



LIGHTS AND SHADOWS FROM THE DISHMAN HILLS

June 1983

HILLS GETTING MUCH USE IN JUNE

Children from Joanne Miller's class at Hutton Elementary School enjoyed a four hour field trip to Dishman Hills in early June, with help from volunteering adults and our association. They studied both land and pond communities with their trees, colorful flowers, birds and tiny creatures that crawl, fly and swim. Sandy Hill Garden Club met at Camp Caro and field tripped into the Hills June 20 and the Girl Scouts held day camp there the week of June 20 - 24. A group from the Unitarian Church hiked in the Hills June 25. Our association assisted in these events.

It is most gratifying to see Dishman Hills Natural Area adding more to the enrichment of life in the Spokane community.

U-FOURTH GRADERS HELP DISHMAN HILLS

University Elementary School's fourth grade classes presented our association with a check for \$86, which the children themselves raised, at their end-of-year awards assembly June 10. Their teachers, Mrs. Falkenberg, Mrs. Hoiland and Mr. Rigsby, assisted by our association, took them on a field trip to Dishman Hills this last school year. We are very pleased to see these future citizens taking part in the effort to save the Hills and thank them again.

NATURE, ECOLOGY SESSIONS READIED

The Nature Workshop for children who have completed grades four, five or six will be held again this year at St. George's School on the Little Spokane River. The three sessions will be July 12 - 14, 19 - 21 and August 2 - 4. Both land and water habitats will be explored, with emphasis upon ecological relationships. A rubber raft trip down the river will again be included. Registration fee is \$30 a session. For more information call 299-4756 or 448-0574.

Spokane Audubon Society's Ecology Day Camp for teachers, leaders, resource specialists and other interested persons still has some room for more participants. If you wish to take part, call 466-6668 or 487-8921 at once. Dates are July 30 and August 1 - 5 and the place, St. George's School.

The Audubon Day Camp for K through grade 3 on the Little Spokane River is ready to go. Dates are the same as for grades 4 - 6 but the locality is different. The fee is \$10 a session. For further information call 466-6626 or 466-7633.

OPTION FOR LAND NEARLY COMPLETE

An option to buy an additional 140 acres for Dishman Hills Natural Area is close to accomplishment, according to Sam Angove, County Parks Superintendent. This addition will increase the natural area by nearly fifty per cent.

BUTTERFLIES BRIGHTEN HILLS IN JUNE (Cont)

July also finds several kinds of silverspots or fritillaries on the wing. Bright orange-brown with small black markings, they show the silver of the underside as they sip nectar from thistle flowers. Since Mt. St. Helens they have been very scarce in the Tower Mountain area; apparently the ash destroyed their larvae, which feed upon violet leaves.

BUTTERFLIES BRIGHTEN HILLS IN JUNE

June and July are butterfly months. Most conspicuous are the swallowtails, the most common the West Coast Tiger, yellow with black stripes. It often visits flowers and may be seen laying eggs singly on chokecherry leaves. The mature larvae are pale green with large spots resembling eyes near the front of the body. Similar is the Two-tailed Swallowtail, larger and less common. Then there is the White-striped Tiger, rather common this year. Old brood Mourning Cloaks and Anglewings, which hibernated as adults, are still around, though looking pale and worn. Milbert's Tortoiseshell, strikingly beautiful with a broad orange and yellow band across its black wings, is appearing. The larvae feed upon nettles, as do those of the Satyr Anglewing. Nettles do have their place in the world! Appearing now are one of the checkerspots, bright orange-brown with finer dark markings. The smaller, somewhat similar crescent spots are also emerging from their pupae.

Little Ochre Ringlets have been around since late April in grassy areas. They will disappear in July but a second brood will show up in the fall. One of its relatives, Butler's Alpine, appears to be on the increase in the Spokane foothills. A rich, dark brown with a band of orange-brown spots, it flies low over the grasses upon which its larvae feed. Two kinds of Wood Nymphs, paler brown but also with "eyespot" also frequent grassy areas.

The Spring Blues and little brown elfins, so abundant earlier, are nearly gone with the advent of hot weather, but several other kinds of "blues" are taking their place, notably the Silvery Blue, Ringed Blue, Melissa Blue, Acmon Blue, Arrowhead Blue and Tailed Blue. Many of these use legumes, notably lupines, as larval food plants, but the Acmon Blue feeds upon false buckwheats (Eriogonum).

Several kinds of Skippers, so named because of their rapid flight, are about. Some are dark brown, others gray and white checkered or tawny brown. The largest is the Silver-spotted Skipper, dark brown and conspicuously marked with golden brown and silver. Black Locust trees host their larvae, which make themselves nests by drawing two leaves together with silk.

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We are a non-profit organization dedicated to saving some of the natural environment of the Spokane area for people to enjoy and learn from. Our monthly meetings are at Kiwanis Camp Caro, S. 625 Sargent Road at 7:30 p.m. the fourth Wednesday. You are cordially invited to attend. For further information and for slide programs and guide service into the Dishman Hills call us at 926-7949.

Please use this form when sending contributions to save the Dishman Hills and the Tower Mountain corridor. Your dues and/or gifts are income tax deductible.

\$ ___ Annual dues (\$5) New? ___ Renewal? ___

\$ ___ Land purchase fund

\$ ___ In remembrance of _____

\$ ___ Bulletin expense fund (\$1 or more)

Please make checks payable to Dishman Hills Natural Area Association and mail to David E. Lentes, Treasurer, E. 10922 23rd Spokane, WA. 99206. Many Thanks! To reduce expense, no receipt or acknowledgement will be sent unless requested.