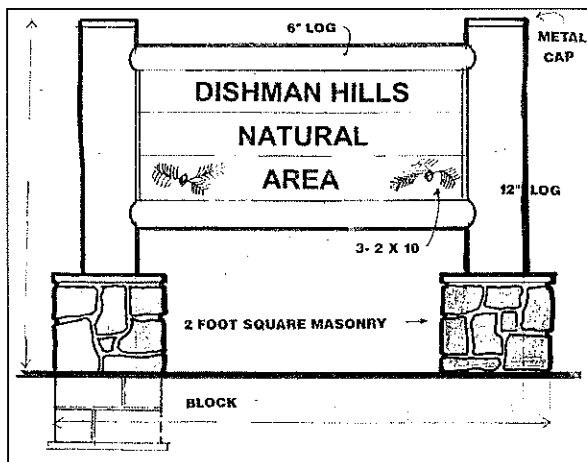


# LIGHTS and SHADOWS

from the  
Dishman Hills

July 2003

## NEW SIGN



As reported earlier, Eagle Scout Troop 420 is planning to proceed with a Natural Area sign on the Camp Caro access off Appleway. Their plans are displayed above. They can use some resources in the form of donations and materials. Donations can either be sent to us, labeled as "sign project", or sent directly to the Troop with Forrest Duba (921-8147) as their contact. Their material shopping list includes cedar logs 6" and 12" in diameter, concrete blocks, flagstone, mortar mix, and concrete mix. So if you have any of these left over from a project, give Forrest a call and maybe they can put it to use. In addition, we need some materials for future landscaping around the sign. We plan to use cedar fencing and large rocks to protect the sign site and make the corner an attractive display for the main entrance to the Natural Area.

## GOLD RUSH ?

While we all know that the Dishman Hills has great value to the community, many don't know that in 1924 many local citizens thought the Hills held something of very special value, gold! The newspaper reported the assays of eleven samples of "gold ore" taken from a "ledge" in the Dishman Hills. Dishman residents immediately attempted to secure options on the land adjoining the gold find. The samples probably contained a "show of colors" or very fine gold particles found in some of the quartz veins in the older bedrock of the region. However those with real mining expertise, while agreeing that the surface indications seemed favorable, the possibility of a strike of any magnitude was remote. They reminded the populace that all this area had been prospected earlier on when mining activity to the east in Idaho started in the 1880's.

There are today still several "dog holes" or small prospect pits in the Natural Area, as well as several on the west side of the Dishman Ridge near Moran Prairie. While the gold rush is over, we feel that there is still "gold in them thar hills" but not the metallic kind.

*If a child is to keep alive his inborn sense of wonder..He needs  
The companionship of at least one adult who can share it,  
rediscovering with Him the Joy, excitement, and mystery of the  
world we live in.*

-- Rachel Carson

## ADDIE'S ADVENTURES

The following letter was written to the Association by Addie Haynes, an 85 year old lady with lots of good memories of the Dishman Hills.

"I grew up in Opportunity on Fourth and Pierce and my friends and I hiked in the Hills many times. In the thirties and forties we never worried about what might happen to us. No one bothered us. We had Easter sunrise services and moonlight hikes up to the top without any problems. However, one time I was invited to go on an outing with a group of girls. We found a ladies suitcase under a bush. It looked like it had been there some time, so we opened it. A lot of women's clothing mostly, but down underneath it was a gun. After much discussion it was decided we should do something with it, so I got the privilege of carrying it down to Jackson Seed Co. I don't remember it ever being checked if it was loaded so I think I was living dangerously that day. We never heard of it again. There was a huge rock that sort of hung over the trail part way up the mountain. We called it wiener rock and that was where we always built our fire for wiener roast. .... We used to pick wild flowers and take them across the hill to children that were at the T.B. sanitarium on Park Road. Sure glad it is all being saved for future generations. The rest of the Valley is not the Valley I grew up in."

## ORGANIZATION NEWS

We are a non-profit organization dedicated to saving nature areas in the Spokane region for public enjoyment and education. Call Michael Hamilton, 747-8147, if you have any questions. We meet every other month on the third Tuesday at Opportunity Elementary School, S. 1109 Wilbur, in the teacher's lounge, 7pm. We will be breaking for the summer months and our next meeting will be September 16.

The following are our June donors that have consented to be listed: Margaret Bloom, Myrna Cliff, David & Gail Duba, David Fritz, Gloria & Vern Krebs, Sherry & Jason McCauld, Mel & Gloria McCuddin, Brian Miller, Lois Smith, Helen Stowell, and one anonymous donor. Thanks one and all.

Please use this form when sending **CONTRIBUTIONS** or **DUES**  
All contributions are tax deductible

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