



LIGHTS AND SHADOWS

FROM THE DISHMAN HILLS

MAY 1989

RECYCLING IMPORTANT IN APRIL

Contributions to the Dishman Hills Natural Area project totalled only \$525.54 for April. Over half of this, \$265.54 came from recycling. (Who says recycling isn't profitable?) Expenses totalled \$280.39 (administrative services, \$80; bulletin printing, \$86.72; postage, \$84.27; and property tax, \$29.40.

Contributors of money, recyclables and/or services in April who have given permission to be listed here are: Kathryn Bernard, Margaret Bloom, Gretchen Brown, Helen R. Delaney, Verna Dolphin, Dick/Harriet Evans, John Gardner, Louise/Tollif Hance, Dorothy Harting, Adeline E. Haynes, Bob/Clarissa Henderson, Ivy/Ken Hendrix, Blanche Holsten, Mary Holz, Lynn M. John, Alfreda Krause, Jack/Alice Malone, Bill Marchand, Bob/Marcie Mathias, Aroa Ohme, Florence W. Orcutt, Madeline A. Phelps, Ambrose/Willene Priestley, Milt Rawlings, Thomas H. Rogers, Lee Smith, Larry Thienan, Jane Van Meter, Leona F. Widner, Jeanne H. Wilson and Paul J. Winkelman. Our thanks to you!

Recycling in the Spokane area continues good, though the price paid for newspaper has dropped slightly. Aluminum cans bring 50 cents a pound (2.5 cents each); aluminum foil 5 cents a pound; glass 2 cents a pound. Corrugated cardboard and colored ledger (good quality nonslick paper, not too highly colored, including envelopes if the "windows" are removed); tin cans (remove labels and flatten, please; car batteries; scrap metal, and a few kinds of plastic containers are all saleable now. Magazines are no longer being bought though some recycling places will accept them and slick junk mail.

Promising is the beginning of recycling of plastic. Two liter plastic pop bottles are bringing 8 cents a pound. Spokane Plastics Inc. is starting a program for recycling a variety of plastics. We will try to furnish you with more information on this in our next issue.

ASA Management Corporation, which handles our bookkeeping and newsletter printing, donated \$1000 in May, which will reimburse us for most of this expense of the past year.

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: Larry Thienan Secretary: Helen Lininger
Vice-President: Tom Rogers Treasurer: David Lentes

Board members (in addition to officers): Doris Allgood, Gary Brewster, Omar Carroll, Margaret Haggin, Francis Potter, June Potter, and Ray Staley.

Our June meeting will be at Riverview Terrace Retirement Apartments, E. 1801 Upriver Drive, the third Monday, 7:30 p.m. We expect our meetings after that will be back at Camp Caro in the new lodge. You are cordially invited.

For further information call 928-4365 in the p.m. (Larry Thienan), or 926-7949 (Tom Rogers).

OLD GROWTH FOREST STUDIED

Volunteers from northeastern Washington, including members of the Audubon Society, Washington Native Plant Society and our own Dishman Hills Association are taking part in an inventory of old growth forest being conducted by the Forest Service in the Priest Lake area this summer. At this point the purpose is to determine where the quality old growth is and how much still exists, so that plans can be made for its future. A training session held at Liberty Lake Park found no old growth there, the land observed having been either logged or burned in the past, probably during this century.

The same can be said about land in the Dishman Hills. While one occasionally finds quite old trees, nearly all of them are second growth, the area having been logged perhaps sixty years ago. Much of the area is presently dominated by ponderosa pines but on moister slopes young Douglas firs are appearing and will eventually replace the pines and become the climax species. Then, barring disturbance, we may have true old growth in perhaps 100 years. Obviously it takes a long time to replace old growth, and even then it may be impossible to restore it completely to its original condition.

The pine and fir seedlings recently planted by Spokane Valley school children at Camp Caro are thriving. Seeds from nearby pines have drifted in and are producing inch-high seedlings and a few small native flowers have appeared. The final test will be whether the little trees and flowers can survive the dry spell of summer, for the sandy soil is almost completely lacking in water-holding humus. Of concern is the invasion of the planted area by weeds before the native species can occupy the soil. Already bulbous bluegrass, a fast-spreading weed, has moved in, and the noxious spotted knapweed, abundant by the playfield, likely will invade also, unless steps are taken to prevent it. Frequent hand pulling will be necessary. Use of herbicide would be undesirable in our opinion. Planting of native shrubs and flowers next to the lodge itself probably will have to be delayed until fall or next spring when moisture conditions are more suitable and plants become available.

The new Camp Caro lodge is expected to be open for use by July 1 according to County Parks and Recreation Department superintendent Sam Angove.

Please use this form when sending contributions
(Contributions are income tax deductible)

Account No. **13080**

\$ _____ Land purchase fund

\$ _____ Memorial for _____

\$ _____ Annual Dues (\$10) New? ___ Renewal? ___

\$ _____ Student or Living Lightly (\$5)

\$ _____ To cover bulletin expense (\$2)

_____ Check here if you do NOT want your name listed as a donor.

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!