

# Issaquah Alps Trails Club

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# ALPINER

January ❧ February ❧ March 1993

## OUR TIGHT LITTLE ISLE

Mind you, I do not support our club's imperialist faction ("Today the Issaquah Alps, tomorrow the world!"). Had I been Olde England I never would have bothered about Scotland, much less Ireland, and would ahve been serenely content to let the continentals have it out among themselves in the Americas and the Indies, jabbering and gibbering in their outlandish lingo. May foreign policy would have been firmly Little England. Nevertheless, when the bell begins a-tolling you got to ask who's calling.

Our board of directors was terribly frightened by the Mountains-to-Sound March. We had raised the Greenway subject and couldn't just let it drop. But for an awful moment (while the post-March club dangled in technical bankruptcy) we envisioned being summoned to despatch a fleet to Trafalgar and an army to Khartoum. Great was the sigh we heaved when the Mountains-to-Sound Greenway Trust was formed, Jim Ellis up front and our board member, Ted Thomsen, at his elbow to keep us in the game to the limit of our abilities and desires.

Similarly, our sponsorship (with DNR approval) of the Will Thompson Trail up Little Si was a political triumph, an important boost toward what has become the Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation Area. But having committed ourselves to Little Si, what about the Big? And the other front peaks of the Cascades? To

the rescue rode our neighboring activists, forming up ranks in the Snoqualmie Valley Trails Club. The SVTC and IATC constitute an Entente Cordial, sharing in the Greenway and other concerns, yet able to focus individually on our separate (though overlapping) spheres of influence.

Exactly what are the bounds of our sphere? Our "home" province encompasses Cougar Mountain and I'm pleased to report that the master planning for the Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park seems to be off to a far more promising start than I'd have predicted a year ago. (See the next *Alpiner*.) However, we have been unable to convince King County Parks it must address the Greater Cougar Mountain Ecosystem: Coal Creek Park weighs on our conscience, and May Creek Park the more so, and The Precipice hangs in limbo above I-90, thousands of public officials driving by daily and averting their eyes, and "Save Lake Sammamish" is the name of a citizens' group (our ally) and not a policy of King County government.

Gus Nelson covered Squak Mountain like a blanket in the last *Alpiner* and can be expected to keep us informed, collaborating with our new Squak Watcher, Ken Konigsmark. The masterpiece of the now-concluded Brian Boyle Era, Tiger Mountain State forest (and its com-

*(continued on page 2)*

## OUR TIGHT LITTLE ISLE (cont.)

ponent, the West Tiger Mountain Natural Resources Conservation Area) is regularly discussed in these pages.

Grand Ridge awaits. The issues there are huge and complex, yet our unique contribution (as a club) ought not be delayed. We need to compile and publish a definitive map of the major (regional) trail routes we support, the essential "habitat networks" (the preferred new term for what we've been calling "wildlife travel corridors"), and the wetlands and scenic features where the Public Trust Doctrine assures the public of rights—rights which it is the obligation of government to protect, no matter whose name is on the scrap of paper declaring the holder to be sole owner.

Rattlesnake Mountain is shaping up quite nicely under the guidance of Trust for Public Lands, the Greenway Trust, and the Rattlesnake Rangers, a task force whose membership lies in both the SVTC and IATC. Taylor Mountain and the Highway 18 corridor, indispensable to the habitat network tying the Alps to the Cedar River Watershed—well, we've only begun to do our duty there.

Have I left anything out? What about Lake Desire country (more of that later)?

In this issue we place upon the table a province long at the corner of our eye and never looked at squarely: Snoqualmie Ridge (aka Lake Alice Plateau). Our Issaquah-Snoqualmie Falls Trail doesn't go to Snoqualmie Falls! It has been road-blocked by Weyerhaeuser, Puget Power, and the King County Executive; this contumely is not to be borne. Snoqualmie Ridge and Grand Ridge (its eastern end, Mitchell Hill) bestride the green cleft of the Raging River, which is our

river and is the closest "mountain" river to Seattle; for guidance we look to the Mayor of Preston, Maryanne Tagney Jones, and the SVTC, Jim Ellis, who has strong sentimental ties to the river, and our Chief Ranger, Bill Longwell, newly moved to a home atop the breaks to the Raging. To start your thinking, see the map.

\*\*\*

*When America finally goes to Hell,  
Of one thing you can be dang sure:  
It'll figure some way to get there sittin'  
down.*

*—refrain of a not-very-old folk song*

I had it in mind to entertain you by a reprise of my on-going slanging match with the fathead faction of the fat-tire bikers. However, saving the laughs, I want here to send a message above the heads of the conquistadores to the majority of fat-tire bikers, who are reasonable, fair-minded people. I know this because of phone calls from folks who inform me they paid dues, once, to the self-proclaimed voice of the off-road fat tires, listened to that voice in mounting horror, and fled. Though in the main from a background of skinny-tires and thus unfamiliar with off-pavement travel, they are coming to understand the origin of the trails and are learning to explore and establish bikeways not as conquests but new creations.

My suggestion:

(1) These reasonable and responsible fat-tire bikers form an ad hoc citizens committee which rejects bully-boy aggression;

(2) An ad hoc citizens committee of hikers and horsers be formed, perhaps under the sponsorship of the Washington Trails Association;

(3) The amalgamated ad hoc committees jointly survey the scene;

(4) The IATC/SVTC publish on behalf of the amalgamation a guide to

fat-tire bikeways along the Greenway from Lake Washington to the Cascade Crest.

(5) At this time, do not look for any help from government.

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Speaking of conquerors, an advisor once warned Napoleon that a certain proposed aggression would be opposed by the Pope. Sneered the Emperor, "How many divisions does he have?" Today's history lesson: There is still a Pope. The thinking and the leadership embodied in the IATC/SVTC have an influence beyond our joint geographical sphere of influence. It is **here** that the wheeled Napoleons are seeking to drive out modes of travel on two feet and four. It is **here** on the Greenway that the future can be shaped for lands far beyond our sphere.

One more example and I'm outa here.

Not very many months ago the leadership of King County Parks was vehemently insisting that Cougar Mountain was not and never could be a "wildland." The leadership has reversed course 180°. However, it still blinks in bewilderment as it asks, "What is a wildland?" The deliberations of the Citizens Advisory Committee are an opportunity to formulate a definition that can be clearly understood by every operator of heavy machinery, every sewage engineer, every desk jockey at Luther Burbank and Smith Tower and King County Courthouse.

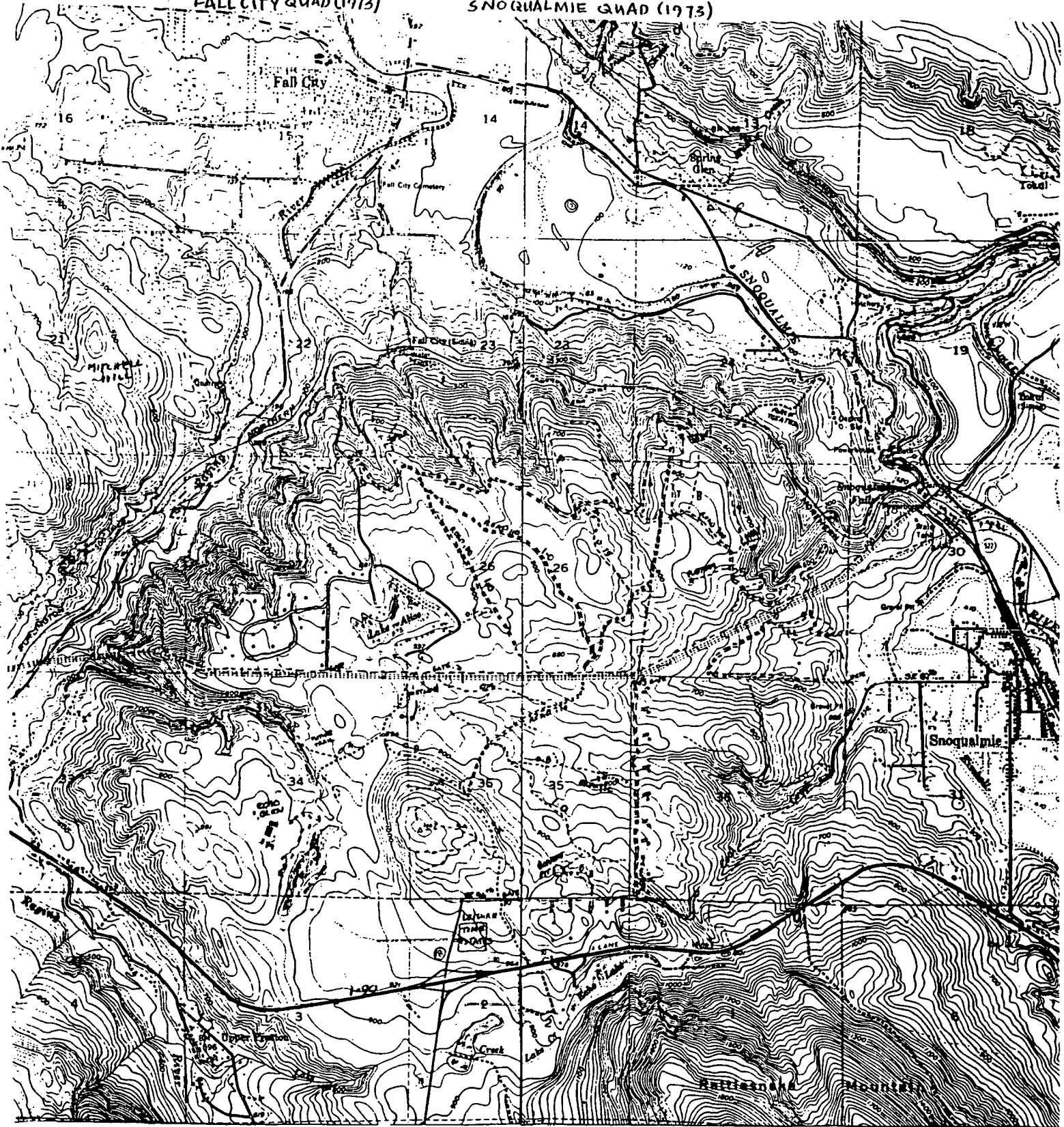
The definition is needed for Cougar Mountain—but also for the whole of King County Parks. Large tracts of "open space" have been and will be acquired by the county. How are they to be managed? Much **must** be preserved as **wildland**. In order for this to happen, the King County

*(continued on page 8)*

# SNOQUALMIE RIDGE

FALL CITY QUAD (1913)

SNOQUALMIE QUAD (1913)



## Legend

==== Good condition old roads,  
now trails

---- Poor condition old roads,  
but walkable

--- Routes of old railroads, now  
King County trails

Future Weyerhaeuser development  
of Snoqualmie Ridge expected on  
sections 26 and 35.

Contour interval 20 feet

Map by  
William Longwell  
Chief Ranger,  
IATC  
October, 1992

# JANUARY 1993

## HIKES AND EVENTS

**Saturday, January 2**

Coal Creek Falls

1B 12:30 p.m.

Bob Gross 392-0539

Taylor Mtn. Shaun Creek Rd.

2B 9:30 a.m.

George Jackman 221-3925

**Sunday January 3**

Lake Tradition: Round Lake  
Stroll

1A 1:00 p.m.

Tom Mechler 255-0922

**Tuesday January 5**

Peaks and Grades of W. Tiger  
4D 8:30

Jim Cadigan 641-4046

**Thursday January 7**

Little Si

2C 9:30 a.m.

Al Blalock 746-4155

**Friday January 8**

Tiger Mtn. Leader's Choice

3C 9:00 a.m.

Will Thompson 488-8592

**Saturday January 9**

Cougar Winter Wonderland

Exploratory 2B 9:00 a.m.

Bill McFerren 391-3359

**Sunday January 10**

Preston to Issaquah via North

Tiger Trails

2B (7.5 Miles, 1000 ft. gain)

10:00 a.m.

Ralph Owen 746-1070

# JANUARY 1993

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						

**Wednesday January 13**

Timberlake Park Family Hike

1A 10:00 a.m.

Peggy Barchi 432-5446

**Thursday January 14**

Cougar Mtn. Coal Creek Falls  
and Far Country

2B 9:30 a.m.

Mary Cadigan 641-4046

**Saturday January 16**

Twin Falls and Beyond to Trestle

3B 9:30 a.m.

Ann Leber 746-3291

**Sunday January 17**

Cougar Mtn. Bear Ridge

1B 1:00 p.m.

Kate Gross 329-2412

**Tuesday January 19**

X-C Ski trip Lake Keechelus

Beginner/moderate 9:00 a.m.

Joanne Howe

**Friday January 22**

Tiger Mtn. Leader's Choice

3C 9:00 a.m.

Will Thompson 488-8592

**Saturday January 23**

West Tiger 3

3C 8:30 a.m.

Trudy Ecob 232-2933

**Sunday January 24**

Little Si or Twin Falls Winter  
Botanizing

2B 9:30 a.m.

Fred and Ann Weinmann 392-9230

**Monday January 25**

*Annual Membership Meeting*  
7:30 p.m. Issaquah Community  
Hall (next to Fire Station)

**Saturday January 30**

Snoqualmie Ridge: New One  
Way Loop

3B 8:30 a.m.

Bill Longwell 222-6775

**Sunday January 31**

Coal Creek to Issaquah via North  
Cougar trails and North Squak

3C (9 miles, 1300 ft gain) 9:00 a.m.

Ralph Owen 746-1070

## FEBRUARY 1993

### HIKES AND EVENTS

#### Tuesday February 2

Lake Tradition Plateau

2A 9:30 a.m.

Al Blalock 746-4155

#### Saturday February 6

Taylor Mtn. Shaun Cr. Falls

2B 9:30 a.m.

George Jackman 221-3925

Tiger Mtn. Leader's Choice

3C 8:30 a.m.

Will Thompson 488-8592

Cougar Mtn. Wilderness Peak  
loop

2B 9:30 a.m.

Ann Leber 746-3291

#### Sunday February 7

Tradition Lake Plateau

2B 9:00 a.m.

Bill McFerren 391-3359

I-90 RR Grade/Lake Tradition  
loop

2A Noon

Tom Mechler 255-0922

#### Saturday February 13

Cougar Mtn. Indian trail

2A 9:30 a.m.

Kate Gross 329-2412

West Tiger 1

3C to 3D 8:30 a.m.

Trudy Ecob 232-2933

#### Sunday February 14

Squak Mtn.: Light Trail Maintenance

3C 9:00 a.m.

Joe Toynbee 723-6716

## FEBRUARY 1993

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	25	25	26	27
28						

#### Monday February 15

Middle Tiger via Artifacts trail

3C 9:00 a.m.

Mary Cadigan 641-4046

#### Wednesday February 17

Cougar Mtn. Ramble

4D 8:30 a.m.

Jim Cadigan 641-4046

#### Saturday February 20

Hobart Grade and TMT

Trail Cruise

3B 9:00 a.m.

Tom Palm 783-6005

Big Trees and Caves

2B 9:30 a.m.

Leonard Eisenberg 392-4034

#### Sunday February 21

Tiger Mtn. Leader's Choice

3C 8:30 a.m.

Will Thompson 488-8592

#### Monday February 22

*Board Meeting*

*7:30 p.m. Issaquah Community  
Hall (next to Fire Station)*

#### Tuesday February 23

Tiger Mtn. Leader's Choice

3C 9:00 a.m.

Joanne Howe

#### Thursday February 25

Squak Mtn. Forest Rim Family  
Hike

1A 10:00 a.m.

Peggy Barchi 432-5446

#### Saturday February 27

West Tiger RR Grade East End  
Trail Cruise

3C 8:30 a.m.

Will Thompson 488-8592

#### Sunday February 28

Lake Tradition Plateau

1B 1:00 p.m.

Bob Gross 392-0539

## MARCH 1993

### HIKES AND EVENTS

#### Tuesday March 2

Lake Alice Rd./Snoqualmie Falls  
2B 9:30 a.m.  
Al Blalock 746-4155

#### Saturday March 6

Taylor Mtn. Shaun Cr. Falls  
2B 9:30 a.m.  
George Jackson 221-3925

Tiger Mtn. Short of Summit  
2B 9:30 a.m.  
Kate Gross 329-2412

Tradition Plateau Loop Childrens  
Hike  
2A 11:00 a.m.  
Don and Lynda Mollick 392-  
9390

#### Sunday March 7

Grand Ridge Super Tour  
3B (six hours) 8:00 a.m.  
Bill McFerren 391-3359

Cougar Mtn Ramble  
2B 9:30 a.m.  
Ann Leber 746-3291

#### Monday March 8

Tiger Mtn. Leader's Choice  
3C 8:00 a.m.  
Will Thompson 488-8592

#### Saturday March 13

Tiger Mtn. Trail - the Whole  
Thing  
4D 8:00 a.m.  
Joe Toynbee 723-6716

## MARCH 1993

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	25	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

#### Sunday March 14

Cougar Mtn. Wilderness Cr.  
to Coal Cr. Falls and Return  
3C 9:00 a.m.  
Peggy Owen 746-1070

East Tiger Variations  
3C 8:30 a.m.  
Warren Jones 888-0262

#### Wednesday March 17

Cougar Mtn. St. Patricks Day  
Hike.  
Bring 12 green goodies to share.  
3C 9:00 a.m. Joanne Howe

#### Friday March 19

Peaks and Grades of West Tiger  
4D 8:30  
Jim Cadigan 641-4046

#### Saturday March 20

Rattlesnake Ledge  
1B 12:30 p.m.  
Bob Gross 392-0539

#### West Tiger 3 to West Tiger 2

3C 8:30 a.m.  
Trudy Ecob 232-2933

#### Sunday March 21

Little Si  
2B 9:30 a.m.  
Leonard Eisenberg 392-4034

#### Monday March 22

*Board Meeting*  
7:30 p.m. Issaquah Community  
Hall (next to Fire Station)

#### Tuesday March 23

Tiger Mtn. Leader's Choice  
3C 8:00 a.m.  
Will Thompson 488-8592

#### Wednesday March 24

Lake Tradition Family Hike  
1A 10:00 a.m.  
Peggy Barchi 432-5446

#### Thursday March 25

Twin Falls  
2B 9:30 a.m.  
Al Blalock 746-4155

#### Saturday March 27

Middle TMT Trail Cruise  
3C 8:00 a.m.  
Will Thompson 488-8592

#### Sunday March 28

Tiger Mtn. Leader's Choice  
3C 9:00 a.m.  
Ralph Owen 746-1070

#### Wednesday March 31

Cougar Mtn/Licorice Fern to  
Long View  
3B 9:00 a.m.  
Mary Cadigan 641-4046

# 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.

*Minimum attendance is 3, including the leader.*

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 trailhead 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.

*Please, no pets on these hikes.*

## HIKE CLASSIFICATIONS

Each hike has a number and letter designation after it (e.g., 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: little or no elevation gain, up to 500 feet, no difficulties for average walker

B: some climbing: up to 1200 feet, or some other difficulty

C: more climbing: up to 2500 feet, or some other difficulty

D: much climbing: over 2500 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

Trails Club hikes meet in the parking

lot just south of Issaquah City Hall. 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, past the light at Sunset to S.E. Andrews. Turn left into the KC Foods complex. 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

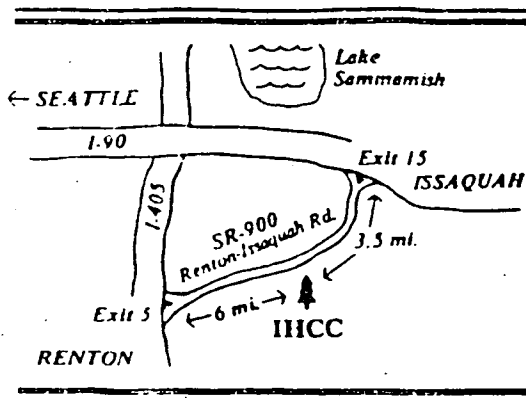
Volunteers organize and schedule trail maintenance parties periodically as listed in the hike schedule. These work parties meet at the same place as the regular hikes (see "Meeting Place" above). The Club is well supplied with heavy trail maintenance tools, but workers may also bring their own loppers, weed whackers and other tools. Trail work parties last at least four hours. *Trail maintenance is vital to the Club's work and an integral part of the DNR management plan for Tiger Mountain.* Work parties must limit their activity to those trails listed by DNR as scheduled for maintenance—**no construction of new trails is allowed.** Work parties are 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.

## OUR TIGHT LITTLE ISLE (cont.)

Council must adopt a **King County Wilderness Ordinance**. —For the same reason the National Wilderness Act was adopted by Congress in 1964. —For the same reason our legislature has newly adopted a law to establish Natural Resource Conservation Areas. —For the same reason Washington State Parks must have its own Wilderness Act. Lacking a statutory spine, managers of public lands always have and always will cave in to policy of easy expediency.

Well, just one more example: King County law stipulates that all public land is "Public Use Zone." The lower portion of Coal Creek Park stinks because what Metro wants, Metro takes. Highwaymen never blink when they pave parkland. Open space and greenbelt dedications obtained from developers are employed for sewers and powerlines and telephones and the parade of service trucks.

—Harvey Manning



**ISSAQUAH HIGHLANDS CAMPING CLUB**  
10810 RENTON-ISSAQUAH RD. S.E.  
ISSAQUAH, WASHINGTON 98027

## WHAT'S NEW IN 1992 AT COUGAR MOUNTAIN REGIONAL WILDLAND PARK

The Cougar Mountain/Renton District of King County Parks has an ongoing responsibility for the daily maintenance and upkeep of 21 parks, nearly 4500 acres. But while keeping up, it has exerted a special effort on "special projects." Out on your walks, look for these:

Long View Peak Trail, more than 1/2 mile of new constructions, closing off and revegetating the old "drainage trough" route.

Coal Creek Trail Thru-Route completion, upgrading 1/2 mile to Brick Plant corner, building 24-foot log bridge, a second bridge, windfall removal, construction of 1/2 mile of new trail, to connect lower Coal Creek Trail to upper Coal Creek "Railroad Grade" Trail.

Primrose Trail construction, connecting old trail segments to Sandstone Falls, Primrose Mine (Scalzo) Mine Workings, Scalzo Farm Pond, etc.

Shy Bear Bog/Shy Bear Slope, 180 feet of puncheon.

Boulders Bridge, 13-foot log bridge on Wilderness Creek Trail at what had been a "jump-across."

Ballpark Bridge, upgrade of the "washout repair" plank.

Bypass Trail, upgrade to firm up tread, for horses especially.

China Creek Trail, upgrade to firm up and dry up.

Return to Newcastle interpretive hikes, Coal Creek Townsite signs and bollards and all.

This covers some 10-11 of the 26 "special projects."

Enjoy.

## ANNUAL IATC POTLUCK IN MARCH

Calling all members: Come out for an evening of fine food, fellowship, and fun at the potluck on Saturday, March 27. The time: 6-10:00 p.m. The Place: Issaquah Highlands Camping Club, 10610 Renton-Issaquah Road, SE.

It's an opportunity for new members to get acquainted. Coffee, tea, and punch will be provided—or bring a beverage of your choice, along with your own table settings, including cups or glasses. Bring your favorite dish...or may we suggest that persons whose last names begin with:

- A-D: bring dessert
- E-H: hors d'oeuvres and bread
- I-M: main dishes (casseroles)
- N-R: Pasta or rice salads
- S-Z: vegetable or fruit salads

If you would like to be part of the crew helping with set-up, decorations, kitchen, or clean-up, please call Mary Cadigan, 641-4046, or Cliff Yockey, 746-3174.



# TRAIL WORK IN THE ISSAQUAH ALPS

*by Joe Toynbee*

Trail maintenance and building on Cougar, Squak and Tiger Mountains has passed through several phases. Before the club was founded in 1979, Daniel Boone types such as Harvey Manning and Bill Longwell were crashing through the brush hanging ribbons and scratching out rough routes. In the early 1980s, the Adopt-a-Trail program was effective in getting people to work on their favorite trails. Then, from 1985 until recently, a group known as the Weedwhackers put in many hours of trail work.

Pioneer days are now mostly over in the Alps: nearly all the trails have been built that will be built, and public land management agencies are taking over. On Cougar, King County Park crews are doing a great job on trails in the Wildland Park, although

work by club members is still needed in areas bordering the park such as West Tibbetts Creek. On Tiger the DNR has begun to implement the Tiger Mountain State Forest Recreation Plan which calls for the building and rebuilding of many miles of trail.

Trail work opportunities still exist for club members on the lesser used trails on Squak and Tiger. Much of this will be done on trail cruises: a hike category on which some light trail work is done. Trail maintenance is important to club members for several reasons: to keep our user built trails going, to maintain credibility with land management agencies, and to promote good fellowship. Hope to see you out there!

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the members of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club, a Washington nonprofit corporation (the "Corporation"), will be held on January 25, 1993 at 7:30 p.m. at the Issaquah Community Hall (next to the fire station). The purpose of the meeting is to elect directors, and to conduct such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Three directors are to be elected to fill the positions presently held by Ralph Owen, Roger Delmar, and Ken Konigsmark, whose terms are expiring. The Nominating Committee has nominated the same three persons to fill these positions.

## COME HIKE WITH US, TOO!

The Snoqualmie Valley Trails Club is just like the IATC. Except in a different place, "beyond the Alps," in a neighboring and by no means despicable mountain range, the Cascades. The concept behind the success of the IATC—make defenders of the trails by putting feet on them—needed to be extended. And so it has been.

The fall 1992 hike schedule is representative: 22 hikes in 3 months, short and long, weekends and week days, from peaks and ridges and lakes and rivers of the North Bend area to the Cascade Crest.

"You don't have to be a member to hike with us!" But if you are a member, you get the newsletter listing the upcoming hikes. If you love the IATC, you'll go crazy over the SVTC. For further information call 888-2426. Or send \$10 (check or money order) to Snoqualmie Valley Trails Club, 45053 SE 166th, North Bend, WA 98045. Annual dues are \$10 (family). Memberships are renewable on May 1. Memberships received after January 1 are applied through April of the next year.

## THANKS!

The IATC Board of Directors would like to thank the following individuals for their outstanding and successful efforts to preserve the Issaquah Alps.

**Gus Nelson**—His work on Squak Mountain has had a significant impact on the various decision making processes about the future of Squak. A large segment of land known as Section 9 (see previous Alpiner article) is close to being added to the existing Squak Mountain State Park on top of the mountain. It will become an important recreational area as well as providing a wildlife corridor between Cougar and Tiger Mountains.

His work on the City of Issaquah's Wildlife and Recreational Trails Plan is legend. The City is the process of hiring a Trails Coordinator and is well on the way to becoming "the Trailhead City". It is a revolutionary concept which Gus formulated and led forward amid many obstacles and setbacks, on behalf of our Club.

**Jack Hornung**—Jack's followthrough on the Mountains to Sound Greenway concept has paid off. His energy and devotion carried us forth in leading a major hike lasting eight days and generating a tremendous amount of publicity. We now have in place the MTS Greenway Trust to carry on the effort to protect the I-90 corridor from unchecked development.

Jack has also been of great help on numerous occasions to speak for the Club on various critically important issues. His outstanding advocacy, diplomacy, and communication skills have made a major impact in preserving the Issaquah Alps.

—Thank you both on behalf of the Board and the entire membership.

## NURTURING THE NEXT GENERATION OF IATC'er

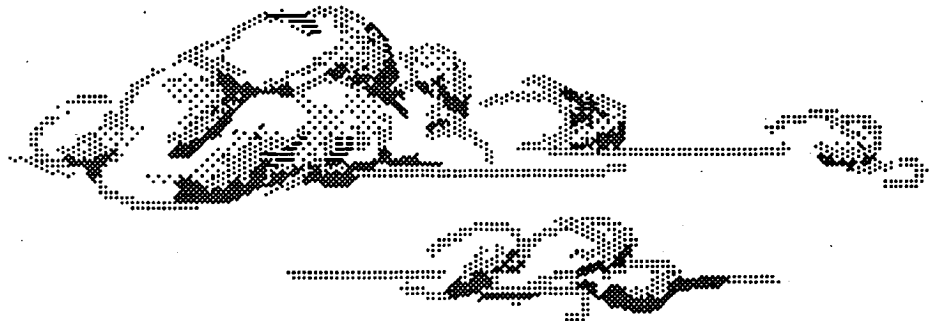
by Ann Weinmann

Sixty-five Issaquah Middle School sixth graders, several teachers and half-a-dozen parent volunteers were led on four separate hikes from Cougar Mountain's Red Town parking lot. The purpose was to introduce the students to a "wilderness experience." Who better to do this than a dedicated group of IATC hike leaders. Joe Toynbee, Ann Leber, Gail Palm, and Jim and Mary Cadigan when asked, volunteered on the spot for this Friday morning expedition lending their knowledge of the history, as well as the flora and fauna of the area. The day was beautiful, the kids well-behaved and enthusiastic, and fun was had by all. Thanks!

While on the subject of hike leaders, I would like to also express our appreciation to all the leaders and trail maintainers who have made our job easier. When asked by a non-member attending one of our hikes just what else our club does besides leading hikes I was tempted to say "fight a lot." I changed that to "poli-

ticking and policing." Sometimes I wish our focus could be Hiking and Educating, though I understand that without the politicking and policing Cougar, Squak and Tiger would not be the Issaquah Alps. Leading hikes remains a number one purpose of our club and our volunteers have certainly helped that goal.

We wish to thank: Peggy Barchi, Al Blalock, Jim and Mary Cadigan, Clifton Cooper, Betty Culbert, Sally Davies, Leonard Eisenberg, Bob Eschrich, Trudy Ecob, Bob Gross, Kate Finegan Gross, Jack Hornung, Joann Howe, George Jackman, John Johnson, Warren Jones, Dave Kappeler, Bob Knutsen, Ann Leber, Bill Longwell, Mary Lynch, Doug McClelland, Bill McFerren, Tom Mechler, Don and Lynda Mollick, Gus Nelson, Patty Olwell, Ralph and Peggy Owen, Tom and Gail Palm, Patsey Parsons, Roy Thompson, Will Thompson, Ted Thomsen, Joe Toynbee, and Tom Walsh.



# IATC MEMBER ALERT

Grand Ridge is an area of largely undeveloped second growth forest. An area of great and natural beauty at suburbia's edge. Lying between the North and East Fork sub-basins of Issaquah Creek, this area plays an important role in keeping the City of Issaquah's water supply clean and is also critical in retaining water during flood seasons. The Eastern portion is a prime habitat for large mammals (deer, bear and even cougar). The Southern portion that parallels I-90 is an important segment of the Mountains to Sound Greenway concept. There are significant fish bearing streams, wetlands, steep slopes, and wildlife corridors to consider as well. Urban development will severely impact all of the above.

Currently, Grand Ridge is divided by the G.M.A. (Growth Management Act) urban-rural line, drawn in 1985 with a huge amount of public input. The current owner, Blackhawk/Port Blakely, is now requesting from the County a re-designation to an urban environment, approximately 2,000 acres of now rural designated land. This is the position of the Community Plan of Choice, a plan proposed as an alternative by developers (and some citizens) to the proposed Executive East Sammamish Community Plan, which will be finalized in the next several months. The Issaquah Alps Trails Club feels that the already approved 4,000 dwelling units in the E.S.C.P. for the Sammamish Plateau will accommodate the projected population growth for the next ten years. There is no evidence to support urban densities in a very sensitive area such as Grand Ridge.

The East Sammamish Community Plan (a ten year planning document) currently calls for the Western portion, (one square mile) of Grand Ridge to have an urban King County Comprehensive Plan designation. The Eastern portion of Grand Ridge, however, is to retain a rural designation and is not included within Issaquah's Urban Growth Area. Zoning for this Eastern portion shall require rural clustering, and the County should seek to secure as much of it as possible for public-owned open space.

Although the urban-rural line is drawn, retaining the Eastern half of Grand Ridge rural, it is not cast in stone. Blackhawk/Port Blakely's attempt to urbanize Grand Ridge would not only annihilate the special significance of this pristine wilderness but would severely impact the surrounding communities. Until the East Sammamish Community Plan is adopted in its final form, it is imperative that citizens involve themselves in this process as a counterbalance to the lobbying efforts of the developers. Two community meetings have been held during which public comment was taken. To be on the County's mailing list for upcoming meetings, please write to: Leslie Terry, Room 402, King County Courthouse, 516 Third Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104 or call her at 296-1641. Letters to King County Council members will also have an impact. Four members serve on a panel to review the East Lake Sammamish Community Plan. They are as follows: Brian Derdowski, Bruce Laing, Cynthia Sullivan, and Larry Phillips. Their address is: c/o King County Council, 402 King

County Courthouse, Third and James, Seattle, WA 98104.

Needing your support,  
the IATC Grand Ridge Task Force  
Carey Beeman • 391-3584  
Roger Delmar • 392-9553  
Bill McFerren • 391-3359

## IMPORTANT TRAIL NOTE

Some weeks ago we were contacted by the Property Committee Chairman of Snoqualmie Falls Forest Theater and Family Park. Hikers have been entering their land near the end of the King County Preston-Snoqualmie Trail causing considerable erosion damage on the steep slope in that area. The Theater has asked our cooperation in not entering their land there and, in fact, due to other circumstances, have had to retreat from the "hospitable welcome" mentioned in the 1986 edition of Harvey Manning's *Footsore* book. We are assured that any of you who are members of Snoqualmie Falls Forest Theater and Family Park are guaranteed access by virtue of that membership, but there should be no further use of the "desire trail" into the property from the King County trail.

## Membership Application Issaquah Alps Trails Club

P.O. Box 351, Issaquah, WA 98027

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 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

P.O. Box 351, Issaquah, WA 98027

♦ *Guide to Trails of Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park, Coal Creek Park, May Creek Park* By Harvey Manning and Ralph Owen. 1990 updated edition. This new edition brings you all the old favorites plus new favorites—new trails on the west side connecting to Renton and May Creek plus *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 of 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 and Grand Ridge map* \$1.00 (includes tax and shipping)

♦ *T-Shirt: "Issaquah Alps Trails Club"* Specify size (S,M,L,XL) color (blue or white) and sleeve length. Short sleeve: \$11, long sleeve: \$15.00.

♦ *T-Shirt: "Mountains to Sound March"* Specify size (S, M, L, XL). \$11.00. All shirts are blue and short-sleeved.

♦ *Poster: Mountains to Sound March.* Full-color poster depicts the dramatic sweep of Interstate 90 as it winds down out of the Cascades into Seattle. \$12.50.

Issaquah Alps Trails Club

P.O. Box 351

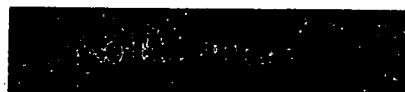
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