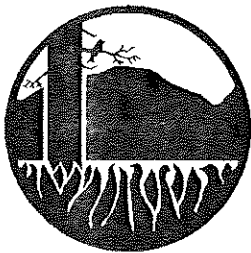


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LIGHTS AND SHADOWS

FROM THE DISHMAN HILLS

FEBRUARY 1989

CAN SPRING BE FAR BEHIND?

As this is being written, the mid-February snowstorm, though not so pleasant to be out in, offers some hope of offsetting the effects of a very dry winter. Spring may be slow in coming, though there has already been a report of a buttercup in the Spokane area. Their leaves have been intermittently exposed all winter, having appeared last fall, but their buds remain discreetly below ground until warmer weather. Don't think that spring is here because you saw a robin--they have been here all winter. Tracks in the Dishman Hills' snow have commonly revealed the activities of red squirrels and mice and occasionally a coyote. A raccoon has apparently taken up residence in one rocky area. Deer seem to have remained higher on Tower Mountain. Bird numbers have been low. Is it possible that the hot, dry 1988 summer reduced the number of insects that hibernate, thus reducing food for birds? A few red-breasted nuthatches were found on every winter census for the commonest bird. One or two red crossbills seem to have wintered and the census area had just one ruffed grouse. On one or two occasions ravens, a magpie, chickadees, white-breasted and pygmy nuthatches and an evening grosbeak appeared.

Donations high in January

Donations of money and recyclables brought in \$1421.02 in January. The next payment on the 140 acre addition to Dishman Hills Natural Area is due in March. Our hearty thanks to those named below who contributed last month and have given permission to be listed here: James C. Banta, Winifred Becker, Kathryn Bernard, Lawrence C. Bernbaum, James T. Bertis, Almeda Campbell, Vera Carpenter, Dr. W.A. Fernan Jr., June Helen Foote, Verna Dolphin, Margaret F.M. Galbraith, John Gardner, Dr. George W. Girvin, C.E. Grossman, Mrs. Donald Hagan, Tollif Hance, Evelyn/Ray Harmon, Dorothy Hartung, Mrs. George W. Herrington, Blanche Holsten, Mary Holz, Le Roy Hook, Lynn M. John, Dorothy Kirk, Susan Kirk, Merry E.S. Lee, Richard J. Leon, Meral J. Loewus, Dorothy M. McLaren, Leo J. Middendorf, Mrs. Roy R. Mills, Pauline Moore, Helen E. Nelson, Madora Parmentier, Neal A. Pattison, Mrs. Florence Payne, Linda M. Peterson, Julius F. Presta, Madaline Queener, Thomas H. Rogers, Lauretta M.W. Ropp, Julie L. Rosenoff, Marjorie Rozell, Shirley J. Schneider, Lee M. Smith, Marie U. Stanley, Ray L. Staley, V.F. Strange, Larry Thiemann, Alice Tiffany, Irene B. Tomlinson, Thomas N. Tremaine, James Troske, Robert S. Turner, Dr./Mrs. Owen Wiley, and Peter Wyman. Our apologies if we should have listed you but didn't. In that case, let us know by calling 926-7949. Thanks!

We are a nonprofit organization dedicated to saving some of the natural areas of the Spokane area for people to enjoy and learn from.

President: Larry Thiemann Secretary: Helen Lininger
 Vice-President: Tom Rogers Treasurer: David Lentz

Board members (in addition to officers): Doris Allgood, Gary Brewster, Omar Carroll, Margaret Haggin, Francis Potter, June Potter, and Ray Staley.

RECYCLING IS STILL GOOD

Prices for recyclables remain quite steady in Spokane, despite some reports that they have dropped. (One report said that the price of old newspaper had dropped from \$110 a ton! Since when was the price ever that high here?) Encouraging news is that plastic pop bottles are being accepted at eight cents a pound at the following recycling centers, according to the February 15 Spokesman-Review: Earthworks Recycling, Pacific Steel Recycling, Spokane Recycling Products, Inc., DU-MOR Recycling System, Clarks Valley Recycling, Clarks Westside Recycling, Cheney Recycling Center and Colville Community Recycling Center.

The current price for aluminum beverage cans is 50 cents a pound. Glass bottles and jars are bringing two cents a pound. Some brands of beer bottles are returnable at two cents each. Of course newspaper and corrugated cardboard are acceptable, and colored ledger (non-slick good quality paper such as writing paper, ditto, mimeo and not-too-colorful junk mail). Slick magazines are acceptable at Spokane Recycling Products and tin cans are taken in by Earthwork Recycling (remove labels and flatten). KEEP EACH KIND OF PAPER SEPARATE. We have an account at Spokane Recycling so if you take your stuff there for us, tell them it is for Dishman Hills and leave your name. They will credit us with the money. Earthworks Recycling will also credit the proceeds to us if you wish.

The issue of the waste-to-energy plant still brings up questions. How safe will the stack emissions and the left-over ash be if there is no separation of the materials that will be burned? Everything has to go somewhere. Is the incinerator the place for toxic chemicals? Is another landfill the place for dangerous ash that results? Why did Seattle reject the waste-to-energy solution in favor of waste reduction and recycling?

Incidentally, the ladies of CW Chapter of P.E.O. recently enjoyed our slide show on Dishman Hills Natural Area.

Our winter meetings will be held at Riverview Terrace Retirement Apartments, E. 1801 Upriver Drive, the third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. You are cordially invited to attend.

Please use this form when sending contributions
 (Contributions are income tax deductible)

Account No.

\$ _____ Land purchase fund

\$ _____ Memorial for _____

\$ _____ Annual Dues (\$10) New? ___ Renewal? ___

\$ _____ Student or Living Lightly (\$5)

\$ _____ To cover bulletin expense (\$2)

_____ Check here if you do NOT want your name listed as a donor.

Please make checks payable to Dishman Hills Natural Area Association and mail to the Treasurer, P.O. Box 14141, Spokane, WA 99214-0141. Many thanks!