2017
Belle Fourche, SD

Repeater Users:

The **NORTHERN HILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB** would like to sincerely thank those of you who donated to help us keep the "Black Hills Linked Repeater System" consisting of WØBLK (146.94Ø MHz), Terry Peak (146.76Ø MHz) and Bear Mountain (146.85Ø MHz) repeaters in service. We believe that making these repeaters available for your use is an important service in case of emergencies. When they are working the repeaters have demonstrated that they are capable of supporting the required communications needed.

At the present time we need to pay for an upgrade to the backup battery systems at the Bear Mountain site and the system hub site at the WØBLK clubhouse. With winter approaching, this upgrade has been ordered and will be installed in the next few weeks. The antenna for Terry Peak has not yet been ordered as testing of a cheaper alternative antenna has not been performed. Hopefully this will be done in the near future.

We like to believe that Amateur Radio should be free. Unfortunately the cost to provide repeater service isn't free. In addition to paying for the upgrade of the equipment, we have yearly general liability insurance to buy and other various expenses to meet. So all users of the system are requested to donate and donate generously and also are requested to join your local **clubs**.

Thanks to a donation that came from the Black Hills Back 40 and what several individuals have already donated we are about half way to paying for the above upgrades. The remainder is being paid for by a "loan" from a ham until such time as the required funds have been raised.

To those of you users who have not already donated this year, we would like to ask you to consider a generous donation to the **NORTHERN HILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB** to support this upgrade. As you sit down to write checks each month, please keep the Northern Hills ARC upgrade in mind and donate generously. If you feel that you are unable to give a generous donation at this time, then maybe you might consider a monthly, quarterly or other periodic donation. When you decide your method of donating please let us know so we know what we can count on in the near future. We ask that those of you who use the repeaters should help to maintain them financially and at the very least please join one or both clubs. We believe that we provide a good service to you, and would like to continue to be in the financial position to do so in the future. Make your checks payable to the Northern Hills ARC. If you care to pay by **PayPal** please contact Jerry KCØWC and get the email address to send your payment to.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Jerry Hawley

Jerry Hawley, KCØWC
Secretary NHARC

Send Checks to:
NORTHERN HILLS ARC
11Ø5Ø Bluebell Lane
Belle Fourche, SD 57717