



DISHMAN HILLS NATURAL AREA ASSOCIATION
3415 S. LINCOLN DRIVE, SPOKANE, WA 99203, 509 747-8147

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LIGHTS AND SHADOWS from the Dishman Hills, March, 2001

YOU DID IT

When you gaze upon the wooded hills of Dishman, you might see, at first glance, panels of forest green and rock gray. A closer look displays a coniferous texture of Ponderosa pines, and rock outcrops that are rounded and layered. But a closer look still will reveal something maybe more interesting yet. The Dishman Hills is a visual symbol of the community's commitment to balance development with something untouched, natural, and original. Behind every acre are hundreds of generous donations, many hours of volunteer labor, and a partnership with local and State government agencies.

For over 35 years we have been slowly but steadily conservating the area's natural setting. Please refrain from praising the Dishman Hills Association for such a success, because it is simply an agent for all of you donors out there to preserve some of our Natural Heritage. You provide the resources with which land is saved. The Association supplies the structure, a natural land mutual fund, so that anyone can participate with any amount of support and in any time frame towards a common goal, with dividends enjoyed by everyone, now, and far into the future. The Association's goal is to give you a 100% (or better with matching funds) return on your investment. Our latest Tower Mountain land purchase has been payed down from 225K to 40 K in just 6 years, a real miracle! The State and County have also provided close to one million dollars in matching funds for the new nature area. So when you next pass by the Dishman Hills take some pride, look closely and you will see a testament, a memorial, a community creation, and **you** did it.

SCHEDULES

The buttercups are coming, the buttercups are coming! The annual Buttercup hike has been scheduled for April 21, a little later than usual which is probably a good thing since the seasons seem to be running a little late this year. We will meet at Camp Caro at 1pm and the hike should not last more than two hours. We will, of course, arrange for good weather, but do come equipped for wet and muddy just in case. Some of us will be at the Camp for a picnic lunch around noon for those interested. So, put it on the calendar and come on out and enjoy a new season of beautiful Spring flowers.

It looks like Walkin' Jim Stoltz is coming back to Spokane to present his folksy music coupled with fantastic pictures of nature's beauty. His concert two years ago for the Dishman Hills was a lot of fun. His presentation served to remind us that our nature settings are something to enjoy, cherish, and preserve. This time it's a benefit for the Kettle Range Conservation Group to be held at the S.F.C.C. music building at 7:30pm on April 7th; \$10 adults. \$5 students; tickets at G+B outlets and Mountain Gear.

STEP UP

The Association has been getting a number of phone calls from people wanting to help with some DH activities this season, so we thought we would outline a number of things coming up to see if anyone is interested. The weed eradication program will start probably late Spring and will need some "pulling" power. Volunteers will have to be instructed on what to pull. Natural area patrol will be appreciated, and that will start in May. As always, a person to write some grants would be heaven sent. Does anyone out there have access to any printing facilities, so we can get this newsletter off the laser printer, and save toner cost? Writers of newsletter articles step up. Additional trail restoration work will start also late Spring, as will some forest restoration planning in the Rocks of Sharon addition. Call the Association number listed below to sign up.

ORGANIZATION NEWS

We are a non-profit organization dedicated to saving nature areas in the Spokane region for public enjoyment and education. Call Michael Hamilton, 747-8147, if you have any questions. We have a monthly meeting the third Tuesday of the month at Opportunity Elementary School, in the teacher's lounge, S. 1109 Wilbur, 7pm.

The following are our February donors that have consented to be listed: Laura Ackerman, Berdine Bender, Louise Bever, Myrna Cliff, John Cobb, David Cole, James Conaty, Stanley Fahlgren, David Fritz, Carlton Gouge, L.K. Hatch, Adeline Haynes, Inland Empire Gardeners, Marietta Kester, Mary Lentz, Maxine Leszykowski, Natalie Lindgen, Helen Lininger, Harry Merrick, Leo Middendorf, John Miller, Barbara Olsen, Stephen Peterson, Constance Potter, Jane Rogers, St. Mary's Garden Club, Lee Samith, and Walter Trefry, Thank you one and all.

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All contributions are tax deductible

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3415 S. Lincoln Dr.
Spokane, WA 99203

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