

Newsletter of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club

THE ALPINE



October ▲ November ▲ December ▲ 1998

Cougar ▲ Squak ▲ Tiger ▲ Grand Ridge

President's Report

Barbara Johnson

This has been a great summer for the Issaquah Alps! I will try to cover all the good news in one short column.

Return To Newcastle was a success again this year. The weather cooperated and thousands of folks attended our annual history event, which is co-sponsored with King County Parks. I am always amazed how many local residents are anxious to learn about the area's history and to find out as much information as possible about hiking the Issaquah Alps.

Following up on Cougar Mountain, Charles McCrone has been working on a new map for our Cougar Guide. He agreed to update the trail text section along with help from Harvey Manning and Ralph Owen, who have written the previous guides so well they always make the "local" best seller list!

Along with a new Cougar Guide, there is a new Tiger Mountain Guide fresh off the press. Thanks to Bill Longwell and Marty Hanson for their yeoman-like labors to publish a new edition.

Over the years, the Board has often wondered if we have led all the folks on all the hikes they'd ever want. The fact that we keep selling and having to reprint our guidebooks is evidence that there are lots of folks out there who want more information about the Issaquah Alps and how to access the wilderness experience the Alps provide.

Many new people are moving into Puget Sound City (to quote Our Founder) and they want to explore the trails of the area. The Issaquah Alps Trails Club (IATC) serves as a resource for these new fellow environmentalists. I foresee an ongoing need to educate these newcomers about the trails and issues of our local wildlands.

As part of serving that need, Marilyn Moon, our vice president of operations, is organizing a monthly program that will be held at a time other than Board meetings. These will include a short informal orientation about hike leaders' responsibilities, hikers' responsibilities, definition of levels of exertion, the "essentials," and a thumbnail history of IATC.

Following the orientation will be a presentation with topics ranging from flora and fauna of the Issaquah Alps to favorite hikes, trail maintenance (why, how to, and ways to get involved), and how to hike. The intention of these monthly programs is to provide a closer link for our members, including a chance to socialize with other club members. These programs are scheduled to start this fall. Watch *The Alpiner* for further information.

Some of our recent successes include receiving grant money to build trails, and celebrating the beginning of the fifth year of WomanWalk. More about those in a later issue. The Trails Club consists of volunteers who are dedicated to protecting the natural areas of the Alps. Many of us serve in numerous ways. It's always rewarding to see our hard work pay off. Thanks to all who volunteer to make this club so successful! ▲

Trail Maintenance News

Charles McCrone

Our numbers have grown since last year. Summer 1998 saw involvement in a number of trail work projects. These include the Far Country Trail where it exits the south end of Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park and heads past Trog Swamp toward May Valley Road (Far Country Creek now has a new bridge thanks to the park staff), work on the Telephone Trail, and continuing work on sections of the Precipice. Along the way, we picked up a few new trail work enthusiasts.

We have been e-mailing interested

volunteers of trail work dates, since we go out on many projects beyond what you see in the hike schedule. It helps when emergency needs arise. In the new year, look for the initiation of a once-a-month work party time. Our goal is to have one session a month, designed with new volunteers in mind (though oldtimers are always welcome and needed).

If you would like to find out more about what we do—and when—just call me at 425-392-3466 or send an e-mail to: pollopng@juno.com. We need your help. ▲

Help Needed: Survey and Global Positioning System

We need people with surveying skills and/or access to Global Positioning System equipment to help us definitively locate some important trail routes so we can work toward their protection. If you are a student looking for field work, or you work for a company that would like to make a valuable contribution toward the salvation of some unprotected trails, let me know.

Charles McCrone • 425-392-3466

or

e-mail: pollopng@juno.com

The Apparatus

President: Barbara Johnson • 746-5573

VP, Advocacy: Ken Konigsmark • 222-4839

VP, Operations: Marilyn Moon • 392-1732

Treasurer: Dino Go • 391-7015

Secretary: Pam Wallenstein • 392-7813

Board of Directors:

Harvey Manning, Chairman • 746-1017

Steve Drew • 392-4432

Christina Jackson • 837-0417

Bill Longwell • 222-6775

Dan McCrea • 837-0917

Charles McCrone • 392-3466

Malena McCrone • 392-3466

Linda Rains • 313-5923

Fred Zeitler • 882-3435

Hikes Coordinators: Fred and Ann

Weinmann • 392-9230

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e-mail: twwilliams@earthlink.net

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Cougar Advocate: Charles McCrone • 392-3466

Squak Advocates: Steve Drew • 392-4432 and

Ken Konigsmark • 222-4839

Tiger Advocate: Larry Hanson • 392-2458

Grand Ridge Advocate: Melinda Livingstone • 392-7455

Raging River and Preston Advocate:

Maryanne Tagney Jones • 222-7615

Rattlesnake Mountain and Taylor Mountain Advocates:

Ted Thomsen • 454-8643 and

Ralph Owen • 746-1070

Chief Rangers/Trail Maintenance:

Bill Longwell • 222-6775 and

Charles McCrone • 392-3466

MTS Greenway: Ted Thomsen • 454-8643

Legal Advice: Tom Lucas

NOTE: All telephone numbers are area code 425 unless otherwise noted.

Hotline: 206-328-0480

Web Site: <http://www.issaquah.org/comorg/ialps/mlalps.htm>

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Articles are welcome, preferably via e-mail to:

jlstjohn@concentric.net. Send diskette or hard copy to the post office box number above. Issue deadlines: November 15 for January; February 15 for April; May 15 for July; August 15 for October.

Of Alps and Greenways

Harvey Manning

Like the fellow said, all the good ideas that anybody ever was going to have were right there in the Big Bang and have been going around and around for eons in the big circle of space-time, now and then popping out somewhere as if they were brandnew. In 1976, when I bestowed the name "Issaquah Alps" on what the geographically-challenged still persist in calling "foothills of the Cascades" (actually Seattle is built on the foothills of the Alps), and in 1978, when in *Footsore 2* I proposed a "Cascade Gateway Recreation Area" centered on North Bend, I enjoyed the euphoric glow that comes of birthing good ideas.

Good ideas, yes. But new? Not hardly. Doing nothing in the way of research, just standing here while space-time keeps curving-whirling by, "my" ideas echo at me from the past. From the Olmsteds, of course, who had a good share of our best ideas. And how about that Guggenheim Trophy Race from New York to the site of the 1909 AYP Exposition? And newspaper references to the route as the Yellowstone Highway because it was the way to the geysers? The "string of pearls" bragged up in the 1930s as linking the Whulge to the Cascade Crest? The "Main Street of the Northwest," as they still called U.S. 10 when I peddled books in Montana? Nor let us forget the "Seattle Spirit" of territorial days when townboomers vowed to thwart the wicked Eastern Bankers by building the Seattle &

Walla Walla Railroad.

Human generations overlap in the historical continuum. As a young climber I knew an elder climber who as a younger had made ascents in company of an elder who as a younger had set out afoot in North Bend for Snoqualmie Pass summits. An evening in 1961 there came a knocking at my door on Cougar Mountain, and who should it be but a longtime climbing companion who, caught up in the Bobby Kennedy fad of the 50 Mile Hike, was returning from the summit of Mount Si, having at a single go walked from Seattle up the Haystack and now, walking home, stopped off to say hello, just in time for supper. Legging it from the Whulge to the Cascades is not a recent diversion, as Yvonne Prater admirably relates in *Snoqualmie Pass: From Indian Trail to Interstate*.

Stan Unger's 1975 walk from West Point to Snoqualmie Pass was to publicize a proposal for a Sound to Mountains Trail. John Warth meanwhile was exploring a Lake Washington to Cascades Ecology Trail, sampling ecosystems from Coal Creek to Issaquah Creek to Raging River to Snoqualmie River to Tolt River.

In 1981, horrified by President Reagan's mindless appointment as Secretary of the Interior James Watt, who announced his intention to open the national wilderness areas and parks to drilling for oil, gas, hot water, and stock options, the Conservation Division of The Mountaineers, to dramatize the connection between

Seattle and the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, staged a great big Mountains to Sound March. Jim Whittaker, grand marshal, set out with a handful of companions from Snoqualmie Pass, joined along the way by more handfuls, then mobs, until one was minded of a Hollywood musical of the 1930s, Nelson Eddy singing "give me a man who's a stout-hearted man," half the population of France following, roaring "and to hell with Burgundy!" At Gasworks Park on Lake Union the largest gathering of environmentalists in local history, thousands and thousands, cheered condemnations and exhortations by Congressmen and other notables. From this may be said to have come the Washington Wilderness Act of 1984, adding 1,000,000 acres to the national wilderness system of the state.

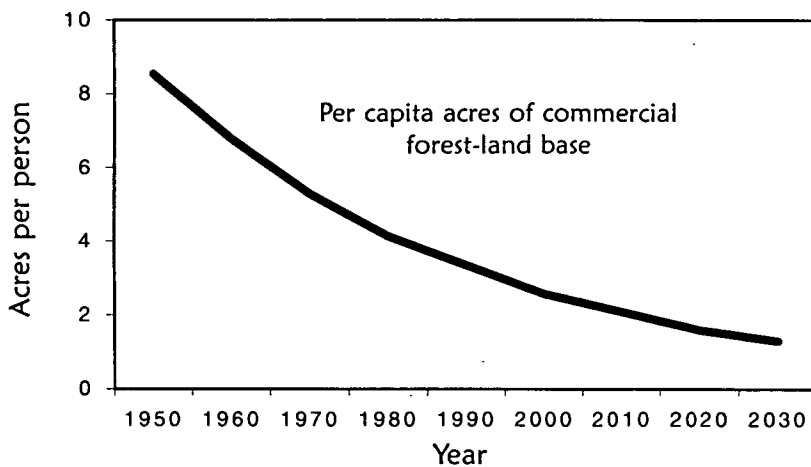
Thus, when the Issaquah Alps Trails Club and Snoqualmie Valley Trails Club led the Mountains to Sound March, 88 miles from Snoqualmie Pass to Elliott Bay, July 4-8, 1990, it was a very good idea—but not new. Nor were publicity stunts new to the Trails Club. Our first stunt, Buz Moore's great big "Wilderness on the Metro 210" of 1977, 100-plus walkers climbing from the bus stop in Issaquah to the top of West Tiger 3, predated the club. Our second, Tim O'Brian's great big "Public Officials Awareness Hike" of 1979, led another 100-plus up Tiger; it was while cooling off afterward at the Rollin Log that several of us hatched the *continued on page 10*

Effect of Population Growth on Forest Lands

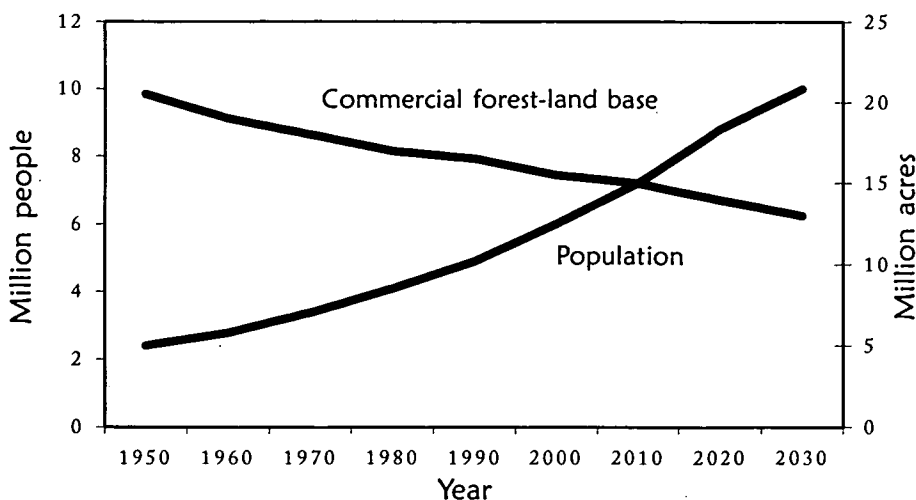
Ken Konigsmark

The charts shown below portray the damaging effect of population growth and sprawl on forest lands in the state of Washington. These charts show a very disturbing trend: since 1950—when the amount of forest land in Washington equaled nine acres per person—we have dropped to less than three acres per person. This is further projected to drop by the year 2030 to about one acre per person. If such a dramatic decline in our statewide forest-land base occurs, there will be little forest land left in place to support wildlife, recreation, clean air, clean water, scenic values, and many other benefits that Washington forests now provide for us. ▲

Increasing Population and Decreasing Commercial Forest-land Base



Changes in Population and Commercial Forest-land Base



Source: Department of Natural Resources (DNR) State of the Trusts Report, October 1997

Monthly Program

Marilyn Moon

On Tuesday, October 6, the Issaquah Alps Trails Club (IATC) will hold the first orientation and monthly program for new and old members alike. These will continue on the first Tuesday of each month throughout the year at the Issaquah Trail Center, located at First and Bush streets in Issaquah. Orientation for new members will be from 6:30–7:30 p.m. It is designed for those new to the club to learn more about local trail information, level of difficulty, how to join in on a hike, the essentials required, maps and books available through the IATC, etc. These are only a few of the topics that will be discussed by a seasoned Issaquah Alps member. Following the orientation, the regular monthly program will be held from 7:30–8:30 p.m. It will feature one of the IATC's talented members who will present a variety of entertaining topics. Highlights for these monthly programs include the following: "The Flowering of the Issaquah Alps" by Ann and Fred Weinmann; slideshow by Larry Hanson featuring scenes from favorite trails in the area; a program to train new hike leaders; and some special "Beyond the Issaquah Alps" slide programs featuring favorite backpack trips by some of our members.

Be sure to put the first Tuesday of each month, 6:30–8:30 p.m., on your calendar. For more information, consult the weekly *Issaquah Press* or call me at 425-392-1732. ▲

Discovering the Precipice

Charles McCrone

A look at any topographical map of Cougar Mountain shows a narrow band of steep terrain ringing the east and north sides of the mountain. In the summer, this precipice is an impressive wall of green between Newport Way condominiums and homes, and a few houses that seem perilously perched at its top. Even from the freeway, though its contours are softened by the outlines of trees and the massive gorge of A-A Creek, the Precipice hints its marvels to the eye. I first discovered the Precipice three winters ago. It has become my favorite place in the Alps; repeated visitation has not numbed my amazement at the wildness of its terrain that broods so close to a city. There are several accesses to the trail system that have long existed informally along and around the Precipice, but I have forgotten which one I discovered first. I do remember bravely marching up through backyard blackberries behind Summerhill neighborhood, brandishing my old Cougar map as proof that this was indeed a trail. Behind the homes, the trail widened along A-A Creek and I felt dwarfed beneath the incredibly huge ridge opposite me. Passing one of the biggest downed logs I have seen on Cougar Mountain, I lost the trail amidst Oregon grape. I must have followed the old flags because I know I made it to the Harvey's Mudslide sign, where surprisingly one finds a doable ascent up that incredibly huge ridge. The aptly named mudslide

epitomizes the Precipice trail: the rude muddy double switchback would violate any park system's trail specifications, but you can't beat it for raw character and no-nonsense sensibility. Immediately I found myself atop the Big Tree Ridge, with views to the lake beyond.

I don't know if I made it that day to the place where the Precipice Trail joins the old Military Road to Newcastle and heads toward the park proper. I suspect I actually found Military Road another time on the day I began at Radar Park in the snow and cruised down Surprise Creek until it deadended and followed a stream over toward the powerline. That stream is a badly eroded trail, which forks and goes either down to the Westside Reservoir Road off State Route 900 or left to where Military Road, the Telephone Trail, Stagecoach Ridge Trail, and the powerline (aka Goodes Corner Trail) all make a grand nexus. At a later date, I put two and two together and followed Military Road the other way to Big Tree Ridge and found myself glaring down Harvey's Mudslide from the top.

The Precipice is home to multiple old signs, looking much older than their 1980s pedigree, which guided me in my early explorations and taught me the names of its haunts. Some have come home to roost at my house, having fallen or cracked, awaiting repair, and then return to the forest. The case of the signs illustrates how the Precipice has

worked its magic on me, adopting me, it seems, as a custodian. Now I have moved beyond exploration to leading volunteers to repair damage on its trails—and sing its praises! ▲



IATC Board Remains Neutral on Proposed Gravel Mine

Barbara Johnson

Many of you are aware that there is a gravel mine proposed for the area just east of North Bend and north of Interstate 90. The Issaquah Alps Trails Club (IATC) Board has voted to remain neutral concerning this issue. Our official position is: "This area is outside the boundaries for which the club is actively engaged. We assume no jurisdiction over the Cascades. The IATC may have initiated the MTS Greenway with its 1990 march, but did not thereby undertake oversight of that entire route. Individual members of the IATC have personal involvement outside the Alps, but these are separate from the organizational commitments to the Alps themselves." ▲

October

**Friday October 2, 9:30 a.m.**

Cougar Mountain 2C 6.5 mi.

1300 ft. gain

Wilderness Peak Loop from A-A peak

Mary Cadigan 425-641-4046

Saturday October 3*Salmon Days***Sunday October 4***Salmon Days***Friday October 9, 9:30 a.m.**

Taylor Mountain Forest Park 2B

"The Manke Property"

Rainier views and fall colors

Betty Culbert 425-432-7387

Saturday October 10, 1:00 p.m.

Cougar Mountain 2B 6 mi. 500 ft. gain

Trog Swamp from Redtown

Bob Gross 425-427-8449

Saturday October 17, 9:00 a.m.

Cougar Mountain 3A 7 mi. 500 ft.

Peak hopping-A-A to Longview

Bert Drui 425-746-0709

Sunday October 18, 9:00 a.m.

North Tiger 2C 9 mi. 1900 ft. gain

Old T. Dwight's Way, Two bridges

of High Point Creek

Joint hike with SVTC

Jamie Kenzie 425-746-6683

Saturday October 24, 9:00 a.m.

Tiger Mountain Nook Trail 2A 5 mi.

Trudy Ecob 206-232-2933

Sunday October 25, 1:00 p.m.

Cougar Wilderness Park 1+A-

History of Newcastle mines and town

1860-1960 and inspection of Meadow

Project at the old Redtown ballfield

Harvey Manning 425-746-1017

Monday October 26, 7:00 p.m.*Board Meeting*

Trail Center, First and Bush

Saturday October 31, 9:30 a.m.

WomanWalk 2B

Optional potluck lunch at Trail Center

Marilyn Moon 425-392-1732

November

**Sunday November 1, 9:00 a.m.**

South Tiger Loop 2B 8 mi. 1200 ft. gain

Small loop on South Tiger

TMT to Otter Lake

Return via Traverse Trail; beautiful views

Fred Zeitler 425-882-3435

Wednesday November 4, 10:00 a.m.

South Squak Loop 2C 4.5 mi.

1500 ft. gain

Rainier view via High Valley and

Bullitt Gorge

Warren Jones 425-888-0262

Friday November 6, 9:30 a.m.

City of Bellevue-Bellefields to Enatai

2A 5 mi. round trip

Mary Cadigan 425-641-4046

Sunday November 8, 9:00 a.m.

Cougar Mountain 3C 10 mi.

1600 ft. gain

Loop from Redtown. Views from

De Leo Wall, FC Lookout, Longview Peaks,

and Clay Pit Peak. A-A Peak optional.

Fred Zeitler 425-882-3435

Friday November 13, 9:30 a.m.

Cougar Mountain Wilderness Loop 2B

"Cougar Viewing?"

Betty Culbert 425-432-7387

Saturday November 14, 9:00 a.m.

Cougar Mountain 3B 7 mi. 700 ft. gain

The Fantastic Erratic from A-A Peak

and visit Nike Launch Site

Bert Drui 425-746-0709

Sunday November 15, 9:00 a.m.

South Tiger 2C 8 mi. 1500 ft. gain

South TMT, Holder Creek, Otter Lake

and a surprise view

Jamie McKenzie 425-746-6683

Saturday November 21, 9:00 a.m.

Tiger Mountain Tradition Lake area 1B

3-4 mi.

Trudy Ecob 206-232-2933

Sunday November 22, 1:00 p.m.

Lake Tradition Plateau 2A 5 mi.

400 ft. gain

Bob Gross 425-427-8449

Monday November 23, 7:00 p.m.*Board Meeting*

Trail Center, First and Bush

Sunday November 29, 1:00 p.m.

Cougar Wilderness Park 1+A-

History of Newcastle mines and town

1860-1960 and inspection of Meadow

Project at the old Redtown ballfield

Harvey Manning 425-746-1017

December

**Saturday December 5, 10:00 a.m.**

West Tiger 3 2C 5 mi. 2000 ft.

Good views and great workout!

Joint hike with SVTC

Alden Bliss 425-462-0985

Sunday December 6, 9:00 a.m.

Cougar Mountain Peaks 3C 10 mi.

2500 ft. gain

Wilderness Creek to West Peak,

Clay Pit Peak, and more

Joint hike with SVTC

Fred Zeitler 425-882-3435

Saturday December 12, 10:00 a.m.

Cougar Mountain 2A 5 mi. 300 ft. gain

Lower Coal Creek-abandoned mines

and farms

Bert Drui 425-746-0709

Sunday December 13, 8:00 a.m.

Exploring the wild east side of Squak

4D Exploratory

8-10 mi., more than 2000 ft. gain

For those who enjoy looking for seldom-

used and almost-never-maintained routes

on wooded eastern slopes of Squak

Ralph Owen 425-746-1070

Saturday December 19, 1:00 p.m.

Twin Falls 2B 3 mi. 400 ft. gain

Bob Gross 425-427-8449

Sunday December 20, 9:00 a.m.

Rattlesnake Ledges 2B 3-4 mi.

1300-1500 ft. gain

Short, but steep trail to great views of

Snoqualmie Valley and Cedar Lake. If

weather permits, will go on to Upper Ledge.

Moderate pace. Joint hike with SVTC.

Ralph Owen 425-746-1070

Sunday December 27, 1:00 p.m.

Cougar Wilderness Park 1+A-

History of Newcastle mines and town

1860-1960 and inspection of Meadow

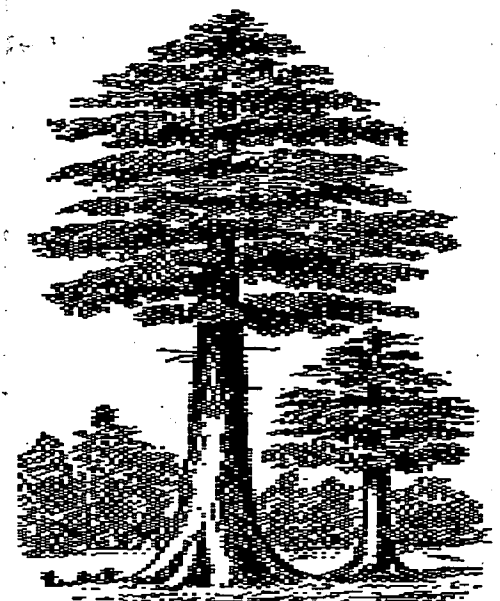
Project at the old Redtown ballfield

Harvey Manning 425-746-1017

Monday December 28, 7:00 p.m.*Board Meeting*

Trail Center, First and Bush

(Call 206-328-0480 to confirm date)



Hike Information

24-hour Hikes Hotline: 206-328-0480

Hike Leaders

Hike leaders are volunteers who donate 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 three, 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—or all 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 a hiker's comfort, transportation, property, safety, or general well-being while traveling to and from the trailhead or while hiking or working on 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 the hike leaders and others who want to hike these trails. Children under 13 should be accompanied by an adult. Please, no pets on 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. They do not include travel time to and

from the trailhead (20 to 70 minutes depending on the location of the hike) or meal times (lunch will add another 20 to 70 minutes depending on the mood of the group). Times are based on an assumption of a two-mile-per-hour pace with one-half hour added for each 1000 feet elevation gain. Trail conditions, weather, and unexpected hazards could 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 does not automatically mean easy; long does not 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 while having a good time hiking where others seldom tread. Family hike: For parents and children. Easy pace. Call leader for hike particulars.

NOTE:

Group hikes do not lend themselves to pets. Please leave your pets at home when coming on a Trails Club hike.

Meeting Place

Trails Club hikes meet in the parking lot at the corner of First and Bush streets next to the IATC Clubhouse (the little yellow 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, then go two blocks past the light at East Sunset Way, and then turn left on Bush Street. Go two blocks to Rainier and turn into the lot on the left. Park beside the clubhouse or on the east side of the concrete bumpers opposite the Issaquah Food Bank. Do not park on the side of the bumpers closest to the Issaquah Food Bank.

Clothing

Dress for the Pacific Northwest outdoors—expect rain, snow, sunshine, fog, and everything in between. Bring extra clothing, raingear, 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 (see "Meeting Place" above) at the same place as the regular

continued on next page

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Class 3: 6 hours

Class 4: 8 hours

These are approximate hiking times. They do not include travel time to and

from the trailhead (20 to 70 minutes depending on the location of the hike) or meal times (lunch will add another 20 to 70 minutes depending on the mood of the group). Times are based on an assumption of a two-mile-per-hour pace with one-half hour added for each 1000 feet elevation gain. Trail conditions, weather, and unexpected hazards could 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 does not automatically mean easy; long does not 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 while having a good time hiking where others seldom tread.

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

NOTE:

Group hikes do not lend themselves to pets. Please leave your pets at home when coming on a Trails Club hike.

Meeting Place

Trails Club hikes meet in the parking lot at the corner of First and Bush streets next to the IATC Clubhouse (the little yellow 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, then go two blocks past the light at East Sunset Way, and then turn left on Bush Street. Go two blocks to Rainier and turn into the lot on the left. Park beside the clubhouse or on the east side of the concrete bumpers opposite the Issaquah Food Bank. Do not park on the side of the bumpers closest to the Issaquah Food Bank.

Clothing

Dress for the Pacific Northwest outdoors—expect rain, snow, sunshine, fog, and everything in between. Bring extra clothing, raingear, 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 (see "Meeting Place" above) at the same place as the regular *continued on next page*

continued from previous page

hikes. 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 is an integral part of the Department of Natural Resources (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 encouraged to adopt a trail or section of trail and be responsible for maintaining it. ▲



Learn the Oil Change Cha-Cha

A new manual called *The Watershed Waltz & The Sammamish Swing, How to Dance Your Way to Healthier Lakes and Streams* is a resource developed for residents of the Lake Sammamish watershed. For a free copy, contact:

Pomegranate Center

Post Office Box 486

Issaquah, Washington 98027

Telephone: 425-557-6412

Fax: 425-557-4662

e-mail: heidim@pomegranate.org



Issaquah Alps Trails Club Membership Application

Post Office Box 351, Issaquah, Washington 98027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ ☐ 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 to plan special events, publish trail guides, and keep our trail maintenance tool supply fit and ample.

▲ Lifetime memberships at \$200 give us room to be creative and visionary and 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.

Of Alps and Greenways

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scheme for a Trails Club. In 1983, Randy Revelle having been elected in 1981 as King County Executive on a platform featuring a Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park, the new club presented the first Return to Newcastle. Randy said to the crowd, "I know why you're doing this. It's to keep my feet in the fire."

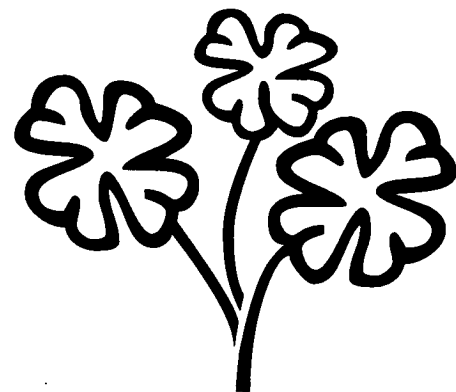
In March of 1990, dozens of hardy souls marched from Snoqualmie Summit to Elliott Bay in the first Great Five Day March. I neither helped in the planning nor marched, but was called upon for damage control. Initial publicity by our March organizers had given the impression that we were determined to lay waste a wide swath from Elliott Bay to Independence, Missouri and make it a gigantic wilderness park. I helped prepare corrective news releases that allayed fears and thereby made the Greenway acceptable to the regional Establishment—not to mention profitable. Then, the March organizers having too freely exercised the club checkbook, in the process bankrupting the club, I wrote the most piteous appeal of my distinguished career as a beggar and the letter to members brought in a flood of contributions that put the club back in business.

The ultimate catastrophe, however, was beyond my control. At the board meeting following the March, President Dave Kappler, in laughter verging on hysteria, announced, "We're ruined!" We had staged the March to place the Issaquah Alps in

the larger context of Whulge-to-Cascades, the better to achieve our organizational goals for the Issaquah Alps themselves. The public, the press, and the Establishment, however, were less enchanted by our Alps than that larger context. We had created a monster, too enormous for our resources.

Salvation came not from within but without. We were more than willing, we were grateful and overjoyed to abdicate our leadership, to make a free gift of the Greenway idea to the Establishment. Ted Thomsen, our board member, accepted responsibility for looking after IATC interests by becoming secretary of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust.

The Trust's organizational meeting called by Jim Ellis in the fall of 1991 was held, naturally, at the Rainier Club. On trips to Manhattan Island I'd done martinis at the Harvard Club and lunch at the Union League and was pretty well clubbed out. Ted, droll fellow, reassured me "You don't have to come, Harvey. In fact, unless you have clothes other than the ones I've seen, they wouldn't let you in anyway." ▲



WomanWalk Needs Volunteers

Marilyn Moon

WomanWalk, an Issaquah Alps Trails Club (IATC) monthly hiking program for women, is now in its fifth year. Attendance has grown from an average of one hike being led with eight to 10 hikers each month to almost three dozen women participating each month! We need hike leaders to guide women in small-size groups. It makes for a more enjoyable experience on the trail.

On Tuesday, November 3, from 7:00–8:30 p.m., a hike-leader orientation training will be offered to those interested in leading hikes for WomanWalk and/or other IATC hikes.

Volunteers are needed for the following: occasional mailings; monthly publicity; newsletter publication; and leading hikes.

If you have a few hours each month to help in one or more of these areas, please call me at 425-392-1732. ▲

Tiger Mountain Update

Barbara Johnson

At the May Board meeting, Jim Matthews (Public Use Manager) and Larry Fry (Forester) of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) briefed those present about Tiger Mountain State Forest.

Law enforcement on Tiger was discussed. It is difficult for Jim Russell (law enforcement person for Tiger Mountain) to keep up with all his responsibilities because he is often called away from Tiger to perform other duties. DNR has developed a brochure for mountain bikers to try to control riding on unauthorized trails. The Board felt that more enforcement was necessary. An emphasis patrol was suggested, with a focus on all unauthorized riders.

There will be timber harvests in the future on Tiger Mountain as it is a "working forest in an urban environment." Recent timber harvest has been passive as an assessment of the timber on Tiger was completed. Three thousand acres have just been moved out of timber lands and into the Resource Conservation Area. This land is now permanently removed from the timber base and includes all land around creeks and streams, high slopes, roads, etc. Sixty-six hundred acres can be logged on a rotating basis. The wetland buffer is 160 feet in addition to 160 feet for streams and 100 feet for slopes. Seventy percent of the land is included for logging and 30 percent is excluded. The land will be placed on a 60-year rotation schedule with 110 acres per year sold for timber. The land selected for logging will rotate and will be determined by drainage basin. Timber sales on DNR land are earmarked for school construction as part of the mission of DNR. ▲

Oil Changes on Squak *by Bill Longwell*

Another day coal miner named Fred Rounds used to tell Harvey Manning about early day truck logging on Squak. In Squak's antique days, logging roads were more than primitive, they were narrow and steep. Fred told Harvey he'd keep one foot on the brakes and one on the running board. He was prepared to jump if the brakes failed.

In the late 1960s on one of my exploratory trips to Squak's Thrush Gap (the east gap forms the headwaters of Phil's Creek and the west gap holds the road), I poked around the twin gaps and stepped on a pile of tin cans. I dug around and uncovered a score of old Texaco oil cans, obviously of an early vintage.

Here, on a dead end spur off the main logging road was a stop for oil changes for vintage trucks—trucks with airless rubber tires and small loads. These trucks crawled up and down this route. They went around tight corners and slid carefully over stringer bridges. Here at Thrush Gap, these trucks paused at an impoverished Texaco station, which is now buried and hidden amid the decaying compost. ▲

EcoTeam Program

Terry Risdon

Block by block, neighborhood by neighborhood, the Issaquah Sustainable Lifestyle Campaign is helping people improve the environmental quality of their neighborhoods, better steward natural resources for their children's sake, and know their neighbors! The City of Issaquah, King County, and Puget Sound Air Pollution Control Agency fund this exciting new program.

Here is how it works. Five or six neighbors form an EcoTeam. Using a step-by-step workbook, EcoTeam households choose from a menu of practical actions, which make a big impact on our local environmental quality. Team members support one another as they reduce waste, use less water and energy, improve water quality, learn earth-friendly shopping habits, improve transportation efficiency, and share their experiences with others.

On average, EcoTeam households in Issaquah send 52 percent less garbage into the waste stream. They use 30 percent less water, 13 percent less household energy, 19 percent less fuel for transportation, and have an annual savings of \$345. Best of all, however, is the greater sense of community that team members experience with their neighbors as a result of sharing with each other in a meaningful way.

If you live within the Issaquah School District, let us help you start an EcoTeam in your neighborhood. For more information, call me at 425-391-0222 or e-mail: gapiswa@pacifier.com ▲

Issaquah Alps Trails Club Mail Order Service

Post Office Box 351

Issaquah, Washington 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 (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! \$12 (includes map listed in next column, tax, and shipping).

▲ *Guide to Trails of Tiger Mountain*

By Bill Longwell. 1998 revised edition. Updated trail information plus the new East Tiger Trail and new DNR trails. Plus encounters with animals. \$12 (includes map listed in next column, tax, and shipping).

▲ *The Coals of Newcastle: A Hundred Years of Hidden History*

By Richard K. McDonald and Lucille McDonald. A complete history of the once-thriving coal mining area of Cougar Mountain, now hidden from all but hikers. More than one hundred photographs, four maps, and Tim O'Brian's account of the incredible Seattle and Walla Walla Railroad. \$12 (includes map 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 (includes tax and shipping).

▲ *Tiger Mountain map*. 1998 revised. \$2 (includes tax and shipping).

▲ *Cougar Mountain map*. 1998 revised. \$2 (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, long sleeve \$17).

▲ T-Shirt: "*Mountains to Sound March*." Specify size (S, M, L, XL). \$11. All shirts are blue and short-sleeved.

Issaquah Alps Trails Club
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