

THE ALPINE



January ▲ February ▲ March ▲ 1996

Cougar ▲ Squak ▲ Tiger ▲ Grand Ridge

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Promises, Promises...A Bait and Switch Grand Ridge Deal?

(As the Alpinist goes to press the County Council and Issaquah Council are expected to vote by early December on the proposed Grand Ridge plan. LATC supported the proposal when it was announced in May 1994 but, as of the time of this writing, and given the current situation, LATC's position is that the public has not been delivered what was promised in the deal. LATC Chairman of the Board Harvey Manning delivered the following comments to the County Council which explain why):

"In May 1994, we were promised the following:

"Today's agreement calls for the Grand Ridge partnership to donate 1408 acres of land—more than two square miles—for use BY THE PUBLIC AS NATURAL, UNDEVELOPED OPEN SPACE. This will be a 'donation of 1408 contiguous acres of open space, with trails and wildlife corridors clearly open and available to the public and unimpeded by development...with all open space to be conveyed to King County.'

"Here we are, 18 months later, and at the last minute we're finding out that the amount and type of open space acreage promised has been severely compromised to the benefit of the developer. Sure,

the numbers can be made to look right, but is the County and the public getting what was really promised? I fear that we're being sold a fake Rolex watch here!

"In a moment, Mary Anne (Tagney-Jones) will show you details of the open space acreage summary. I think you'll see as clearly as I and the public do that we're getting gypped!! Only 1062 acres meets the definition of what was described in the 4:1 deal vs. the 1408 acres promised. Port Blakely's pie chart, portraying 1544 acres of open space is in reality a picture of the "incredible shrinking pie" when compared to the promised deal.

"Paragraph 2.2.1 of the agreement under review states that 'King County shall receive fee title or conservation easements for a total of 1,242 acres.' What happened to 1408 acres? Of the 1242 acres now promised, 180 acres of what would otherwise be public open space are being given up to become the private property of the secretive 'mystery buyer' who intends to fence out the public from his private kingdom. A fenced off Conservation Area patrolled by snarling Rottweilers to keep the public out hardly

meets the definition of PUBLIC open space made by our County Executive. (King County Director of Development and Environmental Services Bob Derrick later commented that this acreage qualifies as public open space because 'the public can see it' from a distance, over or through the fences!)

"Port Blakely and County staff seem to want to portray this 180-acre Conservation Area as a 'gift' easement from a generous donor. In fact, it is more accurately described as a public 'taking' of land that has always been portrayed in public meetings and on maps until just recently as part of the public's 1408 acres of dedicated open space. What's more, this open space includes all of the existing trails on Grand Ridge, which will be lost for public use. We'll have to spend our tax dollars to build new trails instead, because the agreement gives up these public assets to the mystery man. Why? I object!!

"I, the other panel members, and the public at large supported the proposed 4:1 deal as the best alternative given the options. We insist that the Council ensure that what we agreed to, and what was promised, is in fact what we really get." ▲

Genesis: a Memoir

Harvey Manning

"In the beginning the earth east of Lake Washington was without form, and void. And my spirit moved upon the face of the darkness, and I said, 'Let there be geography.' And there was geography, and I saw that it was good, and I divided the Upper from the Lower, and I called the Upper the Issaquah Alps."

If by this point, no symptoms of amusement have become visible in the audience, if eyes are widening and jaws dropping and fists clenching, I grin or giggle or whistle a ditty or do the East Coast Shimmy, lest an infuriate dash out to call 911 and Roman soldiers burst on stage.

Nevertheless, the sober, literal fact is that until April of 1976, there *were* no Issaquah Alps. There was geography of sorts, referred to by the ignorant as "foothills of the Cascades." Climbers driving through toward peaks of Snoqualmie Pass lumped them with the pimples and bumps of North Bend and Enumclaw and Anacortes, and dark-of-night University of Washington precipices, as "things to climb when mountains aren't worth it." We called them the Issaquah Blobs.

I disavow any claims that might be made on my behalf to be a Creator. I worked only the magic of Old coyote, of the Moon Child after he was car-

ried by his mother down from Sky Country. A Transformer.

The Transformation was instigated by the request from Dick Lilly, editor the *Seattle Weekly*, for commentary on matters green and wild. The paper was brand new, empty pages yawned, and he urged haste. Therefore, 37 days after the first of my prescribed (more of this later) daily walks and 54 days after my last cigarette forever (*much* more of this later, two years worth), on April 19 I hand-carried to his desk "Rambles in the Issaquah Alps." Thus occurred what a geologist might describe as the Issaquah Orogeny.

After a while it occurred, that is. I turned pages of the May issue. No Alps. June, nada. I called Dick to ask politely what the hell. No Dick. During the shakedown cruise, he apparently had resolved some philosophical dispute by going over the side, taking the Alps with him. I shrugged the *Weekly* into my past, and took counsel from Ed Abbey's *Desert Solitaire*: "What did I do? There was nothing that had to be done...I went for walks. I went for walks. I went for walks...."

Then, no fore-notice, no explanation, no apology, Volume 1, Number 16, dated July 14-20, headlined on the front page, "Rambles in the Issaquah

Alps," and devoted the entirety of page 8 to a bit more than half my manuscript. Subsequently, the mail brought a check for \$25, a sum sufficient to dull my enthusiasm for further submissions.

Never mind. The annals in Sky Country will forever testify that here on earth, it was the *Weekly* which announced to the world (after a while) the Issaquah Orogeny. Actually, the delay touched up the drama, Number 16 coinciding with the 187th anniversary of the Storming of the Bastille and the 51st anniversary of my birth.

The article was read (I later learned) by person-ages of position and inclination to do something about it. But not right away. "Rambles" dropped into the silence of a deep well, a dry well, not the slightest splash.

Yet if I, as Transformer, had failed to galvanize the masses, the Issaquah Alps abracadabra had Transformed me—that, and the symptoms. Fifteen days after my last cigarette forever, the malady, though new (naturally) to me, could not be mistaken. As it must to all men...What I wanted, all I wanted, was a green bower where I might lie down in peace while dirt was shoveled on me. I knew,

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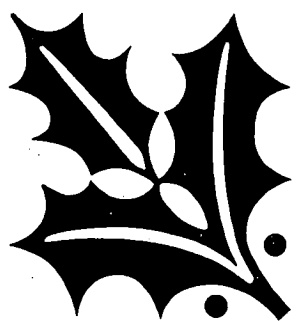
President's Report

Ken Konigsmark

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year! 1996 promises some good things ahead:

DNR is planning for new trailheads to be established on Tiger Mountain at both High Point and Tiger Summit. Each of these facilities will provide better parking, signage, and interpretive/educational resources than we currently have and will greatly improve trail users experience. Construction should begin next spring, so look for these new improvements within a few short months.

The Board will be addressing club finances and how to deal with increasing costs that we've experienced. IATC members are probably unaware that a major chunk of club monies are expended each year simply to provide the liability insurance we must have to protect ourselves as an organization which offers free, guided hikes to members and the public. As we all know, insurance costs continue to go up. Similarly, costs for printing the *Alpiner* and other publications have risen as well. IATC has always prided itself as being a lean, mean organization with no paid staff, and a stingy Board that carefully guards our meager monetary resources. Given the increased costs, annual dues might have to be increased to cover these costs. If this is necessary, we hope you'll understand why this is required, and that dues are based on the minimum amount necessary to literally break even each year on our finances.



A separate announcement is included in this issue, but I want to encourage all of you to come to our annual meeting, scheduled for January 22, 1996. Happy New Year!

Three IATC Board Stalwarts to Step Down!

Long-time Board members and club contributors Bill Longwell, Fred Weinmann, and Ralph Owen each announced their intent to step down from the IATC Board in the coming year. All three of these members have an extensive history of dedication to and involvement in the club that spans back to the days of the very beginning of the club. Each has stated that, while choosing to step down from an official Board position, they will continue to be deeply involved in the many key activities they lead for the club. Bill is IATC's leading trail-builder and trail-maintainer; Fred (and wife Ann) coordinate the club's extensive guided hike schedule and also serve as expert botanists; and Ralph is a major hike leader, trail expert, and Return to Newcastle coordinator. While each will certainly be missed on IATC's Board, it's fair to say that they do deserve a break after their many years of service to the club, as well as the deep thanks of all club members. Thanks much, guys! ▲

Shirts for Sale!

Marilyn Moon

Just last month our new shipment of Issaquah Alps Trails Club T-shirts arrived! This beefy, 100% cotton T-shirt comes in "true" sizes (i.e., XL= men's 42-44), and are a delight to wear. Offered in both white or blue, short-sleeved or long (either color), they are prepackaged and ready to ship to you! Don't wait until spring to order: the long-sleeves are great for fall/winter weather and make a great addition to your wardrobe for wearing under those somewhat "itchy" or "scratchy" wool sweaters and shirts.

It's simple to order. Simply send your check in the amount indicated on the back of this *Alpiner*. We'll get it back to you in a few weeks. A special large order rate will be considered; just write us a letter with your request. ▲

Successful Salmon Days!

Marilyn Moon

Last month's annual celebration of the return of the spawning salmon was a whopper! As thousands of folks poured into town to see one of nature's miracles, a good portion of them visited the IATC booth. Our volunteers enrolled new members, distributed our brochures, and answered literally hundreds of questions ranging from "Where are the Tiger Mt. Talus Caves?" to "Do you have to be a member to hike with IATC?" Our booth served as a contribution to the community to inform folks who want to get out there and hike.

Kudos to the two dozen members who spent a couple of hours or more helping out. THANK YOU to Dave Kappler, Lisa Rosenblat, Connie Hinton, Melinda Livingston, Susan Wisen, Fred and Ann Weinmann, Nona Martin, Steven Hawley, Bruce Sillers, Mary Lewis, Marty Hanson, Brenda Running, Marilyn Moon, Ken Konigsmark, Tom Walsh, Chauncy Wenner, Mary Lynch, Patricia Gwerder, Linda Rains, Barbara Halverson, Sally Moore, Pauline Bruno, and others (there are at least two names that have been misplaced—you know who you are—many thanks!)! ▲

New IATC Publication Available In January

Fred Weinmann

Some of you have been around long enough to remember when in 1981, Harvey Manning published his comprehensive survey of plants in the Issaquah Alps under the title: *The Flowering of the Issaquah Alps*. Nearly fifteen years has provided ample time for discovery of less common native species and for population by new migrants. In addition, we have included results of plant explorations over the entirety of Rattlesnake and Taylor Mountains; and we have added the grass, sedge and rush families. All in all, knowledge about the green covering of the Alps has expanded to include nearly 500 species. The second edition of *Flowering ...* will be available for purchase in January 1996. The price will be under \$10. Give me a call at 392-9230 if you want a copy in time for early spring botanizing. ▲

The Apparatus

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Ballot Initiative to Ban Bear Baiting and Hound Hunting

Laurene McLane

A full-out ballot initiative campaign to ban bear baiting and hound hunting on bears, cougars, and bobcats in Washington State is underway.

Despite persistent grassroots opposition to baiting and hounding, neither the State Legislature, nor the State Fish and Wildlife Commission, have been willing to challenge the hunting establishment, the gun lobbies, and other vested interests on this "sportsman's" issue.

We will need over 200,000 signatures of registered voters in order to bring the bear baiting and hound hunting issue to a vote on the November 1996 Washington State ballot.

Contact Laurene McLane (392-0204) to volunteer in this ballot initiative effort. ▲

Chairman's Report

Harvey Manning

The November 1995 issue of *Backcountry Tracks*, newsletter of the Backcountry Bicycle Trails Club, says atop page 1:

"King County Ordinance 95-455

"On October 23, the King County Council voted to keep King County Parks open to bikes, amending the ordinance so that trails will be open unless signed otherwise. As it was originally drafted, the policy would have read 'Closed unless marked open.' Thanks to quick response from many area cyclists, we were able to bring to Council's attention the confusing and illogical consequences of this law.

"BBTC would like to thank Eastside Council member Jane Hague for her support in championing the amendment to this ordinance. In a letter to BBTC, Ms. Hague stated 'I am totally committed to the concept of multi-use recreational facilities for our County's parks. Bicycling is a healthy, family oriented activity as well as an expanding means of alternative transportation. We need to be seeking more opportunities to encourage this activity rather than looking at ways to restrict access.' Thank you, ma'am!"

Several levels of misunderstanding are apparent here. Councilor Hague confuses "alternative transportation" (such as for commuting to work, school, shopping, etc., substituting muscle-powered travel on a few pounds of non-polluting metal for fossil-fuel-powered tons of hardware which emit clouds of poison gas) with whatever it is that BBTC is all about. Councilor Hague confuses the "family oriented activity" of the folks we benignly call "easy riders" with the others known as "single-track bombers." Councilor Hague is "totally committed to the concept of multi-use recreational facilities..." (as are we all, most emphatically, as *are we all*) but fails to see the fallacy of throwing all the cats in the same gunny sack and letting them bite and scratch and howl it out ("multi-use" should entail separate gunny sacks, or whatever receptacle is best for cats).

Finally, Councilor Hague appears to believe the original draft of the ordinance was designed to "restrict access," and further believes the amended ordinance does not restrict access. The BBTC apparently shares these two mistaken beliefs.

In the original draft, and in the adopted ordinance, standards are set for routes that will be open to wheels, and routes that will be not open to wheels. The standards were unchanged from draft to ordinance. The only difference is that originally only trails signed as open to bikes would have been open to bikes. The adopted ordinance stipulates that all trails are open to bikes except where signed as closed to bikes.

What's the difference? The original draft would have entailed "policy" signs at park entrances, listing uses not permitted in the park, generally, and individual signs marking routes (including virtually none of those referred to in wheel circles as "single track") open to bikes.

Under the ordinance as passed, park employees must go trail by trail putting up "closed to bikes" signs. Experience has shown that the great majority of bikers will respect these signs when in place. However, experience also has shown that crusaders take pride and joy in removing "closed" signs. When a sign is gone, respectful bikers will suppose the route is legally open to them, and because there is no sign, rangers and police cannot issue citations or take them in custody.

The mental process by which Councilor Hague arrived at her position of advocacy is easily understood by those who have studied her public record. The puzzling thing to observers is how the County Council could unanimously have gone along with her. Several centers of intelligence have been identified on the Council—some of them very high indeed. Probably no more than three incumbent Councilors actually ought to be permanently sequestered. We have not talked to any Councilors to hear their explanations. We assume their minds were so feverishly focused on baseball, providing welfare for the wealthy, and fending off the howling mobs of Buds, they had no time to spare for whatever was happening out in the woods.

Some Councilors, one can be sure, vividly recall what happened to the County Executive who based his platform on the Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park and vigorously led the way to its creation—and was meanwhile falsely accused by the sportswriters and the fans they inflamed of being unkind to wealthy Californians and their games. They remember Randy Revelle and his defeat by Candidate Zero.

The BBTC is claiming a great victory in this affair, and the industry-financed national organization will trumpet the good news. Make no mistake: *it truly is a victory* for common nonsense.

Footnote: As an example of how far passion based on ignorance can get you when the Councilors don't look behind your "facts" to get at the truth, we note in the November 1995 issue of *Backcountry Tracks*, in "Elisa's Elucidation's (sic), by Elisa O. Shostak, BBTC President:

"...Bellevue's Cougar Mountain, which has been clear cut and contains an active coal mine (with a 90+ year lease). King County calls it a 'Regional Wildland Park' and prohibits bikes from its trails." There has not been an active coal mine on Cougar Mountain in 32 years. A small point, unless you are a King County Councilor and depend on the BBTC for factual reporting. ▲

The Web Pages

Marilyn Moon

IATC now has its own Web Page, thanks to new member Mike Bookey of Digital Network Architects. As a devoted member of the Issaquah community, seems Mike saw an opportunity to add information on IATC to the Web, and spread the word on what a great organization we have. Included in the IATC Web Page (listed under "Organizations") is application information, what our club does and is about, and thanks to Mike, we even have access to updating information on a regular basis. In no way does this replace the *Alpiner* (not all articles are listed, nor is the hike schedule included). It is, however, another avenue for reaching folks. If YOU have access on the Internet, have a look yourself! Connie Hinton, our Membership guru, is our liaison with Mike. Thanks for the connection, Connie! And also to you, Mike! ▲

Annual Meeting January 22, 1996, 7:00-9:00 P.M.

The Issaquah Alps Trails Club Annual Meeting has been scheduled for January 22, 1996, 7:00-9:00 p.m., at the Issaquah Library (120 E. Sunset Way) next to City Hall North, Memorial Park and the Railroad Station. All members are encouraged to attend.

As is the custom, the first part of the meeting will be the formal annual meeting during which Board members and Officers are elected and club operations and finances are reviewed. Following this annual meeting, a normal Board meeting takes place at which current issues of interest are discussed. Members who would like to comment on club activities are encouraged to attend and speak, or to write a letter with your inputs to the club at P. O. Box 351, Issaquah, WA 98027.

The Board proposes three new Board candidates for approval at the annual meeting. Candidates are: Chauncey Wenner, Brenda Running, and Bill McFerren. They would replace long-time Board members Fred Weinmann, Bill Longwell, and Ralph Owen. Club officers, listed separately in this issue, are each re-nominated for their respective positions. ▲

The Makings of a Healthy Club (Not Necessarily A Wealthy One!)

Marilyn Moon

At the October meeting of the IATC Board, there was general discussion of memberships, budget, dues, and so on. After review of the quarterly report made by Barbara Halverson, our devoted Treasurer, we talked about the direction of the Club, what keeps folks interested in IATC, and how we sustain our membership. It appears that some general operating expenses, like the cost of the *Alpiner*, liability insurance, mailings, etc., may not be totally covered

by the \$12 annual dues. While concern was voiced about raising dues, others questioned whether or not it may be our only choice.

In November we again resumed the conversation about budget, membership, and dues. Decisions on bolstering the IATC budget to sustain membership activities soon will be made and announced in the next *Alpiner*. ▲

Where Did That Name Come From?

Bill Longwell

The "Reaches" of Tiger Mountain.

What is a "reach"? It's a nautical term, first of all. It's a continuous and uninterrupted stretch of water. We've "stretched" the term to fit several *views* on Tiger Mountain.

Wright's Reach

Seldom visited and virtually unknown, Wright's Reach looks out toward the West Side Road and South Tiger Mountain. It stands near what may have been an equally unknown mining prospect. Look for all this near Karl's Gap on the Tiger Mountain Trail (TMT). Unless you know where to look, you may not find anything.

Archie Wright, now in his mid-80s, provided chainsaw work for the original TMT builders in many places: Middle Ridge, Hobart Gap, Ruth's Cove and Fifteenmile Creek. His was the only chainsaw available in those days.

A long-time Mountaineer backpacker and charter IATC member, Archie made his mark on the TMT and other Tiger Trails in three different Tiger decades, the 70s, 80s and 90s. When the original route finders were laying out the TMT, a climb along the spine of Middle Ridge was the first choice for the trail. However, a subsequent discovery of the Middle Ridge Railroad Grade changed all this.

Wright's Reach stands almost as it was in that 1978 summer of discovery, lonely and never visited.

Phil's Reach (TMT MP 5.8)

Phil Hall, who opened up trails on Squak Mountain in the early 70s, turned his attention to Tiger in 1974. He walked the general route of the TMT when no TMT existed, in rain, sun, and snow. He explored with an early TMT scouting/routing party in July 1974, locating on a two-day backpack, a general TMT route up High Point Creek, through Tom's Crossing and Manning's Reach (both not named then), walking through forests of Devil's Club and Salmonberry and body-puncturing fir branches.

Phil built the first section of the TMT, a short segment trail connecting the Puget Sound Power right-of-way to the High Point Creek Trail, an early TMT route. The trail still sees heavy use.

Phil's Reach commemorates his persistent activity on Middle Tiger.

Charlie's Reach (TMT MP 6.2)

Charlie Lund discovered Tiger Mountain after a lifetime of high mountain exploration. An avid fisherman of remote, trackless high mountain lakes, he became president of the Washington State Hi-Lakers, a group that promotes fishing in high mountain lakes. The present Hi-Lakers maintain the Granite Mountain Trail and Lookout.

In the late 70s, Charlie and other Hi-Lakers began to work on the then trackless and remote route of the future Tiger Mountain Trail. On several *Signpost* magazine-sponsored work parties, Charlie and friends gave sound advice for the routing and construction of the Middle Tiger section of the TMT.

Charlie died in the late 80s and the "Charlie's Reach" sign honors his interest and dedication to the TMT.

Manning's Reach (TMT MP 10.5)

Harvey Manning invented the term "Issaquah Alps." He virtually invented the mountains of the Issaquah Alps. He is the inspiration behind the

miles of trails and popularity of the area. Founder of the IATC, Harvey explored the route of the TMT and other Tiger trails, looked over the shoulder of trail builders, then joined them. "Harvey remains the single reason for the Issaquah Alps receiving state, regional, and national attention. Without Harvey Manning, the Issaquah Alps long ago would have eroded into the Sound." (*Guide to the Trails of Tiger Mountain*, pp. 27-28.)

In 1977, Tiger Trail builders wished to honor Harvey with a place name on Tiger Mountain and chose, with his permission, the TMT's highest elevation point (2600 feet) with views to Many Creek Valley, Poo Poo Point (he named both), Mt. Rainier, Mt. St. Helens, the Tacoma Dome and Commencement Bay, Seattle and all the Olympics.

Perhaps more than *any* other Tiger name, "Mannings Reach" has firmly anchored itself in Tiger Mountain lore. Other "reaches" along the TMT have diminished because trees have grown up to obstruct the view, *but not Manning's Reach*; his views extend to infinity.

Charles Custer Bridge (TMT MP 7.4)

Charles Custer of Renton holds ties back to the early settlers of this region. His father, who went to the Klondike Gold Rush, built scores of homes and commercial buildings in early Renton, Black Diamond, Franklin, Burnett, and Carbonado. The Renton house Charles has lived in almost since birth was moved to its present location the day after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

Dina and Joe Chybinski and the Seattle Mountaineers introduced Charles to hiking in the Cascades and Issaquah Alps after Charles retired as a postal worker. Bill Longwell met Charles at Sourdough Gap, 3.5 miles north of Chinook Pass, in September 1974. Charles gravitated to trail building on Tiger in the late 70s. He helped construct much of the TMT between Fifteenmile Creek and Middle Tiger during this time.

In the early 80s, Charles went suddenly blind. His hiking ended, but not his interest in hiking and in the mountains. Now in his mid-80s, Charles still maintains a cadre of hiking friends and keeps up on the latest news of the world and of Tiger Mountain. When someone mentions a Cascade location to Charles, he often replies, "Oh, I once hiked there."

The high bridge over Fifteenmile Creek, now in its *third* edition, carries Charles Custer's name and commemorates his faithful interest in Tiger Mountain.

Joe's Hollow (TMT MP 6.0)

Look at the member list of work parties in the twenty year history of construction and reconstruction of Tiger trails and find Joe Toynbee's name on virtually all of them. Since a February 23, 1974 scouting party discovered (or rediscovered) the West Tiger Railroad Grade, Joe has been an integral part of Tiger trails. Joe was a member of a February 25, 1978 *Signpost Magazine* work party that located a segment of the TMT where walkers can now find the "Joe's Hollow" sign.

In the last two summers, Joe and fellow Tiger Trail workers have expanded their vision of trails to volunteer hundreds of hours for the North Bend Ranger District's remote trails.

However, this winter you'll find Joe Toynbee back on Tiger Mountain keeping Tiger trails eminently walkable. ▲

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though, that Goodwife Betty wouldn't summon the shovels on my word alone, would require official certification. I went to Dr. Rieke to get a permission slip. No dice. Devoutly as I might wish the consummation, the Withdrawal Syndrome wasn't going to kill me. Was that the good news? The bad news was that medical science, if not Congress, recognized nicotine as more addictive than heroin, and had neither cure for the habit nor alleviation of the Syndrome. Dr. Rieke told me to take a walk. A hundred walks. A thousand. Walk until the fingers that had held the cigarettes stopped twitching, lips stopped quivering, throat itching for habituated irritation, synapses shorting out.

"I went for walks. I went for walks. I went for walks...."

From Dr. Rieke's prescription to delivery of "Rambles," I was afoot in the Alps 32 days, and by October 25, 80 more, for a year's total trail mileage there approaching 1000. Not enough to subdue the Syndrome. Jittering feet took out after Stephen Leacock's general who "leapt on his horse and galloped off in all directions." From Bellingham to Tenino, Olympic front to Cascade front, in the "wildness within" the confines of human trammeling, and far away in the High Lonesome, the "wildness without" where, in words of the National Wilderness Act, "man is a visitor who does not remain." Another 80 days.

These 80 "other" days imploded me from the fringe of guide booking, honcho to Ira Spring, to the hot middle—a two-year, 3000-footmile inventory of "wildness within" that became the four volumes of *Footsore: Walks and Hikes Around Puget Sound*. They also brought the "wildness within" and the "wildness without" into the same picture frame. Location wasn't the thing, Essence was. Wildness. Which is, said Thoreau, "The preservation of the world." All of the world, and everywhere in the world. Mount Everest is, as Mallory said, "there," but so is Mount Pete. The Amazon is of eternity and the river flowing through it, but so is the Green in its Gorge. Dragons bellow in the surf of Tierra del Fuego, but can be heard plainly, too, on beaches of Puget Sound during a spring tide of January in a 40-knot southwesterly.

Most importantly, the 80 "other" confirmed for me the centrality of the Issaquah Alps in the fate of Puget Sound City. I could see, or at least dream, their future. Not a certain future, and much less probable than several bleak alternatives, but a possible future.

Unfortunately, I could not personally pursue that future. I had to walk the beach to Bellingham; I had to walk the Stillaguamish River from delta to glaciers; I had to set boot atop every jut of the Cascade front from Chuckanut Mountain to Bloody Ridge, and of the Olympics from South Mountain to Mount Zion.

The Possible Good of the Issaquah Alps would require a lot of imagination and determination. Surely somebodies would turn up. Whoever, they could be jump-started by my 100-plus days, near-1000 miles, afoot in the Alps. On October 25 I finished emptying out everything I knew, and didn't know, into the 150-page "*Reflections of the Future of the Issaquah Alps*," a potpourri-mulligan of slapdash notes on Geography, Roads and

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Issaquah Alps Trails Club Hikes and Events

JANUARY

Monday January 1

Mercer Slough Nature Walk 1A;
Flat miles through urban wetlands
until noon; Afternoon continuation
optional.
10:00 a.m. from South Bellevue Park
and Ride.
Harvey Manning 746-1017

Rattlesnake Valley Vista
2C 1:00 p.m. 4 mi. 1500 ft.
Warren Jones 888-0262

Friday January 5

Cougar Mtn. Red Town to AA Peak
Ridge Loop
2B 9:30 a.m.
Mary Cadigan 641-4046

Saturday January 6

Twin Falls
1B 3 mi. 400 ft. gain 1:00 p.m.
Bob Gross 631-4733

Sunday January 7

Cougar Ring
3C 8:30 a.m. 10-12 mi.
Ralph Owen 746-1070

Monday January 8

Squak Mtn. Hiway 900 to SE May
Valley Rd.
2C 8:30 a.m. 7 mi. 1500 ft.
Bill Longwell 222-6775

Thursday January 11

Twin Falls
2B 9:30 a.m. 4.5 miles RT
Al Blalock 746-4155

Friday January 12

Cougar Mtn. Wilderness Creek to
DeLeo Wall
3C 8:30 a.m. 10 mi. 2300 ft.
Peggy Owen 746-1070

Saturday January 13

Tiger Mtn. Nook Loop
2B 9:00 a.m. 5 mi.
Trudy Ecob 232-2933

Sunday January 14

Issaquah-High Point Loop
2B 9:30 a.m.
6 mi. 500 ft. gain
Joe Toynbee 723-6716

Thursday January 18

Sunrise Peak family hike
1A 10:00 a.m.
Peggy Barchi 432-5446

Saturday January 20

New club project! See *Come All Ye
Dan'l Boones* article for details.
Harvey Manning 746-1017

Sunday January 21

TMT to West Gap and down West
Tiger 3
3C 8:30 a.m.
Tom Palm 783-6005

Monday January 22

ANNUAL MEETING
Issaquah Library 7:00 p.m.

Saturday January 27

Cougar Mtn. Longview Peak
2B 9:30 a.m.
Tom Walsh 453-8319

Sunday January 28

Mine Cave Hole; Falls to Dam site on
Cougar
1A 10:00 a.m.
Ann Leber

FEBRUARY

Saturday February 3

Rattlesnake Ledge
2B 9:30 a.m. 2.6 mi. 1150 ft.
Marilyn Moon 392-1732

Sunday February 4

Tradition Plateau from Issaquah
2A/B 10:00 a.m.
Ann Weinmann 392-9230

Tuesday February 6

Little Si
2C 9:30 a.m. 4.5 mi.
Al Blalock 746-4155

Saturday February 10

TMT End to End
4D 8:00 a.m. 16 mi.
Bill Longwell 222-6775

Sunday February 11

Taylor Mtn. via Shaun Falls Explor-
atory—some brushy off trail
3D 8:30 a.m. 10 mi. 2000 ft.
Ralph Owen 746-1070

Tuesday February 13

Squak Mtn. via Chybinski Trail
2C; 8 mi. 1500 ft. gain 9:30 a.m.
Eva Black 646-9558

Saturday February 17

New club project! See *Come All Ye
Dan'l Boones* article for details.
Harvey Manning 746-1017

Sunday February 18

Lake Tradition Plateau
2A 1:00 p.m. 5 mi. 400 ft. gain
Bob Gross 631-4733

Monday February 19

Squak Mtn. Bullitt Fireplace via
Perimeter Trail
2C 9:30 a.m.
Mary Cadigan 641-4046

Saturday February 24

Cougar's eastern trails
1B 10:00 a.m.
Ann Leber

Sunday February 25

Cougar Views: DeLeo, Far Country
and Longview
3B 9:00 a.m.
Bert Drui 746-0709

Monday February 26

BOARD MEETING
Issaquah Library 7:00 p.m.

Thursday February 29

Lake Tradition Plateau family hike
1A 10:00 a.m.
Peggy Barchi 432-5446

MARCH

Saturday March 2

Wilderness Peak
2B 4 mi. 1100 ft. gain 1:00 p.m.
Bob Gross 631-4733

Sunday March 3

Cougar Mtn. DeLeo Wall
2B 9:30 a.m.
Marilyn Moon 392-1732

Tuesday March 5

Lake Tradition
2A 9:30 a.m.
Al Blalock 746-4155

Saturday March 9

TMT to Railroad Grade
2B 9:00 a.m.
Trudy Ecob 232-2933

Sunday March 10

Cougar Mtn. DeLeo Wall
2B 9:30 a.m.
Tom Walsh 453-8319

Monday March 11

Tiger: Hiway 18 to Issaquah
4D 8:00 a.m. 15 mi.
Bill Longwell 222-6755

Thursday March 14

Loop from Red Town Trailhead
2B 9:30 a.m.
Eva Black 646-9558

Saturday March 16

Squak and Cougar summit sortie-
Highest Peaks on one way route.
3C 8:30 a.m.
11 mi. 2000 ft. gain
Joe Toynbee 723-6716

Tuesday March 19

Redtown Dam family hike
1A 10:00 a.m.
Peggy Barchi 432-5446

Thursday March 21

West Tibbets Creek Loop
2B 9:30 a.m. 4 mi.
Marilyn Moon 392-1732

Saturday March 23

New club project! See *Come All Ye
Dan'l Boones* article for details.
Harvey Manning 746-1017

Sunday March 24

West Tiger Two Loop
3B 9:00 a.m.
Bert Drui 746-0709

Monday March 25

Lake Desire and Echo Mtn.
Spring flowers
2B 9:30 a.m.
Betty Culbert 432-7387

BOARD MEETING

Issaquah Library 7:00 p.m.

Thursday March 28

Twin Falls
2B 9:30 a.m. 4.5 mi.
Al Blalock 746-4155

Saturday March 30

Cougar Marshall Hill to Wildside
Wildflowers
2B 10:00 a.m.
Ann Leber

Sunday March 31

Rattlesnake Ridge Spring botany
2B/C 9:00 a.m.
Fred Weinmann 392-9230

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 well-being 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

Leader's Choice

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

Trail Party

Trail maintenance work party.

Exploratory

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.

Family Hike

For parents and children. Easy pace. Call leader for hike particulars.

MEETING PLACE

Trails Club hikes meet in the parking lot at the corner of 1st and Bush next to the "IATC Clubhouse", the little gray Stationmaster's house. To get there, take Exit 17 (Issaquah Front Street) from Interstate 90 and turn south into downtown Issaquah. Go about one mile through town on Front Street past the light at Sunset and turn left on Bush Street. Go one block and turn into the lot on the left. Park beside the Clubhouse or on the east side of the logs opposite the Issaquah Food Bank. Do NOT park on the side of the logs closest to the Food Bank.

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 encourage to adopt a trail, or section of trail, and be responsible for maintaining it. ▲

From **Genesis**, page 4

Towns, Geology, Climate, Vegetation, Wildlife, History, Land Ownership, Geographical Significance, Residential Use, Greenbelt Use, Industrial-Commercial Use, Tree-Farming Use, and Recreation Use.

Who would be the "somebodies"? I had no idea. I drove about Cougar Mountain stuffing copies in mailboxes of leaders of the Cougar Mountain Residents' Association, recently formed to battle the proposed Lakemont Boulevard (more of this later), posting others to people in The Mountaineers, Sierra Club, Friends of the Earth, and Audubon Society.

A copy found its way to Susan Schwartz, op-ed editor of the *Seattle Times* and the brightest environmental journalist then active hereabouts. I gladly gave her full freedom to whack the 150 pages down to publishable size, and the paper's November 13 edition carried her masterful cut-and-paste, "Issaquah Alps: Preserve Green Belt Near Seattle."

My phone began to ring.

Ruth Ittner, chair of the Trails Advisory Committee of The Mountaineers, who introduced me to Bill Longwell, a teacher at Renton's Hazen High who in after-school hours had walked some 2000 (or was it 4000?) miles on Squak Mountain and now was engaged in the epic construction of the Tiger

Mountain Trail.

Buz Moore, a neighbor I'd first met in the spring of 1976 when he came doorbelling, recruiting me to the Cougar Mountain Residents' Association, where as a backbencher I marveled that mere citizens were standing up to the blackguard cabal of the County Courthouse and Bellevue City Hall and highwaymen and land-speculation Mafia—and winning! Incredible. Inspiring.

Tim O'Brian, Issaquah teacher and City Councilor whose name I knew from the *Issaquah Press*, where scarcely a week passed without reporting a six-to-one vote of the Council, he being the one.

Ruth Kees, indefatigable nag whose letters to the *Press* kept up a steady cannonade on the gang of Six for mindlessly proceeding toward ultimate contamination and depletion of the water table underlying and serving the city.

Dave Kappler, a Bellevue teacher who lived in May Valley, at the south foot of Cougar Mountain. Month after month, the *Press* repeated the same story. A gravel miner in the valley was breaking the law. Kappler blew the whistle. In a week or two, King County would send an inspector. The scofflaw would be halted, fined, closed down. Next morning he would open up again. The whistle. The law de-

scends upon the criminal—after a week or two. Halted, fined, closed. To open up again next morning. And again the Kappler whistle....

John Graham, *Press* editor, who interviewed me. More phone calls.

My conscience was clear as I turned outward to the *Footsore* inventory

From this flurry of phone calls, an effective Alps leadership was sure to crystallize. Even were it not for the Syndrome, I was unfit. My nearly 20 years of environmental activism had been mainly in the North Cascades and never as leader, always as follower, aide de camp, pamphleteer. The 1000 miles of Alps-rambling gave me usefulness as eminence grisé, but I would not, could not get out in front of any attack force larger and more disciplined than a band of howling guerrillas.

Friends at Recreational Equipment Inc. (the Co-op) invited me to give a little talk in one of their regular evening programs. No harm in that. Half a hundred pedestrians listened attentively. Afterward, Marianne McNeely, Issaquah resident and Bellevue teacher, disarmed me by the sweetness of her smile and softness of voice. Rendered disastrously vulnerable, I blanched in horror and went catatonic when she asked, "What are *we* going to *do* about it?" ▲

IATC and Community Volunteers Needed!

Consider volunteering for one of the following much-needed positions.

Computer Graphics Skills Needed

Do you have computer graphics skills? The Club has several projects, including desktop publishing and a World Wide Web page, where we need to have photos, maps, and drawings scanned and converted into computer graphics formats. If you can help, please call John Johnson at 633-3805.

Volunteer Trail Workers, Where Are You?

Bill Longwell

When new members join the Issaquah Alps Trails Club, often some indicate they're interested in trail work. But for some reason, their interest in trail work goes no further.

Joe Toynbee schedules two official trail work parties a year, one in October and one in March, especially organized to show interested trail workers what trail work is: brushing with loppers, cutting out fallen trees, building drainage ditches and water bars, and mending tread. Some work is heavy. On the last such scheduled work party, no new person attended, just old-time trail workers. This generally has been the showing in twenty years of IATC work parties; few who indicate trail work interest ever show up.

Between them, Joe Toynbee and Bill Longwell have 127 years, about 50 of which, they have done trail work. They're not going to last forever. They are looking for a person who has the inclination and time to become a true trail work person for the IATC; someone who can see into the trail future and become the IATC *point* person for *years* of trail work. This person must be someone who walks the Issaquah Alps trails regularly and keeps track of trail problems and can organize work parties, mostly unofficial, spur-of-the-moment groups of two or more persons. Does such a person exist out there?

Since government trail agencies (DNR and the US Forest Service) are experiencing *severe* cutbacks for trail work money, volunteers must do most of the work. This is a certain trail fact of life.

Volunteer trail workers—Where are you? ▲

I Have This Little Trail...

Marilyn Moon

I have this little trail. I call it "mine" because it's where I go when I need quiet, to be by myself, to sort things out. I go there for exercise, fresh air, and to connect with earth and nature. My trail is about two miles from my house. Other people hike this trail, I know they do, but rarely do I see another person while I'm there. So it's special to me. It's my secret place.

Like "The Secret Garden," my trail holds magic. Where else can I go, so close to my downtown home in Issaquah, where I can lose the sound of the streets and civilization within 50 yards? I know—and even count on—that the sweet music of birds, the babbling of the creek, and the forest mist will replace the chaos and turmoil of the outside world.

My trail is my sanctuary. I know all seasons and all weather along this path and where it takes me. From the baby mushrooms of early fall through the dead, frosty leaves of winter, from the new birth of ferns and sprouting of Dutchman's Britches to the truly lush greens of summer. Not to mention the sweet perfumes: rich, muddy soil—my earth; Sweet Woodruff in May; dead wood and rich moss dripping from a canopy of branches. Here I am at home.

And there is a sacred feeling about my trail. I struggle between wanting to "share" it with others and a desire to keep it all to myself. All you lovers of trees and trails and flora and fauna know exactly what I'm talking about. And now I'm noticing some change in my special place: some dumping at the "trailhead" (which I pretend no one will know is actually a place to park); trees that fall in high winds, and eroding embankments leading to and from the stream.

What should I do? Is it okay for me to take that chainsaw and get rid of that fallen tree? Could I shore up the eroding soil to preserve that part of my path? What about taking my machete to trim back those early spring nettles that are such a nuisance? I think I need a "Trail Maintenance 100" course. How 'bout you? Sometime in late March or early April, IATC will sponsor such a one-time workshop, held on a weekday evening, so that you (and I) can learn more about trail maintenance and what we might do to take care of our own "Secret Garden." The date and time will be announced in our next *Alpiner*. Keep your eyes peeled! ▲

Come All Ye Dan'l Boones!

Harvey Manning

Pioneer the quintessential trail to Cougar Mountain Wilderness on the METRO 210!!

Bellevue Parks has long had on its mind the same thing as the Trails Club—a walkway foot-trail from the Metro 210 bus stop in Eastgate up to "Hilltop Pass" and down to Coal Creek Regional Park. One segment ("Betty's Trail" roughed out by our club volunteers, led by Betty Culbert, and finished by Bellevue Parks) exists, and is a favorite in the system being constructed along the Coal Creek slopes of the Cougar Mountain Ridge from Summit to Somerset.

While sampling this system with Bellevue Parks folks, Harvey Manning learned that public ownerships exist along the ravine-gorge of Vasa Creek from Eastgate School to Betty's Trail but that funds for immediate development are lacking.

The deal was struck: The Trails Club will develop a route on a line marked by Parks engineers, working sensitively (oh so sensitively) not to foul the creek or disturb wildlife or human neighbors. Parks will tidy up and maintain.

We have found that most of us bush-apes prefer to work alone or with a small band organized spontaneously when the mood seizes. Feel free, all of you, to be seized, at your pleasure. However to provide orientation, so you'll know where and what to whack when you return on your own, we're scheduling three work parties this winter.

Some club-owned tools will be on hand, provided by our Maintenance Chief, Joe Toynbee (723-6716). However, especially when coming on your own but also for the group sessions, bring a shovel or clippers or pruning saw, Pulaski or McCloud or whatever you have.

Gathering place: The 210 bus stop on Newport Way at 154th, by the Congregational Church, across from Eastgate School. Parking in lots and on streets close by.

Gathering time: 9:30 a.m. January 20, February 17, March 23. Work a morning, or come for an afternoon, or whack and gouge all day (bring a lunch). Leadership will be present all day.

For more information, call Harvey Manning, 746-1017. ▲

The Greening of the Meadow

Ann Weinmann

Thanks to the many volunteers and Penny Manning's perseverance, the old Redtown ballfield in the Cougar Mountain Wildland Park will become a meadow of native grasses and flowers this spring. A total area of approximately 70,000 square feet was cleared of Scotch Broom, blackberries and 41 other non-native weeds. In half of that area, 2100 plugs were planted comprising about 50 different species. Also an assortment of native trees and shrubs were

added. The rest of the area was sown with sterile wheat and mulched with sterile straw to prevent weeds from re-invading the area. Greenhouse space has been provided at the Center for Urban Horticulture—University of Washington to propagate seeds purchased this fall. Work parties will begin in February to continue work at the meadow and also to initiate the seed germination project for plantings next year. Interpretive signs will soon be in place.

Take a hike to the Cougar Ballfield for a look. The need for volunteers is ongoing, so if you are interested, let Penny know. She is especially interested in finding someone knowledgeable in writing grant proposals. For information call Penny Manning, 865-8619 or Ann Weinmann 392-9230. ▲

Hike With Bo!

The Snoqualmie Valley Trails Club is just like the Alps—it's a different place, "beyond" the neighboring and by no means desolate mountain range, the Cascades. The continued success of the IATC—make the trails by putting feet on them—had to be extended. And so it has been.

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. ▲

Issaquah Alps Trails Club Membership Application

P.O. Box 351, Issaquah, WA 98027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

☐ New ☐ Renewal

- ☐ Annual Regular Dues \$12
☐ Annual Contributing Dues \$22
☐ Lifetime Membership \$120
☐ Limited Income \$6

- ▲ All memberships cover the entire family.
 ▲ A regular annual family membership is \$12. This covers the cost of printing and mailing the Alpiner and a part of the club's overhead expenses.

▲ Contributing memberships at \$22 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 \$120 give us room to be creative and visionary, to venture forth on projects otherwise beyond our means and dreams.

☐ I would like to get involved with the club's activities. Please send me a volunteer questionnaire.

Issaquah Alps Trails Club 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!* \$10.00 (includes map listed below, tax and shipping)

▲ *Guide to Trails of Tiger Mountain—Revised!*

By Bill Longwell. 1995 revised edition. Updated trail information plus the new East Tiger Trail and new DNR trails. Plus encounters with animals. \$10.00 (includes map listed below, 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. \$12.00 (includes tax and shipping)

▲ *Eastside Family Hikes—NEW!*

By Peggy Barchi. 1995 revised and updated edition. Descriptions of family hikes (annotated for stroller use and picnicking) on the Eastside. \$3.00 (includes tax and shipping)

▲ *Tiger Mt. map*, 1995 revision, \$2.00 (includes tax and shipping)

▲ *Cougar Mt. map* \$2.00 (includes tax and shipping)

▲ *Tradition Lake map* Free with self-addressed stamped envelope.

▲ *T-Shirt: "Issaquah Alps Trails Club"* Specify size (S,M,L,XL,XXL) color (blue or white) and sleeve length. Short sleeve: \$13.00, long sleeve: \$17.00.

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

Issaquah Alps Trails Club
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