



Many Positive Achievements in 1995

Ken Konigsmark

IATC held a productive Annual Meeting on January 22, which included a summary of 1995 accomplishments, a finalization and approval of 1996 goals, and the votes to elect our current slate of Board members and Officers. New members on our Board include Chauncey Wenner, Brenda Running, and Bill McFerren, all of whom bring new energy and ideas to the club. Approval was also given for a membership dues increase, which no one wanted, but which was necessary for the club to remain solvent, as explained in a separate article.

As the Board looked back on accomplishments during 1995, it was almost surprising to recount all of the positive achievements, many of which were not necessarily IATC accomplishments, but all of which contributed to goals of the club. Other organizations, including the Mountains to Sound Greenway, the Department of Natural Resources, State Parks, King County, the City of Issaquah, and more all acted favorably on issues of importance to IATC. It becomes clearer all the time that collaborative partnerships and alliances with other entities are critical to accomplishing the goals of IATC. This is the direction we intend to move forward on in working on our 1996 goals.

Lastly, we had a good news-bad news issue arise. The bad news was that our long-time Alpiner editor, Sarah Young, opted to step down from these duties in order to focus more time on her important mothering duties. Sarah has been superb and dependable in creating a newsletter that we all have much appreciated. Luckily for us, Barbara Johnson, who has helped Sarah with the Alpiner, stepped forward to take over editorship duties. We expect that we'll continue to produce a high quality newsletter under Barbara's oversight, just as was done under Sarah's. We thank both of these loyal IATC members for their dedicated service!

Increase in IATC Membership Dues Approved.

~~After much review and discussion, a decision was reluctantly approved by the Board at the Annual Meeting to increase annual membership dues slightly.~~
"Limited income" memberships will remain unchanged at \$6/year; "regular memberships" will increase from \$12 to \$15/year; voluntary "contributing memberships" will increase from \$22 to \$25/year; and "Lifetime memberships" will increase from \$120 to \$200. While not large in scale, the Board still believed it important to explain to members why these increases are necessary.

IATC has always been borderline "broke" as a club; an almost intentional condition fostered by the conviction that the club's financial goal is not to "make money," but rather to generate sufficient funds to simply meet required expenses.

With that still serving as the guiding philosophy, a careful analysis of 1995 costs vs. revenues clearly showed that we had reached a point where the per member costs for basic services (Alpiner, insurance coverage, postage/PO Box, etc.) exceeded the per member costs for membership. In fact, revenues were over \$2000 short of costs in 1995. The biggest costs for the club are Alpiner publication, which requires \$7000/year, and liability insurance, at \$5000/year, which covers hike leaders and club officers if someone is injured on one of our free, guided hikes. Hiking is apparently viewed as a hazardous activity, so insurance costs are quite high.

In addition to a dues increase, the Board carefully scrutinized the 1996 budget, paring back wherever possible. We hope that members will understand the need for this and will still view a \$15 or \$25 donation for annual membership in IATC to be a valuable investment in helping to preserve and protect the trails and the environmental qualities of our treasured Issaquah Alps.

1995 Accomplishments...1996 Goals!

The IATC Board has made it a standard process at the Annual Meeting to identify club goals for the coming year, and to assess progress on the prior years goals. A report on these goals follows for your review:

1995 Accomplishments (highlights, but not all):

1. Key land acquisitions were made, adding public lands to Tiger Mountain and the connection between Tiger and Rattlesnake mountains. Acquired parcels include:
 - a. Lind property—130 acres at the Highway 18/I-90 interchange.,
 - b. Overbeck property—Highly visible 40-acre parcel adjacent to High Point and in the Tiger Mountain Natural Resources Conservation Area (NRCA)
 - c. Workman Property—20 visible acres upslope of the parking area at High Point,
 - d. Group One Expert Property—An eighty acre inholding within the Tiger Mountain NRCA, and straddling the Poo Poo Point trail. Could
 - e. Weyerhaeuser Real Estate—260 acres abutting the Snoqualmie Winery,
2. Title for Section 9 on Squak Mountain was officially transferred to State Parks, doubling the size of Squak Mountain State Park (see map)
3. A new public map for the Issaquah Alps area was created by DNR, State Parks, City of Issaquah, and King County, with help from IATC. (available at Issaquah Chamber of Commerce)
4. IATC joined an appeal of the proposed 1736 acre Manke development, a key connector parcel between Tiger Mountain and the Seattle Watershed.
5. IATC participated in the development of draft management plans for the Mt. Si NRCA and for the Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area Preserve.
6. IATC and its members supported efforts to stop Referendum 48 (the "takings" bill) and other potentially damaging initiatives for the environment.

1996 IATC Goals (a partial list by focus area):

1. Support efforts to carry out acquisition efforts for Cougar Mountain Wildland Park, as embodied in the Master Plan
2. Continue to support SLS opposition to Lakemont Boulevard

Chairman's Report

Harvey Manning

When Tim O'Brian was on the Issaquah City Council, and was the City's representative on the Puget Sound Council of Governments, he got the notion that one way to inform government officials of the regional significance—and regional opportunity—of the Issaquah Alps was to take them on a walk. He thus organized the "Great Big Public Officials Awareness Hike," modeled on Buz Moore's "Great Big Wilderness on the Metro 210 Hike" of 1977. Thus, on April 22, 1979, nigh onto a hundred representatives of Issaquah, Bellevue, Seattle, Mercer Island, Renton, King County, State of Washington, and US of A governments set out from downtown Issaquah for Tradition Lake, Poo Poo Point, Many Creek Valley, and West Tiger 3.

Turnaround destinations were the individual's choice. Some were very well content with what Tiger Mountain connoisseurs consider a candidate for the title of "Most Charming Spot" on the whole mountain, the place in lower Many Creek Valley where three of the many creeks flow close together before finally uniting. For several of the hikers, the day's final destination was the Rollin Log (Tavern). It was there and then that the Great Big Notion was born for what became the Issaquah Alps Trails Club. The group also agreed that the three-creek crossing in Many Creek would in time become a far-famed picnic walk for families throughout the region.

When Brain Boyle took office in 1981 as State Land Commissioner and almost immediately proclaimed a Tiger Mountain State Forest and traded Weyerhaeuser (mostly) off the mountain, we began studying other anomalies in Tiger ownership. One of these was an 80-acre tract which we found, to our chagrin, encompassed the Picnic Creeks!

I cannot tell you how much sweat and tears went into those 80 acres in following years. The owners, a partnership of local speculators who had acquired the land from Preston Mills or its successor, got a 5-acre residential zoning. However, faced by great difficulties of access and development, they were willing to sell. At a price. Mike Griggs, DNR (Washington State Department of Natural Resources) manger of our area, and his staff contributed an enormous portion of the sweat and tears trying to find a way to acquire the property using funds then available to the DNR. No luck. No funds—at least, not enough to give the speculators the profit they expected.

What happened? So suddenly it took my breath away, the problem that had been laying there festering more than a decade blew away. The means was funding by the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. That program didn't exist when Mike & Company were spinning their wheels.

A number of other things didn't exist back there in 1979. The Issaquah Alps Trails Club came along in weeks following that rest stop at the Rollin Log. Brain Boyle in 1980...the Mountains-to-Sound Greenway...

Not to run down the roster of all the government and private programs and groups which played important roles, and to cut to the chase, Doug McClelland, King District Manager of the DNR, has announced that the 80 acres of the Picnic Spot in lower Many Creek Valley, on the trail to the West Tiger Railroad and Poo Poo Point, have been added to the West Tiger Natural Resources Conservation Area.

The demands upon government agencies are many, and the funds available for wanted programs are not. A decade ago, when King County Executive Randy Revelle signed the ordinance creating the Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park, it was widely declared, both by those who had opposed creation of the park and by those who had other fine projects in need of funds, that "enough is enough" on Cougar Mountain.

Fortunately, though we have not since Randy Revelle had a King County Executive who assigned Cougar a high priority, there have been people both in King County Parks and on the King County Council who understood that the park was not yet complete, urgently required additions to round out a viable and defensible Wildland ecosystem.

Happy to say, the park continues to have friends in high (enough) places. The 1996 capital budget adopted by the King County Council has funds to address three "edge effects" that have been agonizing.

See **Chairman's**, page 3

The Apparatus

President: Ken Konigsmark • 222-4839
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Alpiner: Barbara Johnson • 746-5573
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Cougar Advocates: Harvey Manning • 746-1017 and Ralph Owen • 746-1070
Squak Advocate: Ken Konigsmark • 222-4839
Tiger Advocates: Larry Hanson • 392-2458 and Ken Konigsmark • 222-4839
Grand Ridge Advocate: Melinda Livingstone • 392-7455
Raging River and Preston Advocate: Maryanne Tagney Jones • 222-7615
Rattlesnake Mtn. and Taylor Mtn. Advocates: Ted Thomsen • 454-8643/Ralph Owen • 746-1070
Chief Ranger: Bill Longwell • 222-6775
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Return to Newcastle

King County Parks will sponsor "Return to Newcastle," our annual celebration of local history, parks, and open space on Sunday, June 2 from 10 am to 5 pm. The event is held in the Newcastle area of Cougar Mountain, near the Red Town Trailhead—follow the signs from Newport Way and 150th.

Historical photos will be on display along with Natural History exhibits. King County will arrange musical entertainment, good food will be on sale, and the Trails Club will be conducting history walks and hikes. Trails Club books and maps will be on sale. Parking is \$3. Dress for the outdoors. See you there!

For up-to-date information as well as info on other Cougar hikes, call King County Parks at 296-4214.

From **Chairman's**, Page 2

Let me say, here, that the park is very nearly at its ultimate maximum size. A substantial addition is needed to bring the park down the east slope, along the canyons of West Fork Tibbetts Creek and Claypit Creek, to SR 900, for the wildlife corridor connection across to Squak Mountain. The major hot spot at present is in the new city of Newcastle, where golf course and condominiums threaten China Summit, the Wildside Trail, and the whole of the Curious valley of Coal Creek—more of this later (much more).

However, mostly the “finishing up” agenda is a number of minor tidyings, the acreages and the costs small, but the lands crucial to preservation of certain wildlands.

Good News #1: The Military Trail

The trail from Coal Creek-Red Town following the historic Military Road up to the Claypit Road lies right on the edge of the park. Quadrant (a division of Weyerhaeuser) has agreed to an installment-plan purchase of properties which would have, had development plans proceeded, put houses and lawns and barking dogs right next to the Military Trail. Done deal, Huzzah!

Good News #2: The Far Country

Quadrant development is proceeding up Far Country Creek and would, eventually, reach the headwaters and intrude into the seclusion of the Far Country basin. Agreement has been reached by which Quadrant will sell the small number of lots required to keep the sights of suburbia out of the basin, out of the view from Far Country Lookout. Another done deal, hip hip!

Good News (we hope) #3: The Finkbeiner Salient

The City of Bellevue, whose planners think they dwell in the world immortalized by the sci-fi fantasy novel, *Flatland*, a two-dimensional world, every point at the same elevation, has approved a residential development on Radio Peak to an elevation just under 1400 feet. This will be the highest tract development in King County—but that's a scandal to be exposed in the future, when the Bellevue Council hears there is a third dimension to its world.

Our present concern is that Mr. Finkbeiner's development as proposed would slop over the crest of Radio Peak and put houses and cars and lawnmowers and boom boxes overlooking the sanctum of the Klondike Basin, thus removing the entire headwaters area of Coal Creek, ringed by Radio Peak, Anti-Aircraft Peak, and AA Ridge, from wildland.

The Bellevue Council sees nothing wrong with this, and doesn't ask its excellent Parks Department for an opinion. However, the County Council has heard the opinion of its Parks Department (and the Trails Club) and has appropriated funds for purchase of the several crucial ridge-top lots. The owner is willing to sell if the price is right, appraisals are in process, negotiations to follow, and at the end, either a clanging of happy bells and throngs cheering in the streets, or...Watch this space.▲

IATC ANNUAL BANQUET SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 12!

The IATC Annual Potluck Banquet has been scheduled for 6:00-8:30 PM, Friday, April 12, and will again be held at the Preston Community Center. Please mark your calendar now, as we do not plan on sending out a special mailing for the event.

All members are encouraged to attend this fun and informative event, and to bring a dish to share as follows (first letter of last name):

- A-D (desserts)
- E-H (hors d' oeuvres)
- I-N (main dish/casserole)
- N-R (pasta/rice salad) S-Z (vegetable/fruit salad)

Please bring your own place settings as well. The program will include a presentation on the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley planning process, an update on Issaquah Alps issues, and a review of some members favorite hikes.

DIRECTIONS: Take I-90 to Exit 22 (Preston). Cross over I-90 to the north, then turn right (east) towards Preston, going past the mini-mall on the right. About 1/2 mile from I-90, on the left and directly across from the old Preston Mill site, sits the Community Center (a large rock and log structure). ▲

Environmental Education at Tiger Mountain—Your Ideas Are Needed!

By Deborah Martensen Gurney, Environmental Education Specialist, DNR

West Tiger Mountain Natural Resources Conservation Area offers many opportunities to educators of all kinds. Currently, it is estimated that 70 school groups each year use the 4,400-acre conservation area as an outdoor classroom without the benefit of any curricula or materials.

Now that a number of new interpretive signs have been installed at Round the Lake Trail and Big Tree Trail, we are taking a comprehensive look at educational opportunities at West Tiger. Toward that end, Deborah Martensen Gurney, an Environmental Education Specialist with the Washington DNR, will be developing an education plan for West Tiger Mountain Natural Resources Conservation Area. The plan will consist of two developmental phases: Phase I—Educators, community members, user groups, schools, agencies and others will be invited to help determine what the outdoor educational needs are for the region.

Phase II—Once the needs of the region are identified, potential educational opportunities on West Tiger Mountain Conservation Area will be inventoried. Educational themes will be identified and materials and curricula will be developed with educators for use at West Tiger.

This plan will help us be more effective in using the wonderful educational resources at West Tiger. If you would like to be involved, please contact Deborah at (206) 888-1566. Your ideas are appreciated! ▲

TRAILS FEST 96 Coming April 13!

Washington Trails Association is sponsoring a free Trailsfest 96 celebration on April 13, from 9:00-6:00 PM at the Mountaineers Clubhouse (300-3rd Ave West, Seattle, near Seattle Center). The event is held to celebrate, increase awareness, and advocate for trails and the outdoors. There will be numerous booths, including an IATC booth, food, activities, workshops, music, demonstrations, and other fun events scheduled. Various trails clubs, outdoor retailers, arts and crafts, clothing, and other participants will have booths with free information and items for sale. Clinics on backpacking, camping, outdoor safety, rock climbing, and other activities are planned. Trailsfest 96 promises to offer a great opportunity to learn about trails, clubs, and outdoor opportunities, while also providing educational classes and demos on techniques that may be very beneficial to hikers. Break out of the winter doldrums by attending Trailsfest 96, and get prepped for the upcoming hiking season. ▲

News From the Trails Coordinator

Margaret Macleod

As usual it has been a busy time in the Issaquah Alps (Never a dull moment!). Probably one of the biggest achievements for the preservation of flora and fauna in the Issaquah Alps is that in December 1995, Jennifer Belcher, Commissioner of Public Lands, approved the West Tiger Mountain Natural Resources Conservation Area Management Plan. The process to final approval was long but, as we all know, well worth the effort. Now begins the task of implementing the management goals and objectives of the plan to ensure protection of habitat values and provision of low impact recreational opportunities.

Several of the identified objectives include enhancement projects in the wetland areas of the NRCA. We have received permit approval from the City of Issaquah for the Round Lake Enhancement Project. The project includes removal of exotic plants; revegetation with native species; construction of fencing and a viewing area, including benches, to reduce recreational impacts to the lake and to better protect wildlife habitat values, and obscuring of "social" trails that surround and lead to the lake. We had hoped to begin construction on the project in February, but due to adverse weather conditions, the project has been delayed.

Another item of great significance for the West Tiger Mountain NRCA is the acquisition of the Group Expert 1 property by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The Group Expert 1 property is an eighty acre piece of land located below Poo Poo Point and above the Issaquah-Hobart Road approximately one mile south of Issaquah. The property includes a large portion of the "Many Creeks Valley" watershed which drains directly into the main stem of Issaquah Creek. Thus addition of the property into the NRCA provides additional protection to the Issaquah Creek Basin.

The DNR is also working cooperatively with the City of Issaquah in constructing the High Point Trailhead parking area. Susan Combs-Bauer has been working very hard on putting the entire project together. Susan submitted the project plans including the State Environmental Policy Act, building, and grading and clearing permit applications to the city for review and approval. Staff of both agencies worked together to find the least environmentally damaging location for the parking area and finally determined that locating the parking area under the Puget Power transmission corridor would be within the parameters set by both agencies. We look forward to having the parking area completed by June 30 of this year.

And speaking of trailhead parking facilities, the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission is proposing a trailhead facility for Squak Mountain State Park as identified in the Issaquah Alps Wildlife and Recreational Trails Plan. The proposed trailhead will be located off of May Valley Road adjacent to the Squak Mountain South Access Road. The trailhead facility will include the following: twenty five parking spaces for cars and six pull-through parking stalls that will be able to accommodate horse trailers; hitching rails plus a loading/unloading horse bay, comfort station including a public pay telephone, trash receptacles, and an interpretive/information board. Construction of this trailhead facility is anticipated for late summer 1996.

Additionally a new trails map has been published by the King County Park System and REI. The name of the maps is "A Trail for...Every Season—King County Regional Trails Map." This is the first regional trails access map for western King County published by the park system. The cost of the map is \$1.00 and is available at REI stores. It's a great little map which shows the paved and unpaved regional trails throughout the county.

King County has also applied for Intermodal Surface transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA)-Enhancement Program grant monies toward the acquisition of the "Preston Mill" site. The project site is located on the north side of Interstate 90 in the community of Preston. Acquisition of the site is important in order to protect and preserve the scenic viewshed from I-90 which is a designated State Scenic and Recreational Highway and proposed National Scenic Byway (Mountains to Sound Greenway); provide critical connections to regional multiple-use trails; provide public access opportunities to historic railroad routes; provide connections to the Metro public transportation system ("Wilderness on the Metro"), and provide protection of approximately 2600 linear feet of the Raging River aquatic and riparian corridor. The application will go to the Puget Sound Regional Council for review and recommendation to the state's Enhancement Advisory Committee which in turn will select the projects that are to be funded.

Last but not least, the City of Issaquah has recently completed the Rainier Boulevard Multiple-use Urban Trail extension from Bush Street south to Second Avenue. The trail is generally a twelve-foot wide concrete corridor that follows the former railroad grade and will provide an all-weather surface for neighborhood residents, school children, and others who wish to access the Tiger Mountain trails from downtown Issaquah. Project plans for the reconstruction of the Station Master's House have been approved by the city planning and building departments. It is anticipated that construction of the replacement structure will start this spring. The urban trail and Station Master's house project was funded by an ISTEA grant and city matching funds. It will be exciting when the Station Master's house is completed and we will have a downtown trailhead/interpretive facility and a place for recreational trail users to meet.

Until we "meet" again, Happy Trails to all! ▲

Woman Walk III

Now in its third year, WomanWalk will kick off the first of its series of '96 hikes on Saturday, May 4, 1-4 pm. This half-day celebration is co-sponsored by Issaquah Alps Trails Club and Issaquah Parks and Recreation. It's a wonderful opportunity for woman of all ages to explore nature and wilderness in a manner suitable to each individual. The three-hour event involves a variety of "leaders" who will share what they each enjoy about walking/hiking and nature. Women are encouraged to participate at their own comfort level (very easy to moderate) and discover what they most enjoy about the out-of-doors. Participants will carpool to the Lake Tradition Trailhead, just off of I-90, about a mile east of Issaquah. After a brief orientation at the Interpretive Center, participants will break into small groups to explore. Individuals are to wear clothing appropriate to the weather, supportive shoes/boots, and bring water and a snack. The event will conclude with a 4 pm return to City Hall South parking lot.

WomanWalk will continue through the hiking season with monthly hikes held on the first Saturday of each month, again meeting at City Hall South, starting at 9:30. Please call Marilyn Moon at 392-1732 or Margaret Macleod at 557-3227 for particular hike information or if you would like to lead a hike yourself. ▲

Issaquah Alps Trails Club Hikes and Events

APRIL

Saturday April 6

Tradition Plateau human and natural history

2A 10:00 am

Dave Kappler 392-3571

Tuesday April 9

East Tiger via Tiger Mtn. Road; good views

3C 9 mi. 1650 ft. gain

9:00 am Eva Black 646-9558

Thursday April 11

Lake Tradition

2A 9:30 am

Al Blalock 746-4155

Saturday April 13

Tiger Mountain South flower hike.

2A 9:00 am

Bill Longwell 222-6775

Tiger Mt. Caves

2B 1:00 pm 4 mi. 700 ft. gain

Bob Gross 631-4733

Sunday April 14

Squak Mtn. trail cleanup

on popular trails.

3C 8:30 am

Joe Toynbee 723-6716

Monday April 15

Rattlesnake Ledge and Cedar Butte

3C 9:00 am

Peggy Owen 746-1070

Thursday April 18

West Tiger III

2C about 6 mi. 2100 ft. gain

9:00 am Alexandra Pye 935-8510

High Point RR grade/Family Hike

1A 10:00 am

Peggy Barchi 432-5446

Saturday April 20

Tradition and Nook Loop

2B 9:00 am

Trudy Ecob 232-2933

Sunday April 21

Peak and a half: Cougar Mt.

Park to Issaquah via Squak

3C 10 mi. 2500 ft. gain

8:30 am Ralph Owen 746-1070

Marshes of Lake Tradition Plateau 2B 1:00 pm

Steve Cavit 271-7780

Monday April 22

IATC BOARD MEETING

7:00 pm Fire District 10

Hdqtrs—Newport Way

Thursday April 25

S. Tiger Mtn. Trail

2B 9:00 am

Susan Krabbe 313-1131

Sunday April 28

Trace President Rutherford

Hayes route via Seattle/Walla

Walla RR; 2A 9:00 am

Bert Drui 746-0709

Tuesday April 30

Poo Poo Pt. Bring boots.

3C 7.5 mi. 1900 ft. gain

8:00 am Barb Halverson 255-4642

MAY

Thursday May 2

S. Tiger Mtn. Trail

2B 9:00 am

Susan Krabbe 313-1131

Saturday May 4

Cougar Mt. North Village

2B 5 mi. 1000 ft. gain

10:00 am Ralph Owen 746-1070

Women's Hike*

See *Alpiner Article*

Info— call Marilyn Moon 392-1732

Sunday May 5

Lake Tradition Plateau

2A 5 mi. 400 ft. gain

1:00 pm Bob Gross 631-4733

Tuesday May 7

Twin Falls

2B 9:30 am

Al Blalock 746-4155

Friday May 10

Preston Trail Flowers

1A slow to no pace

6:30 pm Bill Longwell 222-6775

Saturday May 11

Tradition Plateau

Plants especially shrubs

2A 10:00 am

Dave Kappler 392-3571

Sunday May 12

West Tiger RR Grade;

longest low trail on Tiger

3C 8:30 am

Joe Toynbee 723-6716

Thursday May 16

Lake Tradition/Round Lake Family Hike

1A 10:00 am

Peggy Barchi 432-5446

Friday May 17

Echo Mt./Lake Desire

FLOWERS!

2B 9:30 am

Betty Culbert 432-7387

Saturday May 18

Cougar Trails: AA Park

to Fantastic Erratic

2B 10:00 am

Ann Leber

Sunday May 19

Improved West Tiger Caves

3C 9:00 am

Bert Drui 746-0709

Monday May 20

Cougar Mt. Wilderness

Loop and more!

2C 9:00 am

Mary Cadigan 641-4046

Saturday May 25

Little Si 2C

5 mi. 1100 ft. gain

1:00 pm Bob Gross 631-4733

Sunday May 26

Cougar, China Summit

"Farewell" Hike

2B 9:00 am

Bill McFerren 641-1853

Monday May 27

BOARD MEETING

Cancelled

JUNE

Saturday June 1

Women's Hike*

See *Alpiner Article*

Info. Call Marilyn Moon 392-1732

Sunday June 2

RETURN TO NEWCASTLE!

10 am to 5 pm

See *Alpiner Article*

Monday June 3

Squak Mt. perimeter trail

to Bullitt Fireplace

2C 9:00 am

Mary Cadigan 641-4046

Thursday June 6

Lake Tradition Plateau

2A 9:30 am

Al Blalock 746-4155

Kelsey Creek Park/Family Hike

1A 10:00 am

Peggy Barchi 432-5446

Saturday June 8

Cougar views

3A 9:30 am

Ann Leber

Poo Poo Point

2C 7 mi. 1700 ft 1:00 pm

Bob Gross 631-4733

Sunday June 9

Six Peaks of Tiger

4D 16 mi. 4000 ft. gain

8:30 am Ralph Owen 746-1070

Friday June 14

Lake Tradition Bird Walk

1A 6:30 pm

Bill Longwell 222-6775

Saturday June 15

West Tibbets Gorge

2B 9:00 am

Dave Kappler 392-3571

Sunday June 16

Nike Sites and

other artifacts.

3C 9:00 am

Bert Drui 746-0709

Friday June 21

Poo Poo Pt. via Yah-er Wall

4 mi. 1900 ft. gain; steep trail!

2C 10:00 am

Warren Jones 888-0262

Saturday June 22

Tradition and Nook Loop

2B 9:00 am

Trudy Ecob 232-2933

Sunday June 23

Squak Mtn, Rainier View

3C 9:00 am

Bill McFerren 641-1853

Monday June 24

IATC BOARD MEETING

7:00 pm Fire District 10 Hdqtrs

Newport Way

Tuesday June 25

Twin Falls

2B 9:30 am

Al Blalock 746-4155

Saturday June 29

West Tiger III via

Section Line Trail

4C 9:00 am

Janis Stiewing 868-7188

Sunday June 30

Marshall Hill/Coal Cr. Falls

2B 9:30 am

Ann Leber

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. ▲

Trail Maintenance 101

Marilyn Moon

In the last *Alpiner*, you were promised more information on a beginner trail maintenance workshop we'd be offering with Volunteers of Washington. Well, we hopped on to a "moving train" of sorts, by joining in on the training VOW had already scheduled for Saturday, March 9. That date was too late for this *Alpiner*. Just so you know, approximately 3 dozen IATC members, who have expressed a specific interest in trail maintenance in the past, were individually contacted and invited to participate. The cost of \$15 per person is being underwritten by Department of Natural Resources, so the cost to IATC was free!

If trail maintenance is something you've wanted to become involved in, but haven't had a chance until now, please phone Marilyn Moon at 392-1732. Another workshop will be scheduled at a future date just for you! ▲

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.

"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. ▲

Welcome, New Board Members!

Three very talented individuals have come "on board" to serve in IATC. A little background information on each may help you get to know them and learn what they're up to: **Bill McFerren:** Bill, a dedicated member of the Club since 1991, is a Bellevue resident with a fascinating variety of interests. He says, "I love to hike; I hate to cook!" He enjoys hiking and canoeing, plays guitar and writes songs, and enjoys history. He and a buddy of his are creating a mysterious Cable Access channel program, and 8-part series, called "IT IS REAL" that may air in March. Bill's favorite trail is a new trail on Squak Mountain that goes around the south side of the mountain along a cliff, spouting a great view of Mt. Rainier! Bill would like to see IATC have a strong voice in preservation of the Military Road Trail in the Cougar Mountain Wildland Park.

Brenda Running: Twenty years a resident of Maple Valley, Brenda is a married, stay-at-home mom of two boys, ages 2 and 4. She's interested in Pacific Northwest native plants and has recently been accepted into the Native Plant Stewardship Program through King County Extension Service. Brenda has also been volunteering this past year on the IATC Hotline. Her interests include gardening, hiking, and camping. Brenda would like to have IATC be known in the community as an organization where people really want to become involved in all aspects of the Club's activities, in addition to hiking.

Chauncy Wenner: Long hours hiking and running on Tiger Mountain coupled with the disappointment of living in Southern California for nearly five years prodded me to get involved. In 1991, I moved to Costa Mesa for a job. Within a year, it became clear to me that Orange County was destined to match the dense urbanization that plagued LA County. It broke my heart.

After over a year of hiking on Tiger Mountain nearly every weekend, I decided I wanted to be an active part of an organization that has had a big influence on preserving a lot of land in our communities. So here I am. I am looking forward to learning from, and helping the more seasoned members of the board and club in meeting our objectives for the next year.

Vice-president's Note: Remember. IATC Board meetings are open to all members. Come introduce yourself and see what goes on. Meetings are held the fourth Monday of each month, 7-9 p.m., in Issaquah. As our clubhouse is being rebuilt later this year, our monthly meeting spot changes from month to month. Please call Marilyn Moon at 392-1732 for the specific location. ▲

1995 Trail Maintenance Efforts 152 Days and 940 Hours!

Led by IATC's primary trail maintainers: Bill Longwell, Joe Tomlin, Ralph Owen, Debbie Ansel, and Ken Hopping, 24 total volunteers racked up an impressive list of trail maintenance accomplishments in 1995. 940 total hours were expended on trail maintenance, spread across 152 calendar days of work, including rainy, sunny and cold days.

In addition to all trail work, many agencies benefited from these limited services including DNR, State Parks, King County, the Seattle Watershed Council, Issaquah, and the Forest Service. With limited or no funding available for trail maintenance in agency budgets, these volunteer efforts are crucial to keeping trails open and safe for users. Efforts included extensive protection bridge construction on the Tiger Mountain Trail, clearing of fallen logs across many trails, brushing of trails, drainage work and waterbars, and rebuilding of switchbacks. Want to help with these efforts in 1996? Send a note to our PO Box or call the Hotline if interested.

What's Happening on Rattlesnake Mountain?—A Planning Update

Malin Ely, Graduate Student, UW College of Forest Resources

The Washington Department of Natural Resources, King County and the University of Washington are currently working on the first draft of the management plan for the Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area. Using an environmental inventory and input from the public, the agencies plan to have the draft plan available to the public in mid-April. IATC members Ted Thomsen, Ralph Owen, and Ken Konigsmark have contributed valuable ideas and comments throughout the planning process. The plan will address natural resource protection and public use in the present boundaries of the Scenic Area which include the steep rocky slopes west of North Bend. Topics such as improved public access, designation of trail connections and wildlife corridors, protection of scenic viewpoints on the mountain, preservation of wildlife snag-rich areas and riparian zones, enhancement of vegetation and wildlife diversity and other management issues will be included in the plan. The plan will also examine these issues for the greater Rattlesnake Mountain area in anticipation of additional public acquisitions as part of the Mountains to Sound Greenway initiative. A public informational meeting to present the plan and discuss comments and additional ideas will be held in late April. A public mailing will be sent out from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) mailing list announcing the date of the public meeting. If you would like to be added to the mailing list or have questions or comments, please call Malin Ely or Darcy McNamara, Conservation Planner at the DNR Conservation phone line at 888-1566.

Irving Petite and Mr. B.

Bill Longwell

I'm looking at the cover of a book I've owned for at least 15 years. On the cover picture, a bear cub and a Cocker Spaniel snuggle together and prepare themselves for a night's sleep. The dog is "Stella" and the bear cub is "Mr. B."

One of Tiger's early residents (he moved to Republic, Washington in 1984) was Irving Petite, former merchant seaman, former mailman turned naturalist writer.

Irving Petite homesteaded a stump ranch along the banks of Fifteen Mile Creek and roamed all of Tiger's south side. He was the first to rediscover the long-lost and fabled curved railroad trestle of upper Fifteen Mile Creek. He found many logging artifacts from the days of the original Tiger railroad loggers.

While he lived on his 165-acre ranch on Tiger, Irving Petite wrote numerous articles for national magazines and at least four books with Tiger as the backdrop: *The Elderberry Tree*, *Life on Tiger Mountain*, and *The Best Time of the Year* were three.

However, *Mr. B.* his all-time most famous book, chronicled the antics of an orphaned bear cub that valiantly tried to enter Irving Petite's family of people, dogs, cattle, chickens and goats. *Mr. B.* became a national best seller in the early 1960s.

The pictures alone tell the story of this bear that charmed all life that came into contact with him. *Almost* all life.

If you want to know about the Tiger before trails and people, before developments and clearcuts, when life was more harmonious than today, read all these books. but be sure to read the unforgettable and gratifying story of that little bear, *Mr. B.*

Buy a copy. ▲

From **Goals**, page 1

3. Support efforts to preserve Cougar park access from Newport Way (Exit 13). Complete Lewis Creek and Peggy's Trail and access route to Cougar park
4. Support acquisition of the Gunn property for Cougar trailhead
5. Complete the 1996 planting plan for the IATC Meadow Restoration project (**Editor's Note:** Penning Manning just received a \$2500 grant for "The Meadow.")

Squak Mountain:

1. Monitor/favorably influence management planning for Sections 9 and 5
2. Support acquisition of Sunset Quarry as a Squak-Cougar trailhead; also M & H and Santana properties

Tiger Mountain:

1. Support expansion of Tiger Mountain State Forest and acquisition of Section 12, Schroeder
2. Support and supplement DNR trail maintenance, management, and enforcement efforts

Grand Ridge:

1. Participate in planning of the trail system in Grand Ridge open space

Issaquah:

1. Monitor development planning to protect IATC interests (Park Pointe, E. Cougar, others)
2. Maintain close ties with City Trails Coordinator. Assist and advise, as appropriate to support implementation of the Issaquah Wildlife and Trails Plan

Raging River/Preston:

1. Support public acquisition of the Preston Mill Site and Parcel B
2. Monitor/support development appeals for the industrial park and the Mill Site

Rattlesnake/Taylor:

1. Monitor/favorably influence final management planning for Rattlesnake Mountain
2. Support establishment of a public connection between Tiger and Rattlesnake Ridge

As can be seen, IATC has an extremely aggressive and broad list of goals for 1996. We hope you'll support these efforts as the year progresses.

(Editor's Note: If you would like a complete listing of IATC 1996 Goals, please send a SASE to P.O. Box 351, Issaquah, WA 98027. ATTN: 1996 Goals)

Issaquah Alps Trails Club Membership Application

P.O. Box 351, Issaquah, WA 98027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ ☐ New ☐ Renewal

- ☐ Annual Regular Dues \$15
☐ Annual Contributing Dues \$25
☐ Lifetime Membership \$200
☐ Limited Income \$6

- ▲ All memberships cover the entire family.
 ▲ A regular annual family membership is \$15. This covers the cost of printing and mailing the Alpiner and a part of the club's overhead expenses.

▲ Contributing memberships at \$25 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 \$200 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

▲ *The Flowering of the Issaquah Alps*—Revised!

By Fred and Ann Weinmann and Harvey Manning. 1996 updated edition. This new edition lists trees, shrubs, ferns and flowers found in the Issaquah Alps. Flowers are listed by color, season when flowering, and where many of the plants can be found. \$9.00 (includes shipping and handling)

▲ *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*

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*

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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