dhnna.org

Digital Dishman Hills has taken a new step into the future. Our new website is now online for all to use and enjoy. We have been talking and working on this for some time, and special thanks are due to instructor Eric Jurasin, and student Chenoa Durheim from the web design team at Spokane Valley High School for all the creative work that they put into the assembly of this homepage for the Association. Our goal is to make Dishman Hills data more assessable to the public and, maybe, catch some new public interest with some flashy graphics and well organized information. Another goal is to make this communication tool a two way street, so the web visitor can send back to us comments, request, donations, and membership information.

The website has the usual stuff for visitor interest including location, Natural Area history (both cultural and geologic), a nice collection of maps and orthophotos so one can plan a hike in the Hills, and something about the management of the Natural Area. We want to keep the website current with articles, events, photos from the Natural Area, and available activities for the public.

Something new is the ability for people to donate online. We have established an account with PayPal so that people can support our conservation efforts with the "push of a button". While electronic transfer sounds way too modern for some, others appreciate the convenience. We are hoping that this tool will open some new areas of support, so give it a try and see how it works. If you hit the "membership" line you will notice immediately that there are now levels of membership prefaced on the amount of donation. The Board had a lot of fun playing with the names for the levels, and rejects included mole, rattlesnake, and bulldozer. We want to recognize contribution size, and the range of names from friend to corridor does exactly this.

Another aspect of the new website is the references to supporting groups and organizations. Check out the "Partners" line and find an impressive list of conservation/outdoor recreation groups that we are working with. Our community is alive with many active and talented people that share and are involved in the same mission as our organization, to make a Spokane a better place to live, work, and grow. Notice that each reference is an active line that will connect you to their specific homepage. Our web-constructors really did some fine work here. There is also a "links" line that will steer you to other places on the internet with information and news about the Hills and the Conservation community.

On the right hand side of the homepage is a video view of the Dishman Ridge and a link to the Dream Trail Project of the Dishman Hills Alliance (see Lights and Shadows, June 2010). This may be one of the more important projects embarked on in the Dishman Hills, so it is given a position of prominence on the homepage. The "Contact Us" line is one we hope will be used frequently by you internet people out there. Send us your stories, comments, and experiences; we are very interested! And don't forget to use the "Membership" line for "Membership Form PDF" document that you can fill out for memorial donations as well as signing up to join us. All in all, we are very, very pleased with this digital wonder, and wish you all happy keyboarding, mouse clicking, and web surfing.

BACK TO THE FUTURES

With end of July comes the deadline for nominations for Spokane County's Conservation Futures Program that uses a small part of our property taxes to purchase conservations land in the Spokane Area. To no ones surprise, we have stepped forward again with a nomination for a nice piece of land to the south of the Natural Area referred to as the Stone Property.

Our goal involves the importance of connections between the Natural Area and the conservation lands on Tower Mountain. With the Stone nomination our attention is also on connecting with the DRN Glenrose Conservation Area, 160 acres, to the west and we are exploring opportunities for additional nomination to complete this connection. A Glenrose community hike was organized this month to introduce this opportunity to people living west of the Dishman Ridge. The hike was well attended, and the community association elected to endorse our nomination of the Stone property.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

We are a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to saving nature areas in the Spokane region for public enjoyment and education. Call Michael Hamilton, 747-8147, if you have questions. Our board meets every month on the third Tuesday. Our next meeting will be August 17th. We will meet at the Camp Caro lodge at the end of Sargent Rd. Visitors are always welcomed.

The following are our June donors that have consented to be listed: Joyce Alonso, Andrew & Deidre Ashmore, Carolyn Boatman, Carol Bryan, Claire Carter, Nancy Cashon, Gary Eberspecher, Jean Flechel, Henry & Charline Hagen, Lois Hansen, Kathryn Henderson, The Hobnailers, Bill & Patricia Houff, Jean Koch, Bea Lackaff, Della Meyers, Leo Middendorf, Janice & Matthew Miller, Trudy Miller, Marlene Montgomery, William Peterson, Norma Rosenberger, Beverly Scheunemann, Rose Schultz, Richard Taylor, Lawrence Thieman, Tom & Mary Water, Mike & Jody Wende, Elnora Wildermuth, Mary & Lawrence Wright, and one anonymous donor. Thank you as always for your generous support.

I want to turn women loose on the environmental crises......

Nobody knows more about pollution when detergents back up in the sink. Nelson Rockefeller, 1975

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