



LIGHTS AND SHADOWS FROM THE DISHMAN HILLS

APRIL 1991

THANKS TO APRIL CONTRIBUTORS

Our land purchase fund continues to grow, thanks to you who keep contributing donations of money, recyclables and in kind. These totalled \$661.66 in March. Recycling brought in \$141.66 and memorials, \$110.00. Expenses came to \$200.97, mostly for the expense of printing and mailing the monthly bulletin. Our thanks to the following who contributed and have given permission to be listed here. (If we missed you, please let us know.): Jon Barstad, Kathryn Bernard, Sue Buchanan, Leta Chapman, James/Patty Conaty, Frances V. Davis, Verna Dolphin, R.W./Mary Downing, Reece Enmesh, Gil/Myrt Erickson, Dick Evans, Louise Hance, Dorothy Harting, Adeline E. Haynes, Ivy/Ken Hendryx, Hobnailers, Mel/Blanche Holster, Emma Jacklin, Karl Krogue, Douglas/Mary Lee, Jack/Alice Malone, Bill Marchand, Florence Miller, Helene Mir, Ruth Mogan, Pauline Moore, Joy/Walter Peterson, Madeline A. Phelps, LeRoy/Nan Pospisil, Frank/June Potter, Ruby Rector, Hazel Richard, Tom Rogers, Bruce/Julie Rosenoff, Dennis/Doni Sanders, Blanche Sarver, Bernard Schoen, Bill Schuh, Hazel Smith, Al/Phyllis Stogman, Lawrence Thieman, Bob Turner, George/ Jane Van Meter, Barney/Jeanne Wilson and Paul/Dorothy Winkleman.

With the coming of Spring damage to the preserve is again increasing. Motorcycles, mountain bikes and horses are cutting up the ground, dogs run loose and hideouts have been built. Although it is a no shooting zone, a number of shots were heard just west of Camp Caro on the day of the scout hike. Absolutely intolerable! Hopefully, by early summer signs will be in place displaying the rules for use of the area, and barriers to prevent damaging uses. Such a fine area close to where we live is a great thing, but this also makes protection more difficult. Please help us to protect it from those few that have little consideration for keeping it in good condition.

We will soon be updating our mailing list. If we have not heard from you during the last two years, we will assume you no longer care to be on the list.

We are in need of a few Dishman Hills boosters to add to our Board of Directors. This would involve one evening meeting a month. Please consider this.

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: Lawrence Thieman Secretary: Helen Lininger
Vice-President: Tom Rogers Treasurer: David Lentes
Board members (in addition to officers): Doris Allgood,
Omar Carroll, Margaret Haggin, Francis Potter, June
Potter and Ray Staley.

Our monthly meetings this summer, starting in May, will be at Camp Caro, S. 625 Sargent Rd., at 7:00 p.m. the third Monday of each month. For additional information call 926-7949.

USE OF NATURE PRESERVE INCREASING

Hikes into Dishman Hills Natural Area are again coming into their own, as spring flowers brighten the ground and tree frogs produce a lively chorus at the ponds. Eight Blazer Scouts, Troop 405, under the leadership of Scoutmaster Buzz Cobell, explored the life of the Hills, including a pair of mallards on West Pond, got in some practice with compasses and enjoyed the wide view from Eagle Peak. They especially were fascinated by big leeches swimming rhythmically in the pond. We promised to get the boys into print so here they are, alphabetically: Jared and Willie Cobell, Ben Durtschi, Mark Hinckley, Nathan McFarlane, Seth Mott, Daniel Pousson and Jason Woolfe. You are a great bunch, fellows!

A bit earlier a Cub Scout pack led by Dan Iyall had a great time hiking in the Hills--a bunch of lively boys and one girl. What a fun experience to go with these kids.

Besides the expected myriads of buttercups, grass widows, glacier lilies, whitlow grass (diminutive relative of radish and mustard), and a few yellowbells, there have recently been a few surprises in the Hills. A healthy little grand fir, first ever for the preserve, was discovered in a moist spot--this handsome evergreen is common along Iller Creek on Tower Mountain to the south. Also firsts for the preserve were the recent sighting of a low-flying turkey vulture and a pair of green-winged teal on West Pond.

Warmer days are bringing out a few insects, most notably the mourning cloak butterflies, dark brown with yellow borders, coming out from their winter hibernation and soon to lay their eggs on willow and aspen twigs. Satyr anglewings, also hibernators, are appearing and spring blues should soon be on the wing or sucking water from moist spots. Beeflies, which parasitized the larvae of other insects, including grasshoppers, sun themselves in open spots. Although ticks are seldom found in the preserve, it is well to watch out for them.

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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!