

LIGHTS and SHADOWS

from the
Dishman Hills

January 2010

NEW YEAR STARTS

Our New Year started with the annual members meeting this month. There was a Board of Trustee election, and all but two Board positions were open. Serving their second year of a two year term are Andrew Ashmore and Michael Hamilton. Trustees re-uping for two more years service included David Cole, Chris Kopczynski, Robert Ordner, and Mary Weathers. New Board members were Paul Flanary, Karen Jurasin, Beatrice Lackaff, Peter Wolbach, and Dave Lill. Many thanks to the retiring Trustees who are Roger Killackey, Jeff Lambert, and Kris Wolbach.

The treasure's report profiled the economics of the Association for last year. Donations totaled just under \$16K, down from the year before by \$4K. There was, however, about \$6K in grants increasing total income 8 percent over the previous year. The average donation was about \$75. Not a bad year in a very bad year for the nations' economy! Expenses for 2009 were \$6,264, consisting mainly of taxes, bulletin cost, and insurance. This was less than half of the previous years' expenses when we were on full throttle with the Big Rock land exchange and spending quite a bit more for professional services. Net income for 2009 was just under \$16K as compared with just under \$7K for 2008. It was mentioned that we should retain a fund for the defense of both our conservation land and conservation easements. Fundraising is always a very important topic at our meetings. For those who want the details, we will be filing a IRS form 990 later in the year and this will be available to the public.

Discussions at the meeting ranged from what we did last year to what we want to do this year. The group wants to continue with new ideas and initiatives involving our main mission which is to acquire conservation land and be good stewards of what we own. More outreach, more activities, and better communication (website, fundraising, events) were all part of our traditional new years' resolutions. Our relationship with the expanded and active Dream Trail Planning Team, now renamed the Dishman Hills Alliance, was a major topic. We agreed that developing conservation connection corridors between the natural areas in the Dishman Hills/Tower Mtn. area is an important next step for the Association. These corridors would provide recreational access while allowing for animal migration, and overall ecological health. The separate efforts of the Dishman Hills Alliance to accomplish this goal require a very close partnership with our Association. Our status as a non profit, charitable organization will define our role in this important project that will probably involve fundraising, land acquisition, and conservation easements. We will have some articles about the Alliance during the year as their activities are scheduled. Much work to be done here.

With all to be done, the board decided to meet every month, instead of every other month as we have for the last number of years. Our next meeting will be in February, the third Tuesday. We set some dates for the year including the annual Buttercup Hike on April 4, and two "clean up" days on June 5 and September 18, all Saturdays. It was suggested that we might have an open house at Camp Caro sometime this summer to reach out for new membership. This should be a very good year for the Association. Please join us to make it so.

Check Given Dishman Hills



O-Da-Kon-Ya Campfire Girls

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 February 16th. We will meet at the Moran Prairie Spokane County Library, 6004 South Regal St.

The following are our December donors that have consented to be listed: Jill Beth, Jim & Maralyn Bertis, Nancy Cashon, Vivian Caufield, Lesli Cleveland, John Douglas, Joan Fergin, William Fix, Linda Goodner, Karen Heaps, The Hobnailers, Patty Houff Fund, Roberta Jackson, Carol Juillerat, Patrick Lettenmaier, Mary Meagher, Barbara Peregoy, Norma Rosenberger, Glendon & Joy Stocking, Selkirk Striders, Mary Bell Thompson, Donald Walter, Barney Wilson, Bill & Edie Wilson, Mary & Lawrence Wright, and three anonymous donors. Thanks to each and every one.

If future generations are to remember us with gratitude rather than contempt, we must leave them more than the miracles of technology. We must leave them a glimpse of The world as it was in the beginning, not just after we got through with it.

President Lyndon B. Johnson

Upon signing the Wilderness Act in 1964

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3415 S. Lincoln Dr.

Spokane, WA 99203

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