

Dishman Hills Natural Area Association  
P.O. Box 14141  
Spokane, Wash. 99214-0141

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# LIGHTS AND SHADOWS

## FROM THE DISHMAN HILLS

APRIL 1994

### DONATIONS TO LAND FUND GOOD IN MARCH

Our thanks to the following who contributed cash, recyclables and/or services to the Dishman Hills Natural Area project during March and have given permission to be listed here: Jack E. & Cornelia J. Bratten, Signe Currier, Robert W. & Wileva Damon, Verna O. Dolphin, Charles & Corrine Y. Gillingham, Dorothy Allen Hartung, Michael Hamilton, Richard D. & Carol A. Hines, Vernon & Gloria J. Krebs, Rich Nelson, Carrol R. & Florence W. Orcutt, Madeline Phelps, Ruth L. Schermer, Lee M. Smith, Holly Frost Sonneland, Helen Stowell, Jan Strobeck, Ed Tietjen, and Barney W. & Jeanne H. Wilson. Thanks again. If you should have been listed here but we missed you, please let us know at 926-7949.

Donations for the month amounted to \$490.30. Recyclables came to \$20.30; memorials, \$35.00; membership dues, \$105.00; contributions to news bulletin expense, \$12.00, and contributions to the land fund, \$318.00. Interest on our land purchase reserve came to \$438.06. Expenses for the month were: \$40.00 for administrative services; bulletin printing and mailing, \$124.89 (postage has gone up).

### TOWER MOUNTIAN LAND STILL IN MIND

Our offer to buy land on Tower Mountain has been rejected, as the seller wants to sell a larger tract all in one piece. The quoted price is \$340,000 (about \$1000 per acre), which we don't have. We are continuing to explore ways to find money for this choice natural area. (We have about \$58,000 in our reserve fund, nowhere nearly enough, but it's a start.)

We are almost out of the recycling business as we don't have the people power to do it. If you can, we'd greatly appreciate you taking newspaper, aluminum cans, clear white glass, PET, No. 1 and 2 white or clear plastic jugs-bottles, and corrugated cardboard to Spokane Recycling Products, E. 3407 Main (just west of Freya) where we have an account, and ask them to credit it to us.

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 Tuesday 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.

### BUTTERCUP HIKE HAD SUMMER WEATHER

The weather smiled on us on the Buttercup Hike into Dishman Hills April 17. In fact the temperature was into the high seventies. Some shade felt good!

About a dozen hikers, including an energetic little boy not yet two years old (though mommie carried him occasionally), had a great time on the two mile jaunt. Perhaps it should have been called a Glacier Lily Hike, for these bright yellow flowers were almost everywhere, while the early Spring just about did the buttercups in. Grass Widows were common, however. The Serviceberry shrubs were becoming white with blossoms. Occasional Yellowbells, Fleabane, Shooting Stars (Love Darts) and Biscuitroots added highlights, as did a few early Balsamroots.

Surprising were the little Tree Toads, not fully grown so presumably last years', scattered along the paths in dry woods, but none were croaking at the ponds. (A qualified observer last year reported that their eggs in the ponds were not hatching, this agreeing with other news that amphibians in general were suffering declines in numbers nationwide. This may indicate environmental trouble.

Birds also seemed to be scarce this last winter and spring in our area. On the hike we saw only a California Quail, a Mountain Chickadee, and a Junco, and heard a Townsend's Solitaire singing south of Eagle Peak. Of course a hot afternoon is a poor time to find birds anyway. The weather was better for butterflies. A few Mourning Cloaks were visiting willow catkins at West Pond and occasional Orangetips brightened the woods. A few tiny Spring Blues and a dark brown Elfin added to the picture. Some little black bees were visiting the moist soil at East Pond and tiny Whirligig Beetles made circles on its surface.

The County Commissioners have not yet made a decision on the South Valley Arterial, which would destroy an acre of Dishman Hills Area and impact more of it by auto exhaust and noise. We attended the hearings, where nobody testified for the arterial except the County Engineers. Even the firm that prepared the Environmental Impact Statement admitted there are some serious problems with the plans for the arterial.

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

Account No. **09310**

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 donor.