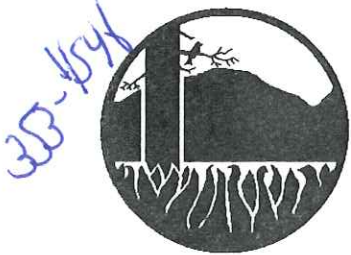


5 South
Lincoln
Drive



LIGHTS AND SHADOWS FROM THE DISHMAN HILLS

SEPTEMBER 1993

AUGUST CONTRIBUTORS LISTED

Contributions to the Dishman Hills during August amounted to \$357.58. This included \$110.00 for memorials. Interest income on our land purchase fund reserve was \$41.64. Expenses were \$40.00 for administration and \$125.00 for bulletin printing and mailing. Our thanks to the following who contributed cash, recyclables and/or services last month and have given permission to be listed here: Verna O. Dolphin, Mildred A. Erickson, Blanche Holsten, Bunny & Bob Hudson, Jan Karstetter, William H. Kuhlman, Clarence C. Lenhart, Sam Linn, Rich Nelson, Elaine Powers, Willene Priestley, Fred B. Radebaush, Mrs. Milton Rawlings, William K. Steele, Richard & Lonnie Schmidt, Ed Tietgen, Whitworth Belles Garden Club and Maryann Wilharm.

MORE BULLDOZING IN THE HILLS

Another road has been bulldozed into the steep, rocky west side of the Dishman Hills, with the obvious intent of building a house there. Trees and rocks have been splintered. One wonders where the sewage from a house built there would go. Into an aquifer or just come out on the surface of the land below? Unfortunately county zoning allows such building, regardless of the terrain. This latest happening is another thorn in the side of the Dishman Hills.

The connecting of Dishman Hills Natural Area to Tower Mountain to the south may have become impossible, due to the action of former County Commissioners in approving housing development to the south of our land. The possibility of preserving a corridor is still being explored, however. Even if this doesn't materialize, saving land on Tower Mountain, with its rich variety of wildlife, is very much worthwhile. Such areas are threatened nearly everywhere. We need more of them.

The usual fall movement of warblers in the Tower Mountain area, except for Audubon's warblers, seems for some unknown reason not to have materialized. (The firestorm of two years ago seems not to have affected the habitat that much.) But there was a thrush, presumably a hermit thrush, which migrates much later than most other thrushes. It comes down from the mountains but most others from higher areas have not yet appeared.

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: Michael Hamilton, Vice President: Tom Rogers, Secretary: Helen Lininger, Treasurer: David Lentes, Board of Directors: Omar Carroll, Michael Hamilton, Francis Potter, June Potter, and Ray Staley

Our meetings are held every third Monday at 7 P.M. at Opportunity Elementary School, South 1109 Wilbur. You are cordially invited to attend.

Please send donations to our box number, shown at top of this bulletin.

YOUR HILLS NEED MORE LETTERS

A few more of our members have written the County Commissioners requesting that they prohibit horses and bikes in the county-owned land in Dishman Hills Natural Area. Our thanks to those of you who have done so. But we do need many more letters in order to insure the protection of the entire area. (Our association and the Department of Natural Resources are opposed to these uses.) We understand that there will be a public hearing regarding uses permitted. We need to get a flurry of letters from our some 700 members to the commissioners. If you haven't yet written, please do so and mail us a copy. Protection of the Natural Area is what it's all about!

With the chill of autumn approaching, the woods of the natural area are beginning to show a few fall colors. Dogbane's pink flowers are gone, replaced by the gold of their leaves. Other fall colors are awaiting the frost--most other things are luxuriantly green, thanks to a wet summer. Wild asters are common, as are the white flower clusters of yampah. Goldenrod and even one gentian flower are to be found. East and West Ponds have a high level of water for this year. The former even had a group of nine mallards this week. Dragonflies are still about but the butterflies are gone. (No pine whites appeared this year, after three years of abundance.) Most of the summer birds have gone, leaving only those that will stay through the winter, notably a red-breasted nuthatches. An uncommon Townsend's solitaire was found recently--they nest in the Hills--and a late flycatcher perched by West Pond. Singing has ceased. The Hills are now a quiet place. It's good to get away from the noise of traffic, lawn mowers and barking dogs.

Although we have hung signs--high from trees to prevent their further destruction by vandals--informing people of what is permitted on our land, bike and horse tracks and horse manure still tell of violation of the rules. A bright spot is the fact that the trails are quite free of litter, thanks to Troy Alderson of the Department of Natural Resources, who is patrolling the area. He also has blocked off some of the too numerous trails to increase protection of the land. It would help greatly if everyone would help to keep our Hills--and our world--clean.

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

Account No. **06514**

Your Name _____
Please put your account number on your check.

\$ _____ 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.