



January ♦ February ♦ March 2003

Cougar ♦ Squak ♦ Tiger ♦ Grand Ridge ♦ Taylor ♦ Rattlesnake

IATC Board Approves Major Changes for Membership and Operations

From the Board and Officers of IATC

Most IATC members are likely not aware that the Officers and Board of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club have struggled for months with organizational and operational challenges that threatened the viability of IATC to continue operating as a functioning club. After many work sessions, the board has officially approved significant changes to the way IATC will operate in the future, with the overriding purpose being to simplify and minimize the level of effort required of the volunteers who sustain the club's operations. The most dramatic change is that, beginning in 2003, IATC will shift from a paid membership system to a non-pay, volunteer-donation system of membership.

There are many good reasons for this, but also a degree of risk in making this and other changes. In approving these actions, the IATC board wanted all members to be provided with an in-depth understanding of the issues involved. This article is intended to help members fully understand and appreciate the challenges faced by IATC in sustaining a totally volunteer, multi-faceted, non-profit hiking club and why the approved changes were necessary.

Unlike many non-profits, IATC's challenges aren't the result of financial problems, although the club is far from wealthy. Rather, the problems result from a recurring shortage of members willing to volunteer time and effort to club activities. Many

of the 700+ IATC members may not understand that the club operates by and is totally dependant on volunteer labor to sustain the guided hike program, the newsletter, trail maintenance, advocacy, publications, and club membership management. IATC has no paid staff, nor can afford it, thus all of the club's activities are managed by a handful of club volunteers who care enough about trails, open space, and the local environment to devote their personal volunteer time and effort to these causes and to the club. Over the past years however, fewer members have been willing to become board members, hike

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Whenever possible, please use e-mail to contact any member listed below.

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

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leaders, or club officers, resulting in too large of a burden on those who are in these roles.

As the board planned for 2003, several serious challenges became apparent, including:

- No one volunteered to serve as either President or Treasurer in 2003.
- The burden of processing checks, paying bills, keeping membership records and renewal notices has become too burdensome for a volunteer treasurer to manage.
- There aren't volunteers willing to fill vacant board or other key club positions. Attendance at meetings has declined steadily. Those who have filled these positions in the past are getting burned out with no successors identified.
- There is no Alpiner editor to interface with our new publication designer, and we have fewer members providing articles to the Alpiner for publication.
- Liability insurance coverage is getting more difficult and expensive to secure.
- Fewer hike leaders are volunteering to lead hikes and new hike leaders aren't coming forward.
- There is a perception that many battles IATC fought in the past to preserve open space and trails have been largely won and that few issues now require IATC advocacy.
- The Mountains to Sound Greenway, Washington Trails Association, Earthcorps, and others have stepped in to fill many of the roles that IATC filled in the past.

Given all of these issues, the board seriously considered whether IATC could or should continue to exist. The potential of an IATC merger with another existing hiking organization such as the Mountaineers, Washington Trails Association, or Snoqualmie Valley Trails Club was considered as well.

In discussions involving current and past club leaders, it became clear, however, that IATC's hard-

earned reputation and respected name should not be sacrificed through either a merger or the club's demise.

Rather, the proposed solution was to identify a simplified approach to sustaining club operations and its structure. The specific goal was to create a realistic concept for future operations that enables the continuation of historic club activities without creating an excessive burden on volunteers willing to contribute to them.

The IATC board discussed the merits of a membership system, the guided hike program, and all the other key "elements" of IATC's activities, documenting what each "element" currently requires in terms of volunteer support and operational/logistical duties. To help members understand what the club currently does and what it requires, these "elements" include:

MEMBERSHIP/TREASURER

- maintain membership roster
- process/track dues payments
- send renewal notices
- collect all IATC mail
- pay all bills
- interface with the mailing service provider and printer
- keep detailed financial records

HIKES PROGRAM

- need an overall hike program coordinator/leader
- need several hike leaders; need to identify and train new leaders
- need liability insurance coverage
- IATC hotline staffing and regular upkeep
- compile a quarterly hike schedule

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- administer hike sign-up and liability release forms
- gather and publish statistics about the hikes program

PUBLICATIONS (PRODUCING AND SELLING)

- need someone to oversee producing/updating publications and authors
- manage printing and stockpiling
- process orders for publications; interface with customers

ADVOCACY

- need leaders who identify and track the range of issues of interest
- need IATC participants on committees and at public meetings
- need to rally letter-writing and testimony when needed
- manage an email alert roster and send notices
- interact with developers, city/county staff, and politicians

TRAIL MAINTENANCE

- need leaders who identify and coordinate projects, and organize and track efforts
- need to recruit and train volunteers
- need to coordinate closely with land managers on projects
- need to supply and maintain the tool inventory

ALPINER

- now have paid production/design support
- need several contributors of articles

- need an editor in chief to interface between authors and producer

IATC WEBSITE

- need a website manager
- requires regular website upkeep
- need contributors of website materials/input
- keeps an email listserv for IATC member email addresses

To sustain these activities, the major annual costs for IATC include:

- Alpiner: \$4,000/year
- Publications: \$4,300/year or more
- Membership processing/mailings: \$2,000
- Insurance: \$1,050

Historically, these and other costs have been covered by membership dues that have been kept to the minimum needed to meet club expenses. However, with the burden of processing and keeping accurate records of membership, renewals, and finances too great for volunteers, the board approved changes to the way IATC will operate in the future.

The most significant changes, approved at the October board meeting, will include:

1. IATC will convert from a paid membership club to a non-pay membership system in the first quarter of 2003.
2. Club operations will instead be sustained through voluntary member donations.
3. Separate accounting systems for "club operations" and "publications" will be created.
4. The guided hikes program will continue, but, if necessary, the number and frequency of hikes

will be reduced to levels supportable by volunteer hike leaders.

5. The IATC hotline will be eliminated and hikes advertised only in the *Alpiner* or on the website.

6. A broader email listserv of IATC members will be created to support advocacy alerts and as an economical means for sharing club information. If necessary in the future, electronic notices may become the sole means of club information sharing.

7. The quarterly paper, *The Alpiner*, will continue through 2003, with a reevaluation in 3Q2003 of costs for producing and mailing a paper version vs. voluntary donations received. It will then be determined if a quarterly paper version can be sustained. If not, a shift to an online, electronic-only version of *The Alpiner* may begin in 2004.

8. Board meetings will be held quarterly instead of monthly.

A more comprehensive summary of these approved changes and the recommendations for continuing to operate each "element" of IATC activities is printed in a separate article for those interested in more details.

With this new approach to operating, it will be essential to the future of IATC for members to financially support the club on a voluntary basis. It's also hoped that more members will step forward as volunteers to support club activities.

IATC has achieved an incredible record of accomplishments in its 20-year history, building a recognized and respected name for the protection and preservation of the Issaquah Alps and its magnificent trail system. The board and officers of IATC hope that this new approach for managing club operations will keep that history alive and growing for years into the future.

Greetings fellow hikers,

As you will read in the cover story of this *Alpiner*, we have had lots of discussions about the future of IATC.

The hikes program will continue as before, but we sure need additional volunteers to lead hikes. We need hike leaders at all levels of hiking, from easy to strenuous.

If you are interested, please send me an e-mail to MarianZZZ@Aol.com or join us at our next hike leaders' meeting.



By way of illustrating the benefits of hiking, let me recap some statistics from the American Heart Association. Calories burned on a hike for a 150 pound person are 400 to 600 per hour.

For a 200 pound person, calories burned are 550 to 750 per hour. If you burn an extra 3,500 calories, that equates to a one pound loss of weight. Plus, hiking and other exercise will also help you raise the level of your good cholesterol (HDL).

See you on the trails,
Fred Z

Looking for hiking guides and maps to the Issaquah Alps ?

Check out our back cover for a complete list of detailed hiking guides, trail maps and hikes for the entire family covering the Issaquah Alps.

IATC Annual Meeting Planned for January 27, 2003

The Annual Meeting will be held at the Issaquah Trails Center (110 Bush Street) from 7:00-9:00 p.m. on Monday, January 27th. This meeting provides a great opportunity for members to hear detailed reports on all club activities and accomplishments during the past year, to vote on board and officer positions, and to explore opportunities for getting more involved. In light of the approved changes to IATC operations, this year's meeting may be of particular interest to members wishing to learn more about the club, its operations, and how they might participate more. Mark your calendar to attend this important meeting.

Snoqualmie Ridge Loop: 9.0 Miles, Elevation Gain 1400 Feet

by Bill Longwell

The Snoqualmie Ridge Loop is a remarkable trail system (unheard of in major developments) in a remarkable, if disturbing, development. Near wild trails, in some places just feet from burgeoning, upscale housing, these trails present a series of unmatched views of close-by and far-away mountains. Stand in various vistas and dream of summer hiking.

The developer has spent much time designing and building a long trail system. And a highly regarded, experienced and sympathetic trail builder has added his own ideas to the loop trail. This trail system, with more trails in the planning stage, invites a hiker back again and again to learn the territory. The flowers, some highly unusual, make repeated visits necessary.

The sleepy town of Snoqualmie has seen radical transformation by this rapidly built Ridge development. Snoqualmie's park system has certainly transformed itself. Parks, both large and small, strategically sit throughout the development.

This trail log begins arbitrarily at the Snoqualmie Police Station, on the corner of the Snoqualmie Parkway (extension of Highway 18) and Douglas Street (one and one-half miles north of I-90 exit 25). Find parking on nearby industrial parking lots.

Or, for another access drive the Preston-Fall City road (I-90 exit 22), go 3.9 miles downhill from the Preston Store to SE 47th, Lake Alice road, turn right and drive 0.9 miles to the Lake Alice Trailhead, on the paved Preston-Snoqualmie King county Trail (you're nowhere near Lake Alice here). Travel one-half mile east just past the expansive dip in the old railroad grade, to a wide trail leaving south (uphill), and climb 0.3 miles to a junction with the Snoqualmie Ridge Loop.

From the Parkway (Police Station)

Find the trail, covered with "hog fuel" (rough cedar shavings), behind the police station and west of the ponds. This wide path weaves in and out of the forest fringe and parking lots, passing various concrete office buildings. A seasonal creek somewhat parallels the trail.

The trail winds around another double catch pond (attracting various birds) and heads for the Bonneville power line (1.0), turns left to follow the power line until it reaches open ground just south of another catch pond, standing between the trail and the bushy parkway (1.5). The trail heads downhill under the Puget power line.

Here the hiker faces two options.

(1) A 2002-03 trail breaks off to the south through woods, strikes an old Weyerhaeuser road, crosses a seasonal creek, re-enters deep woods (0.5) to reach a huge culvert tunnel (0.8). The road above, built in 2002, carries local traffic to 300 homes. After passing through the tunnel, this trail climbs to pass around another double pond, enters woods and follows an old logging road to join the Snoqualmie Centennial Trail (2.0), between the old town and the Snoqualmie Falls, near the Parkway and along the Snoqualmie River.

Back at the junction.

Reach the sidewalk and Parkway. Drop right down a paved path to visit Fisher Park (climbing wall, toilet) or just cross the Parkway here.

Walk uphill on sidewalk under green #1 of the Ridge golf course, cross the paved Bonneville line road and climb to a paved trail skirting two more ponds. Take this trail and pass townhouses to reach Fairway Avenue SE.

Two more choices.

(1) Walk streets closest to the golf course (English, Laurel Streets) and reach Ridge Street. Turn right downhill to Eagle Lake Drive. Walk left one-half mile to the unmarked Eagle Lake trailhead and more soft trail.

(2) Cross Fairway Avenue and take the paved tread through the woods to SE Kinsey. Walk uphill to Meadow Park and take the gravel path above the basketball court and climb to Iris Lake (3.1). Skirt either side of the lake and around woods to reach the Peat Bog Natural Area. Please visit.

Continue down from the natural area along the paved trail to Muir Street and turn right uphill (3.8). Turn onto Laurel and walk past large houses to a public walkway between houses to SE Ridge (4.3). Look east. See I-90 climbing to Snoqualmie Pass and view Mount Washington, Mailbox, Bandara and Silver Peaks. Wish for summer!

Turn left to Eagle Lake. Turn left again on Eagle Lake Drive and walk sidewalks one-half mile to the unmarked trailhead and soft trail. Leave the sidewalks behind. Semi wilderness beckons (4.9).

Climb to increasing views above an astounding, 2003 development and look to the north: Baker, Pilchuck and the walkable pass that leads to Highway 2, all the Mount Si peaks, Fuller Mountain and Fred's Beergarten. Wish for summer...again!

Drop and climb to one more view under Bonneville lines. Look down to the Preston-Snoqualmie Trail, the Snoqualmie River below the Falls and the Tokul Valley, if you know where to look.

The trail drops to picnic tables and a loop around small Whitaker Park, then switchbacks down to a trail junction with the first of three connectors to the Preston-Snoqualmie Trail, 0.3 below (5.8).. Continue to drop steeply and cross a lovely bridge (6.0). Now on the Ridge's north side, the trail undulates around various spurs to reach a fence and second connector to the paved trail, 0.2 below (6.3).

Another series of short climbs and drops brings you to the third connector (0.3 down to the paved trail) and another bridge (6.9). A 400-foot climb switchbacks back up to the Ridge, the golf course and an expansive park (7.4). Follow the sidewalk west to a junction with Douglas Avenue SE and nearby Carmichael. Drop down soft trail along Carmichael to reach a left turn (7.5). Here the trail follows seasonal Silent Creek in a narrow wood between developments, passes Milepost 1 (?) and crosses McCullough Street (7.8).

The wide path passes now between the new development on the east and the older Lake Alice development on the west, the backyards of which once bordered on wilderness.

Pass by Stellar Park (8.4), cross the Puget power line right-of-way (8.6) and reach the Parkway (9.0). Across the Parkway stands the familiar Police Station.

Learn the area and find many variations (even a 13 miles loop)

(Green Trails Map #205S, Upper Snoqualmie Valley)

January

Wednesday, January 1, 12:00 noon
Poo Poo Point

Half day hike. Up and down the Chirico trail to great views of Mt. Baker and Mt. Rainier
2C, 5 miles, 1700 ft. gain
Frank Gilliland, 425-603-0454

Saturday, January 4, 9:00 a.m.
Cougar (Lakemont Loop)

We'll follow Community Perimeter and Summit Trails. Combination of the wild Lewis Gorge, wooded trails and views of Lake Sammamish, the Cascades and million dollar homes. Afterwards, we'll stop for soup. Moderate pace.
2B, 6 miles, 1200 ft. gain
Ralph Owen, 425-746-1070

Sunday, January 5, 9:00 a.m.
Trail Maintenance Work Party
All volunteers welcome.
For more information, contact:
Scott Semans, 425-369-1725

Sunday, January 5, 10:00 a.m.
Cougar Mountain
Hike down Coal Creek trail to Parkway. Small loop on return.
2B, 6 miles, 700 ft. gain
Frank Gilliland, 425-603-0454

Monday, January 6, 8:00 a.m.
Bird watching. Stillwater to Duvall along the Snoqualmie River
2A, 6 miles, no elevation gain.
Bill Longwell, 425-222-6775

Saturday, January 11, 9:00 a.m.
Tradition Lake Plateau
Loop hike with tree identification and light trail maintenance. Bring work gloves. Call leader for more details.
2B, 4-6 miles, 600 ft. gain
Dave Kappler, 425-392-3571

Saturday, January 11, 9:30 a.m.
Cougar Mountain. Loop hike to DeLeo Wall and Far Country Lookout.
2B, 4-5 miles, 800 ft. gain
Barb Johnson, 425-746-5573

Sunday, January 12, 9:00 a.m.
Tiger Mountain traverse.
One way hike from Preston to Issaquah.
2B, 6 miles, 600 ft. gain
Joe Toynbee, 206-723-6716

Sunday, January 12, 10:00 a.m.
Tiger Mountain
Nook loop to Talus caves. Slow pace.
2B, 5 miles, 700 ft. gain
Trudy Ecob, 206-232-2933

Saturday, January 18, 9:30 a.m.
Cougar Mountain
Loop hike to De Leo Wall and Cool Creek Falls
2B, 5 miles, 1200 ft. gain
Doug Simpson, 425-392-6660

Sunday, January 19, 9:00 a.m.
Middle Tiger
TMT from South Trailhead to seldom visited Middle Tiger. Return option via S. Tiger Traverse.
3C, 11-12 miles, 200-2500 ft. gain
Tom Palm, 206-783-6005

Saturday, January 25, 12:30 p.m.
Twin Falls
Great winter hike to popular waterfalls
2B, 3-4 miles, 600 ft. gain
Bob Gross, 425-427-8449

Sunday, January 26, 9:00 a.m.
Rattlesnake Ledges (3)
Climb to all three ledges with views of Mt. Si and 3 Snoqualmie river valleys.
2C, 4 miles, 1400 ft. gain
Peggy Owen, 425-746-1070

Monday, January 27, 7:00 p.m.
Board Meeting and Annual Meeting
Join us for our annual club meeting.
Trail Center, 1st & Bush Streets

February

Saturday, February 1, 9:00 a.m.
South Tiger Loop
Hike South TMT to Otter Lake, return via South Tiger Traverse. S. Tiger peak option.
2C, 7 miles, 1600 ft. gain
Fred Zeitler, 425-882-3435

Sunday, February 2, 9:00 a.m.
Trail Maintenance Work Party
All volunteers welcome.
For information, contact:
Scott Semans, 425-369-1725

Sunday, February 2, 9:30 a.m.
Tiger Mountain
Hike North TMT across 3 bridges. Optional to Ruth's Cove. Return via Highpoint Trail.
2B, 5-6 miles, 900-1200 ft. gain
Jamie McKenzie, 425-746-6683

Saturday, February 8, 9:00 a.m.
Tradition Lake Plateau
Loop hike with shrub identification and light trail maintenance. Bring work gloves. Call leader for more details.
2B, 4-6 miles, 600 ft. gain
Dave Kappler, 425-392-3571

Saturday, February 9, 9:30 a.m.
Cougar Mountain
Hike beautiful route past "fantastic erratic" to AA Peak for lunch with views. Partial loop on return trip.
2C, 7 miles, 1800 ft. gain
Doug Simpson, 425-392-6660

Saturday, February 15, 9:30 a.m.
Cougar Mountain
Hike north face to AA Peak from Newport Way via seldom used trails.
2C, 6 miles, 1400 ft. gain
Bob Gross, 425-427-8449

Sunday, February 16, 9:00 a.m.
Tradition Lake Plateau
Loop hike on popular trails past 2 lakes, old bus and older tree.
2A, 5-6 miles, 300 ft. gain
Tom Palm, 206-783-6005

Monday, February 17, 9:00 a.m.
(President's Day)
Squak Mountain
One way hike across east side of mountain back to trail center.
2B, 6-7 miles, 600 ft. gain, 1200 ft. loss
Frank Gilliland, 425-603-0454

Saturday, February 22, 8:30 a.m.
Cougar Mountain Peaks & Waterfalls
We'll visit 4 or 5 of Cougar's high points and an equal number of small waterfalls on this loop hike. Expect to see several seldom-visited spots on Cougar.
4C/4D, 10-12 miles, 2,500 (+/-) ft. gain
Ralph Owen, 425-746-1070

Sunday, February 23, 9:30 a.m.
Tiger Mountain
Nook loop to Talus caves.
2B, 5 miles, 700 ft. gain
Kitty Gross, 425-641-4393

Sunday, February 23, 10:30 a.m.
Tradition Lake Plateau
Loop hike on popular Swamp, Big Tree and Adventure trails.
2A, 4 miles, 400 ft. gain
Bert Drui, 425-746-0709

Tuesday, February 25, 7:00 p.m.
Hike Leaders' Meeting
Trail Center, 1st & Bush Streets

March

Saturday, March 1, 9:00 a.m.
Cougar Mountain
Wilderness Peak Loop. Side trip to Clay pit and mine shaft.
2B, 6-7 miles, 1600 ft. gain
Fred Zeitler, 425-882-3435

Sunday, March 2, 9:00 a.m.
Trail Maintenance Work Party
All volunteers welcome.
For information, contact:
Scott Semans, 425-369-1725

Saturday, March 8, 9:00 a.m.
Tradition Lake Plateau
Loop hike with plan identification and pruning back brush. Bring work gloves and clippers or loppers. Call leader for more details.
Dave Kappler, 425-392-3571

Sunday, March 9, 9:00 a.m.
W. Tiger 3
Hike to popular peak via the "quiet route."
3C, 8 miles, 2400 ft. gain
Tom Palm, 206-783-6005

Saturday, March 15, 9:00 a.m.
Squak Mountain
Easy stroll on north side to Rainier views. Return via Chybinski Trail.
2C, 5 miles, 1300 ft. gain
Karen von Pelt, 425-747-9381

Saturday, March 15, 10:30 a.m.
Cougar Mountain History Hike
See "old town," "new town," coal mines and railroad artifacts.
2A, 4 miles, 200 ft. gain
Bert Drui, 425-746-0709

Sunday, March 16, 9:30 a.m.
Cougar Mountain
Hike down Coal Creek trail to Parkway. Small loop on return.
2B, 6 miles, 700 ft. gain
Jamie McKenzie, 425-746-6683

Saturday, March 22, 8:30 a.m.
Squak Mountain Leader's choice
Following a combination of seldom-used and popular trails. We'll explore much of the previously proposed Perimeter Loop.
3C, 9 miles, 2100 ft. gain
Ralph Owen, 425-746-1070

Sunday, March 23, 9:30 a.m.
Cougar Mountain
Beautiful route past "Fantastic Erratic" to AA Peak with views for lunch.
2B, 6 miles, 1200 ft. gain
Kitty Gross, 425-641-4393

Wednesday, March 26, 10:00 a.m.
Squak Mountain
West Squak loop to Squak's best view site from SR 900.
2C, 7 miles, 1400 ft. gain
Warren Jones, 425-391-7409

Saturday, March 29, 8:30 a.m.
Issaquah Alps Triple Play
One way hike over parts of three mountains. From Cougar to Tiger via Squak and Issaquah.
4C, 12-13 miles, 2000 (+/-) ft. gain
Doug Simpson, 425-392-6660

Sunday, March 30, 9:30 a.m.
Cedar Butte
Hike new trails and old.
2C, 5 miles, 1300 ft. gain
Jackie Hughes, 425-641-3815

Details of Approved Changes to IATC Operations

To supplement the headline story and provide full details on changes to IATC operations, the following summarizes the changes approved in unanimous votes by the IATC board during their meeting on October 27, 2002.

Membership/Treasurer Approved Changes:

1. Convert from paid memberships to a non-pay membership system starting 1Q 2003. Paid memberships will be accepted thru YE 2002.
2. Starting in 2003, IATC will urge voluntary member donations to sustain club operating costs.
3. Membership/mailling lists will be locked in as of 1Q 2003. All existing members will continue to get the Alpiner. New members will simply request joining IATC and will be placed on the mailing list.
4. No more paid memberships will be accepted as of 1Q 2003. A form letter will be drafted and sent to anyone submitting a membership form after 1Q 2003 that explains the new membership policy and asks if their check can be cashed as a donation.
5. A form letter will be sent to each "life member" explaining the new policy and assuring them that they will remain on the IATC membership/mailling lists.
6. A solicitation for donations/contributions to IATC will be included in each Alpiner.
7. The processing and accounting systems for IATC publications and IATC general operating expenses will be separated into two different accounts. The "Treasurer" will handle IATC operations and the "Publications Manager" will handle all publications accounting. Initially, the same PO Box may be used, but separate boxes may also be required.
7. IATC's website will be updated to reflect the new membership system, to encourage donations, and to give correct addresses for donations and/or publications.

8. IATC's board should consider means for an audit or oversight function in order to avoid any future possibilities for problems in the club's handling and accounting of funds.

Hike Program Approved Changes:

1. Fred Zeitler will continue as Hike Program leader for 2003 and will administer the program, manage sign-up provisions, monitor, and keep statistics.
2. The board supports reducing the number/frequency of guided hikes offered to a level that is supportable by the Hike Program Leader and his volunteers if there is an insufficient number of hike leaders volunteering. All club leaders should help to recruit new hike leaders.
3. The hotline will be eliminated and the hike schedule advertised via the Alpiner and the website only.
4. Insurance coverage is in place through August 2003. Continuation of coverage will be discussed in 2Q 2003. Explore coverage based on actual number of hike/trail work participants vs. # of club members and determine if coverage is feasible based on only donations to IATC.
5. The "no dogs" on guided hikes policy will remain in place. Any "service animal user" requesting participation on IATC hikes will be offered a personalized, guided hike by a volunteer, but the full schedule of hikes within the IATC Hike Program will not be opened to accommodate dogs.
6. Depending on insurance issues, IATC may explore options for City-sponsored hikes led by IATC volunteers.
7. Create a means for automatic updates of the website hike schedule by the Alpiner producer.

Back at the junction.

Reach the sidewalk and Parkway. Drop right down a paved path to visit Fisher Park (climbing wall, toilet) or just cross the Parkway here.

Walk uphill on sidewalk under green #1 of the Ridge golf course, cross the paved Bonneville line road and climb to a paved trail skirting two more ponds. Take this trail and pass townhouses to reach Fairway Avenue SE.

Two more choices.

(1) Walk streets closest to the golf course (English, Laurel Streets) and reach Ridge Street. Turn right downhill to Eagle Lake Drive. Walk left one-half mile to the unmarked Eagle Lake trailhead and more soft trail.

(2) Cross Fairway Avenue and take the paved tread through the woods to SE Kinsey. Walk uphill to Meadow Park and take the gravel path above the basketball court and climb to Iris Lake (3.1). Skirt either side of the lake and around woods to reach the Peat Bog Natural Area. Please visit.

Continue down from the natural area along the paved trail to Muir Street and turn right uphill (3.8). Turn onto Laurel and walk past large houses to a public walkway between houses to SE Ridge (4.3). Look east. See I-90 climbing to Snoqualmie Pass and view Mount Washington, Mailbox, Bandara and Silver Peaks. Wish for summer!

Turn left to Eagle Lake. Turn left again on Eagle Lake Drive and walk sidewalks one-half mile to the unmarked trailhead and soft trail. Leave the sidewalks behind. Semi wilderness beckons (4.9).

Climb to increasing views above an astounding, 2003 development and look to the north: Baker, Pilchuck and the walkable pass that leads to Highway 2, all the Mount Si peaks, Fuller Mountain and Fred's Beergarten. Wish for summer...again!

Drop and climb to one more view under Bonneville lines. Look down to the Preston-Snoqualmie Trail, the Snoqualmie River below the Falls and the Tokul Valley, if you know where to look.

The trail drops to picnic tables and a loop around small Whitaker Park, then switchbacks down to a trail junction with the first of three connectors to the Preston-Snoqualmie Trail, 0.3 below (5.8).. Continue to drop steeply and cross a lovely bridge (6.0). Now on the Ridge's north side, the trail undulates around various spurs to reach a fence and second connector to the paved trail, 0.2 below (6.3).

Another series of short climbs and drops brings you to the third connector (0.3 down to the paved trail) and another bridge (6.9). A 400-foot climb switchbacks back up to the Ridge, the golf course and an expansive park (7.4). Follow the sidewalk west to a junction with Douglas Avenue SE and nearby Carmichael. Drop down soft trail along Carmichael to reach a left turn (7.5). Here the trail follows seasonal Silent Creek in a narrow wood between developments, passes Milepost 1 (?) and crosses McCullough Street (7.8).

The wide path passes now between the new development on the east and the older Lake Alice development on the west, the backyards of which once bordered on wilderness.

Pass by Stellar Park (8.4), cross the Puget power line right-of-way (8.6) and reach the Parkway (9.0). Across the Parkway stands the familiar Police Station.

Learn the area and find many variations (even a 13 miles loop)

(Green Trails Map #205S, Upper Snoqualmie Valley)

Details of Approved Changes to IATC Operations

To supplement the headline story and provide full details on changes to IATC operations, the following summarizes the changes approved in unanimous votes by the IATC board during their meeting on October 27, 2002.

Membership/Treasurer Approved Changes:

1. Convert from paid memberships to a non-pay membership system starting 1Q 2003. Paid memberships will be accepted thru YE 2002.
2. Starting in 2003, IATC will urge voluntary member donations to sustain club operating costs.
3. Membership/mailling lists will be locked in as of 1Q 2003. All existing members will continue to get the Alpiner. New members will simply request joining IATC and will be placed on the mailing list.
4. No more paid memberships will be accepted as of 1Q 2003. A form letter will be drafted and sent to anyone submitting a membership form after 1Q 2003 that explains the new membership policy and asks if their check can be cashed as a donation.
5. A form letter will be sent to each "life member" explaining the new policy and assuring them that they will remain on the IATC membership/mailling lists.
6. A solicitation for donations/contributions to IATC will be included in each Alpiner.
7. The processing and accounting systems for IATC publications and IATC general operating expenses will be separated into two different accounts. The "Treasurer" will handle IATC operations and the "Publications Manager" will handle all publications accounting. Initially, the same PO Box may be used, but separate boxes may also be required.
7. IATC's website will be updated to reflect the new membership system, to encourage donations, and to give correct addresses for donations and/or publications.

8. IATC's board should consider means for an audit or oversight function in order to avoid any future possibilities for problems in the club's handling and accounting of funds.

Hike Program Approved Changes:

1. Fred Zeitler will continue as Hike Program leader for 2003 and will administer the program, manage sign-up provisions, monitor, and keep statistics.
2. The board supports reducing the number/frequency of guided hikes offered to a level that is supportable by the Hike Program Leader and his volunteers if there is an insufficient number of hike leaders volunteering. All club leaders should help to recruit new hike leaders.
3. The hotline will be eliminated and the hike schedule advertised via the Alpiner and the website only.
4. Insurance coverage is in place through August 2003. Continuation of coverage will be discussed in 2Q 2003. Explore coverage based on actual number of hike/trail work participants vs. # of club members and determine if coverage is feasible based on only donations to IATC.
5. The "no dogs" on guided hikes policy will remain in place. Any "service animal user" requesting participation on IATC hikes will be offered a personalized, guided hike by a volunteer, but the full schedule of hikes within the IATC Hike Program will not be opened to accommodate dogs.
6. Depending on insurance issues, IATC may explore options for City-sponsored hikes led by IATC volunteers.
7. Create a means for automatic updates of the website hike schedule by the Alpiner producer.

Publications Recommendations:

1. The accounting system for publications will be separated from other general IATC finances and accounting. If necessary, separate mail facilities will also be established.
2. Separate banking accounts will be established for publications and general club finances.
3. The website will be updated to ensure new Green Trail maps are offered for sale.
4. It will be the sole responsibility of the author of any publication to update their document, not the publications manager. Offering of the publication will cease if it becomes outdated or cannot be printed economically with a reasonable expectation of return.
5. Change the forms for ordering publications, as necessary, to accommodate these changes.
6. IATC will seek to market club publications more effectively to provide revenue to the club.
7. The ongoing map project will continue with previously dedicated club funds available to finance this project.

Advocacy Recommendations:

1. Realign geographic regions for the current "Advocate" system.
2. Utilize the non-pay membership system to create a larger email listserv that can be used to publicize advocacy issues when member support would be beneficial.
3. Advocacy discussions/planning (IATC letters, testimony, authorization to use IATC's name, etc.) will be primarily handled via email in lieu of monthly meetings.

Trail Maintenance Recommendations:

1. Two IATC trail maintenance crews will continue in 2003: the Longwell crew of veterans and the McCrone/Semans crew of new volunteers.

2. Efforts will be made to identify and train additional trail maintenance crew leaders so that larger numbers of volunteers can be properly managed and accommodated.

Alpiner Recommendations:

1. A quarterly paper Alpiner will be continued thru 2003, mailed to all addressees on the IATC mailing list.
2. The board will reevaluate costs of printing and mailing the Alpiner vs. donations received to date in 3Q2003 to determine if quarterly publication and mailings can continue for 20.0
3. A broader base of contributing authors in 2003 is needed. IATC board agrees to contribute.
4. Identify an "editor in chief" to interface between submitting authors and Nancy Wagner (Alpiner producer).
5. Include a headline story in the 4Q 2002 Alpiner that explains to all members how and why the club is changing.
6. Utilize articles from past Alpiners to create an "IATC in the Past" column in each future edition.
7. Initiate photo inclusions in future Alpiners. Encourage members to submit digital photos.
8. Adjust membership and publications forms in the Alpiner to reflect new IATC operations. Include a solicitation for donations on the membership form and in each Alpiner.

Website Recommendations:

1. David Langrock continues as website manager for 2003.
2. The website will be updated to include an explanation of new club policies on membership, donations, advocacy regions, hike program, Alpiner, etc.
3. Create a seamless means for integrating the hike schedule into the website.
4. Create a means for key website contributors to

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access and update the site themselves. Seek to post more updated materials on the site.

5. Determine how to manage member/non-member emails to the website.
6. Determine how to effectively organize and use member email addresses in support of club goals.
6. Consider including the full Alpiner on the website. If a paper Alpiner cannot be sustained after 2003, lay groundwork for an all-electronic version to replace it.

IATC Club Management:

1. Board and officer nominees for 2003 need to be finalized for the Annual Meeting. Key officer nominees are identified; board nominees need to be finalized.
2. Board meetings will be held quarterly instead of monthly following the January 2003 Annual Meeting. Other business will occur by email or by special, additional meetings if needed.
3. Future discussions will be held on the future utilization of existing IATC funds
4. Sharing or funds between the general account and publications account will be discussed.

Transports on the Trail

by Doug Simpson

A hiker is often surprised by the unusual or unexpected on his wilderness forays. New viewpoints or vistas are always pleasant, as are sightings of wildlife and coming across remnants of logging or mining operations from years past.

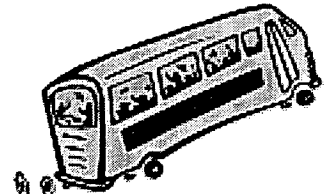
However, a totally different kind of unique experience is to discover a long-abandoned vehicle in the wilderness. Yet each of the major Issaquah Alps has its own vehicle—and perhaps a special story to tell.

One of the trails on Tiger Mountain is called the Bus Trail—and for good reason. As you perambulate this pleasant family trail, there it is ... an abandoned Greyhound scenicruiser lying on its side, slowly rusting and rotting away. Since its location is not in a very steep place, it could have gotten there pretty easily, but why was it abandoned? Even Bill Longwell, who has written the ultimate guidebook to Tiger Mountain, fails to provide an explanation of its origins.

The upper reaches of Squak Mountain were once owned by the Bullitt family, which had a small lodge near the top of Central Peak.

Today, all that remains are part of the fireplace and a cement floor. (I'm assuming the picnic table was brought in later.)

In any case, the Bullitt aerie was reached by a narrow old road up Squak's north side, connecting to the Mountain Park neighborhood of Issaquah. About a mile down the old road (now but a narrow trail) and steeply down into the trees and brush rests a car. Once it got off the road, it would have been nearly impossible to pull back up, so apparently it was just left there. But wouldn't you like to know how and when it met its end?



Cougar Mountain was more developed earlier in the 20th century, with mining camps and numerous roads crisscrossing its upper reaches. It, too, has an abandoned car. This is the most mysterious of the three. It is off the Shangri La Trail (another one-time road) just below the route's main turn north to the AA trailhead atop Cougar. The car was abandoned off the road/trail, but this time on the uphill side. How? Why?

I am very curious about these automotive mysteries, as are, I'm sure, countless other hikers.

So, my imagination has run amok, and here are my theories as to the origin of these ancient (well, at least 50-60 years) transports.

As for the bus, it is not much of a stretch to envision it as a base adjunct to some mining, logging or power company operation at work. It is close to the power lines. It may have been an office, a chuckwagon or a rest station. When the operation ended, it was simply left behind. Whether it was tipped over by the departing workers or just malicious hikers is anyone's guess.

The Squak/Bullitt car went off the road, I surmise, either due to snowy, slippery conditions, or perhaps, to drunken or careless driving by someone descending the mountaintop getaway.

Let's have some fun with the Cougar car (no Mercury model here). I like to think that the car met its untimely and unlikely end as some renegade moonshiner or desperado of some sort was racing recklessly to get away from the pursuing law. Well, it could have happened that way!

What are your theories of these transports of the trails? And what other mysteries have hikers uncovered on their excursions into the wilderness?

Hiking Information

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 hike lead-

ers, the Issaquah Alps Trails Club (IATC), 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 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 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 hiking time and letters indicate degree of difficulty.

Hiking Time

Class 1: 2 hours Class 3: 6 hours

Class 2: 4 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 of 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 of elevation gain.

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Hike Information, continued

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 hikes 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 going 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 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.

Checklist:

- Food
- Water
- Daypack
- Raingear
- Warm clothes
- Hiking Shoes

Each item is required in order to participate in an Issaquah Alps Trails Club hike!

Don't leave the trailhead without them!

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 periodically organize and schedule trail maintenance parties as listed in the hikes schedule. Work parties meet (see *Meeting Place* on previous page) at the same place as regular 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 trails listed by the DNR as scheduled for maintenance. Construction of new trails is not allowed. Work parties are a great way to meet people! Individuals and groups are encouraged to adopt a trail—or section of trail—and take the responsibility of maintaining it.

Issaquah Alps Trails Club Publications Order Form

Return this completed form along with your check to:

Issaquah Alps Trails Club Publications, P.O. Box 466, Issaquah, WA 98027

Name: _____ Address: _____

ITEM	PRICE*	QTY.	TOTAL
Book: The Flowering of the Issaquah Alps--Revised!	\$ 9.00		
Book: The Authoritative Guide to the Trails of Cougar Mountain Wildland Park and Surrounds	15.00**		
Book: Guide to Trails of Tiger Mountain	12.00***		
Book: The Coals of Newcastle: A Hundred Years of Hidden History	15.00		
Book: Eastside Family Hikes	3.00		
Map: Issaquah Alps Tiger Mountain, 1998 revision	2.00		
Map: Issaquah Alps Cougar Mountain, 2001 revision	2.00		
Green Trails Map: Tiger & Taylor Mountains, Map 204S	7.00		
Green Trails Map: Cougar & Squak Mountains, Map 203S	7.00		
Green Trails Map: Rattlesnake Mountain & Upper Snoqualmie Valley Map 205S	7.00		
Green Trails Map: Mount Si NRCA & Snoqualmie Corridor, Map 206S	7.00		

* - All prices include shipping and handling.

Total: _____

** - One (1) IATC Cougar Mountain Map included.

*** - One (1) IATC Tiger Mountain Map included.

Issaquah Alps Trails Club Foundation and Membership Request Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____



All donations are tax deductible. Your donations fund The Alpiner publication costs and the club's minimal operating costs first, with 100% of remaining funds being directed where they can best address the trail design, construction, maintenance and advocacy needs throughout the Issaquah Alps. **Note:** Membership does not require a donation; however, donations help us preserve and enhance your Issaquah Alps.

Annual donation levels:

p The basic hiker.....\$15 p The project supporter.....\$25

p The IATC sponsor.....\$50 p The visionary.....\$100 and above

IMPORTANT: This form and your donation and/or membership request form should be mailed to: IATC Foundation, P.O. Box 351, Issaquah, WA 98027

Issaquah Alps Trails Club Publications

See page 15 for the publications order form.

Note: All of the following prices include shipping & handling.

- ☐ 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.
- ☐ Guide to the Trails of Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park and Surrounds—By Charles McCrone. 2000 edition. Completely updated version gives historical background and descriptions for every park trail, plus 30 other trails in the surrounding area including Bellevue, Newcastle, Renton, and the Precipice. \$15 (includes map listed in next column).
- ☐ 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).

- ☐ 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. 100+ photographs, 4 maps, and Tim O'Brian's account of the incredible Seattle and Walla Walla Railroad. \$15.
- ☐ Eastside Family Hikes—By Peggy Barchi. 2001 revised and updated edition. Descriptions of family hikes (annotated for stroller use and picnicking) on the Eastside. \$3.
- ☐ Green Trails Tiger & Taylor Mountain. Map 204S. \$7.
- ☐ Green Trails Cougar & Squak Mountains. Map 203S. \$7.
- ☐ Green Trails Rattlesnake Mountain & Upper Snoqualmie Valley, Map 205S. \$7.
- ☐ *Green Trails Mount Si NRCA & Snoqualmie Corridor*, Map 206S. \$7.
- ☐ IATC Tiger Mountain map. 1998 revised. \$2.
- ☐ IATC Cougar Mountain map. 2001 revised. \$2.

Issaquah Alps Trail Club
P.O. Box 351
Issaquah, WA 98027

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