



## LIGHTS AND SHADOWS FROM THE DISHMAN HILLS

JULY 1992

### JUNE DONORS LISTED

Donations to the Dishman Hills Natural Area project totalled \$338.33 for June. Of this \$103.33 was for recyclables, \$80.00 for membership dues, \$35.00 for memorials and \$108.00 designated specifically for land purchase. Additional income was received from interest on our land purchase fund: \$39.46 from Money Market for June and \$433.02 for the second quarter interest on CD's. Expenses for June were \$154.96 (\$40 administrative expense and \$114.96 for bulletin expense).

Our thanks to you loyal supporters who contributed money, recyclables and/or services and have given permission to be listed here. If we missed you, give us a call at 926-7949.

Kathryn Bernard, Bertha Booth, Harriet Fix, Isabel Hawkins, Judith R. Herda, Mary Alice Jones, Helen Lininger, Aroa A. Ohme, Tom Rogers, Mabel R. Sackett, Leila R. Swan, Lawrence Thieman, Ed Tietjen, Shirley Wihlborg, Jeanne H. Wilson, and also the weed pullers mentioned below.

Our June 20 weed pull got rid of a lot of toadflax but there is still a lot of it left. Ten people showed up for the pull but we stopped at noon because of the heat. Those taking part were Kim Crull and small son Kai, Kent Hoffman, Emmett Kampa, LaRae Lentz, Jack O'Brien, Frank and June Potter, Tom Rogers and Shirley Wihlborg. They also enjoyed birds and flowers as they worked.

As you can see, recycling gives a substantial boost to our income. We can't pick up as much as formerly because of lack of help but Ed Tietjen is to be commended for his faithful service in this department, picking up a load of newspaper at least once a week. If you want to donate your newspaper, white glass, milk jugs, aluminum cans and foil to us, please drop them off to Spokane Recycling on Main just east of Freya, tell them it is for Dishman Hills and leave your name. They put it on account for us. Thanks!

To arrange for guided hikes into the Hills or for slide programs call Tom Rogers at 926-7949.

For other information call Lawrence Thieman at 928-4365. Send donations to our P. O. Box (shown at top of this bulletin).

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: Lawrence Thieman, Vice President: Tom Rogers, Secretary: Helen Lininger, Treasurer: David Lentz

Our monthly meetings during the summer months will be at Camp Caro on S. Sargent Road the third Monday at 7 PM. You are cordially invited to attend.

### HILLS SURVIVING THE DROUGHT

The Dishman Hills are looking green in spite of the summer's drought, the recent rains contributing. Nevertheless it has brought about some changes: all the ponds are without water though Goldback Spring is running as usual. It never quits. The floor of East Pond is damp enough to support a white cloud of water parsnip flowers. Most other summer flowers are missing, even the handsome mariposa lilies. Only Indian paintbrushes give splashes of red in Cottonwood Hollow. The recent rains have brought forth a few kinds of mushrooms, notably one, so far unidentified, with a purple funnel on its cap.

Bird life is quiet, though this is to be expected at midsummer. Eleven kinds were noted last Monday, including old faithful red-breasted nuthatches and three of the rather scarce rock wrens. Red crossbills, erratic visitors, were heard. Red squirrels still seem scarce.

Butterflies are likewise scarce. A few little brown wood nymphs are about, as was recently a diminutive melissa blue, its wings below dotted with orange. The pine whites are just beginning to appear. A species of band-winged grasshopper, the kind that crackles, is becoming common. A few golden digger wasps hunt the ground for their prey (spiders? or caterpillars?).

We are still working with the other owners, The Nature Conservancy, Spokane County and the Department of Natural Resources to devise ways to protect the area from damage from ever increasing use. We still are convinced that mountain bikes, horseback riding and dogs are a threat to the area as well as being incompatible to people on foot. For example, recently two family groups with some very small children were hiking the trails. The aforementioned uses could present a real hazard to them. People on foot have to get out of the way of bikes and horses and I personally have been threatened by dogs.

We are preparing signs to place around Nature Conservancy's and our association's land informing the public of management rules. Spokane County and the DNR have not yet come to final decisions regarding mountain bikes and horses but are leaning toward our position of banning them. Meanwhile they request that such uses be discontinued. We don't see how separate rules for different parts of the Hills can be enforced. Encouraging is the report that soon the DNR will have hired a ranger to patrol the entire preserve.

Please use this form when sending contributions  
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Account No. 09310

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

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\$ \_\_\_\_\_ 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.