

THE ALPINE



April ♦ May ♦ June 2006

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

DANGER ON COUGAR MOUNTAIN

By Doug Simpson

Steam rising from the ground. . . trees falling over with charred roots. . . holes opening up without warning. Is Mt. St. Helens acting up again? No, this activity is right in our backyard at the Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park.

Though Cougar's last coal mines were shut down in 1963, underground fires—the cause of all this mischief—have been burning for years, perhaps caused by spontaneous combustion. The recent steam rising from the ground and fallen trees may be the result of air reaching old mine shafts from newly opened steam vents due to ground shift or collapse.

The upshot of all this is that park officials and those of the U.S. Interior Department's Office of Surface Mining (OSM) are sealing off a huge area the size of three football fields and warning hikers and other recreationists to stay on existing trails.

Cave-ins are known to exist in the park. Two former mine entrances were discovered and sealed off last year as part of the Abandoned Mine and Reclamation Program of OSM. Two additional holes have recently been discovered and will be sealed later this year.

"Recreational users of the Cougar Park are at risk of falling into deep, steep-sided holes or shafts in

various areas of the park," warns Ginger Kaldenbach, senior project manager of OSM. Not only can temperatures exceed 110 degrees Fahrenheit in such areas, but "existing holes and new cave-ins may also contain deadly mine gases that can be fatal within moments of exposure."

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COUGAR CITED NATIONALLY

It's always nice to receive national recognition. At the same time warnings are being issued for underground mining dangers, the Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland park has been named as number 19 among the nation's Top 100 Trails by Trails.com.

According to the website, the Cougar Mountain area "covers a variety of habitats, from wetlands to streams to meadows and forests, and was saved from development by strong citizen support." And, of course, the Issaquah Alps Trails Club had a great deal to do with the development salvation.

Also listed in the top 100 in Washington State are Big Creek Falls on the Taylor River Trail (#24), the Central Alpine Lakes Loop near Cle Elum (#42), and Mount. Rainier National Park's Wonderland Trail (#88). Check out the website at www.trails.com/toptrails-2005.asp.

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IATC subsists on member donations only. Please send your tax-deductible contributions to the address above to help sustain our efforts to preserve, protect, and promote the Issaquah Alps and local environment.

Articles are welcome, preferably via e-mail to: dgjsimpson@aol.com
Send diskette or hard copy to post office box number above.

Issue deadlines: November 21 for January; February 21 for April; May 21 for July; August 21 for October.

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

DANGER *continued from page 1*

As a result, King County Parks has started a public awareness campaign. New fencing is being installed around known steam vents, and safety signage is being posted. In addition, an informational kiosk is being constructed.

It is no longer a question of staying on existing trails to avoid getting lost or to preserve wildlife and endangered plants. It is now clearly a matter of public safety. Hiking, running, riding and other park activities remain perfectly safe—as long as participants stay on existing marked trails.

Last March, OSM conducted a thermal imaging over-flight of Cougar Mountain to learn more about the potential for underground coal fires. This data, and that gathered from on-the-ground site visits, confirmed the fire's presence, and proved useful in identifying areas of potential danger.

In the glory days of Cougar's coal mining, nine coal seams ran mostly west to east across the mountain on 30-45 degree angles. Thus, problems may be limited to a certain area in the northwest part of the park now, but the potential for cave-ins exists in much of the park under these old coal seams—another reason to stay on approved trails.

IATC IN FEEDSTORE?

You might remember the old Hailstone Feed Store on Front Street in Issaquah. It has sat empty for several years now. Soon, however, the building—which has been purchased by the City of Issaquah—will reopen as a multiuse facility operated by the Downtown Issaquah Association (DIA).

And the Issaquah Alps Trails Club will be a part of this enterprise. The largest room in the remodeled facility will be a gift shop, featuring items from community non-profit groups. . .such as the IATC.

The gift shop, which will most likely open in June, will be a wonderful downtown outlet for the club's books and maps, as well as information about the club and its hiking and trail maintenance activities.

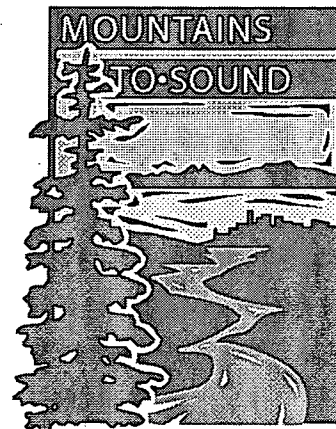
The IATC will help staff the gift shop on a co-op basis. Initially, it will be open on Friday and Saturday, but days and hours will be expanded during the summer. The site will have a number of parking spaces in the rear.

GREENWAY DAYS 3 COMING

The third annual Greenway Days is scheduled for June 24-25, with a full slate of activities from the edge of Seattle all the way to Thorp in Central Washington. The schedule of activities has not been made up yet, so watch for details in the media.

The Issaquah Alps Trails Club will feature two hikes a day, and one on Friday as well, to offer a variety of opportunities to area hikers. (See the schedule in the center section for details.)

One feature sure to draw a lot of interest is a 100-mile Adventure Relay, from Snoqualmie Pass to Golden Gardens Park in Seattle. Legs of the relay will include mountain-biking, road-biking, paddling and running. Information is available at www.mountainstosound.com



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Doug Simpson

A year ago, in the aftermath of the severe winter storms, Chief Ranger Bill Longwell told the IATC board that we would never see another like it for such monumental efforts by the club's trailwork volunteers. Although those valiant contributions were not matched in 2005, the fact remains that last year's work parties were exceeded only by those record-setting ones of 2004. Considering that IATC's dedicated volunteers were not laboring under the pressure of hundreds of trees across the trails, their work last year is extremely impressive.

Each year Longwell provides the IATC board with a meticulous, detailed report of the trailwork. This year's information covers 15 pages! If you want to know how many hours were spent after Christmas on Tiger Mountain's 15-Mile Railroad Grade, it's there—eight hours on the 27th and seven on the 31st. If you want to know what was done last March 22, you can see that two people spent eight hours clipping and sawing on Mt. Washington, and another guy, working alone, spent five hours cleaning and sawing on Tiger's Poo Poo Trail. Another solo effort on September 2 resulted in ten hours clearing and brushing to Dirty Harry's summit. One guy. . .ten hours. . .to the summit! Try that on your day off.

Last year, those volunteers made 390 total trips to do trailwork, down just 93 from the record of 483 in 2004. The total of days was 404, down from 487, and worker days numbered 764, down just 15 from 2004's 779. And the total worker hours were 4405, down just 127 from the record year. That means on average IATC's noble, dedicated trail maintenance crews spent almost 15 hours per day, every day in 2005! That is more than commendable; it is unbelievable.

Not surprisingly, the vast reaches of Tiger Mountain received the most work—131 trips, 279 people days, and 1749 hours—almost five hours per day! Squak Mountain had 47 trips, 97 people

days and 570 hours. Cougar Mountain benefited from 28 trips, 43 people days and 276 hours. Other areas benefited too, including 56 trips to U.S. Forest Service trails, covering 128 people days and 833 total hours.

Who are these noble warriors, you may wonder. The regular volunteers are Debbie and Russell Anschell, Ravi Chellabolina, Sally Davies, Pete Girard, Bob Gross, Ken Hopping, Ron Howatson, Jackie Hughes, John Johnson, Rich Johnson, Ravi Kumar, Bill Longwell, Scott Semans, Stan Simmons, Carolyn Stevens, Karen Tom, Joe Toynbee, Ed Vervoort and Fred Zeitler. Semans supervises volunteer crews, which last year included workers from Literacy Americorps (three trips), T-Mobile Wireless, Microsoft, Safeco Insurance, Young Professionals for Greater Seattle, UW ROTC, Inroads, and Boy Scout Troop 751.

"All of these days included 224 solo efforts," Longwell pointed out. Many of these volunteers are selfless people who aren't seeking any recognition or thanks for their efforts. Nevertheless, the Chief Ranger cited three people: Ken Hopping, whom he calls "a premier sawyer who does amazing work; Scott Semans, who did "remarkable, amazing, professional work" on miles 9-10 of the Tiger Mountain Trail, out where few hikers venture; and Ed Vervoort, who took on Tiger's 15-Mile Railroad Grade as a personal project.

We hikers owe them all a tremendous debt of gratitude. Their selfless efforts are just inspirational and almost beyond our comprehension.

UNSUNG HERO #4

This man is certainly a hero where the club is concerned, but if he is "unsung," he certainly shouldn't be. Like my previous heroes—Dave Kappler, Ron Howatson and Joe Toynbee—he has

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President's Report *continued from page 4*

served the Issaquah Alps Trails Club for many years, but so many of his contributions are not known by many, however significant they have been. He is still known as one of the very best hike leaders IATC has to offer. His hikes draw many people who know that they are going to participate in something probably very different and usually very special. That man, of course, is RALPH OWEN.

Though Ralph was not an original member of the IATC board, he was certainly involved deeply in the important formative years of the club. Owen's 15 years on the board (1981-1995) are exceeded in duration by only two people—founder Harvey Manning (21 years) and Bill Longwell (who has just begun his 23rd year as a member of the board). Ralph was instrumental in the efforts to take Cougar Mountain away from the developers and establish the Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park which we cherish so much, even though we have come to take it for granted. If wouldn't be there, folks, were it not for Harvey Manning, Barbara Johnson, Ralph Owen (and his charming wife Peggy) and other pioneers in the IATC. Believe it!

"Ralph and Peggy were critical to the formation of Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park," said Dave Kappler. Kappler also cites their role in preparing and establishing the Return to Newcastle event, which was held the first Saturday in June for ten years. "They worked with the Newcastle Historical Society by gathering a great collection of historical maps and photographs that were displayed." And, Kappler points out, Ralph pioneered many of the trails on Cougar.

"The first thought that comes to my mind when I think of Ralph is 'trailblazer,'" stated Ken Konigsmark. "Ralph is the key person who, for all the Mountains to Sound Marches, scouted, identified, and marked the routes and, in the case of the 2000 and 2002 marches, was the point person in leading the whole contingent each day on

the route while marking it to ensure that anyone following knew where to go."

In the last Alpiner issue, I wrote an article about the establishment of the marathon Grand Traverse from Lake Washington to Preston. The late Jack Hornung came up with the idea, but the only one who believed in him enough to pursue it from the get-go was Ralph Owen. Owen was good enough to write his recollections of the Grand Traverse as a parallel article in the last issue.

If anyone, anywhere knows more trails in this area than Ralph Owen, you are going to have to go to great lengths to convince me. Invariably, his hikes, which he continues to lead regularly for the club, go to trails that few of us know about to interesting, sometimes exotic locations. He acknowledged to me that in many instances he has to preview and even brush the route to make it ready for his hikes. Knowledgeable hikers are aware that Ralph's hikes are special events.

Thanks, Ralph (and Peggy), for all you have done for the club.

BOARD AMENDS BY-LAWS

At its annual meeting January 26, the Issaquah Alps Trails Club amended its by-laws pertaining to officers, elected two new board members, discussed the issue of publicity for its hikes, and initiated proceedings for a major trail project.

Previously, all officers have been elected to one-year terms. Now the President is elected for a two-year term. In addition, a President-elect position was added, to go into effect for the second year of a sitting president's term. No one was selected for the position at the meeting. Doug Simpson, who has been President for the past two years, was re-elected by the membership to a two-year term. Ken Konigsmark, Jackie Hughes and

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Board Amends By-Laws *continued from page 5*

Sally Pedowitz were re-elected as Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary.

New board members elected for three-year terms were Bill Longwell, the club's Chief Ranger, and Steve Williams, the retired manager of the Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park. Longwell has previously served 22 years as a board member. Williams was also named the Advocate for Cougar Mountain.

Connie Marsh will replace Steve Drew as Issaquah Advocate, and new Squak Mountain Advocates are Simpson and Cathy Brandt.

Stepping down from the board are Steve Drew, who will be moving to Olympia shortly, and Frank Gilliland, who has already relocated to Arizona. Both were lauded for meritorious service to the club. Drew was a board member for eight years, including three years as president, two as vice-president and two as treasurer. Gilliland spent four years on the board, three as treasurer.

It was decided by the board that all hikes would be listed on the website and made available to the media unless hike leaders specifically ask that their hikes not be listed, thus restricting their listings to the quarterly *Alpiner*. Some hike leaders have been concerned that too many unprepared hikers had come to their hikes. This problem has needed to be balanced with the view that the IATC serves an important role as an entry-level hiking opportunity for many.

The board was to hold a special meeting to discuss funding a major trail project of some kind, hopefully one that would lead to matching grant money.

President Simpson announced that the IATC would be participating in the new downtown store on Front Street (the old Feed Store building), thus providing a regular outlet for club books, maps

and general information. The club will be obligated to help staff the store, but will not be responsible for rent in the facility owned by the city.

BEFORE THE IATC

By Bill Longwell

In the beginning, before the IATC, was Harvey Manning. Harvey Manning and friends . . . and bus 210.

In the late 1970s, Manning had completed the first volume of his multi-volume "Footsore" series, *Walks and Hikes Around Puget Sound*, which featured the Issaquah Alps and new trails there. Harvey had already coined the term "Issaquah Alps" by then and was now attempting to get people to walk there. Half of Tiger belonged to a restless Weyerhaeuser and most of the rest belonged to a sleepy Department of Natural Resources.

Harvey began courting the newly awakened Issaquah Parks Department about sponsoring public hikes on Tiger, and the Parks Department was slowly warming to his novel (to them) idea. At this time, few city parks departments had ever considered this idea; most seemed interested only in ball fields.

With Harvey's prodding, the Parks Department set up a series of three hikes on Tiger in April, 1979.

Harvey was also touting the newly established 210 Metro bus run from downtown Seattle to Issaquah. People from Seattle could link up with the 210, ride it to Issaquah, hike in the Issaquah Alps and get back on the bus for the ride home. It seemed in those early years that most people who hiked the Issaquah Alps came from Seattle. I used the 210 bus numerous times.

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Before the IATC *continued from page 6*

By early 1979, most of the Tiger Mountain Trail was complete and needed civilian boots, many boots to cement it in place on Tiger. Everything was prepared for large-scale hikes—and these hikes were certainly large-scale.

The first “Parks” hike came on April 7, 1979. Harvey enlisted my help. His plan was simple: he would lead a hike up the Middle Tiger summit, and I would bring up the rear. And the rear was a long wayback for that first hike. Sixty-eight people showed up in downtown Issaquah early on that Saturday morning, and most felt they were headed for a foreign land.

We drove in a straggling caravan four miles along the Hobart Road and then two more miles up the paved Tiger Mountain Road to park on a broad curve. We never considered what this would do to the local neighbors; it took a long time for the neighborhood to recover.

The parking curve was only a hundred yard walk through the woods to the 1976-built West Side Road. From there we walked a mile to the bottom of the mostly unknown Middle Tiger Trail and climbed a mile and a half to the then broad and clear summit to take in views that ran for miles west, east and mostly south. Mount Rainier filled up the southern view. (Now, of course, a large forest has grown up to eliminate the view.) That Middle Tiger Trail probably has not seen sixty-eight people total since that 1979 hike.

Back to the neighbors. The locals were shocked and unhappy with all those cars parked on their quiet road. In the next two years people used this curve as a de facto trailhead (the motorbikes and hang gliders soon followed), and the neighborhood balked. The neighbors began “ticketing” parked cars.

More than once I found a “ticket” on my windshield. The ticket told me to go away and leave the road to the people who lived along it.

Tensions grew and people made threats, but eventually things died down and hikers mostly forgot about that de facto trailhead.

A second hike came the next Saturday, April 14. But we stayed away from the Tiger Mountain Road. This time Harvey enlisted Tim O’Brian, then an Issaquah City councilman, to help lead. We met hikers on the 210, walked from Issaquah up the High School Trail and then on to Poo Poo Point. Most people didn’t understand why Harvey had named it Poo Poo Point—and still don’t.

We had some rain on that hike, but few minded. And, we had not yet lost anyone. Harvey made Issaquah City Parks look like a genius organization.

For a long time Harvey had been enticing local, state and even national officials to hike on Tiger. And, could they please arrive in Issaquah via the 210?

They did and came on April 22, 1979. Several local officials came. Several Seattle Mountaineers arrived. Some state officials came. Does anyone remember State Representative Frances North from North Bend? One congressman came by car. Many other hikers also came, and we headed for Poo Poo Point.

I enjoyed the day because I escorted the game congressman up and down Tiger. He said to me, “I hear Harvey wants the Issaquah Alps to become a national park!” Harvey always had high hopes and couldn’t be outdone for wishing.

Another hiker told me, “My wife doesn’t want me to drive all the way to Snoqualmie Pass to hike, and I guess the Issaquah Alps would be a closer hiking choice.” His words were prophetic; Tiger Mountain has developed into one of the most hiked areas in the entire West Coast since that April 1979 day. The parking lot shows it.

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Before the IATC *continued from page 7*

A year later in April 1980, the new-born IATC sponsored another officials' hike. From the 210, we walked from Issaquah past Lake Tradition up to West Tiger 3, then came back via the TMT. Two-hundred people stood that day on West Tiger 3 and marveled at the expansive view!

The third Issaquah Parks hike came on April 28, 1979. We met people from the 210 at the corner of Front and Sunset, walked to High Point and climbed up the TMT to what is now West Gap and Pete's Pass, crossed over to West Tiger I to the West Tiger Railroad Grade and dropped back down to Tradition Lake. We made some rescues that day as a result.

All those 1970's hikes served as lobbying efforts. Weyerhaeuser sold out, and DNR acknowledge the potential of Tiger. The long-term end result was the strong commitment to Tiger from DNR and the creation of the West Tiger Mountain Conservation Area.

And the hikers came. Tiger had arrived.

TRAILWORKERS WANTED

IATC's Scott Semans for years has led volunteers in area trailwork projects. Anyone wishing to join Scott for a few hours or a day should contact him at 425-369-1725 or by email at ssemans@aol.com.

Mountains to Sound Greenway also has a schedule of trailwork projects in the area. Parties will be working on Squak Mountain April 1, April 8 and May 20; on Little Si April 29, and May 6, 13 and 27; on the Rattlesnake Ledge Trail on April 15 and 22; and on the Twin Falls Trail every Saturday in June.

To sign up, visit www.mtsgreenway.org or contact Emily Welborn at 206-812-0122 or volunteer@mtsgreenway.org.



HIKERS' CORNER

By Joe Toynbee

This corner is now under new management. After eight years as IATC Hikes Coordinator, Fred Zeitler has stepped down, leaving some very large shoes to fill. Melinda Livingstone, Jackie Hughes and I will do our best to carry the hiking program forward.

As you read this, spring will be coming to the Issaquah Alps, which means that wildflowers will be blooming. Most people when thinking of flowers think of alpine meadows, but our Alps have a surprising array of flowering plants and shrubs. On a flower hike I led for the Mountaineers in April of 2005 in the Tradition Lake area, we identified 71 different species. Hikers are encouraged to bring along a flower guide and do some botanizing. It will add a whole new dimension to the trip.

Another thing we encourage hikers to do is to throw litter off trails. We are not talking heavy duty trail maintenance here; if each hiker in a group of ten throws off six bits of litter, the total is impressive. By using a walking stick, you don't even have to bend over.

See you on the trail.

MEMBERSHIP QUESTION?

If you have any questions about your membership in the IATC, or have had any problems with the delivery of your ALPINER, please contact Jackie Hughes at: jhughes62003@yahoo.com.

MOUNTAINS TO SOUND MARCH ~ JULY 4-8, 1990

Celebrating Washington State's "Wilderness on the Metro":
Snoqualmie Pass to Puget Sound.

By Ralph Owen

(Last quarter's *Alpiner* contained two articles on the two Grand Traverses sponsored by the IATC and led by Jack Hornung in 1987 and 1989. These all-day hikes were aimed at promoting the public's awareness of the Issaquah Alps and the need to acquire corridors, as well as to plan and build trails linking the separated public lands on Cougar, Squak and Tiger. While working on the two Traverses, Jack, the eternal professional planner, began to expand his horizon to include the dream of a green corridor stretching from Seattle's waterfront to the Cascades. This dream would lead directly to the first Mountains to Sound March, an 88-mile, 5-day hike from Snoqualmie Pass to Seattle's Waterfront Park.

My contribution to the March was to first find, in conjunction with Stan Unger, a feasible thru-route. We would then act as co-leaders of the hike during the March. But long before we started our activity, Jack and others were busy planning and promoting the idea. This background can best be told directly by Jack by quoting from his 1991 letter described by Doug Simpson in last quarter's *Alpiner*.)

After the second Grand Traverse, Jack and his wife Robin took a well-deserved sailing vacation. Jack was met on his late September return by a phone call from IATC President Dave Kappler, who asked him to represent the club that evening at a meeting of the recently formed Washington Wildlife and Recreation Commission. Jack suggested to Dave that this would be a good chance for the club to put the idea of a Mountains to Sound Corridor on the public agenda. "Go for it, he said, and that was all that I needed." Jack spent the rest of the day making a partial plan of the corridor and drawing a crude map. He arrived at the meeting to find that it was a public hearing to discuss areas of priority open space purchase in connec-

tion with a forthcoming ten-year bond issue. When Jack's turn to talk came, he spoke about "how uncontrolled urbanization was destroying the character of major metropolitan areas" and proposed creating a major east-west green corridor linking the urban waters to the mountains "to avoid this impending disaster in our area." He pointed out that "in the public lands on Cougar, Squak and Tiger mountains a good start had already been made: so that this idea was not some 'pie in the sky' unrealizable dream."

This presentation created a long discussion among the commission members and led to a request from then State Representative Gary Locke for a more formal written proposal to be presented to the commission that week. With the help of several other IATC members, including Bill Longwell and George Jackman, Hornung spent the next three days putting together the written proposal. This proposal was not only delivered to Olympia, but an unsolicited copy was sent to Seattle's visionary civic leader, Jim Ellis. Ellis called Jack to tell him that his Corridor proposal was "one of the best ideas I have seen in a long time."

It was now time to report back to the IATC Board to tell them of the proposal that they had "just publicly de facto endorsed." He also proposed that the club "plan a major publicity march for that very summer." Much of the skepticism of Harvey Manning and other board members was defused when they were told of the enthusiastic receptions by Gary Locke and Jim Ellis. The board endorsed the March—and the event was on!

This planning effort would dominate Jack's (and that of his second in command, Tom Woods) "days

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APRIL 2006

Saturday, April 1 - 9am
South TMT trail to Middle Tiger + return
4D, 11 miles, 2500' gain
Richard Mann 425-391-0410

Sunday, April 2 - 9am
DAYLIGHT TIME BEGINS
Cougar Mt S to N – Visit many Trails from
Wilderness Pk; TH3C, 8.5 miles, 1500' gain
Tom Palm 206-783-6005

Monday, April 3 - 10am
Dogs Allowed Walk-Tradition Plateau
Bring leash, supplies for poop scoop,
Extra water; 2B, 5 miles, 600' gain
Karen Tom 425-391-7585

Wednesday, April 5 - 10am
Squak Mt 2B, 4 miles, 1200' gain
Melinda Livingstone 425-392-7455

Saturday, April 8 - 9am
West Tiger RR Grade Loop
TMT to RR grade to W Tiger 3 trail
3C, 8 miles, 1300' gain
Joe Toynbee 206-723-6716

Saturday, April 8 - 11am
Issaquah Highlands Urban Hike
Meet at Blakely Hall in Highlands
Follow ARBOR DAYS signs
Dave Kappler 425-392-3571

Sunday, April 9 - 9am
Coal Ck from Newcastle Beach
To Redtown-one way, slow pace
2B, 4 miles, 600' gain
Steve Williams 425-453-8997

Wednesday, April 12 - 9:30am
Tiger Mt – PooPoo Pt; 2C, 5 miles, 1700' gain
Melinda Livingstone 425-392-7455

Saturday, April 15 - 9am
Cougar Mt – Double Loop Wilderness +
Longview Peaks; 3C, 7 miles, 1900' gain
Scott Prueter 425-369-6016

Sunday, April 16 - 8am
Middle Tiger; 4C, 11 miles, 2100' gain
Ron Howatson 425-392-8344

Wednesday, April 19 - 9am
S Tiger Flower Walk-Identify
Trees, shrubs, flowers-slow pace
1A, 3 miles, 500' gain
Bill Longwell 425-222-6775

Friday, April 21 - 10am
Grand Ridge – Issaquah Vista Loop trip to
scenic overlook; SLOW PACE
2B, 4.5 miles, 500' gain
Warren Jones 425-391-7409

Saturday, April 22 - 9am
Cougar Mt Loop-to Clay Pit +AA Pk
Return via Coyote Ck Tr-Slow Pace
2B, 4 miles, 550' gain
Fred Zeitler 425-882-3435

Sunday, April 23 - 8:30am
Mt Washington-West Ridge
Iron Horse and Cedar Butte trails to base of
W Ridge. Steep climb to Viewless pt on mid
Slopes of Mt WA; 3C, 8 miles, 2000' gain
Ralph Owen 425-746-1070

Thursday, April 27 - 7pm
IATC Board Meeting
Trails Center – 1st + Bush

Saturday, April 29 - 9am
Middle Tiger – from Hwy 18 via
Iverson RR Trail; 3C, 8 miles, 1300' gain
Bob Gross 425-427-8449

Sunday, April 30 - 9am
W Tiger 2 via TMT – return via W Tiger 3
3D, 8.5 miles, 2700' gain
Richard Mann 425-391-0410

MAY 2006

Friday, May 5 - 6:30 pm
Preston Trail – Annual Flower Walk.
Identify trees, flowers + shrubs on a paved trail
1A, 3 miles, 100' gain - Slow Pace
Bill Longwell 425-222-6775

Saturday, May 6 - 8am
Rattlesnake Mt. – from Winery
To Grand Prospect; 4D, 10 miles, 2200' gain
Richard Mann 425-391-0410

Saturday, May 6 - 9am
Taylor Mt; 2B, 5 miles, 1200' gain
Harry Morgan 425-432-3249

Sunday, May 7 - 9am
Squak Mt – W Pk/Central Pk Visit many trails
from May Valley; 3C, 8 miles, 2000' gain
Tom Palm 206-783-6005

Sunday, May 7 - 1pm
Lk Sammamish Park Loop
Pickering, E Lk Sammamish
And state park trails; 2A, 4-5 miles, 0 gain
Dave Kappler 425-392-3571

Saturday, May 13 - 8:30am
Squak Mt – Loop hike over Central Peak
3C, 8 miles, 2000' gain
Scott Prueter 425-369-6016

Saturday, May 13 - 9am
Rattlesnake Mt–Stan's Overlook
2C, 5 miles, 1400' gain
Mary Nolan 425-837-1535

Sunday, May 14 - 9am
Cougar Mt – AA Peak from Newport Way
2B, 6 miles, 1400' gain
Bob Gross 425-427-8449

Thursday, May 18 - 9am
E Squak Exploratory Loop
Equestrian Loop Trail boot paths
Along East Ridge to SE Peak.
Harder than rating indicates.
3D, 6 miles, 2000' gain
Ralph Owen 425-746-1070

Saturday, May 20 - 8:30am
Tiger Mt-Chirico Tr to 15 mile
Creek RR Tr then to Bootleg Tr
And Tiger 1, 2, +3
4D, 13 miles, 3500' gain
Skip Geegh 425-451-2108

Saturday, May 20 - 10am
Cougar Mt – History Hike
Old Town to Coal Creek
2A, 3 miles, 100' gain
Bert Drui 425-746-0709

Sunday, May 21 - 7:30am
TMT south to north
4D, 16 miles, 2800' gain
Ron Howatson 425-392-8344

Wednesday, May 24 - 7pm
Hike Leaders' Meeting
Trails Center – 1st + Bush

Friday, May 26 - 9:30am
Grand Ridge – Highlands Loop
One-way walk thru heart of the
Highlands. SLOW PACE
2B, 6 miles, 1100' gain
Warren Jones 425-391-7409

Saturday, May 27 - 8am
Donna's Pinnacles via Rattlesnake
Ledges. R Lake to RMT to E Peak on
To rarely visited pinnacles-great views
3D, 10 miles, 3200' gain
Ralph Owen 425-746-1070

Saturday, May 27 - 9am
Squak Mt–One-way hike from north

Across east slopes to Issaquah.
3B, 6.5 miles, 1100' gain, 1700 loss - Slow Pace
Fred Zeitler 425-882-3435

Sunday, May 28 - 9am
Cougar Mt Geology Sampler
1A, 4 miles, 500' gain
Steve Williams 425-453-8997

Monday, May 29 - 9am
Rattlesnake Mt traverse with car shuttle
4D, 11 miles, 3000' gain
Richard Mann 425-391-0410

JUNE 2006

Saturday, June 3 - 9am
Asahel Curtis Nature Walk
Identify old growth trees, shrubs,
Flowers in a nature preserve.
Slow Pace
1A, 2 miles, 300' gain
Bill Longwell 425-222-6775

Saturday, June 3 - 9:30am
Squak Mt Loop-Eastside Tr to
Higher reaches + Debbie's view
3C, 9 miles, 2500' gain
Doug Simpson 425-392-6660

Sunday, June 4 - 9am
East Tiger Mt from Preston
3C, 9 miles, 2500' gain
Tom Palm 206-783-6005

Saturday, June 10 - 9am
Old Mt Si Trail; 3D, 8 miles, 3500' gain
Richard Mann 425-391-0410

Sunday, June 11 - 9am
Cougar Mt flowers + critters
1A, 3 miles, 200' gain
Steve Williams 425-453-8997

Saturday, June 17 - 9am
Loop hike over W Tiger 2 via
TMT + K3
3C, 8 miles, 2500' gain
Scott Prueter 425-369-6016

Sunday, June 18 - 10:30am
Tiger Mt – Tradition Plateau to
Swamp + Big Three Lakes
2A, 3.5 miles, 150' gain
Bert Drui 425-746-0709

GREENWAY DAYS 6/23–25

Friday, June 23 - 6pm
Tradition Plateau-visit 2 lakes,
Creeks and wetlands
2B, 5-6 miles, 600' gain
Dave Kappler 425-392-3571

Saturday, June 24 - 8:30am
Lake Annette; 3C, 7.5 miles, 1900' gain
Richard Mann 425-391-0410

Saturday, June 24 - 9:30am
Cougar Mt–one-way from Newcastle
To Licorice Fern via DeLeo Wall
2A, 3.5 miles, 500' gain
Scott Semans 425-369-1725

Sunday, June 25 - 9am
Rattlesnake Mt – 1st Ledge; 2B, 4 miles, 1100'
gain
Mary Nolan 425-837-1535

Sunday, June 25 - 10am
Talapus Lake
2B, 5 miles, 500' gain
Doug Simpson 425-392-6660

IATC ENCOURAGES CARPOOLING+
RECOMMENDS \$0.10/MILE GAS
CONTRIBUTION TO DRIVER

MTS March *continued from page 9*

and nights for the next nine months – the gestation period for the Mountains to Sound March in July, 1990.” It was decided to schedule the March from Wednesday, July 4 through Sunday, July 8 so that only two days needed to be taken off work to get in the 5-day hike. The details to be covered seemed to be endless. As an example, the March would cross many jurisdictions. These would include the US Forest Service, State Parks, State DNR, King County Parks, the Seattle Water Department, Weyerhaeuser and Plum Creek Timber companies as well as many other private landowners. All these land managers and owners had to be contacted and permission to cross their land received. As the time for the March approached most of the public agencies came up with the requirement for liability insurance to be purchased. This resulted in an unexpected \$3500 cost. Also, many required portable toilets to be provided along the route. King County Parks agreed to be a co-sponsor of the March and to provide the toilets.

One big problem was that there really was not a continuous thru-route. Jack had drawn a line on the map, but had never hiked along most of it. Stan Unger and I were given the responsibility for turning his grease pencil line into a real route. Along with an enthusiastic group, including BJ Kirkendall, Sally Davies, Ted Thomsen, Peggy Owen and others, we began our search. The first exploratory hike on January 6, 1990 was an 11+ mile hike in the rain over Rattlesnake. My notes show that I took 15 more exploratory hikes, accompanied by between one and eight participants, through the end of March. The west end of Rattlesnake gave us the most trouble, with BJ noting after one hike that we now knew five ways not to go. Our explorations continued up till the time of the hike, as we filled in many of the short connectors between known trail or road segments. Several of the homeowners along the way gave us a one-time permission to walk through their backyards.

The March was conducted as 5 day-hikes, with the hikers camping out four nights along the way. All of the camping gear was shuttled each day to the next campsite. One-way transportation from either Seattle or Issaquah was provided to Snoqualmie Pass. The IATC paid local groups along the route of the March to provide all of our meals.

Most of the hikers stayed the night of the 3rd at the Mountaineers' Snoqualmie Pass Lodge. We rose early and after breakfast formed into six groups, each with two leaders. (My notes said that we started with 99 hikers, though others said as few as 92 or as many as 106.) We started our first day's hike at a clear and warm 7 a.m. The route crossed the Snoqualmie ski slopes to intersect the Pacific Crest Trail, which we then followed for nearly two miles before descending a rocky road and a steep ridgeline using a fixed rope to drop onto the John Wayne Trail. We followed this for another 20+ miles to our campsite on the shores of Rattlesnake Lake. Along the way, at the missing Hall Creek trestle, we had to scramble down a primitive trail and climb back up to the railroad grade on an even more primitive route.

We enjoyed two good meals at Rattlesnake Lake, as well as informative talks by naturalists from the Seattle Water Department. The next morning we started the 14-mile route over Rattlesnake Mountain to Preston with about 60 hikers. The combination of the hot day and large rock on the railroad grade the day before had left many of the hikers with badly blistered feet. King County Search and Rescue was providing emergency backup service to the March, with some on the hike and some in a van following us down below on I-90. They were soon pressed into service treating a long line of hikers with badly blistered feet each morning. By the end of the March they had bought up all of the moleskin and Second Skin on the Eastside.

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MOUNTAINS TO SOUND MARCH ~ JULY 4-8, 1990

Celebrating Washington State's "Wilderness on the Metro":
Snoqualmie Pass to Puget Sound.

By Ralph Owen

(Last quarter's Alpinist contained two articles on the two Grand Traverses sponsored by the IATC and led by Jack Hornung in 1987 and 1989. These all-day hikes were aimed at promoting the public's awareness of the Issaquah Alps and the need to acquire corridors, as well as to plan and build trails linking the separated public lands on Cougar, Squak and Tiger. While working on the two Traverses, Jack, the eternal professional planner, began to expand his horizon to include the dream of a green corridor stretching from Seattle's waterfront to the Cascades. This dream would lead directly to the first Mountains to Sound March, an 88-mile, 5-day hike from Snoqualmie Pass to Seattle's Waterfront Park.

My contribution to the March was to first find, in conjunction with Stan Unger, a feasible thru-route. We would then act as co-leaders of the hike during the March. But long before we started our activity, Jack and others were busy planning and promoting the idea. This background can best be told directly by Jack by quoting from his 1991 letter described by Doug Simpson in last quarter's Alpinist.)

After the second Grand Traverse, Jack and his wife Robin took a well-deserved sailing vacation. Jack was met on his late September return by a phone call from IATC President Dave Kappler, who asked him to represent the club that evening at a meeting of the recently formed Washington Wildlife and Recreation Commission. Jack suggested to Dave that this would be a good chance for the club to put the idea of a Mountains to Sound Corridor on the public agenda. "Go for it, he said, and that was all that I needed." Jack spent the rest of the day making a partial plan of the corridor and drawing a crude map. He arrived at the meeting to find that it was a public hearing to discuss areas of priority open space purchase in connec-

tion with a forthcoming ten-year bond issue. When Jack's turn to talk came, he spoke about "how uncontrolled urbanization was destroying the character of major metropolitan areas" and proposed creating a major east-west green corridor linking the urban waters to the mountains "to avoid this impending disaster in our area." He pointed out that "in the public lands on Cougar, Squak and Tiger mountains a good start had already been made: so that this idea was not some 'pie in the sky' unrealizable dream."

This presentation created a long discussion among the commission members and led to a request from then State Representative Gary Locke for a more formal written proposal to be presented to the commission that week. With the help of several other IATC members, including Bill Longwell and George Jackman, Hornung spent the next three days putting together the written proposal. This proposal was not only delivered to Olympia, but an unsolicited copy was sent to Seattle's visionary civic leader, Jim Ellis. Ellis called Jack to tell him that his Corridor proposal was "one of the best ideas I have seen in a long time."

It was now time to report back to the IATC Board to tell them of the proposal that they had "just publicly de facto endorsed." He also proposed that the club "plan a major publicity march for that very summer." Much of the skepticism of Harvey Manning and other board members was defused when they were told of the enthusiastic receptions by Gary Locke and Jim Ellis. The board endorsed the March—and the event was on!

This planning effort would dominate Jack's (and that of his second in command, Tom Woods) "days

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MTS March *continued from page 9*

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MTS March *continued from page 12*

We enjoyed the panoramic views from Rattlesnake's East Peak and the Grand Prospect before descending along our newly defined route on West Rattlesnake. To our surprise, when we reached the south boundary of Plum Creek's property, we found a newly built road in place of our new trail. After a short search we found our route, which we followed down to the power-line and then down to the Raging River Mainline Road. This we took to its intersection with Highway 18. We next walked west along an overgrown path beside Lake Creek and the Upper Preston Road into Preston. A thunderstorm drenched most of the hikers just before reaching the Preston community center. Here the community of Preston provided a huge buffet dinner, an evening of jokes and entertainment as well as a great pancake breakfast the next morning at the Swedish Baptist Church.

The third morning we woke up to cloudy skies. The cooler weather, and the day off, brought back many of our badly blistered hikers. Four routes were offered, including a 20+ route over East Tiger and the West Tigers, which I led, down to a 6-mile blistered-foot route along the railroad grade and frontage roads led by sore-footed Sally Davies. The biggest group opted for a 14-mile route over West Tiger 1 and 3 on their way to Issaquah. They were led by the day's honorary leader, Commissioner of Public Lands Brian Boyle and met by Smoky Bear at the Highpoint Trailhead. On reaching Issaquah, where we camped at Memorial Park, we were offered free showers and entertainment. It rained on us during the night.

After breakfast and the blister-nursing line, we left Issaquah under sunny skies for Newcastle Beach. About half opted to take an 18+ mile route over Squak and Cougar. The other half walked a shorter route along the north face of Cougar. Both groups reached the shores of Lake Washington

by 5:30. After one more dinner, the evening's entertainment began. The highlight occurred when we were all invited to join in the singing of "America" by Dana Lyons. Three words into the song, a bald eagle flew low over us and circled overhead until the end of the song.

We slipped into our tents under a full moon. At about 2:30 a.m., the automatic sprinklers popped up around and under tents, drenching many. Dave Kappler called the 911 operator, who commented that "we expect anything during a full moon." The sprinklers shut off automatically at 3 a.m.

The next morning we rose to sunny skies. Our route followed streets to cross through Bellevue's Mercer Slough Park and west to follow along and above I-90 over the East Channel Bridge, the Mercer Island Lid and Floating Bridges before turning north to Leschi and Frink parks. After eating lunch at Leschi School, we walked west along Jackson to the waterfront. At the Waterfront Park we were honored with a display by one of Seattle's fireboats and many speeches by politicians, some of whom were environmentalists for the day.

Many good things have come about because of the Grand Traverses and the Mountains to Sound March. The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, which was formed within a year after the March, has been at the forefront of creating the Mountains to Sound Greenway. This broad green corridor extends over 100 miles from Seattle to Thorp. The Trust has been instrumental in acquiring public lands, event planning and coordinating the construction and maintenance of trails along the corridor. While there have been many heroes of Greenway, led by Jim Ellis and including the Trust For Public Land and the representatives of the many cities and governmental agencies, as well as those of many contributing corpo-

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MTS March *continued from page 13*

rations represented in The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, it can be truthfully said that without the IATC, Jack Hornung and the nearly 100 hikers of the 1990 March there would be no Greenway today.

Closer to home, positive steps have been taken toward connecting the Issaquah Alps. Gus Nelson, a past president of the IATC, in the Trails Plan that he was contracted to write for the City of Issaquah, proposed that the four public land managers of the surrounding Issaquah Alps—the City of Issaquah, King County Parks, State Parks, and the State DNR—share the cost of hiring a trails coordinator for the region. That recommendation was followed and is still being funded by the four agencies. They officially formed the SCAT (Squak, Cougar and Tiger) Committee, which still meets to coordinate the activities of the agencies and to aid in promoting the linkages and trails between the mountains of the Issaquah Alps. This combined planning has been expanded to include the Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area which is co-managed by King County Parks and the State DNR.



Dogs Allowed Hike

The IATC has decided to bring back a special kind of walk that has been held in the past. Yes, you can bring your dog on this one hike on Monday, April 3. Dog owners must be prepared to scoop their poop (that is, their dog's), bring extra water and other special supplies, and sign a liability release.

The hike (see hiking center section for details) will be held on the Tiger Mountain Tradition Plateau. It will be a five to six-mile hike with about 600 feet of elevation gain. Karen Tom will lead this hike, looking for sufficient interest to hold regular such outings in the future.



HIKERS WIN IN COURT

Three years ago, the Washington State Legislature began to reform the State's recreation funding statute to give less money to off-road vehicle projects, and more money to everyone else. In response, the Northwest Motorcycle Association (NMA) filed a lawsuit against the State, alleging that it would be unconstitutional to spend any funds on trails that are not open to motorized use.

NMA argued that the State Constitution provides that gas taxes shall be used for "highway purposes," and that therefore gas tax funds can only be used on trails open to motorized vehicles such as motorcycles and other off-road or off-highway vehicles. NMA did not explain how one can be on a highway and "off-highway" simultaneously.

NCCC and several other organizations intervened in the lawsuit in 2003, to help the State defend its funding of non-motorized projects such as hiking, bicycling and horse trails that are not open to motorized vehicles. The State's recreation funding statute is a constitutional mechanism for using the gas tax paid by people who drive on backroads to get to trailheads, including hikers, bicyclists and equestrians.

The courts agreed with NCCC's intervenor group. We won in the Superior Court and again in the Court of Appeals. In January 2006, the State Supreme Court denied NMA's petition for review. This effectively terminates the case.

The intervenor group is grateful for three years of excellent *pro bono* representation that we received from attorneys John Bjorkman, Kristin Boraas and Jonah Harrison of the Seattle law firm Preston Gates & Ellis.

A SENIOR FRIDAY WITH DALE

By Dale Blanchard

On January 20, our group—five friends ranging from their 60's to my 77—took what I call a maximum hike by climbing to the top of West Tiger 1 and 2.

Our planned route to the top of WT1 was to first climb WT2 by taking the TMT to K-3 and then to TMT again at a higher elevation. As we followed our plan, precipitation gradually turned to snow, and we were soon hiking in several inches of it. At Tom's Crossing, we climbed the WT2 Trail .2 miles to the Top of WT2. The temperature seemed to be 32 degrees based on a hard-to-read thermometer.

After a quick snack on WT2 we hurried on. The temperature had dropped and the wind from the south/southwest was hitting hard. We were in a dark cloud on top of the ridge. As we climbed the maintenance road from WT2 to WT1, the wind swept up and over the top of the peaks, smacking us in the face with snow.

We'd hike about four miles by the time we took refuge in the Hikers' Hut, a metal shack with benches that comfortably held the five of us. How nice that a refuge has been provided for hikers on the top of West Tiger 1! One of our party lit a candle that had been left in the hut. We could feel the warmth and enjoyed the light. We didn't tightly close the door. Sitting there in candlelight and watching the blizzard through the four-inch gap in the door was thrilling.

We took the shortest possible route down the mountain to quickly escape the extreme weather, following the WT1 Trail to Lingering Loop to the High Point Trail, a very steep route. Our total for the day was about 7.5 miles. And 2500 feet of elevation gain. Someone commented, "How wonderful that after a 15-minute drive from home, we can access a trail leading to several inches of snow on the ground and then 'enjoy' blizzard conditions!"

I'd had a mindset for years that we should avoid hiking in winter. Now my thinking has completely turned around. I've learned to love winter hiking. To handle wet and cold weather, you just have to dress for it.

There are significant advantages to winter hiking:

- 1) The peace and solitude are wonderful, and there are very few hikers.
- 2) The forest is beautiful when snow-covered.
- 3) The bears are hibernating.
- 4) It is much easier to hike when it isn't hot—a major point for me.
- 5) The forest is not so dark, as deciduous trees have lost their leaves.
- 6) There are no mosquitoes, ticks or bees.
- 7) There are no spider webs.
- 8) New growth isn't choking the trails.
- 9) Bushes that irritate my skin are dormant.

The five of us make a determined effort to hike every Friday. We didn't miss many Fridays in 2005, during which I hiked 271 miles. The discipline of hiking every week is extremely refreshing to mind and body. With this regimen, there is no way I can get depressed. However, we took January 27 off, as I was nursing a sore knee from our strenuous effort.



IATC SQUAK MOUNTAIN MAP 2005, \$5

The new Squak Mountain Trails Map, a long-time IATC project, is fresh off the press. You can purchase it local shows or through this issue's order form. The cost is \$5 for the map, \$18 in combination with the Squak Mountain guide, which sells for \$15.

SQUAK. OLLALIE PROJECTS SET

By Heather Hansen

Rain, freeze, blow . . . rain, rain, snow . . . freeze, snow, rain. The winter of 2005-2006 certainly hasn't been lacking in dramatic weather! I'm Heather Hansen, the park ranger at Squak Mountain State Park and if you're feeling a touch of cabin fever and are ready to head back outside, you're not likely to find more woodsy solitude than at Squak Mountain State Park or more dramatic river vistas than at Olallie State Park. These local Washington State Parks change with the seasons and as winter begins to fade, Olallie ranger Shana Stromer and I would like to share what's in store for some of our favorite trails.

Given the strength of several of this winter's windstorms, the relatively small number of downed trees on the Squak Mountain trail system is a surprise. What is not surprising, however, is the amount of damage our near-record rainfall did to the drainage structures. As a result, a lot of time this spring will be spent repairing and replacing these structures, in addition to blowdown removal and annual trail brushing. And when there's a lot of work, it's always good to have a lot of help—volunteer crews with the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust are scheduled to come out and work on Squak Mountain's south side trails every Saturday in March, and also on May 20th. For more info, or to volunteer for trail work on one of these dates, go to www.mtsgreenway.org.

MTSG crews are also supervising two Eagle Scouts at Squak Mountain, whose projects involve surfacing the new trail near the south end trailhead. One scout and his family, friends, and other volunteers are spreading gravel on the trail as I write this article. After the other scout has finished surfacing his section in early spring, the trail will officially open. The interpretive display for this trail, which I wrote about in last year's article, is half complete. The animal footprint rubbings have

been installed and the next step is getting the signs completed and approved. Then children and adults alike will be able to learn about local wildlife as they hike.

Out at Olallie State Park, a long winter of heavy rains, wind, and snow mean that Ranger Shana Stromer will also be spending a lot of her time on storm cleanup this coming spring. Following that, volunteer crews with the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust are scheduled to come out and work on the Twin Falls Trail every Saturday in June, giving this very popular trail a tune-up for the summer season. For more information, or to volunteer on one of these dates, please visit the website listed above.

While we love our favorite familiar trails, the possibility of new trails is always an exciting one. And anyone who has wondered what the view might be like from the other side of the river at Twin Falls or Olallie will be interested in Shana's future plans. She will soon be exploring some possible trail routes in two locations: on the south side of the Snoqualmie River across from the Twin Falls trailhead, and on the north side of the river off Exit 38 of I-90, between the river and the freeway. Both areas have the potential to afford beautiful views and enjoyable hiking opportunities, so we're hoping there are viable routes to be found!

Unpredictable weather, vegetative growth, and heavy traffic are always changing the trails, but enthusiastic volunteers keep coming back to devote their time to repairs and upgrades. Shana and I greatly appreciate the dedicated efforts that go into helping keep our trail systems available for all who want to come and explore our Washington State Parks.

We hope to see you out on the trails!

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 unless severe conditions pose a safety hazard. 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 leaders, 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 18 should be accompanied by an adult. Please, no dogs 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 40 minutes depending on the location of the hike) or meal times (lunch will add another 20 to 40 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.

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.

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Hike Information *continued from page 17*

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

NOTE: Group hikes do not lend themselves to dogs. Please leave your dogs 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.

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 at the same place as hikes (see above). The Club is well supplied with heavy trail maintenance tools, but workers may also bring their own loppers, weed whackers, and other tools.

✓ 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!

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	15.00***		
Book: The Coals of Newcastle: A Hundred Years of Hidden History	15.00		
Book: Eastside Family Hikes	3.00		
Book: Squak Mountain: An Island in the Sky	15.00		
Map: Issaquah Alps Tiger Mountain, 1998 revision	2.00		
Map: Issaquah Alps Cougar Mountain, 2001 revision	5.00		
Map: Issaquah Alps Squak Mountain (2005)	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:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The basic hiker.....\$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> The project supporter.....\$25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The IATC sponsor.....\$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> 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 19 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. 2003 revised edition. Updated trail information, two new trails and numerous photographs. \$15 (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.

❑ ***Squak Mountain: An Island in the Sky*** By Doug Simpson with trail descriptions by David Langrock. Provides a history of Squak Mountain and its gestation as a park. Includes 4 loop hikes covering most of the mountain trails. Includes many earlier writings by Bill Longwell and vignettes by others. \$15.

❑ ***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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