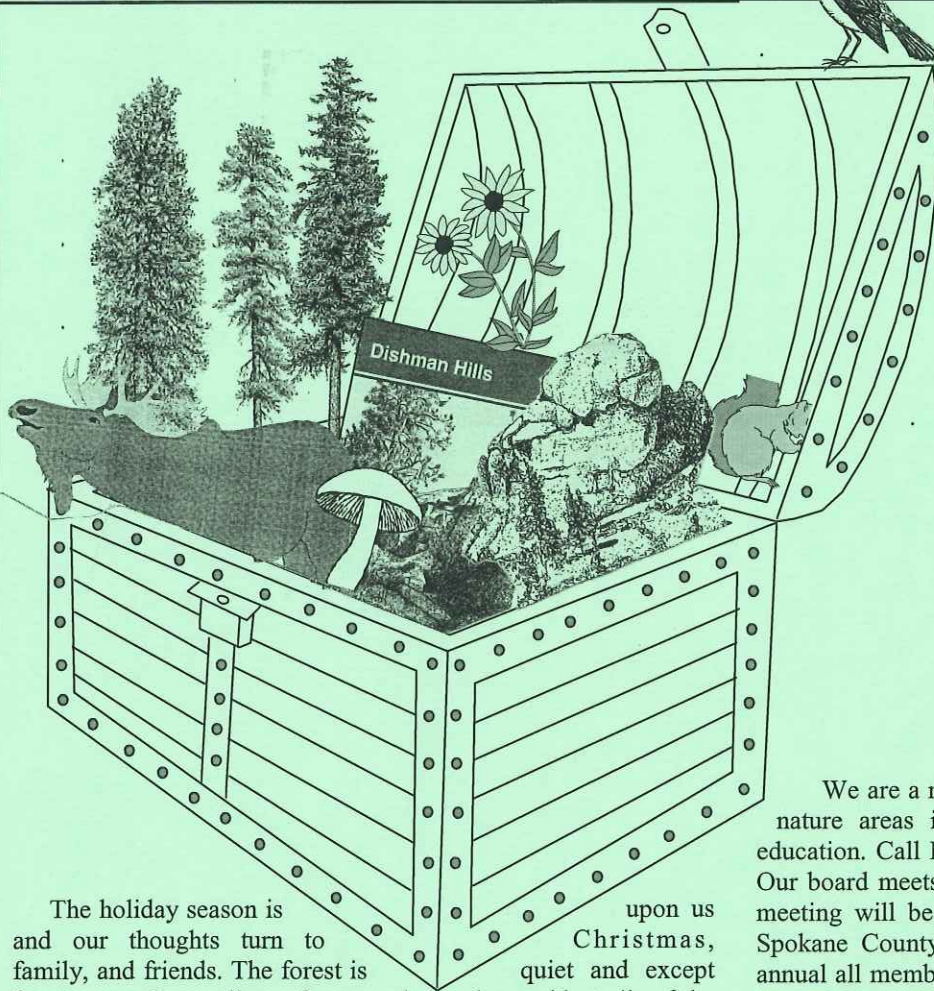


LIGHTS and SHADOWS

from the
Dishman Hills

December 2009



OUR NATURAL
SPACES ARE A
TREASURE
CHEST OF GIFTS
FOR ALL OF US.

*Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year
Dishman Hills Assoc.*

ASSOCIATION NEWS

We are a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to saving nature areas in the Spokane region for public enjoyment and education. Call Michael Hamilton, 747-8147, if you have questions. Our board meets every other month on the third Tuesday. Our next meeting will be January 19th. We will meet at the Moran Prairie Spokane County Library, 6004 South Regal St. This will be our annual all members meeting where we will elect board members and converse about our goals for 2010.

The following are our November donors that have consented to be listed: Barbara Bailey, Claire Carter, Nancy Cashion, Walter Fernau, Karol Kaye, Glen Kivett, David & Rebecca Knapp, Camille Kovarik, Michael Ormsby, Stephen Peterson, Stephanie Schrimshire, Elnore Thompson, Jeanne Wilson, Hershel Zellman, and one anonymous donor. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

Think globally, Act locally—Patrick Geddes, 1854-1932

The holiday season is upon us and our thoughts turn to Christmas, family, and friends. The forest is quiet and except for a some dog walkers, few travel the muddy trails of the Natural Area. Most of the plants and many of the animals are asleep awaiting longer days and warmer temperatures.

As you enjoy a cozy evening at home with a warm fire and your beautiful Christmas tree, please give some thought to where that tree came from, and our responsibility to save the natural creation that we inherited. Many this year are thinking of just that. International groups such as the Alliance of Religions and Conservation (ARC) are working hard to save the planet in the belief that the voices of the world's religious leaders will resonate much better with the populations than that of the scientists and politicians. While the latter talk of consequences of destroying our biosphere in terms of cost, conflict, and inconvenience, maybe we should be considering if what we are doing to our planet is right, moral, and respectful to those yet to come.

At an recent ARC conference environmental stewardship was the main topic. It was stressed that the environmental message should be part of the religious message as Caring for Creation. How many churches in our community have embraced stewardship of our natural areas? Other approaches to save our biosphere this month in Denmark seems to be bogged down with finger pointing and competition to reap the profits involved with tackling global climate change. Maybe December is just the right time for us to be thinking about these issues. Is that Christmas tree just the perfect backdrop for the pile of gifts we worked so hard to order, buy, and wrap, or is it a wonderful smelling, green reminder of our natural legacy.

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3415 S. Lincoln Dr.
Spokane, WA 99203

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