

LIGHTS AND SHADOWS

FROM THE DISHMAN HILLS



January 1977
DISHMAN HILLS MEMORIAL AREA ASSN., INC., P.O. BOX 20, SPokane, WA 99206

PROJECTS ENCOURAGING FOR ADDING
TO NATURAL AREA IN 1977

Nature Conservancy Entering Picture Again

The Nature Conservancy recently proposed using the value of its 60-acre Dishman Hills Preserve as the local share of funds needed for Spokane County to buy more land for Dishman Hills Natural Area. County Parks and Recreation Director Sam Anrove is having a tract of land in the hills appraised with this in mind. Any Nature Conservancy land thus used would become county property, safeguarded by state and federal regulations requiring that it be left in its natural state.

QUALIFIED TRAVELLOGUE FERRARIAN PROGRAM

Our February meeting will feature a travelogue on Thailand narrated by Ina M. Johnston, with slides taken by her niece, Vicki Butler. It will be at University High School, E. 10212 9th, at 7 P.M. Wednesday, Feb. 23. Board meeting will be at 7 P.M. You are welcome to come early for it.

WHAT GIVE TO DISHMAN HILLS FUND

The following have donated to the Dishman Hills project since the November Bulletin and are listed through Dec. 31: Memorials: Belle Botwell, memorial to Mattie Burke; Doris M. Barclay, to Mildred Cleveland; Mrs. Ray Carpenter, to Victor Morgan and Hilda Panneuf, and Paul Winkleron, to Sharon Lynn Winkleron. BY dues, recycling or gifts to land fund or bulletin expense: Doreen Vance, Mrs. Russell K. Krieger, Mary Taylor, Mrs. Jerry Bailey, Mrs. Witherspoon, W. D. Davies, Tom Rogers, Helen Linninger, Margaret Fellows, Bernice Aronsen, Dan Krieger Dale C. Swanson, Isabel Gould, Gladys Cory, L. H. Jorgensen, John Kollar, Dr.

DISHMAN HILLS MEMORIAL AREA
RECOGNIZED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
Spokane Area Group Pushing
Environmental Emphasis in Schools

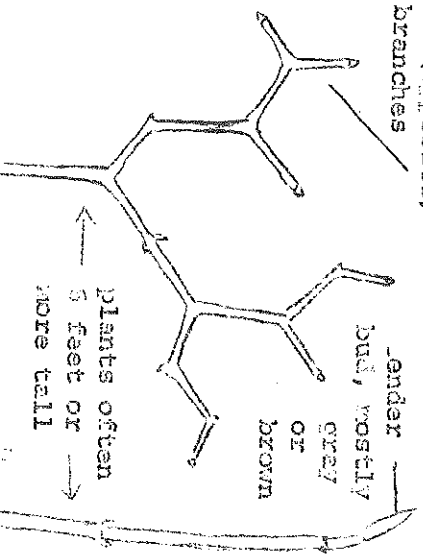
Dishman Hills Natural Area is becoming recognized more and more for its educational potential in the Greater Spokane community, whose Center for Environmental Understanding, in a series of meetings in December, sounded out the interest of the local community in environmental education, including both natural and manmade environment. The Superintendent of Public Instruction's Office is willing to give financial aid and the State Parks and Recreation Department is willing to build a live-in facility where students can spend several days experiencing and studying natural communities. A federal grant is also a good possibility. However, this material help is dependent upon the Spokane community's showing a substantial interest in environmental education. If you are in favor, we urge you to let your school administrators know. Pick up the phone or drop them a line at once, as an application for a federal grant has to be sent off in February.

In view of these developments we are preparing a guide to the plant-animal communities in the Dishman Hills-Tower Mt. area so that teachers, students and other interested persons can visit the area and have some basic understanding of the living communities there. On page two of this issue is an attempt to outline some of the plant-animal-land relationships in winter. Your comments and criticisms will be appreciated.

ANOTHER MEMORIAL DONATION IS RECEIVED

Wallace Murphy has made a donation to the land fund in the form of a memorial to John Fellows.

paired (opposite)



Mock Orange or SYRINGA
(Philadelphus Lewisii)

Red Osier
Dogwood
(Cornus
stolonifera)

Dishman Hills Natural Area Assn., Inc.
A non-profit organization

- Helen E. Linsinger, President
- Thomas F. Rogers, Vice-pres. & editor
- Bernice Ammons, Secretary
- David E. Lentzes, Treasurer
- Directors (in addition to officers):
- Omar F. Carroll Daniel A. Koderik
- Greg Evans William F. Marchand
- Bernice Hahn Ambrose Priestley
- Warren A. Hall

Our organization is dedicated to the saving of some of the natural environment of the Spokane area for people to enjoy. We invite you to join personally in the effort by coming to our monthly meetings each fourth Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at Camp Caro, S. 625 Sargent Road (turn south just west of Dishman Theater).

MANY GIVE--(cont. from page 1)

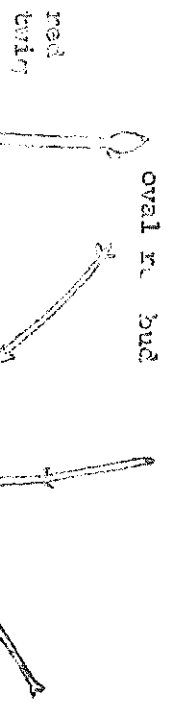
- J. E. Finney, James Valentine, Harry Jo Lilly, Mrs. George Harrington, Magdaline B. Tsalaly, Wilma V. Phillely, Ina H. Johnston, Mary W. Beagher, Mrs. Stanley A. Fahlgren, Mr. & Mrs. Dan. J. Taylor, Elizabeth Saunders, Harriet F. Davies, Glen Volyn and Cecil E. Leonard.

RETURNS FROM RECYCLING UP IN 1976

A year ago we set a goal of \$1000 to raise from recyclables in 1976, after raising some \$400 that way the year before. We nearly did it, taking in \$373.20.

Wouldn't it be great if Spokane, the

Environmental City' could come up with facilities for recycling...



Mtn. Maple
(Acer glabrum)

Snowberry
(Symphoricarpos albus)

WINTER LIFE IN THE DISHMAN HILLS

In winter plant and animal activities are reduced to the survival level in the Dishman Hills and similar areas. Plants are dormant except for lichens and mosses, which grow during warm, moist periods. These tiny plants require open, sunny places since they make their own food by photosynthesis. Both live on rocks and soil but some lichens also grow on trees and shrubs.

Several species of birds remain in winter. Black-capped and Mountain Chickadees and Golden-crowned Kinglets search the ponderosa pines and Douglas firs for hibernating insects. Pygmy and Red-breasted Nuthatches also do this and feed as well upon seeds from pine cones. All four species spend the cold nights in tree cavities. The nuthatches make their own but chickadees depend upon empty holes of nuthatches or woodpeckers. The Common (Red-shafted) Flicker is occasionally found, feeding upon insects and wild fruit. Depending upon conifer ("ever-green") seeds entirely ate the Red Cross-bills. Pine Siskins also eat these and other seeds. An occasional Ruffed Grouse frequents the denser trees and shrubs, picking up seeds and berries. Ravens may drift down from Tower Mountain and scavenge upon animal remains.

Cottontail rabbits feed upon bark and white-footed mice, seeds. The rabbits use holes among the rocks for their homes and the mice probably do likewise. Snow gives concealment for the mice and protects small plants from the heaving of the ground by freezing and thawing, which may break their roots.

The only insects active below freezing are a tiny, spider-like species belonging