

## Issaquah Alps Trails Club

"The Apparatus"

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Patterson Creek Watcher:

Jackie Paul • 868-8823

Grand Ridge Project Director:

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# ALPINER

January ♦ February ♦ March 1990

## March from Mountains to Sound Celebrates the "Wilderness Within"

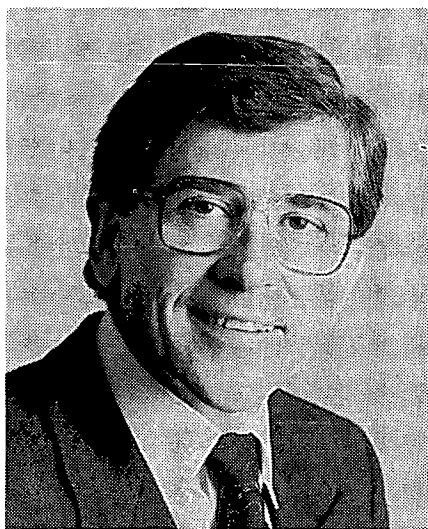
*A five-day extravaganza, Wednesday, July 4--Sunday, July 8*

*by Jack Hornung*

One page 2 in the Alpiner, you will read about "Wilderness on the Metro", the proposal to create a green corridor from Lake Washington to the Cascades, centering on the Issaquah Alps and synthesizing the work that so many club members have been doing over so many years.

Now read here about our 1990 Mountain to Sound trek, which is our way of having a great hike and staging a major event to dramatize our proposal.

The hike will take place over five days.



*Brian Boyle*

**The Mountains to Sound  
March kicks off at the  
Trails Club Potluck,  
Saturday, March 24.**

**Guest speaker will be  
Brian Boyle, Commissioner  
of Public Lands.**

*See page 3 for details*

**"Wilderness on the Metro :  
here's the grand scheme.**

*See page 2*

Note that The Fourth comes on a Wednesday so you only have to take two vacation days to get a five-day hiking vacation. We expect to stay at Snoqualmie Pass on the night of the third and hike down the old railroad grade to Rattlesnake Lake by the night of the fourth. Where we stay that and succeeding nights has yet to be determined. We anticipate church camp style accommodations and food.

On day two we'll go through the Rattlesnake Mountain-Raging River-Taylor Mountain complex and stay at Preston. Friday we'll go over Tiger on less frequented trails and stay in or around Issaquah. Saturday we'll take the Grand Traverse route (though not the pace) over Squak and Cougar and stay somewhere near Factoria or on Mercer Island. Sunday will see the grand parade and finale across Lake Washington and through Seattle to Puget Sound with concluding ceremonies and banquet.

Evenings will have meaningful events and/or entertainment. If you don't want to do the whole march, you will be able to come for a full day, half day or just an evening during the march. Those doing the whole thing should be in good shape and expect full day hikes but there will not be a marathon pace. Those extraordinary individuals who cannot contain their energies within the framework of a group effort should stay home.

Those going the whole way will be expected to pay their share of out-of-pocket expenses for food and lodging ahead of time. Since the accommodations are expected to be simple (but not primitive), costs should be modest.

To establish the route, there will be scouting parties on the first and third

*Continued on page 3*

## *The president's fourth report:*

# Two political victories mean more open space and trails in the Issaquah Alps

One year ago, in my first column as the new President of the Trails Club, I said that preserving wilderness often means persevering through government meetings. Well, it works. On December 11, The King County Council finally voted to trade land it owns elsewhere for 680 acres adjoining Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park. This adds 520 acres to Wilderness Peak and 160 acres to Marshall's Hill.

The Trails Club has been working on enlarging Cougar Mt. park since 1983. While I'm glad it finally happened, it's unfortunate that part of the land swapped was 738 acres of county land on Grand Ridge, which is also part of "The Issaquah Alps." Despite this, the Trails Club board was 11-1 in favor of the land trade before the County Council vote. It may be a bittersweet victory, but it is surely a victory.

In addition, the King County Open Space Bond passed in November with flying colors. This is an overwhelming

endorsement of open space, trails and the values and goals our club has been working on for the past 10 years. The combination of the land trade and open space funds gives us nearly everything we wanted on Cougar Mt. A few small parcels on the border are all that remain.

We made cash contributions totaling nearly \$2000 to the Open Space Bond campaign, provided volunteers, and generally did much to see that the bonds passed. (Our vice-president looked great as a tree). The trails and open space have yet to be purchased, but King County is putting together an unprecedented effort to see that this is done quickly but prudently.

Some of the projects in the bond issue include: the completion of Peggy's Trail, more than a mile of access trail to Cougar, two miles of trail from East Lake Sammamish to Klahanie, six miles of trail from Klahanie to the Redmond Watershed Trail, one mile of trail in May Creek County Park, nearly nine

miles of trail from the Cedar River to Lake Sammamish, 400 acres to connect Squak and Cougar, 169 acres to Connect Tiger and Squak and 150 acres on East Cougar.

\* \* \* \*

The "odd couple" Mike Lowry and Dan Evans have teamed up to chair the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition, organized to identify, acquire and manage our state's most important unprotected lands for recreation and conservation.

We submitted the Mountain to Sound concept for consideration. The action now moves to the state legislature for implementation. This means more politics, more meetings, calls and letters. But as you see, if you persevere, it works.



## Wilderness on the Metro: an idea whose time has come

There is a grand expanse that lies between the Cascade Crest and Seattle, an expanse traversed by Interstate 90.

Over this modern-day wagonroad have come many of the late twentieth century immigrants to the Puget Sound area.

But as King County fills up, this same Interstate 90 area offers a close-at-hand opportunity to gird the east-west midsection of the County with a belt of green, open space--space to separate and humanize the impending development to the south and north--space that will be good for man and beast alike.

We speak of "Wilderness on the Metro", that natural corridor of mountains, woods and streams, central and accessible to both the older and newly urbanizing areas, running from Lake Washington to the Snoqualmie National Forest, linking the county's watery west with its eastern Cascades. Within this corridor, some 25 miles long and several miles wide, lies an unparalleled richness of flora, fauna and local history. If this area is preserved, it will provide future

King County with a heartland of reclaimed wilderness akin to New York City's Central Park, but on a much grander and wilder scale.

It is a plan to set aside for the urban and suburban core, a *wilderness within*. This would be a local, regional wilderness providing our people quick and easy refuge from the noise and dreariness of civilization, a refuge where civility prevails, not just athletic endeavor.

Thanks to man and nature, a good start has been made. Much of Cougar and Tiger Mountains is in public hands and so is a small but central part of Squak Mountain. But the work on Cougar and Tiger needs to be completed. Squak needs to be rounded out and made more accessible. The Taylor Mountain-Raging River-Rattlesnake Mountain complex needs to be publicly acquired. Then we envision the regrowth of the ancient forests, the survival of spawning salmon and other wildlife. We see the creation of a continuous Sound to Mountains Trail connecting the Cas-

cades with Seattle along which overnight camping will be possible and easy. We see wildlife being able to migrate back and forth along this corridor to and from the Cascades.

North of and paralleled to Wilderness on the Metro are a series of fine towns not yet spoiled by growth--Issaquah, Preston, Snoqualmie and North Bend. As these areas experience growth, we foresee sizeable tracts of open space being set aside along with development. We see trail connections leading from these north and south natural areas providing the new residents with easy natural access to our great central natural corridor.

The time to translate this vision of a Wilderness on the Metro into a reality is now, before it is too late. The Issaquah Alps Trails Club, which has been developing the vision and working to save its key areas for the past 10 years, invites the interest and cooperation of individuals, organizations, public bodies and agencies and private business.

## ...Mountains to Sound

*Continued from page 1*

Saturdays of each month from January through June. See the schedule for details including a different meeting place. These scouting expeditions provide a marvelous opportunity for hike leadership training. Experienced hike leaders can discover new territory and interests. New leaders can learn mapping, compass and topography work, trail layout and clearing, etc.

You can count on the tutelage of the Trails Club's Princes of the Realm. Chief Ranger Bill Longwell of scholarly mein and precise measure; the Club's long-lost Dr. Livingstone, George Jackman, who has been exploring the dark and mysterious heart of Rattlesnake, Taylor and the Raging River basin, the legendary Stan Unger, the Daniel Boone of the Trails Club, written up in *Footsore* by Harvey as the only one to have actually scouted and done the Mountains to Sound route while the rest of us were just thinking about it. Rumor has it that even President Kappler intends to drag himself from behind his mahogany desk occasionally to join us!

We need volunteers to bring off this large scale event. Logistics arrangers, photographers, entertainers, publicity helpers and more are needed. Call Tom Wood at 391-8027 to find out what help is needed and to volunteer.

If you want to hike the whole way, sign up early because space will probably be limited. First come, first served! Send a \$25 deposit to the Club P.O. box along with your name and address and phone number. Those coming along for a day or evening do not need to register. Overnight reservations will be for the whole trip only.

## Potluck is the place to be for news on the Mountains to Sound hike

Trails Club activist Jack Hornung, mastermind of the Grand Traverse and now the Mountains to Sound March, will formally introduce his plans at the Trails Club potluck March 24 along with Brian Boyle, Commissioner of Public Lands and head of the Department of Natural Resources. The Commissioner will be honored for his invaluable contributions to the Issaquah Alps.

In September, Jack introduced the club's "Mountains to Sound Wildlife and Recreation Corridor System" to the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition, co-chaired by Mike Lowry and Dan Evans. It has received enthusiastic response from this coalition and also from the Department of Natural Resources.

Jack and Brian will introduce you to a more detailed picture of what we wish to create, and how it might be accomplished. Meanwhile, mark your calendars for an exciting and informative evening.

DATE: Saturday, March 24

HOURS: 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

PLACE: Pine Lake Community Club, 21333 S.E. 20th, Issaquah.

BRING: Your own table setting, cup or glass along with your edibles.

MAY WE SUGGEST: Persons whose last name begins with:

A-D Pasta or rice salads

E-G Green or vegetable salads

H-L Main dishes

M-P Hors d'oeuvres or bread

Q-T Fruit

U-Z Dessert

Coffee, tea and napkins provided.

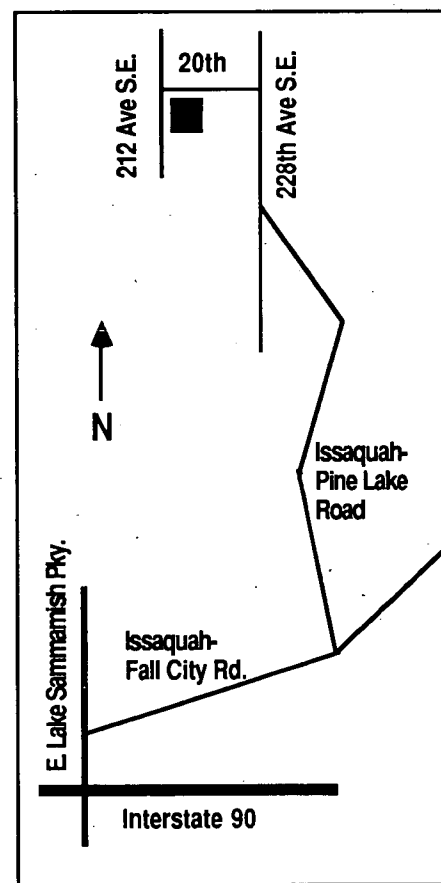
HOW TO GET THERE: Head east on Interstate 90 to Issaquah. Take Exit 17 (Issaquah-Front Street) and go left under

the freeway. Take a right at the second light on Issaquah-Fall City road.

(There is a Unocal-76 station at the corner.) Go up the hill past the gravel pit.

Stay in the left lane and at the top of the hill bear left at the fork. You are now on Issaquah-Pine Lake Road.

Continue, passing Klahanie, until the street ends at 228th. Turn right, go about a half mile and turn left onto SE 20th. Go about one mile to the end of 20th. The Pine Lake Community Club is the red log building on the left.



## Monthly meetings set to organize Mt. to Sound hike

The Mountains to Sound March organizing committee will have regular monthly meetings at the home of Jack Hornung, 4218 Meridian Ave. N. in Wallingford on the following Wednesdays: January 10, February 7, March 7, April 4, May 9, June 6 and June 27. Meetings will begin at 7:30 p.m. and we'll

try to conclude by 9:30. My phone is 545-9122 and our home is located two and a half blocks south of 45th and Meridian, a prominent intersection with cinemas about halfway between I-5 and Highway 99 (Aurora). The meetings are open to anyone with an interest in our Grand Event.

## Local store pledges part of annual sales to Trails Club

High Mountain Rendezvous, an outdoor equipment store in Gilman Village, has pledged to donate one percent of its annual sales in 1990 to both the Nature Conservancy and the Issaquah Alps Trails Club.

Thanks, High Mountain Rendezvous!

## January 1990 Hikes and Events

### MON JAN 1

Chairman of the Board "Teddy Bear Hike" 10:00  
Harvey Manning 746-1017.  
Bring your favorite Teddy Bear!

### WED JAN 3

Cougar Mtn. Tibbetts Creek and Fantastic Erratic. 9:30 2C  
Archie Wright 762-8074  
SLOW PACE

### THU JAN 4

Tiger Mtn. Southeast Tiger variations 9:00 3C  
Laurene McLane 392-0204

### SAT JAN 6

Mountain to Sound Route Scouting Hike for potential leaders.  
Meet 8 a.m. at Issaquah McDonalds. Jack Hornung 545-9122

Tiger Mtn. Tiger 1, 2 & 3 Loop  
8:30 4C Ralph Leach 783-6345

### SUN JAN 7

Tiger Mtn. Tiger 3 Loop 9:00  
3C George Mischler 746-8144

Cougar Mtn. Coal Creek Falls  
12:30 3B Bob Gross 392-0539

### TUE JAN 9

Taylor Mtn. Kerriston 9:30 2B  
Ed Bowser 747-3349  
Al Blalock 746-4155

### WED JAN 10

Tiger Mtn. Leader's Choice  
9:00 3C  
Will Thompson 488-8592

*Mountains to Sound planning meeting, Jack Hornung's house (see page 3)*

### SAT JAN 13

Cougar Mtn. Cougar Park Traverse 9:00 3C  
Joe Toynbee 723-6716

New meeting place for hikes! See page 11  
"Meeting Place"

### JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Tiger Mtn. Caves & Lake Tradition 10:00 2C Clifton Cooper  
932-3124

### SUN JAN 14

Trail Maintenance 8:30

### MON JAN 15

Snoqualmie Preston to Lake Alice  
9:30 2A Paul & Patricia Kaald  
746-8741

### WED JAN 17

Grand Ridge Grand Ridge to Lake Tradition Loop 9:30 2C  
Gus Nelson 392-7428

### THU JAN 18

Tiger Mtn. High Point Loop  
10:00 2B Tom Mechler 255-0922

*Trails Club Annual Membership Meeting, Newport Way Library, 7:30 p.m.*

Cougar Mtn. Lake Hills Greenbelt Toddler's Hike 10:30 1A  
Peggy Barchi 432-5446

### SAT JAN 20

Alps Mountain to Sound Scouting Hike for potential leaders  
8:00 Meet at Issaquah McDonalds

Tiger Mtn. Lake Tradition Big Loop 12:30 2B Tom Wood  
391-8027

### SUN JAN 21

Cougar Mtn. Cougar Ring 8:30  
3C Ralph Owen 746-1070

North Bend Little Si 12:30 2C  
Greg Brigrance 745-6326

### WED JAN 24

Grand Ridge Grand Ridge Variations 9:00 2B  
John Seebeth 391-3843

### THU JAN 25

Tiger Mtn. Leader's Choice  
8:30 3C  
Bob Knutsen 243-4546

### FRI JAN 26

Cougar Mtn. Red Town, Military Road, Coal Creek Falls Loop  
9:30 2B  
Betty Culbert 432-7387

### SAT JAN 27

Tiger Mtn. West Tiger Loop  
8:30 3C Joe Toynbee 723-6716

Cougar Mtn. Wilderness Loop  
10:00 2C Ann Leber 746-3291

### SUN JAN 28

Tiger Mtn. Lake Tradition "Flora & Fauna Exploration" 12:30 2B  
Larry Hansen 392-2458.  
Boots recommended.

Grand Ridge Leader's Choice  
9:30 3B Dennis Burk 391-3835

### TUE JAN 30

Tiger Mtn. Lake Tradition & Adventure Trail 9:30 2B  
Mary Cadigan 641-4046

### WED JAN 31

Squak Mtn. "Geology Exploration" 9:30 2B  
Dr. Laurence Baum 827-2345

## February 1990 Hikes and Events

### THU FEB 1

Tiger Mtn. Middle Tiger via  
Artifacts Trail 9:00 3C  
Laurene McLane 392-0204

### SAT FEB 3

Mountain to Sound Scouting  
Hike for potential leaders 8:00  
Meet at Issaquah McDonalds.  
Jack Hornung 545-9122

Tiger Mtn. South 4 Mile, Tiger  
Mtn Trail (a new trail) 8:30 3C  
Bill Longwell 255-1295

Grand Ridge Leader's Choice  
10:00 3C Stan Unger 283-7823

### SUN FEB 4

Squak Mtn. Squak Loop 9:30  
3C Bob Eschrich 232-5764

Tiger Mtn. West Tiger 12:30  
3B Bob Gross 392-0539

### MON FEB 5

Tiger Mtn. Lake Tradition 9:30  
2B Paul & Patricia Kaald 746-  
8741

### WED FEB 7

Grand Ridge Grand Ridge  
Variations 9:00 2B  
John Seebeth 391-3843

*Mountains to Sound planning  
meeting, Jack Hornung's house.  
See page 3.*

### THU FEB 8

Cougar Mtn. Cougar Mtn  
Variations 9:00 3C  
Tom Wood 391-8027

### SAT FEB 10

Cougar Mtn. Far Country Look-  
out, Nike Park, Military Road  
9:30 3C Ann Leber 746-3291

North Bend Rattlesnake Ridge  
12:30 2C Greg Brigance 745-  
6326 Wear boots - possible  
snow

New meeting place for  
hikes! See page 11  
"Meeting Place"

### FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

### SUN FEB 11

Trail Maintenance 8:30

### TUE FEB 13

Taylor Mtn. Shawn Falls/Taylor  
Summit 8:30 3C Joann Howe  
432-0741 Boots - snow

Issaquah Evening Town Walk  
1A 6:30 PM Linda Reiter 391-  
0589 Meet at City Hall South

### WED FEB 14

Tiger Mtn. Tiger Caves 9:30 2B  
Archie Wright 762-8074 SLOW  
PACE

### THU FEB 15

Tiger Mtn. Middle Tiger/Hobart  
Grade 8:30 3C Bob Knutsen  
243-4546

Lake Hills Greenbelt 10:30 1A  
Peggy Barchi 432-5446

*Trails Club Board Meeting,  
Newport Way Library 7:30 p.m.*

### SAT FEB 17

Alps Mountain to Sound Scouting  
Hike for potential leaders 8:00  
Meet at Issaquah McDonalds.

Tiger Mtn. Tiger 2 & 3 8:30 3C  
Trudy Ecob 232-2933

### SUN FEB 18

Cougar Mtn. Old Newcastle to  
New Newcastle 10:00 2B Ralph  
Owen 746-1070

Tiger Mtn. Lake Tradition  
Plateau 12:30 2C  
Steve Cavit 271-7780

Cougar Mtn. North to South  
Traverse 9:00 3C  
Clifton Cooper 932-3124

### TUE FEB 20

Snoqualmie Lake Alice Road--  
Snoqualmie Falls 9:30 2C  
Al Blalock 746-4155  
Ed Bowser 747-3349

### WED FEB 21

Tiger Mtn. Tiger 2 & 3 from  
High School; includes 1 View  
Trail 9:00 3D  
Gus Nelson 392-7428

### THU FEB 22

Cougar Mtn. Coal Creek Falls/  
DeLeo Wall 9:30 3B  
Connie Dow 392-2190

### SAT FEB 24

Grand Ridge Leader's Choice  
9:30 3B  
Dennis Burk 391-3835

Cougar Mtn. Tibbetts Creek  
12:30 2C  
Dave Kappler 392-3571

### SUN FEB 25

Tiger Mtn. Lake Tradition "Flora  
and Fauna Exploration" 12:30  
2B Larry Hansen 392-2458.  
Boots recommended.

Tiger Mtn. Leader's Choice  
9:00 3C  
Will Thompson 488-8592

### TUE FEB 27

Cougar Mtn. Leader's Choice  
9:30 2B  
Mary Cadiagn 641-4046

### WED FEB 28

Tiger Mtn. Geology Exploration  
9:30 2B Dr. Laurence Baum  
827-2345

## March 1990 Hikes and Events

### SAT MAR 3

Mountains to Sound Scouting  
Hike for potential leaders 8:00  
Meet at Issaquah McDonalds  
Jack Hornung 545-9122

Grand Ridge Leader's Choice  
10:00 3C Stan Unger 283-7823

### SUN MAR 4

Cougar Mtn. China Creek/  
Marshall Hill Loop 9:30 3B  
Ralph Owen 746-1070

Tiger Mtn. Poo Poo Point 12:30  
3B Bob Gross 392-0539

### MON MAR 5

Snoqualmie Lake Alice Road to  
Snoqualmie Falls 9:30 2C  
Paul & Patricia Kaald 746-8741

### WED MAR 7

Tiger Mtn. Tiger 2 & 3 Loop  
9:00 3C Tom Mechler 255-  
0922

*Mountains to Sound planning  
meeting, Jack Hornung's house.  
See page 3.*

### THU MAR 8

North Bend Rattlesnake Ridge  
9:30 2B Al Blalock 746-4155  
Ed Bowser 747-3349

### SAT MAR 10

Tiger Mtn. Leader's Choice  
9:00 3C  
Will Thompson 488-8592

Cougar Mtn. Tibbetts Creek/  
Fantastic Erratic 12:30  
Ann Leber 746-3291

### SUN MAR 11

Trail Maintenance 8:30

### TUE MAR 13

Tiger Mtn. Middle Tiger Loop  
8:30 3C Joann Howe 432-0741

New meeting place for  
hikes! See page 11  
"Meeting Place"

### MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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Issaquah Evening Town Walk  
6:30 PM 1A Linda Reiter 391-  
0589 Meet at City Hall South

### WED MAR 14

Grand Ridge Leader's Choice  
9:00 2B John Seebeth 391-3843

### THU MAR 15

Tiger Mtn. Leader's Choice 9:30  
2B Connie Dow 392-2190

Snoqualmie Lake Alice Toddler's  
Hike 10:30 1A  
Peggy Barchi 432-5446

*Trails Club board meeting,  
Newport Way Library, 7:30 p.m.*

### SAT MAR 17

Mountains to Sound Scouting  
Hike for potential leaders 8:00  
Meet at Issaquah McDonalds  
Jack Hornung 545-9122

Taylor Mtn. Shawn Falls 9:30  
2C Doug Welti 322-7714

North Bend Little Si 10:00 2C  
Peggy Owen 746-1070

### SUN MAR 18

Tiger Mtn. Grand Canyon Double  
Traverse 7:30 4D Fred & Ann  
Weinmann 392-9230 Flora and  
Fauna (Boots Required)

Cougar Mtn. Big View Cliff &  
Wilderness Loop 12:30 2C  
Greg Brigance 745-6326

### TUE MAR 20

Squak Mtn. Leader's Choice  
9:00 3C Gus Nelson 392-7428

### THU MAR 22

Tiger Mtn. Tiger 1 & Middle  
Tiger Variation 8:30 4D  
Bob Knutsen 243-4546

### FRI MAR 23

Cougar Mtn. Wilderness Loop  
(new County trail) 9:30 2C  
Betty Culbert 432-7387

### SAT MAR 24

Tiger Mtn. West Tiger 3 8:30  
3C Steve Irby 255-3211

Cougar Mtn. Big Tree Ridge &  
Shangri-La Road Loop 12:30  
2C Ann Leber 746-3291

*Trails Club Potluck featur-  
ing Land Commissioner  
Brian Boyle and all the  
news about the Mountains  
to Sound hike. See article  
page 3.*

### SUN MAR 25

Tiger Mtn. Leader's Choice  
9:00 3C George Mischler 746-  
8144

Tiger Mtn. Lake Tradition Flora  
& Fauna 12:30 2B  
Larry Hansen 392-2458

### TUE MAR 27

North Bend Rattlesnake Mtn  
Geology Exploration 9:30 2C  
Dr. Laurence Baum 827-2345

### FRI MAR 30

Cougar Mtn. Wilderness 9:30  
2C Mary Cadigan 641-4046

### SAT MAR 31

Tiger Mtn. Middle Tiger Explo-  
rations 9:00 3C  
Clifton Cooper 932-3124

Grand Ridge Leader's Choice  
9:30 3B Dennis Burk 391-3835

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## Snoqualmie Valley Trails Club Hike Schedule

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### Jan 6

Moss Vista 2B 9:00 (NB)  
Pat Brewington 888-2426

### Jan 20

Twin Falls/Oallie State Park 3B  
9:00 (NB)  
Darcy Brewington 888-2426

### Feb 3

Moon Wall 3C 9:00 (NB)  
Mike Leake 333-4243

### Feb 24

Fuller Mountain 2C 9:00 (FC)  
Tom Wood 391-8027

### March 10

Elwell Wall 3B 9:00 (FC)  
Mike Leake 333-4243

### March 24

Grouse Ridge 2C 9:00 (NB)  
Jeff Hogan 434-6506

*N.B. = meet at North Bend  
Park & Ride, 4th & Main,  
next to the library.*

*F.C. = meet at Fall City  
Park & Ride, junction of  
SR 202 and SR 203*

*Membership in the Snoqualmie Valley  
Trails Club is \$10 per year. For infor-  
mation on joining, call Pat Brewington  
at 888-2426.*

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## Call for a free Tiger Mountain map

The Department of Natural Resources has just published a beautiful new full-color map showing trails of Tiger Mountain State Forest. The map also covers Cougar and Squak. For a copy, call 1-800-527-3305. Or drop a postcard to the Department of Natural Resources, Olympia, WA 98504.

## News from the Hikes Coordinator

*by Gail Palm*

The big news this quarter is that Susy Roth will be replacing me as Hikes Coordinator. The club is fortunate to have such a capable person volunteer to fill this post.

\* \* \* \*

Please note on page 11 that we have changed the place where hikes meet. See "Meeting Place". The Park and Ride has gotten crowded in the past year and Metro riders have at times found it difficult to find a parking stall. So, since the City of Issaquah extended a warm welcome to use one of their lots, we decided it was time to move.

\* \* \* \*

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) plans to establish a new entrance to the East TMT trail starting from the Lk Tradition area this quarter. Our Trail Maintenance Crews may be asked to participate, so all willing hands are welcome.

\* \* \* \*

The Trails Club needs another hike leader for toddler hikes. If you are interested, please call hikes coordinator Suzy Roth at 392-6259.

\* \* \* \*

We have some Flora and Fauna hikes this quarter: Sunday Jan 28th, Sunday Feb. 25th, and Sunday March 25th, will be led by Larry and Marty Hansen. Sunday Mar. 18th (this is a 4D) will be led by Fred & Ann Weinmann.

Leader Linda Reiter will have two Issaquah Evening Town Walks, one on

## Geology was a timely topic

The final fellowship meeting of the year had a turnout of about 45 who came to hear Dr. Lawrence Baum's timely slide talk on the geology of the Issaquah Alps. The San Francisco earthquake had just shocked everyone the week before, so the story of our area's volcanos and plate tectonics was made very real. While enjoying refreshments served by Linda Axell, those present were able to question Dr. Baum and examine many rock and fossil samples from the local mountains.

Tuesday Feb 13th and another on Tuesday Mar 13th.

Geology leader, Dr. Laurence Baum is leading his always popular hikes again, one each month, Wednesday Jan 31st, Wednesday Feb 28th, and Tuesday Mar. 27th.

\* \* \* \*

On Sunday October 15th, thirteen trail maintenance volunteers enjoyed their cup of coffee or tea and sweet roll provided by the Club. The day's leaders took one group to the Preston Trail on Tiger, and another to Grand Ridge. A lot of good trail work was accomplished and we would like to thank those who participated (please excuse any misspelled or missed names): Will Thompson, Dennis Burk, Jack Hornung, Karen Van Pelt, Sally Davies, Dwight & Gloria Riggs, Bob Knutsen, Cris Cooper, Stan Unger, John & Karen Hauer, and Jill Mays.

On November 12th nine hardy souls showed up raring to go work on trails. Pam Williams warmed them up with coffee, tea and sweet rolls, and off they went in two teams. The largest group went back to Preston with leader Will Thompson, and a smaller team went to Squak with Jack Hornung. Thank you to Eric Fleishman, John Johnson, Jerry Balis, Earl Garrison, B.J. Kirkendall, Sally Davies, Karen Van Pelt, Will Thompson, and Jack Hornung.

Trail Maintenance days for this quarter are marked on the calendar.

P.S. The Weed-Whackers have been meeting every Wednesday. Call Bob Knudsen at 243-4546.

## Annual membership meeting set for January 18

The Issaquah Alps Trails Club annual meeting of the general membership will be held Thursday, January 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Newport Way Library.

Three board members are up for election.

Please come--not only do you get to raise your hand, it's also one of the few meetings where you can count on getting cookies.

## Wherever the water is clean, you may see a dipper dip-dip-dipping

The dipper (water ouzel) is that medium-sized, slate-colored bird seen flitting along creeks, never more than inches from the surface, pausing to perch on boulders and dip-dip-dip at the knees, then diving in the water to walk along the bottom and snap up tasty bites.

John Muir's favorite bird, we associate it with mountain streams and lakes. No that it evidences esthetic pleasure in wilderness--it is simply a fanatic about pure water. Just as the spotted owl is an "indicator species" reflecting the integrity of an ancient forest, the dipper tells by its presence that the water is of high quality.

Dippers in the heart of residential Issaquah? Incredible but true. Can any other neighborhood of western King County claim such wild residents?

One of our club's founding members, Ruth Kees, has been watchdogging Issaquah's waters for better than 20 years. Her defeats by the forces of rapacious development have been many, but she has won victories too, not the least of which has been raising the level of public awareness. The green signs on Issaquah and Tibbonets Creeks reading "This salmon-spawning stream is in your care" are there because of Ruth.

The crisis continues. Indeed, we ain't seen nothing yet. Lake Sammamish is headed straight on and inevitably to becoming a wretched cesspool if the pattern of past development is repeated on the heights from which it receives water flow. By the turn of the century the annual Salmon Days might have to become Kipper Snacks Day. Not to put the knock on Kipper Snacks, which are delicious, but salmon too are indicator species. Where we have salmon we have bald eagles, great blue herons, belted kingfishers, fish-eating bear and coyote and and cougar and raccoons.

I therefore propose that we prepare a baseline for the future by taking a Great Big Census of the dipper population of the Issaquah Alps.

We want to know where the dippers are now.

We want to know where the dippers used to be--and now are not.

Here's how you can participate:

1. When you sight a dipper, jot down the date, place, your name and phone number on a postcard and mail to: Chief Ranger, Issaquah Alps Trails Club, P.O. Box 351, Issaquah, WA 98027

2. If you have made sightings in the past--last year, ten years ago, twenty years ago--send the information on a postcard, or if you have extended commentary or many sightings, in a letter.

For openers, here are my personal observations and comment:

I do not recall ever seeing a dipper on any streams of Cougar Mountain. Several creeks "should" have dippers. However it is possible that they are not closely enough connected to the "dipper reservoir" to the east. The valley stretches of May Creek and Tibbetts Creeks to not appear to me to have dipper-quality water. If this is the case, it may be impossible for isolated dipper-good creeks to be populated; not only do dippers refuse to get more than inches from their water, but they seem not to go a-roving, scouting for creeks that need and can support dippers.

The dipperiness of Squak Mountain may also suffer from isolation, as well as from lengthy periods of dry creeks; I've never made a sighting there, or not that I recall. (But then, over the years before I began making specific note I was hiking in the Cascades concurrently with Squak and Tiger; dippers were too common in my experience to be red-lettered in my diary.)

The sole vivid memory I have on Tiger is also my most poignant. When the Tiger Mountain West-Side Road was built in 1976 it was a superb walk through miles of virgin forest grown up since fires of the past century but not big enough in the 1920s to interest the railroad loggers of that era. Down the steep slopes coursed several beautiful creeks tributary to Fifteenmile Creek. In winter-spring they were waterfall loud; thanks to the forest canopy, they remained trickling wet through the summer.

The road was, of course, not built for my hiking pleasure. As a final gesture of corporate identity before trading off Tiger, Weyerhaeuser clearcut that virgin

forest. It dutifully obeyed the forest management "regs" then imposed by the state. So much for that era's regs...

I walked the road shortly after the first of the clearcuts. I came to the ravine of what had been, days earlier, a moss-fern-boulder waterfall creek tumbling to Fifteenmile Creek. The ravine now was choked with slash. The creek slipped through in dribbles here and there. As I stood moaning and cursing, a dipper arrived from the still-virgin forest below. It perched on a log, dip-dip-dipping, looking for a way through. Don't try to tell a dipper that it can regain a creek by taking a high flight over or around an obstacle. Dippers do not do that. They must stay close to the water, the clear, cool, pure water.

As the clearcutting proceeded, that creek and several others were destroyed as dipper habitat for the number of years required for the creeks to reconstitute themselves. Since nature is "full up" everywhere because wild creatures lack the human capacity to pile on top of each other in any density required to sustain the population of a Bombay or a Manhattan Island, destroying creeks as dipper habitat means destroying dippers.

If this was my most poignant and enraging sighting in the Alps, my most startling and delighting was in East Fork Issaquah Creek, while walking the path upstream from the old skating rink. Across the creek were houses. In their front yards, dippers, dip-dip-dipping!

Since I don't walk that path anymore, I ask: are the dippers still in the East Fork, in Issaquah? How about the North Fork? The Main (South) Fork? Holder Creek? Taylor Mountain? Rattlesnake? You folks who live on Fifteenmile Creek, what do you see in your front yard? Raging River? Let's hear from Preston, Upper Preston. And let us hear a lot from you Born-Again New-Age Foresters of the DNR.





## A walk into the night

By Bill Longwell

It's fall.

I park my car, enter the woods and descend to a stream draining a narrow, six-mile long valley. The stream rushes over rocks, as if in a hurry to join another stream from a nearby and wider valley. After crossing a narrow bridge, my trail climbs gradually and heads east. In the next two miles I get only occasional glimpses of the stream below me.

The forested hillside to my left disappears into salal and mixed forest. Nearby Broadleaf Maple trees have unloaded their winged seeds, singly and in fist-sized bunches. Most seeds languish and eventually join a slowly growing compost. But occasionally, seemingly determined by a whim of nature, a single seed takes root in the duff. The wing stands straight up as the seed roots more firmly.

My trail winds in and out of gullies. I pass under a cliff, dry in the summer and supporting a moss and slumroot cover. Now, constant dripping leaves a gleaming surface. In an extended cold snap, huge icicles form on this cliff.

A flock of small birds descend into the trees above me, and I pause to listen and watch. Their fussy "pssht" calls provide the sound effects. They work over the smaller branches, seeking small insects and bugs. The Bushtits, smallest of forest birds, seem always glad to hover over me as they fly back and forth across the trail. They converse with me as long as I stay around.

Their companions, the larger Chestnut-backed Chickadees and the Black-capped Chickadees, provide a more varied song. Sometimes the Blackcaps send out the first two notes of the "Three Blind Mice" melody, but most of the time they sing the regular Chickadee song, "chick-a-dee-dee-dee." The Bushtits and the Chickadees climb right out to the ends of the branches, often hanging upsidedown, almost within my reach. They seem unafraid; perhaps they are accustomed to my presence.

Farther back in the shadows move other smaller birds, not quite so confident. The Hutton's Vireo, a green,

thumb-sized bird with a distinguishing white eye ring, darts in and out of sight.

Still further back flit the seldom-seen Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets, for some reason more common than usual this fall. These are the real prizes of patient watching. Their head colors are the most dazzling of fall and winter birds.

Three miles from my car I cross a road and again enter the forest.

Here the trail drops almost to the level of the stream which runs in a much narrower channel. At one place it pushes right up against a 50-foot high, quarter-mile long cliff. Here too the stream forms quiet pools that delight the Bufflehead Ducks. They scatter as I approach. Sometimes I stumble onto a solitary Great Blue Heron, fishing the shallows. My unwelcome arrival causes this ungainly bird to lift laboriously from the stream, climb above the willow and alder margin and wheel around high above me to find undisturbed feeding.

On this particular dark day, salmon ply this stream, heading for a gravelly shallow a half-mile upstream where every fall they spawn. Their blotchy skin gives evidence to the pounding they take from the rocks and shallows of this stream. In the spring hundreds of salmon fry dart back and forth here, looking for any food the current brings down to them.

Coyotes and bears roam this stream bank, mostly at dark. I've seen both on this trail. Their various droppings indicate that this is a favored fishing location. They drag salmon from the stream. Numerous salmon carcasses line the stream edge and even the trail. In November and December I watch local dogs nose around these dead salmon and then for some reason rub their backs in the decaying fish. Their owners no doubt welcome them home.

I follow the stream until it ceases in a trickle at a low divide, six miles from my car. Here I turn north and enter the valley of another, larger stream, a river.

After a heavy rainfall this river rises quickly to become a raging torrent. Right now I hear the rocks roll along the stream bottom, pushed by the strong current. In the gathering dark-

ness I hear bells from a distant church.

In September, with low water, I watch modern-day prospectors searching for gold in this river, digging the gravels behind large boulders and skillfully sifting the "colors." They must succeed because they return each fall.

The broad path I walk becomes a dark tunnel. Huge cottonwoods, the largest trees in this area, tower above my route. Various conifers stand as silhouettes against a darkening sky. Here I run out of daylight. Ahead are still several miles of trail. I am so familiar with the various turns of this path I can walk it without light. Occasionally a friendly light from a nearby house gleams through the trees. Straight ahead loom the beacon stars of the Big Dipper.

I head two miles downstream to find a safe crossing on a sturdy bridge. Beyond the bridge, switchbacks climb the opposite hillside where the tread assumes a level course. I leave the river sounds and swing around a spur ridge and into another drainage. My trail hands on the southern lip of a mile-wide valley through which flows a larger river. It heads for the bright lights of a distant town.

On clear nights the skies seem unobstructed by smog or bright lights of the city. Constellations seem to leap out at me.

Again, I turn east. The Big Dipper, directly ahead of me for the last three miles, now hangs over my left shoulder. Here I sometimes watch meteor showers against a dark sky.

One more road crossing. My walk into the night is nearing its end. Two more dark miles along my winding path bring me to my last junction, a downhill route to the noisy river and a ride back to my car. I have walked 13 miles.

Can you locate the route of my hike in the Issaquah Alps?

# Fifty-nine hikers complete this year's Grand Traverse

by Jack Hornung

Congratulations to those of you who attempted the second annual Grand Traverse of Cougar, Squak and Tiger, this long day of about thirty miles, gaining and losing about a mile of elevation, some of them trailless, some of them in the dark. Thanks to those tireless persons who supported the event logistically, our second Grand Traverse was an even greater success than the first.

Seventy-nine hikers began the traverse and fifty-nine completed it, most of them much earlier than last year. The hike seemed free of major problems which I attribute to the "consumer satisfaction" survey we did last year, changes in the hike format to reflect the suggestions received in the returned questionnaires, and good planning and scouting beforehand.

Many more Trails Club leaders participated this year in the strategizing. Their wisdom added appreciably to our success and I thank them.

Group leaders: Gus Nelson, Ralph Owen, Ann Weinman, Fred Weinman, Sally Davies, Stan Unger, Joanne Howe, Chip Curtis, Bob Knudsen, Bill Longwell, Daniel Abraham Hornung and Bonnie Dickson.

Food and logistical support: Gloria Krull, Robin Krull, Mimi Longwell, Gail Palm, Helen Pommel, Linda Wood.

Special thanks to Judy Seebeth of Nice Spice foods for donating delicious soup for all.

Medical emergency coverage: Jay

Matson, King County Rescue Council  
Parking assistance: Barbara Johnson, City of Bellevue

Publicity: Connie Fair of Trails Club, Barbara Brachtel of the Journal-American, Judi Brannon of the Seattle Times, Ed Hegstrom of the Issaquah Press.

Property owners granting access: Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Mohl of Gilman Village and Richard Sims of Rowley

Realty.

Last, not least and the greatest: Harvey Manning for preaching the gospel at brunch and dinner.

Hike participants: (sorry for the spellings) Fran Call, Karen Scuaps, Marlita Bolton, John Marlow, Barbara Tubbs, Marilyn Burkardt, Elin Rodger, Debbie Anschell, B.J. Kirkendall, Robin Elder, Stephanie Anderson, David Beste, Al Benson, Jim Harris, Greg Bergquist, Mark Kennedy, Neil Hinkley, Dan Luchtel, Aaron Shaw, Tom Anderson, John Hartman, Edward Hegstrom, Chavawn Woodall, Jill Mats, Tom Petruzzi, Gus Nelson, Patrick Bell, Patricia Bell, Jan Bogle, Joe Toynbee, Joe Coffman, Karen Van Pelt, Mike Morris, Dave Dornbush, Donna Nemeth, Tia Leber, Patrick Suimar, Majid Vossoughi, Siamak Vossoughi, James Greeley, Charles Edgerton, Glenn Paterson, Jeri Shaw, Don Keen, Daryl Deutsch.

## New markers let you know what type of trail you are traveling

By Dennis Burk

Hikers in the Issaquah Alps are familiar with the bright plastic ribbons hanging from branches to mark trails. Although the ribbons have served well both as markers and as occasional bearers of witty Magic Marker messages, they will gradually be supplemented by a new series of markers that will identify both trail and trail type.

The system of trails supported by the Trails Club are used for day hikes. Day hikers find it most convenient to begin and end their hike at the same trailhead, walking a loop rather than backtracking on the same trail.

In the new marking system, trails are divided into three categories:

Primary loops--the recommended day hike from a particular trailhead,

Secondary loops--alternative routes that start and end from points along a Primary loop,

Connectors--join a loop to a trail-

head, or to another loop, or to a dead end point-of-interest. Usually a connector is a piece of trail that will have to be backtracked to return to the point of origin.

Based on these definitions, the Trails Club has devised the following marking system to use on trails that are not managed or maintained by a public agency.

Trailheads and trail junctions will be marked with routed wood signs stating destinations or trail names and approximate distances.

Loops and Connector trails will be marked along their length with fluorescent orange geometric symbols as follows:

Primary loops will be marked with circles approximately three inches in diameter. ●●●●●●●●●●

Secondary loops will be marked with diamond shapes. ◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆

Connectors will be marked with rectangles, about four inches wide and three inches high. ■■■■■■■■

The markers will be attached to large trees about eight feet above the ground. There will be more markers at trail junctions and along indistinct sections of trail. Standing at a trail junction, a hiker should be able to see a couple of markers along each trail branch. Along a section of indistinct trail, a hiker should be able to see from one marker to the next. Other sections of trail may be marked at 500 to 1000 foot intervals.

You will see these markers first on Grand Ridge and then on Squak Mountain. Future editions of our trail maps will include these coded symbols. During the winter and spring months, we will add wood signs to the trail heads and trail junctions.

# Hike Information

## HIKE LEADERS

The hike leaders are volunteers who have donated their time to lead people who want to hike and explore the trails in the Issaquah Alps and other nearby foothills (Cascades) in King County. Hikes are scheduled and led year-round regardless of weather or attendance.

Trails in the Issaquah Alps may be good or bad, easy or hard, muddy or dusty, brushy or clear, steep or flat, easy or hard--or all of the above. Some are not much more than animal trails. As *volunteers*, neither the hike leaders, the Trails Club or club directors are in any way responsible or liable for hiker's comfort, transportation, property, safety or general wellbeing while traveling to and from the trail head or while hiking or working any trail.

The club's sole purpose is to show hikers where the trails are and to lead the way. The public, other clubs, youth groups, church groups and others are welcome and wholeheartedly invited to join with the hike leader and others who want to hike these trails. Children under 13 should be accompanied by an adult.

## HIKE CLASSIFICATIONS

Each hike has a number and letter designation after it (i.e. 2C). Numbers indicate the hiking time and letters indicate the degree of difficulty.

### Hiking time

- Class 1: 2 hours
- Class 2: 4 hours
- Class 3: 6 hours
- Class 4: 8 hours

These are *approximate* hiking times, not including travel time to and from the trailhead (20 to 70 minutes, depending on the hike) and meal times (lunch will add another 20-70 minutes, depending on the mood of the group).

The times are based on an assumption of a two mile per hour pace, with a half hour added for each 1000 feet in elevation gain. Trail conditions, weather, and unexpected hazards can extend the hiking time.

### Degree of Difficulty

- A: level terrain: no difficulties for an average walker
- B: some climbing: up to 800 feet, or some other difficulty
- C: more climbing: up to 2200 feet, or some other difficulty
- D: much climbing: over 2200 feet elevation gain

This is an *estimated* degree of difficulty. Most trails in the Issaquah Alps are not up to the high standards of state and national parks. Issaquah Trails can be very steep in parts or muddy and brushy. Hikers may gain 1000 feet in just one mile of a five-mile, 1500-foot elevation gain hike. Sometimes there are trees to climb over or nettles and berry bushes to beat through. *Short* doesn't automatically mean easy and *long* doesn't automatically mean tough.

## HIKE DESCRIPTION MODIFIERS

### Exploration

The leader shows trails and points of interest along the way. The trails to be hiked or points visited depend on the weather and the group's interests.

### Leader's Choice

The leader had not decided where to hike before publication of the hike schedule.

### Trail Party

Trail maintenance work party.

### Variation

The leader may detour, take short cuts and loops, explore or otherwise deviate from the main trail to make the hike more interesting.

### Exploratory Bushwhack

The leader goes cross country off the main trail system to explore animal trails, canyons, old logging roads, or old railroad grades. Expect to go through brush, over logs, tiptoe through wildflowers and/or mud and have a good time hiking where others seldom tread.

### Youth Hike

For children ages six to 12.  
Parents must come along.

### Toddler's Walk

For parents with very small children or infants.

## MEETING PLACE

**Starting January 1, 1990, Trails Club hikes will meet in the parking lot just south of Issaquah City Hall instead of the Metro Park and Ride. To get there, take Exit 17 (Issaquah-Front Street) off Interstate 90 and turn south into downtown Issaquah. Go one mile or so down Front Street to S.E. Andrews and turn left. Go one block to parking area between First Avenue and Rainier Blvd. Park south of Andrews Street.**

## CLOTHING

Dress for the Pacific Northwest outdoors--expect rain, snow, sunshine, fog and everything in between. Bring extra clothing, rain gear, food, drink, matches, flashlight and first aid supplies. Wear comfortable hiking boots or hiking shoes.

## TRAIL MAINTENANCE

Volunteers organize and schedule trail maintenance parties from time to time. These work parties generally meet at the Park and Ride lot. The Club is well supplied with heavy trail maintenance tools, but workers may also bring their own loppers, weed whackers and other tools. Trail work parties last between two and four hours. *Trail maintenance is a vital part of the Club's work--and a great way to meet people!* Individuals and groups are also encouraged to adopt a trail, or section of trail, and be responsible for maintaining it.

**ISSAQUAH ALPS  
HOTLINE: 328-0480**  
24 hours a day, recorded hike descriptions and club messages

## Membership Application Issaquah Alps Trails Club

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

- Annual Regular Dues \$10
  - Annual Contributing Dues \$20
  - Lifetime Membership \$100
  - Limited Income \$5
- All memberships cover the entire family.
- A regular annual family membership is \$10. This covers the cost of printing and mailing the Alpiner and a part of the club's overhead expenses.
- Contributing memberships at \$20 or more cover the rest of the club's overhead expenses and allow us some financial leeway in planning special events, publishing new trail guides and keeping our trail maintenance tool supply fit and ample.
- Lifetime memberships at \$100 give us room to be creative and visionary, to venture forth on projects otherwise beyond our means and dreams.

## Issaquah Alps Mail Order Service

- ☐ *Guide to Trails of Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park, Coal Creek Park, May Creek Park* By Harvey Manning and Ralph Owen. 1989 Updated edition. Replacing the 50+ trails guide, this new edition brings you all the old favorites plus new favorites-- Precipice Trail, improved trails from SR 900 and *all new maps!* \$8.50 (includes map, tax and shipping)
- ☐ *Guide to Trails of Tiger Mountain* By Bill Longwell. 1989 updated edition. New trails: Tradition Plateau Trail (adding Swamp and Wetlands Trails), the *new* Bootleg Trail, the *new* Preston Trail. Plus encounters with animals. \$8.50 (includes map, tax and shipping)
- ☐ *Bedrock and Bootsoles--An introduction to the Geology of the Issaquah Alps* By Marvin Pistrang. A thorough but simple chronology of the geology of the Alps from the early Eocene period to modern times. \$3.50 (includes tax and shipping)
- ☐ *The Coals of Newcastle: A hundred years of hidden history* By Richard K. McDonald and Lucille McDonald. A complete history of the once-thriving coal mining area on Cougar Mountain, now hidden from all but hikers. More than 100 photos, four maps and Tim O'Brian's account of the incredible Seattle and Walla Walla Railroad. \$11.50 (includes tax and shipping)
- ☐ *Tiger Mt. map* \$1.75 (includes tax and shipping)
- ☐ *Cougar Mt. map* \$1.75 (includes tax and shipping)
- ☐ *Tradition Lake map* Free. Send business-sized (#10) stamped, self addressed envelope.
- ☐ *T-Shirt: "Issaquah Alps Trails Club"* Specify size (S,M,L,XL) color (blue or white) and sleeve length. Short sleeve: \$10, long sleeve: \$13.

## A few words about dues

Effective January 1, 1990, the Annual Regular Dues for Issaquah Alps Trails Club members will go from \$5 to \$10 per year. Because we do not wish to lose anyone who finds \$10 excessive, a Limited Income Membership category of \$5 is available. In 1990 we will also bill members individually for annual dues instead of reminding you in the Alpiner.

Dues have been the same since the club was established in 1979. In the past 10 years, however, postage, printing and all other costs have increased. Members can be assured that their dues will have direct impact on preserving the natural beauty and enhancing the recreational opportunities of the Issaquah Alps and beyond.

**Issaquah Alps Trails Club**  
P.O. Box 351  
Issaquah, WA 98027

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