

STUFF ON HIKES MOUNTAIN
Newsletter of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club

THE ALPINE



April ▲ May ▲ June ▲ 1997

Cougar ▲ Squak ▲ Tiger ▲ Grand Ridge

The Tiger Mountain Trail—A Twenty-five Year History

Bill Longwell

May 10, 1997 marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the *conception* of the Tiger Mountain Trail. Our club, which in some measure owes its existence to the building of the TMT, plans to celebrate that Saturday, May 10, with a variety of hikes. Let's fill the TMT with IATC members on that fine day.

The TMT did not just suddenly appear on the various slopes of Tiger Mountain. Enormous work went into its creation before trail workers moved the first pile of earth or sawed the first tree from the route. Many dedicated trail advocates tended to the TMT from its conception to its present form.

On Wednesday, May 10, 1972, fourteen Seattle Mountaineers met in Ruth Ittner's apartment to discuss the possibility of locating a trail on Tiger Mountain. Mountaineers had hiked on Tiger from at least 1947, had already completed what is called the "middle aged" trail on Mount Si and wanted a similar trail on Tiger. Few, if any of the fourteen, had hiked on Tiger.

Attending the meeting was George Ambrose, a truly legendary Mountaineer who introduced many hikers to the Issaquah Alps and perhaps, more than anyone else, knew the terrain. Two officials from the Department of Natural Resources came; DNR owned and managed about half of Tiger—Weyerhaeuser owned most of the other half. The rest of the group came mostly from the Mountaineer Trails Coordinating Committee, ably chaired by Ruth Ittner.

Ruth Ittner? Over the years Ruth was the inspiration behind the Mountaineer's Mount Si trail, the TMT and currently the Iron Goat Rail near Stevens Pass. She is much more than that. According to our Harvey Manning, "Ruth ...is long since our patron saint of the trails. She has been distinguished over the past...years by major accomplish-

See 25th Anniversary, page 12

IATC Potluck Set for April 25th!

Mark your calendars for the Annual IATC Potluck, which will be held on Friday, April 25th, from 6:00 to 8:30 at the Preston Community Center, located a half mile north of I-90 Exit 22 across from the Preston Mill. As always, good food, fun, and entertaining presentations are planned.

Please bring your own place settings and a dish to share as follows (based on first letter of your last name: A-D (desserts), E-H (hors d'oeuvres), I-N (main dish/casserole), N-R (pasta/rice salad), and S-Z (vegetable/fruit salad). See you on April 25th!

Meet New Board Member - Christina Jackson

Christina Jackson grew up in the Green Mountains of Vermont and has been alongtime member of the Green Mountain Club. She has lived and worked in the mountains of Vermont, Wyoming, and Alaska. She loves to hike with a medicinal plant book at hand.

Christina moved to Issaquah with her partner Dan in 1995. She has a private practice in Acupuncture and Chinese Herbal Medicine in Issaquah. She became active in the IATC to learn more about the open space issues that face us in our community and to work to preserve the mountains that define our community. ▲

IATC Receives Grant From REI Marilyn Moon

At the end of 1996, a \$500 Community Recreation grant was awarded to IATC to "improve opportunities for outdoor muscle-powered recreation" in the Lake Tradition area of Tiger Mountain. Long-time leader of Issaquah Alps' trail maintenance effort, Bill Longwell, gladly accepted the funds for expenditure on saws, loppers, and other tools used to clear trails. In the first 3 weeks of this January alone, over 200 man hours have been devoted by the IATC team to clear trails in the area.

IATC Board is most appreciative of REI's support to keep trails open and clear for hikers! AND THANKS TO OUR TRAIL MAINTENANCE CREW FOR ALL THEIR EFFORT! ▲

The Apparatus

President: Ken Konigsmark • 222-4839
VP, Operations: Marilyn Moon • 392-1732
VP, Advocacy: Todd Hausmann • 557-1023
Treasurer: Christina Jackson • 837-1407
Secretary: Pam Wallenstein • 392-7813
Board of Directors:
Harvey Manning, Chairman • 746-1017
Todd Hausmann • 557-1023
Ted Thomsen • 454-8643
Brenda Running • 432-2038
Chauncey Wenner • 313-0577
George Comstock • 392-7249
Ken Konigsmark • 222-4839
Christina Jackson • 837-1407
Bill Longwell • 222-6775
Melinda Livingstone • 392-7455
Hikes Coordinators: Fred and Ann Weinmann • 392-9230
Volunteer Coordinator: Open
Membership Records: Connie Hinton • 391-6830
Special Events: Open
Book Sales/Distribution: Marty Hanson • 392-2458
Alpiner: Barbara Johnson •
Issaquah Advocate: George Comstock • 392-8929
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/Trail Maintenance: Bill Longwell • 222-6775/Todd Hausmann • 557-1023
MTS Greenway: Ted Thomsen • 454-8643
Legal Advice: Tom Lucas

Hotline: 328-0480

Web site: www.scn.org/ip/iatc/about.htm

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Articles are welcome. Preferably on diskette or e-mail: redtlhawk@aol.com. Send diskette or hard copy to P.O. Box number above. Deadlines: Nov 15 for Winter issue; Feb 15 for Spring; May 15 for Summer; Sep 15 for Fall issue.

A Look Back, and A Look Ahead

Ken Konigsmark

IATC held its 1997 Annual Meeting on January 27, with 30 members in attendance. The group reviewed 1996 accomplishments as well as priorities and goals for 1997. Looking back, most were in awe at the important impact a group of concerned citizen volunteers really can make. Looking ahead, it was equally obvious that the dedicated efforts of club members will continue to be needed in the year ahead. A quick review of just some of the 1996 accomplishments and 1997 goals follows:

1996 Accomplishments:

- 1277 hours of volunteer trail maintenance effort was contributed by 21 IATC members, leading to a \$500 grant from REI.
- 192 free, guided hikes were offered that involved 1,000 participants.
- The Cougar Mountain Meadow Restoration progressed and received a \$7000 grant.
- Acquisition funds for Sunset Quarry were allocated by King County; 70 acres of the site will soon be acquired and another 50 acres will begin being restored by Pacific Topsoils.
- IATC led compromise efforts on property abutting Squak Mountain State Park to protect open space and trail access.
- Supported victory of Initiative 655 which now bans bear baiting and hound hunting.
- Planned and supported the King County Open Space Bond which failed to achieve a 60% majority vote.
- Participated in planning for Issaquah's Comprehensive Plan (20-year growth plan).
- Worked with Intracorp to define a win-win development plan for East Cougar that will dedicate 250-acres as public open space, if implemented.
- Participated in the creation of new management plans for Mt. Si and Rattlesnake Mountain Conservation Areas.
- Created a new Alpiner format which saves IATC funds.
- Initiated a planning process for Grand Ridge open space with King County Parks.
- Supported new trailheads underway on Tiger and Squak (May Valley), and creation of the Issaquah Trailhead

Center (across from Issaquah's Community Center).

- Supported acquisition of the historic Preston Mill, now funded by King County.
- Successfully hosted Special Events: Salmon Days booth, Return to Newcastle, and Annual Potluck.

1997 Goals (by area):

Cougar Mountain:

1. Support efforts to carry out acquisition efforts for Cougar Mountain Wildland Park.
2. Participate in planning for E. Cougar development; secure large public open space.
3. Continue to support SLS opposition to Lakemont Blvd.
4. Support efforts to secure Cougar park access from Newport Way (Exit 13).
5. Continue sponsorship of the IATC Meadow Restoration project.

Squak Mountain:

1. Participate in/favorably influence management planning for Squak Mountain State Park.
2. Ensure final acquisition of Sunset Quarry.
3. Lead efforts for a compromise resolution on M&H property.
4. Promote State Park's completion of a May Valley trailhead in 1997.
5. Explore opportunities for a direct access up E. Squak from downtown Issaquah.

Tiger Mountain:

1. Support expansion acquisition of Section 12 and the Schroeder property.
2. Support and supplement DNR trail maintenance, management, and enforcement efforts.
3. Promote DNR completion of new trailheads at High Point and Tiger summit in 1997.

Grand Ridge:

1. Take the lead in planning for the trail system in Grand Ridge open space.
2. Push for completing King County Park trail connections

Cougar Mountain, 18 Years Later

Harvey Manning

The Trails Club ends its 18th year with good news, bad news, and middling. First, the good.

The west end of the Military Road is ours! (Trumpets and kettle drums.) December 29, 1995, the King County Office of Open Space paid Quadrant \$300,000 for 27 acres of its proposed Cougar Ridge development. If this news seems a little old to qualify as "hot," that's because the esteemed Office, headed by a holdover appointee of the late and unlamented County Executive Zero, does not talk to us. We weren't told until we asked Councilman Larry Phillips. His letter to us of January 16, 1997 supplied the information he'd pried loose. An option on the development's other 33 acres extends to September 30, 1998, and Larry is working on the funding (\$675,000).

The Finkbeiner Salient is ours! (Bagpipes and Celtic yowling.) That Office says it "acquired the 48-acre Finkbeiner parcel on October 1, 1996 for \$750,000." Surely, the Office meant to say "4 acres," the portion of the parcel that extends across the crest of Radio Peak and threatened to molest the sanctity of Klondike Basin. Again, Larry's letter of January 16 was our first word.

The exit of Far Country Creek from Far Country Basin is ours! (Banjos and a 36-gun salute.) Five building lots (about 4 acres) of Quadrant's Licorice Fern II development would have pushed through the valley of Far Country Creek (along which we have a trail dedication) into the basin. Quadrant long ago agreed to the deal and Larry got a Council appropriation for the purpose. The funds have languished to these years in an account amusingly labeled "Harvey's Money." December 23, 1996, the Council passed an ordinance and closing is in the works.

Our last prior occasion for wildland festivities was the 442-acre addition on the east, from Lame Bear Swamp to Protector Ridge, down West Tibbetts Creek, Surprise Creek, and Bear Ridge to and beyond the Fantastic Erratic, to within shouting distance of SR 900. In Larry's letter we read that "Since 1990, the Office of Open Space has acquired 1,044 additional acres for the park." Bully for the Office's sufficiently competent shuffling of papers in trans-

actions arranged by others. However, its arithmetic is faulty. Of the 1,044 acres, only 442 are on Cougar, the rest on Squak, and that's also among our favorite mountains, but we must remind the Office that confusing one peak with another is what caused the troubles of the Rum Doodle Expedition.

By the by, we would dearly love to see an up-to-date acreage figure for the Cougar park. Perhaps the Office could look up a certified public accountant in the Yellow Pages?

A bit of middling news. Ever since Ralph Owen pioneered Peggy's Trail from Exit 13 up Lewis Canyon to Anti-Aircraft Peak, it has been admired as the classic access to "Wilderness on the Metro 210," to recall the slogan of our great mass march of 1977. Better than a third of Larry's excellent letter is developed to untangling events of the decade and more during which Ralph has been told this and that, that and this, now and then, by a succession of county officials, mainly to make us think they knew what they were doing and were doing it. We believe that if anyone can get the Office to shuffle papers more expeditiously, Larry will do it.

Now, the grim.

The minimum west boundary we long sought was the headwaters of China Creek, with the China Summit divide providing a protector of the wildlands sloping down to the Wildside Trail through the Curious Valley of Coal Creek. In County Executive Randy Revelle's second term, this acquisition could readily have been made, and would have been. But there was no second term. The California thug who bullied King County by threatening to take his major league baseball team and run, backed by his slathering pack of hired sports reporters and the addled mob of fans with hot dogs for brains, voted out Randy in favor of the fellow known to history as Executive Zero. During the 8 years he spent holed up in his office studying his navel, and the 2 years of his successor whose sole accomplishment was running successfully for governor, the opportunity was lost. Chalk it up as one of the costs of major league baseball.

See Cougar Mtn, next page

Cougar Mtn, from page 4

And of Microsoft. And of bestowing cityhood on Newcastle.

We originally thought Newcastle was a victory, a defense against an enlarged Bellevue. Many of the citizens were club members, many more chose to live there because of the trails from their back doors. But these folks were overwhelmed by others who had visions of golf balls dancing in their heads. The little city was just of a size to be affordable by a billionaire. And his comrade, who once bragged, and none to contradict him, "My life is garbage."

There will be fairways at China Summit, condos beside the Wildside Trail. And I don't know a damn thing we can do about it. Chisel into the granite of the Wall of Shame the names of the Microsoftie billionaire, the King of Garbage, two King County Executives, the City of Newcastle, and something like half or more of the King County Council. Think how much worse it would be if we didn't have Larry Phillips. ▲

Trailhead Center Now Open!

Marilyn Moon

To celebrate the completion of the (old) Station Master's House, an Open House and dedication ceremony was held on March 13th. Because the opening was held in-between *Alpiner* publications, we couldn't get word out via our newsletter. However, once again, IATC will begin having meetings here at the "clubhouse" and hike leaders will meet hiking participants out front here, as we have in the past.

The Trailhead Center, located at First and Bush in old downtown Issaquah, is a gem! Seated at the base of Tiger Mountain, it's a perfect place for folks to obtain trails information. The City of Issaquah Parks and Recreation Department hopes to start a volunteer program, where folks can stop by on weekends for the latest on local trails. IATC is in a great position to support that program.

For more information, or if you'd be interested in hearing more about this volunteer opportunity, please call Marilyn Moon, at 392-1732. ▲



Storms Hit Trails Hard

Ken Konigsmark

Late December storms brought snow and heavy rains that saturated soils, an ice storm that coated tree branches, and strong winds which combined to cause some of the most extensive trail maintenance problems seen in years in the lowlands of Western Washington.

In the Issaquah Alps area, virtually every trail had numerous areas blocked by downed trees, branches, and blow-down, forcing hikers to climb over or through many such blockades. A second common problem is that several of the bridges on these trails were damaged or destroyed by falling trees and branches, making stream crossings very difficult until they can be rebuilt. The damage along many higher elevation trails won't be able to be assessed until later in the spring when the snow melts.

"This is the worst storm damage I think I've ever seen," stated IATC Board member Bill Longwell, who also is one of the most knowledgeable and dedicated trail experts in the region. With other Issaquah Alps and Snoqualmie Valley Trails Club volunteers, Bill has already been out almost daily since the New Year to begin the clearing of trails on Tiger and Squak mountains, with IATC volunteers putting in 222 hours of labor in January alone.

The recent trail damage comes at a time when trail maintenance funding and agency staff are both in short

supply, creating a special need for additional trail maintenance volunteers. "The damage to trails, and the work required to clear them go far beyond our staff capabilities to complete. We could really use some volunteer crews to help out on every trail," comments Jim Matthews, DNR Recreational Manager for Tiger Mountain State Forest.

Anyone interested in helping out now or in future trail maintenance efforts may contact either Bill Longwell or Todd Hausman in IATC (see Apparatus). Or, Washington Trails Association (WTA) has established a highly successful, ongoing program for volunteer trail maintenance projects throughout the state, which contributed over 1,500 volunteers and 20,000 hours of trail maintenance work in 1996. WTA just received a grant from the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC) which will allow them to expand their program towards a goal of 45,000 hours of volunteer trail maintenance work in 1997. A second IAC grant will fund creation of "the Volunteer Trail Work Coalition (VTC)," a coalition of different trail user groups and land management agencies that will share resources, training, and communications to significantly increase trail maintenance hours statewide by improved coordination on various projects. For information on WTA or the VTC program, call 625-1367. ▲

Get Out Them Saws— Roll up Them Sleeves!

Marilyn Moon

On Saturday, May 31st and Sunday, June 1st, Volunteers for Outdoor Washington (VOW) will be holding a Beginning Trail Maintenance Workshop. This winter's storms have wreaked havoc on our trails and now's your chance to make a difference in others' (and your own!) enjoyment of hiking this season.

If you're interested in learning more about getting involved with trail maintenance, and want to have qualified leaders "show you the ropes," please contact Suse Altengartner at VOW, (206) 517-4469. You are invited to participate; registration is required. ▲

IATC on the Web!

Ken Konigsmark

IATC is up and running on the "net" within the Seattle Community Network (SCN). Information about the club, how to join, and contacts are all located at www.scn.org/ip/iatc/about.htm. Or, simply do a "search" on IATC to check it out. ▲

IATC Trail Volunteers Complete Busy 1996

Ken Konigsmark

A dedicated corps of 21 volunteers from both IATC and Snoqualmie Valley Trails Club put in a total of 1277 hours of volunteer trail maintenance work on Issaquah Alps and Forest Service trails in 1996, providing a valuable service to the public and the agency landowners.

The most active IATC volunteers include: Bill Longwell, Joe Toynbee, Ralph Owen, Debbie and Scott Anschell, Ken Hopping, John Johnson, Bob Zeigler and Fred Zeitler.

Between Cougar Mountain and Mt. Si, these volunteers put in over 430 hours of trail work, clearing, brushing, building bridges, or doing other work to preserve the trails we treasure. We should all appreciate their dedication and hard work which helps to make our hiking experiences safe and enjoyable. ▲

Meadow Restoration Project

Awarded \$7000 Grant!

Ken Konigsmark

The ongoing Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park Meadow Restoration Project, spearheaded by IATC member Penny Manning, recently received a big boost—a \$7000 grant from the King County Urban Reformation and Habitat Restoration grant fund.

This major grant follows several years of carefully managed, volunteer efforts to reestablish native meadow vegetation on an historic "ballpark meadow" used by former coal miners. Grant funds will support native plant purchase and planting efforts on the meadow site, which is located approximately 3/4 miles from the Redtown Trailhead on Redtown Trail, where it crosses Coal Creek.

In addition to Penny's passionate devotion to the project, many other IATC members have already supported the meadow project with technical expertise, volunteer labor, and donations. If you'd like to help with this exciting project, please call the IATC hotline and leave a message stating your interest. ▲

WomanWalk IV

Marilyn Moon

Are you looking for someone to walk or hike with? Are you wanting to get more into the outdoors, but aren't sure where to start? WomanWalk may be the answer for you!

Co-sponsored by the Issaquah Parks and Recreation Department and the Issaquah Alps Trails Club, WomanWalk is a celebration of women in the wilderness. A half-day kick-off hike event, starting April 29th, from 1-4 p.m., women of all ages, meeting at the Trailhead Center on First and Bush in Issaquah, the hike will be in the Lake Tradition area of Tiger Mountain. Several hike "guides" will lead hikes in varying ranges of difficulty: from easy to moderate to more challenging. Participants choose their own level of exertion. The half-day event will be capped off with a potluck supper at the Trailhead Center from 4-6 p.m.

Following the kick-off event, WomanWalk hikes will be held monthly, on the last Saturday of each month, including: April 26, May 31, June 28, July 26, August 30, September 27, and finally October 25. Each hike event and the 4/26 event) will start at 9:30 a.m., meeting at the Trailhead Center. The hike and its length and difficulty will be chosen by the leader. Hike updates will be left on the IATC Hotline, 328-0480.

For more information, please call Margaret Macleod at 557-3227 or Marilyn Moon at 392-1732. WomanWalk welcomes all adults and is looking for hike leaders as well!



Issaquah Alps Trails Club Hikes and Events

April

Friday April 4

West Tiger 3 with
return via Nook Trail
3C 9 mi. 2100 ft.
9:00 am Fred Zeitler 882-3435

Saturday April 5

Bus Trail to Round Lake
and Tradition Lake loop.
1A 10:00 am Trudy Ecob 232-
2933

Sunday April 6

Radio Peak-Anti-Aircraft
Peak loop; celebrate new park
addition: Finkbeiner property
on north park boundary.
2A 1:00 pm slow pace
Harvey Manning 746-1017

Monday April 7

Squak Mt. flowers and
mature forests-hiking boots!
2C 7 mi. 9:00 am
Mary Cadigan 641-4046

Thursday April 10

Twin Falls
2B 9:30 am
Al Blalock 746-4155

Friday April 11

Lake Desire and Echo
Blooming lilies
at the top. 2B 9:30 am
Betty Culbert 432-7387

Saturday April 12

Grand tour of Cougar Mt.
Regional Wildland Park;
View golf course intrusion
3B 9:00 am
Bill McFerren 641-1853

Sunday April 13

Tale of two cities; Coal
Creek to Newcastle
2A 5 mi. 400 ft.
9:00 am Bert Drui 746-0709

Tuesday April 15

Rattlesnake Ledge for
great mountain and valley views.
2B 9:00 am
Alexandra Pye 935-8510

Saturday April 19

Taxes R' done picnic
on West Tiger 3; Bring blanket
and something good to eat.
2C 10:00 am
Steve Cavit 271-7780

East Tiger Loop; travel both
well used and little used trails from
Tiger summit on Highway 18.
4C 13 mi. 2500 ft. 8:00 am
Ralph Owen 746-1070

Sunday April 20

Cougar Mt. walk for early
spring flowers.
3C 8 mi. easy pace.
9:00 am Joe Toynbee 723-6716

Tuesday April 22

Lake Tradition
2A 9:30 am
Al Blalock 746-4155

Thursday April 24

Little Si and moss vistas
3C 9:00 am
Peggy Owen 746-1070

Friday, April 25

LATC Potluck
6:00 pm
Preston Community Center
See Alpiner article

Saturday April 26

Woman walk
2B 1:00 pm
Marilyn Moon 392-1732

Wilderness Peak

2B 4 mi. 1100 ft.
1:00 pm Bob Gross 529-2139

Sunday April 27

South Tiger exploration:
find Otter Lake.
2B 7.5 mi. 1200 ft.
9:00 am Jamie McKenzie 746-
6683

Monday April 28

BOARD MEETING
Stationmaster's House
7:00 pm

May

Friday May 2

Echo Mt. covered with
pink flowers-a prize for the name;
also many other wildflowers.
2B 9:30 am Betty Culbert 432-
7387

Sunday May 4

Cougar Mt. views from
DeLeo Wall, Far Country,
Longview Peak and Clay Pit Peak
3C 10 mi. 1500 ft.
9:00 am Fred Zeitler 882-3435

Friday May 9

Preston RR trail
flower walk; slow pace.
1A 6:30 pm
Bill Longwell 222-6775

Saturday May 10

**Celebrate the 25th Anniversary
of the Tiger Mt. Trail.**
2 hikes choices offered
Sign up with Bill Longwell
222-6775
See Alpiner Article

The Whole TMT S to N

Hobart S. Trailhead to HighPoint
4D 16 mi. 2800 ft. 7:30 am
Bill Longwell 222-6775
Joe Toynbee 723-6716

The Middle Section -the path least

traveled Westside Rd. to
Manning's Reach
(car shuttle back to HW 18)
3C 7.3 mi. 1500ft 8:30 am
Join Southend starters at W side
Rd. and enjoy group lunch at
Manning's Reach.
Fred Zeitler 882-3435
Jamie McKenzie 746-6683

Sunday May 11

Newcastle Hills expedition
from I-90 to SR 900
3C 6 mi. 1500 ft. 9:00 am
Bert Drui 746-0709

Saturday May 17

Tiger 3 on TMT via
the quiet route.
3C 8:30 Janis Stiewing 868-7188

Sunday May 18

Lake Tradition Plateau
2A 5 mi. 400 ft. 1:00 pm
Bob Gross 529-2139

Saturday May 24

Far Country Creek Basin and
Lookout; new park lands on
south boundary.
2A 1:00 pm slow pace
Harvey Manning 746-1017

Sunday May 25

South Tiger Mt. Loop;
pleasant loop with nice views
2B 9:00 am
Barbara Halverson 255-4642

Monday May 26

BOARD MEETING
Stationmaster's House
7:00 pm

Thursday May 29

Squak Mt. Sampler:
Central and West Peaks;
Bullitt fireplace, Rainier vista.
3C 9 mi. 1500 ft.
8:30 am Fred Zeitler 882-3435

Saturday May 31

Woman walk
2B 9:30 am
Marilyn Moon 392-1732
See Alpiner article

June

Sunday June 1

RETURN TO NEWCASTLE
celebration at Redtown,
See Alpiner article

Tuesday June 3

Twin Falls
2B 9:30 am
Al Blalock 746-4155

Saturday June 7

Poo Poo Pt.
3C 7 mi. 1700 ft.
Bob Gross 529-2139

Sunday June 8

Rattlesnake Traverse:
from the lake past the
ledges with great
Snoqualmie valley views.
3D 11 mi. 3000 ft.
8:30 am Ralph Owen 746-1070

Monday June 9

Twin Falls and railroad grade
east to trestle.
2B 7 mi. 9:00 am
Mary Cadigan 641-4046

Friday June 13

Lake Tradition bird walk
1A 6:30 pm
Bill Longwell 222-6775

Saturday June 14

Old Woods - the abandoned TMT
3C 6 mi 1600 ft 9:00 am
Bert Drui 746-0709

Sunday June 15

East Tiger via Tiger Mt. road
3C 9 mi. 1600 ft.
9:00 am Barbara Halverson 255-
4642

Saturday June 21

TMT north from High Point:
Dwight's Way, Ruth's Cove to
RR grade and return.
2B 9:00 am
Jamie McKenzie 746-6683

Sunday June 22

Military Rd.-Cave Hole loop
New park addition on north park
boundary.
2A 10:00 am slow pace
Harvey Manning 746-1017

Monday June 23

BOARD MEETING
Stationmaster's House
7:00 pm

Tuesday June 24

Lake Tradition
2A 9:30 am
Al Blalock 746-4155

Saturday June 28

Woman walk
2B 9:30 am
Marilyn Moon 392-1732

Sunday June 29

Elvis spotting on Poo Poo Pt.
and paragliders.
2C 1:00 pm
Bill McFerren 641-1853

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.

24-HOUR HIKES HOTLINE: 328-0480**IATC Trail Volunteers
Complete Busy 1996****Ken Konigsmark**

A dedicated corps of 21 volunteers from both IATC and Snoqualmie Valley Trails Club put in a total of 1277 hours of volunteer trail maintenance work on Issaquah Alps and Forest Service trails in 1996, providing a valuable service to the public and the agency landowners.

The most active IATC volunteers include: Bill Longwell, Joe Toynbee, Ralph Owen, Debbie and Scott Anschell, Ken Hopping, John Johnson, Bob Zeigler and Fred Zeitler.

Between Cougar Mountain and Mt. Si, these volunteers put in over 430 hours of trail work, clearing, brushing, building bridges, or doing other work to preserve the trails we treasure. We should all appreciate their dedication and hard work which helps to make our hiking experiences safe and enjoyable. ▲

**Meadow Restoration Project
Awarded \$7000 Grant!****Ken Konigsmark**

The ongoing Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park Meadow Restoration Project, spearheaded by IATC member Penny Manning, recently received a big boost—a \$7000 grant from the King County Urban Reformation and Habitat Restoration grant fund.

This major grant follows several years of carefully managed, volunteer efforts to reestablish native meadow vegetation on an historic "ballpark meadow" used by former coal miners. Grant funds will support native plant purchase and planting efforts on the meadow site, which is located approximately 3/4 miles from the Redtown Trailhead on Redtown Trail, where it crosses Coal Creek.

In addition to Penny's passionate devotion to the project, many other IATC members have already supported the meadow project with technical expertise, volunteer labor, and donations. If you'd like to help with this exciting project, please call the IATC hotline and leave a message stating your interest. ▲

WomanWalk IV**Marilyn Moon**

Are you looking for someone to walk or hike with? Are you wanting to get more into the outdoors, but aren't sure where to start? WomanWalk may be the answer for you!

Co-sponsored by the Issaquah Parks and Recreation Department and the Issaquah Alps Trails Club, WomanWalk is a celebration of women in the wilderness. A half-day kick-off hike event, starting April 29th, from 1-4 p.m., women of all ages, meeting at the Trailhead Center on First and Bush in Issaquah, the hike will be in the Lake Tradition area of Tiger Mountain. Several hike "guides" will lead hikes in varying ranges of difficulty: from easy to moderate to more challenging. Participants choose their own level of exertion. The half-day event will be capped off with a pot-luck supper at the Trailhead Center from 4-6 p.m.

Following the kick-off event, WomanWalk hikes will be held monthly, on the last Saturday of each month, including: April 26, May 31, June 28, July 26, August 30, September 27, and finally October 25. Each hike event and the 4/26 event) will start at 9:30 a.m., meeting at the Trailhead Center. The hike and its length and difficulty will be chosen by the leader. Hike updates will be left on the IATC Hotline, 328-0480.

For more information, please call Margaret Macleod at 557-3227 or Marilyn Moon at 392-1732. WomanWalk welcomes all adults and is looking for hike leaders as well!



Hike Information

24-HOUR HIKES HOTLINE: 328-0480

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

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.

TMT- 25 Years, from page 1

ments in planning trails and getting them built."

The May 10th group decided to contact landowners and seek permission to build a minimal trail across the individual properties. It chose Phil Hall and Bill Longwell, both of whom lived in the shadow of Tiger, to make contact with the major owners and head up construction. It would take four long years for construction to begin.

In the next four years negotiations gained little ground. The DNR gave some direction. Weyerhaeuser, on the other hand, balked, worried that such a trail would interfere with its plans for Tiger; too many recreationists might create a public opinion unfavorable to the company. This prediction came true. Weyerhaeuser in 1981 left Tiger, except for ownership of the various summits. But in 1972 no one anticipated Weyerhaeuser's departure.

Still, the Mountaineers took trips to Tiger. Phil and Bill planned routes. On a snowy Saturday in late February 1974, a Mountaineer work party traversed an old railroad grade on West Tiger, climbed near the summit of West Tiger Two in two feet of snow and dreamed of routes under the snow. Years later the West Tiger Railroad Grade became a major route in a growing Tiger Mountain trail system. Joe Toynbee came on that hike and seemingly has never left. He has since acted as a zealous promoter and strategist of the TMT.

In June 1974, Phil and Bill explored West Tiger Mountain and pioneered a route from the grade over the peak and into the Fifteen Mile Creek drainage, a round trip of ten miles through a continuous jungle that took eighteen hours to walk. Their reluctant companion wailed throughout the entire eighteen hours that he'd never find his way back home.

Still no permission came to construct an actual trail. However, more private explorations followed (a total of 45 to locate the entire route). And Ruth Ittner never gave up and continually negotiated behind the scenes.

Finally, a November 1976 phone call brought a surprise. "Phil and Bill, please meet with Howard Millan, a Weyerhaeuser official in Federal Way to discuss a trail on Tiger." Howard Millan, actually Harvey Manning's old scoutmaster, told Phil and Bill that, in his opinion, his company now had little objection to such a trail. Later, however, Howard almost lost his long-held job over this decision. Howard saw that with Tiger operating as a tree farm, hikers could see the whole cycle of tree farming: logging, planting, re-

growth and logging. Hikers could view Tiger as a forest classroom. Later, Howard and his associates helped build sections of the TMT.

By this time Phil and Bill had located a general route. On several trips surveyors found a game trail that covered much of the route and maintained elevation with amazing accuracy.

The winter of 1976-77 cooperated: no snow and little rain.

On the first Saturday of February 1977, work began—from the West Tiger Railroad Grade. Bill Longwell's students from Renton's Hazen High School supplied most of the work force. Through the years they performed virtually all work by hand. As construction continued, their tools and skills became more and more sophisticated.

By May 1977, enough tread existed to hold a preview. Officials from the Mountaineers, DNR, Weyerhaeuser and the future IATC inspected a five mile stretch of the new, albeit rudimentary, TMT.

By the end of the 1977 summer the Hazen students had labored to complete a tread from Hight Point to Fifteen Mile Creek, a distance of six and one-half miles.

During the fall of 1977 trail workers began building back to Fifteen Mile Creek from Middle Tiger Mountain. Mountaineers, along with some Washington Hi-Lakers, worked the next winter and spring from both Middle Tiger and Fifteen Mile Creek.

During the 1978 summer, trail crews located a south trailhead near Otter Lake, two miles from Highway 18 on the West Side Road. Ironically, the building of the West Side Road had eliminated a surveyed two miles of trail from Highway 18.

1979 saw the general completion of the TMT. For the first time hikers could traverse the entire route in one day! TMT crews labored during the winter, spring and fall to close all unfinished gaps. They completed enough to allow a grand opening hike on October 13, 1979 (a date almost coincidental with the creation of the IATC), even though some of the trail had already grown over.

Building the original TMT took 288 person days and 1355 hours to complete the 10.3 mile rudimentary route. Since then, twelve different relocations have brought the TMT to its present form, a sixteen mile trail through deep woods and long views. It cost taxpayers no money. Since the

continued, page 13

TMT Construction History

Date	Section Name	Purpose	Miles	Construction Hours	Worker Days
1974-1979	TMT Original route	Build the length of Tiger	10.3	1355	288
Spring 1982	North trail relocation	Relocate N. end to ridge above east of High Point Creek	2.7	416	78
Feb. 26, 1983	Upper High Point Creek	Relocate tread to W. Tiger Railroad Grade	0.1	30	5
May 8-9, 1987	Grego's Glen South *MP 9.5-9.7	Relocate for more level tread	0.2	10	2
Aug. 9- Oct. 9, 1983	MP 10.6-10.9	Relocate for more level tread	0.3	21	3
Dec. 1989- Jan. 1990	New S. Tiger tread MP 0.0-3.7	Add to S. TMT (2 1/4 miles ready built)	3.7	73	19
Jan. 23- Jul. 5, 1990	New North Tiger tread MP 12.9-15.6	Add to N. TMT (0.5 mile ready-built)	2.7	152	44
May 1, 1993	DNR work to build N Trailhead, MP 5.6-15.4	Relocate N Trailhead route	0.3	contractor	N/A
Oct. 17, 1993	Near Hidden Forest Trail, MP 8.8-8.9	To level tread	0.1	20	4
Feb. 4 and Mar. 29, 1994	Grego's Glen N. MP 9.5-9.7	Relocate TMT to State land	0.3	contractor	N/A
Apr. 25, 1994	Menasha	To level tread	0.1	20	3
Aug. 1995	DNR new S. Trailhead	Relocate TMT to State land	0.3	contractor	N/A
Sep. 1995	DNR Middle Tiger MP 5.4-7.5	Refurbish TMT to a "CADILLAC" section!	2.1	contractor	N/A

TMT - 25 years, from page 12

completion of the TMT, the IATC has taken over its maintenance from the Mountaineers. Its history as a dynamic (ever changing) trail is most likely over. The DNR has spent much to turn some sections into a truly "Cadillac" trail.

Of the sixteen miles, some sections are heavily walked. The tread is well traveled to Manning's Reach. Few, however, walk south beyond this point. The six miles between Manning's Reach and the West Side Road desperately needs hikers. Go!

Over the years the TMT has certainly received tender, loving care from its ardent admirers. Since that first February 1974 search party, workers have contributed over 4000 hours on 370 trips (854 worker days) to keep the TMT walkable. Individuals have made at least 175 solo trips. Re-

member this when you walk it.

Some have labeled the TMT as the most *political* trail in Washington. Its construction spawned the building of many other trails and people have flocked to Tiger Mountain. As a result, Weyerhaeuser has left Tiger and now a large DNR force manages Tiger. DNR's presence on Tiger is certainly necessary.

What can you do? You can also help every time you travel a section of trail. Just take a moment or two to improve the trail by flipping sticks or branches from the trail. Move small logs out of the way and divert water from the trail by using your heel or walking stick to dig out a drainage channel. Kick rocks from the tread. If everyone helps a little with trail maintenance, the total impact can be great.

Join us May 10! ▲

Look Back, from page 3

northward to other County park lands.

Issaquah:

1. Monitor development planning to protect IATC interests.
2. Support County efforts to acquire the large Manke parcel.
3. Monitor proposed bypass planning; identify and protect IATC interests.
4. Participate on Trails Committee.
5. Support the Issaquah Creek Greenway planning effort and Nystrom property acquisition.
6. Continue IATC participation in Issaquah Comprehensive Plan implementation.

Raging River/Preston:

1. Promote County acquisition of the Preston Mill Site in 1997.
2. Support Preston Community Club efforts in reaching resolution of industrial park issues.
3. Support efforts to promote and acquire lands to create a Grand Ridge-Mitchell Hill connector.

Rattlesnake/Taylor:

1. Support implementation of the new Management Plan for Rattlesnake Mountain.
2. Support establishment of a public connection between Tiger and Rattlesnake Ridge.
3. In cooperation with Snoqualmie Valley Trails Club, MidFORC, and others:
 - Support implementation of new Management Plans for Mt Si NRCA.
 - Support completion of a DNR/Champion land exchange.
 - Support public planning effort for future of the Middle Fork valley.
 - Support construction of a Watershed Visitors Center and Rattlesnake Lake Trailhead.

Other:

1. Continue to represent hiking interests in trail usage issues; support WTA, MidFORC, and other responsible groups or initiatives for trail enhancements.

2. Support Mountains to Sound Greenway initiatives.
3. Advocate continued and increased funding for management agencies and open space.
4. Oppose legislative efforts to diminish environmental/wildlife protection policies.
5. Promote wildlife and trail corridors across SR900, Issaquah-Hobart Rd, and Hwy 18.
6. Provide major assistance to landowners through IATC trail maintenance efforts. ▲

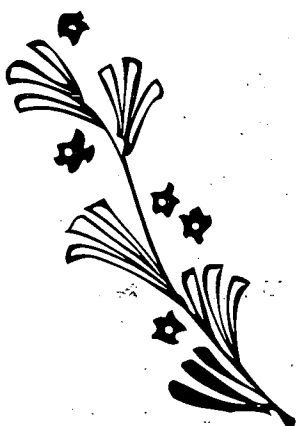


Bellevue Parks Celebrates:

Earth Day-Arbor Day

Maribeth Crowe

The Bellevue Parks and Community Services Department will host an Earth Day-Arbor Day Celebration on Saturday, April 19 from 10 am to 2 pm. Volunteer projects, free canoe trips, guided bird walks, wonderful wetland walks, kids nature crafts and a ceremonial tree planting will all be part of the event at Mercer Slough Nature Park. For information and registration, call 462-2752. ▲



Native Plants, Native People

Saturday, May 10, 9 am to Noon.

Mac Smith, an expert Ethnobotanist, will lead this indoor-outdoor seminar on how native people used plants for food, medicine and just about everything else they needed. Join us at Bellevue's 300-acre Mercer Slough Nature Park. Adults \$15, children 12 and up, \$10. Call 462-2752 for information and registration. ▲



Volunteers Needed For Plant Walks At Cougar Mountain Park

Chuck Lennox

The King County Park System is recruiting knowledgeable volunteers to lead interpretive walks at Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park (Bellevue/Newcastle) this summer. Topics might include ethnobotany, plant identification, history or ecology. Interpretive training is provided. Share your love for Cougar Mountain with others! For further information, please contact Chuck Lennox during the work day at 296-4214 or in the evening at 720-4928. ▲

Return To Newcastle

Chuck Lennox

King County Park System will sponsor "Return to Newcastle" in cooperation with the Bellevue Parks and Community Services Department on June 1, 1997 from 10 am to 12 pm. The event will take place in the Newcastle area of Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park, near the Red Top Road entrance, off Newport Way and 15th Avenue.

Historical photos, maps, and other items will be on display. There will be history exhibits, a picnic area, and a playground. Entertainment and food will be provided. History walks and hikes will be available. Admission is \$3.00 per vehicle. Dress comfortably.

For further information, contact Chuck Lennox at 296-4214 or 720-4928. Programs Office of King County Park System. ▲

Issaquah Alps Trails Club Mail Order Service

P.O. Box 351, Issaquah, WA 98027

▲ *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.

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