

THE ALPINE



JULY ♦ AUGUST ♦ SEPTEMBER 2006

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

ISSAQUAH ALPS NATIONAL PARK?

By Ralph Owen

(The last two Alpiners described the two Grand Traverses and the first Mountains to Sound March sponsored and led by the Issaquah Alps Trails Club in 1988, 1989 and 1990. These events were proposed by Jack Horning as a way to publicize his vision of expanding the publicly owned land in the Issaquah Alps and acquiring corridors and trails which would connect the individual mountains. An earlier attempt at fulfilling these same goals using the management and planning resources of the National Park Service is described in the following article.)

Jack was not the first visionary in the IATC. In fact, the club was formed in 1979 by a group of visionaries. The first and foremost of these visionaries was the founding president, Harvey Manning. In 1976 he coined the name "Issaquah Alps" to emphasize the common nature of a series of wooded wildland hills that were in danger of being covered by houses and condos by developers. The Issaquah Alps—consisting of Cougar, Squak, Tiger, Taylor and Rattlesnake mountains and Grand Ridge—are the remnant of the east-west trending "Old Mountains" which were uplifted long before the Cascade Mountains.

The first bylaws of the IATC defined that the purpose of the club was to "Seek and promote the establishment, maintenance and nonmotorized use of trail systems, parks, natural areas.....in the Issaquah Alps..." However, at the time of the founding of the IATC, most of the Issaquah Alps

were privately owned and even much of the publicly owned lands were under development pressure. Most of the top of Cougar Mountain was privately owned with a development consisting of more than 8000 homes being proposed for the area now enclosed in the Regional Wildland Park. Only the Bullitt section on top of Squak was publicly owned, but State Parks was doing very little

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SOMETHING HIDDEN: GO AND FIND IT

By Bill Longwell

In the fall of 1981 and the spring of 1982, I decided to relocate the Tiger Mountain Trail from its original and borrowed route along the muddy and always wet High Point Creek Trail and place it instead on the ridge just above and to the east. So in fall and early spring of the next year I laid out a new route. Mountaineer and IATC work parties built that new trail in the first half of 1982. Eight years later we replaced even that.

On Halloween, 1981, I was finishing a trans-Tiger hike and descended the last couple of miles down High Point Creek to my car. I decided to prolong my walk by exploring the north trending ridge just east of High Point Creek.

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The Apparatus

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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.

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Doug Simpson

The Issaquah Alps Trails Club seems to be in a transitional stage. The club has three basic functions. First—and the paramount goal in the early years and into the 80's—is advocacy. This involves gaining territory from the developers' ongoing onslaughts, helping to expand parklands and trail systems, and working with various agencies to establish consistent standards within the greenbelt of the Issaquah Alps.

The second function is the hiking program itself. Over the years, the club has prided itself on maintaining an active and rigorous year-round hiking program that serves hikers at all levels from beginners to those with advanced hiking skills. In this past three months, our hikes coordinators could barely cram all our hikes onto the regular two-page spread of hike listings in this publication.

Function number three is IATC's trail maintenance program, without which so many trails would fall quickly into disrepair. This program, of course, is critical after serious storms, such as those which ravaged many of our trails the winter before last.

The advocacy function is less critical these days, but issues always arise that need to be dealt with. For example, the attempt by M & H Development to build on a section of Squak Mountain that would straddle the Bullitt Access Trail; the long-debated proposal to build the bypass highway from I-90 to just south of town by gouging out the west side of Tiger Mountain (this bypass would ineffectively move the traffic congestion a mile or so south, but not eliminate it); and the need to insist on proper trail connection from the Talus development to existing trails on Cougar Mountain, to name a few issues. Since Steve Drew has relocated to Olympia, this function remains in the capable but busy hands of Ken Konigsmark, with vital assistance from Issaquah City Councilman Dave Kappler, Interagency Coordinator Margaret Macleod, and a handful of "watchers," such as the

erstwhile Larry Hanson on Tiger Mountain and activist Connie Marsh in Issaquah.

The other two functions are healthy for now, but most of our maintenance people, our beloved "weedwhackers," are now in their 60s and 70s—who knows how long they can keep up their magnificent efforts on trails in the Issaquah Alps and beyond. (Read about one of those heroes below.) IATC may be forced in the future to cede much of its maintenance work to the ever stronger Washington Trails Association. As for the hiking program, all we need is an increasing stream of hikers for it to continue to thrive.

How then are we transitional? I believe that we are becoming more public relations conscious. We are expanding our circulation of books and maps. We now have ISBN numbers, enabling us to place our books in outlets where we could not before. Besides the periodic reprints of our existing books, we have another one in the works, one that will provide a concrete history of the club and the people who have made it successful. Also, we will be an active partner in the Downtown Issaquah Association's new museum and gift shop on Front Street (in the old feed store), which was scheduled to open recently. This will make club information and our books and maps more accessible to the public. Another project we are working on is to make some lasting aluminum signs to place at critical trail locations in the Alps. Not only will this be a boon to hikers that have lost their way or who would like to know where that certain trail to the east goes, but it will also serve as appropriate public relations for the club. We want more hikers to know who we are, what we do, and how we can help them. Stay tuned for more details about these transitional projects.

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President's Message *continued from page 3*

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Usually I avoid things personal in this column, but I'm making an exception here. I have been hiking less than ten years myself (and kicking myself for not starting sooner!). My wife Judy and I have been on many walks or short hikes over the years, but she never got into serious hiking the way I did. I was hoping that when she retired I could work her up gradually to some more strenuous hikes. It was not to be, though. By the time she retired two years ago, cancer had already gotten hold of her, and she could never beat it, no matter how valiantly she tried (she died May 26). It will probably always be one of the regrets of my life that I never got to show her some of the marvelous places I have hiked so close to our home. If there's a lesson here, it's that you should try to get your spouses or significant others (or your kids) out to show them the glories of the local woods and peaks.

UNSUNG HERO #5

Some of IATC's heroes go about their work in a nearly anonymous manner—and that doesn't seem to bother them in the least. KEN HOPPING is one of these selfless heroes. In fact, Ken is so much a behind-the-scenes guy that I have never even met him! Our Chief Ranger, Bill Longwell, says Ken is "the one person Tiger Mountain cannot be without." Hopping, Longwell says, has cleared virtually all Tiger trails, including some most hikers never use. In the storm year of 2004, Ken cut out 747 logs, 545 on Tiger alone. In that year, Longwell points out, Hopping did a thousand hours of trail work. That's the equivalent of twenty-five 40-hour work weeks, folks!

Hopping has also cleared numerous trails for the US Forest Service and has been known to give pointers to USFS cross-cut saw teachers. "He is no doubt the most skilled sawyer in the whole area," Longwell has written. Over the years, Ken progressed from a two-foot saw, to a three-foot, and now a five-foot saw, cutting trees up to four-feet thick. Going to work (fun for him, I guess), Hopping typically carries on his small frame two

or three saws of various lengths, plus an array of plastic wedges and a five-foot bar. "It's fun to watch him work," Longwell says.

Ken Hopping is a Hoosier who attended the University of Indiana. He worked in Houston for NASA for a spell, and is now a retired computer programmer from Boeing. More than a sawyer in the woods, Hopping is an active mountain-climber and backpacker. Among his mountain conquests are Rainier (seven times), Baker, Adams, St. Helens (about ten times), Hood, Shasta and Glacier Peak. He's climbed Mt Stewart solo and last year scaled Mt. Borah, Idaho's tallest peak. This summer he will take on the Grand Tetons. Ken generally hikes every other day, completing about 160 hikes last year.

Ken sounds like a rugged, tough guy, right? He also has a soft and sentimental side—as a collector of adolescent books. He is an expert on Nancy Drew books and games, and possesses a complete set of the Drew books, with dust jackets. He also has complete sets of other children's books, including the Hardy Boys and the Lone Ranger. He regularly tours area used book stores to add to his collection, which must be worth a pretty penny.

Ken Hopping is a very interesting and complex guy—and he is truly one of IATC's most important heroes.

PHOTO EXHIBIT

"Tiger & Si: Environmental Portraits" is the subject of a photo exhibit that runs through July 11 at Photographic Center Northwest, 900 12th Avenue in Seattle. Maylee Noah uses photographs of people on Tiger Mountain and Mount Si trails to describe these popular area trails. "Her black and white images explore the diverse community of hikers and walkers, revealing the trails as something more than dirt tracks traversing the landscape."

Also featured in the exhibit are photographers Jo Johnson and Lowewyn Young. The three are graduating thesis students with unique styles.

National Park *continued from page 1*

to stop the illegal four-wheel drive and ATV traffic into the park. Tiger Mountain was a checkerboard of State DNR-managed public land and privately owned timber land. There were plans to clear cut and then to sell some of the publicly owned land on Tiger for housing development. The Issaquah City Council was considering turning the city owned land on the Tradition Lake Plateau into a big Christmas tree farm. Much of the Raging River Valley, as well as the north and west slopes of Taylor and Rattlesnake Mountains, were Weyerhaeuser owned timber land which would continue to be clear cut and possibly converted into housing developments in the future.

Most of the IATC members' activities in the early 80s were aimed at preserving large areas of the Issaquah Alps for the continued use of the hiking public. This included proposing and lobbying for the formation of a large publicly owned park on Cougar Mountain, pressuring State Parks into patrolling and enforcing the deed restrictions on the Squak Mountain State Park and participating in the citizen's group which was formed by the State DNR to define the Management Master Plan for the Tiger Mountain State Forest. The resulting plan included putting almost all of the Tiger Mountain forest land under public ownership with the south half of Tiger Mountain managed for sustained timber production as a "working forest in an urban environment.." The northern half was to be managed as a Natural Resource Conservation Area for wildlife habitat and passive recreation, and it would not be logged.

These efforts still did not directly address the need to expand public ownership in order to provide connecting corridors between the mountains and to ensure that the many public and private ownerships in the Issaquah Alps would be working together for the common good. Harvey Manning came up with an innovative proposal to help solve these needs. In the 1970s, there was a trend to make national park resources more accessible to urban populations and to bring "parks to the

people." A prime example of this was the Golden Gate National Recreation Area near San Francisco. In 1972 this was established by an act of the US Congress which directed the National Park Service to provide the overall management of a number of publicly owned lands, and to plan and carry out the acquisition of lands required to connect these publicly owned lands. A large amount of money (up to \$61,610,000) was authorized to carry out these acquisitions.

Harvey believed that the National Park Service's overall management and planning skills would be the ideal way to coordinate the efforts of the individual land managers in the Issaquah Alps (including King County Parks, State Parks, State Department of Natural Resources, City of Issaquah, City of Bellevue, Seattle Water Department and the US Forest Service). They could also help in planning the acquisition of additional lands required to connect the individual Alps, as well as being a possible source for some of the funds required for these acquisitions. He proposed this in 1980 to Congressman Mike Lowry. Congressman Lowry's staff then prepared a map of the 38,000 acre "Issaquah Alps—Study Area" as well as a Discussion Draft of the "Issaquah Alps Protection Study Act" in March, 1981. The summary of this bill defined its purpose was "To provide for a study to be conducted by the Secretary of the Interior to examine ways in which the area known as the Issaquah Alps in the State of Washington can be protected by means of land-use controls or other mechanisms."

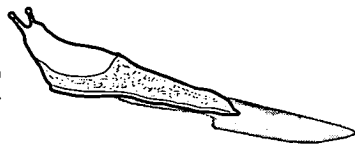
In the bill, the Secretary was required to "prepare a report which contains the results of the study, including an evaluation of—

- 1) Federal, State, and local land use controls that might be extended to the area;
- 2) tax mechanisms to encourage preservation of the area;

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SLUG SAVIOR

By Bill Longwell



If you've ever walked along a paved trail or sidewalk during a warm and often wet August (a trail lined with tall, rough grasses), you've no doubt witnessed part of the great August migration, a seemingly brainless migration of slugs from one side of the paved walk to the other.

Why August? I don't know. What compels those slugs to attempt their annual crossing (they even try to cross heavily-traveled roads)? But August is the peak month for this often unsuccessful activity.

On one August walk I counted almost a thousand slugs in a one-mile stretch of trail.

Walk a paved path during each August and you'll spend much of your hiking time trying to avoid stepping on these slugs. Not avoiding them means often leaving behind squashed slug carcasses oozing out onto the pavement.

By the way, also arriving in August is the purplish ground beetle, always scurrying across trails, perhaps in search of slugs. Ground beetles eat slugs.

Much of this slug migration ends in failure. After starting out on their trek across wet pavement, these slugs begin to dry out as the pavement dries out. Then on the pavement is a trail of slug slime and, sadly, hundreds of drying or dried out, hard-rock slug husks, miniatures of their former liquid selves.

This fruitless and seemingly purposeless slug activity has always bothered me.

I know, I know. People do all types of work trying to impede or eradicate slugs in their gardens and lawns. My grandson goes on "slug patrol" each summer morning in his mother's kitchen garden.

But, I do what I can to save some of these brainless creatures as they attempt their crossing of paved trails.

For twenty years now I have often spent August hiking time pushing, scraping, lifting or gently sliding slugs to the other side of the trail or back to their starting point, depending on the closer side.

However, I've always worried about injuring these slugs as I move them from the way. Worried, that is, until August, 2005.

I have finally discovered a neat trick to help these slugs find success in their individual pilgrimages.

I always carry a walking stick on my hikes. This inch-thick stick (or cane, as my friends call it) is not the metal, pointy stick that hikers use to keep their balance. My stick has a handle (hence, a cane) and a flat bottom. A metal band protects the end.

This stick is my number one trail tool. With it I can shift a myriad of trail debris from the tread to keep a trail walkable.

And, this walking stick also works in August to move (gently, of course) migrating slugs.

I have discovered that if I bring the stick's flat bottom up against the slug's crawling surface, the slug curls itself against the stick and adheres to it. I then lift the stick over the rough grass and gently tap the stick until the slug falls into the grass, apparently with no pain, for the slug or for me.

Therefore, I am a slug saver.

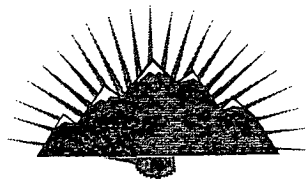
Or, slug savior.

National Park *continued from page 5*

- 3) the feasibility of designating the area, or any portion thereof, as a component of the National Park System;
- 4) a program of cooperative agreements between the Federal Government, State or local governments and property owners specifying limitations in property uses within the area; and
- 5) such other land use management techniques as the Secretary has examined pursuant to the study."

\$200,000 was to be appropriated for the study to be conducted during fiscal year 1982.

As is well known, many more bills are written each year than are actually submitted to Congress. Of the ones submitted to Congress, only a percentage of them get sent to committee. Then only a few of these get voted out of the committee. Then only few of these actually get voted on by the full Congress. Then only some of these last few get passed. The "Issaquah Alps Protection Study Act" got lost somewhere in this long journey between Discussion Draft and final passage. It obviously was an idea whose time had not yet arrived. It took nearly ten more years with continued activity and lobbying by the IATC before the 1990 Mountains to Sound March and the work of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust began to carry out many of the visions of the original IATC founders.

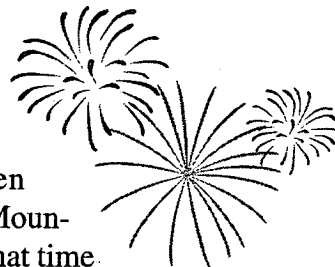
**MEMBERSHIP QUESTION?**

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.

Tiger Mountain Fireworks

By Bill Longwell

In the 1980's our newly formed IATC was introducing both experienced and novice hikers to the then relatively new Tiger Mountain trail system. At that time the Tiger Mountain Trail was just ten miles long (not 16, as it is today) and few other trails existed on Tiger. Few outsiders hiked there.



In those days most I-90 corridor hikers knew nothing of Tiger Mountain and thought only of traveling towards Snoqualmie Pass and beyond for national forest hiking. Tiger was unknown hiking territory. The IATC quickly changed that mentality. Early Tiger hikes were extremely popular and often saw 20 or more hikers on club-sponsored hikes.

Harvey Manning, our first club president and also our first hike coordinator, was always drawing up potential hikes to create interest in Tiger and the rest of the Issaquah Alps. Harvey and the IATC were highly successful in this because the Issaquah Alps was mostly virgin territory to most hikers.

All of this early, organized hiking came before the Washington Department of Natural Resources really established its new authority on Tiger.

In the 1980's all sorts of illegal activity occurred on Tiger. No gates on the roads meant that any type of vehicle traversed Tiger roads and even Tiger trails. Hikers in those days would often meet noisy motorcycles bearing down on them, hear constant gunfire, see animal poaching, see tree poaching and find abandoned cars and garbage dumps. Until DNR really organized itself on Tiger, scary people plagued Tiger.

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JULY 2006

Saturday, July 1
Bandera Mountain
Group Size limited to 12
3D – 7 miles, 2850' gain
All day hike for serious hikers
Call Richard Mann : 425-391-0410
Forest Service Pass/Golden Age Pass
Required for driver

Sunday, July 2 – 9 am
Cedar Butte
Hike to seldom visited hill with great views
2B, 5 miles, 1000 ft. gain
Jackie Hughes, 425-641-3815

Tuesday, July 4 – 9 am
South Tiger Mt.
Hike south end of TMT to great lunch spot.
Return via S. Tiger Traverse
2C, 7 miles, 1600 ft. gain, slow pace
Fred Zeitler, 425-882-3435

Friday, July 7 – 10 am
Cougar Mt – Newcastle Highlands & DeLeo Wall
Popular view site and (maybe) some
unusual orchids.
Slow Pace
2B – 4 miles, 700 ft. gain
Warren Jones, 425-391-7409

Saturday, July 8 – 9am
Tiger Mt – Mannings Reach
Hike to great views
3C – 9 miles, 2400 ft. gain
Joe Toynbee, 206-723-6716

Sunday, July 9 – 9am
Tiger Mt – Up Chirico trail, down Poo Poo Point
Trail-car shuttle
2C – 7 miles, 1900 ft. gain
Tom Palm , 206-783-6005

Saturday, July 15 – 8:30
East & Middle Tiger Mt. Loop
from Hwy 18, hike Iverson RR, TMT, Artifacts
Trail, and more
3D – 10 miles, 3100 ft. gain
Ralph Owen, 425-746-1070

Sunday, July 16 – 1 pm
Tradition Plateau-visit 2 lakes, creeks & wetlands
2B – 5-6 miles, 600 ft. gain
Dave Kappler, 425-392-3571

Saturday, July 22
Granite Mountain – trail climbs to fire lookout
Group size limited to 12
All day hike for serious hikers
Forest service pass/
Golden Age required for driver
4D – 8 miles, 3800 ft. gain
Call Richard Mann, 425-391-0410

Saturday, July 22 – 9 am
Cougar Mountain
Double loop around Wilderness Peak and on to
Longview Peak
3C – 7 miles, 1900 ft. gain
Scott Prueter, 425-369-6016

Sunday, July 23 – 9 am
Lower Coal Creek
History, plant and animal identification
2B – 4 miles, 300 ft. gain
Steve Williams, 425-453-8997
Tom, 425-391-7585

Thursday, July 27 – 7 pm
IATC Board Meeting
Trails Center – 1st and Bush

Saturday, July 29
Melakwa Lake
Denny Creek, beautiful waterfalls,
peaceful Alpine Lake

Group size limited to 12
All day hike for serious hikers
Forest Service Pass/Golden Age Pass
required for driver
3D – 9 miles, 2600 ft. gain
Call Richard Mann, 425-391-0410

Sunday, July 30 – 10 am
Tradition Plateau
Lakes, creeks and wetlands
2B – 5-6 miles, 600 ft. gain
Karen Tom, 425-391-7585

AUGUST 2006

Saturday, August 5
Talapus & Olallie Lakes
Hike through forests to beautiful Alpine Lakes.
Return via a portion of the Pratt Lake trail.
Group size limited to 12
Forest Service Pass/Golden Age Pass
required for driver
3C-7 miles, 1600 ft. gain, slow pace
Call Fred Zeitler, 425-882-3435

Sunday, August 6 – 1 pm
Tradition Plateau-visit 2 lakes, creeks and
wetlands
2B – 5-6 miles, 600 ft. gain
Dave Kappler, 425-392-3571

Saturday, August 12
McClellan Butte
Trail switchbacks steeply up the mountain,
through old-growth forest and great views.
All day hike for serious hikers
4D – 9 miles, 3700 ft. gain
Call Richard Mann for reservation
425-391-0410

Sunday, August 13 – 8:30 am
Cougar Mt – loop hike exploring near the
perimeter of the Cougar Mt. Wildland Park
3C – 10+ miles, 1600 ft. gain
Ralph Owen, 425-746-1070

Saturday, August 19 – 9 am
Squak Mt –loop hike over Central Peak &
West Peak with Rainier view for lunch
3C – 8 miles, 2000 ft. gain
Scott Prueter, 425-369-6016

Sunday, August 20 – 9 am
Dirty Harry's Balcony
Rough trail, over rocks, slow pace
2C – 4 miles, 1300 ft. gain
Bob Gross, 425-427-8449

Wednesday, August 23 – 7 pm
Hike Leaders' Meeting
Trails Center – 1st and Bush

Saturday, August 26
Mt. Defiance
Alpine Lakes Wilderness area
Group size limited to 12
All day hike for serious hikers
Forest Service Pass/Golden Age Pass
required for driver
4D – 11 miles, 3700 ft. gain
Call Richard Mann, 425-391-0410

Sunday, August 27 – 9 am
Cougar Mt – North face loop
History, plant and animal identification
2B – 4 miles, 300 ft. gain
Steve Williams, 425-453-89971A, 4 miles,
500' gain
Steve Williams 425-453-8997

SEPTEMBER 2006

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

Saturday, September 3
Commonwealth Basin
3D – 10 miles, 2700 ft. gain
Group size limited to 12
All day hike for serious hikers
Forest Service Pass/Golden Age Pass
required for driver
Call Bob Gross, 425-427-8449

Monday, Labor Day, Sept. 4
Squak Mountain – 9 am
Trails you haven't seen; loop out of Park & Ride
using new & unknown trails on NW Squak
2C-4-5 miles, 600 ft. gain
Scott Semans, 425-369-1725

Saturday, September 9
Kendall Katwalk
Hike PCT to view of Gold Creek Valley
Group size limited to 12
All day hike for serious hikers
Forest Service Pass/Golden Age Pass
required for driver
4D – 11 miles, 2700 ft. gain
Call Richard Mann, 425-391-0410

Sunday, September 10 – 9 am
Squak Mt. traverse: up East Ridge, down south
side, car shuttle
2C – 7 miles, 2000 ft. gain
Tom Palm, 206-783-6005

Sunday, September 10 – 1 pm
Lake Sammamish Park Loop
Pickering, E. Lk. Samm and state park trails
2A – 4-5 miles, 0 gain
Dave Kappler, 425-392-3571

Saturday, September 16, 9 am
Squak Mt/Cougar Mt
Two new connections; Mountainside Dr. to
Cougar Claypit, loop return, no roads
3C/D-9 miles, 1600 ft. gain
Scott Semans, 425-369-1725

Sunday, September 17 – 8:30 am
West Rattlesnake Loop
Climb from Snoqualmie Point to views from
Grand Prospect; return via Rattlesnake Mt. Trail
3D – 9 miles, 2800 ft. gain
Ralph Owen, 425-746-1070

Saturday, September 23 – 9 am
Tiger Mountain
Loop hike over West Tiger 2 via TMT and K3;
return via West Tiger 3
3C – 8 miles, 2500 ft. gain
Scott Prueter, 425-369-6016

Sunday, September 24 – 9 am
Cougar Mt – Low Valley Loop
2B – 4-5 miles, 300 ft. gain
Steve Williams, 425-453-8997

Saturday, September 30
Commonwealth Basin
All day hike for serious hikers
Group size limited to 12
Forest Service Pass/Golden Age Pass
required for driver
3D – 10 miles, 2700 ft. gain
Call Richard Mann, 425-391-0410

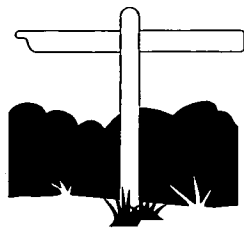
OCTOBER 2006

Saturday, October 1 – 9 am
Little Si
Hike to popular destination with great views
2C – 5 miles, 1300 ft. gain
Mary Nolan, 425-837-1535

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

The Signing on Tiger

By Bill Longwell



Tiger Mountain trails have seen numerous (almost countless, it seems) generations of trail signs. New or recent hikers on Tiger may think that the present day professional signs have always pointed the way on Tiger trails. Not so. The present day signs are only the third or fourth generation of professional signs to stand on Tiger.

Before DNR took an active role on Tiger trails by placing professional signs, Tiger trail-builders put up scores of signs. The first signs from DNR came on line in 1993 when DNR ordered from King County 100 new signs for Tiger.

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Some of that day served political purposes. Issaquah mayor A.J. Culver showed up and stopped to work. With the mayor came the 1985 Miss Issaquah. Both posed for pictures with Harvey. She, however, didn't stay.

Everybody wanted their picture taken with Harvey in those days. The IATC was big news in Issaquah then, and Harvey was always big news. He was someone who got things done.

Harvey rented a mechanical auger that took two strong people to handle it. There was no fooling around with that auger. Several people loyal to Harvey showed up. Dick Brooks, Harvey's long-

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Dwight Riggs came. Riggs was a powerful, jovial man who was instrumental in building the TMT. The Dwight's Way Trail is named for him. He has since moved to Arizona.

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Mayor Culver, who once served as president of the Mountaineers not only came, but worked. Today, Culver is a forceful beacon and respected King County voice concerning voting procedures.

Harvey and Dwight wrestled the auger and became quite efficient in digging three-foot holes. Dwight carried at least twenty sixty-pound bags of concrete in the back of his van. I pushed the wheelbarrow up and down the old Tradition Plateau roads and mixed the concrete from water tanks that Dwight's vehicle carried.

We placed all twenty signs in concrete that day. Signs pointed out the names of Tradition Lake, Round Lake, and directed hikers to far-off destinations and summits.

It is somewhat ironic that before that day was over, even before our work was complete, some vandal came by and tore out some of the signs. I remember that the Tradition Lake sign disappeared shortly after we moved on to another sign. Sad to say, that's the way it's been with Tiger signs ever since.

National Park *continued from page 5*

- 3) the feasibility of designating the area, or any portion thereof, as a component of the National Park System;
- 4) a program of cooperative agreements between the Federal Government, State or local governments and property owners specifying limitations in property uses within the area; and
- 5) such other land use management techniques as the Secretary has examined pursuant to the study."

\$200,000 was to be appropriated for the study to be conducted during fiscal year 1982.

As is well known, many more bills are written each year than are actually submitted to Congress. Of the ones submitted to Congress, only a percentage of them get sent to committee. Then only a few of these get voted out of the committee. Then only few of these actually get voted on by the full Congress. Then only some of these last few get passed. The "Issaquah Alps Protection Study Act" got lost somewhere in this long journey between Discussion Draft and final passage. It obviously was an idea whose time had not yet arrived. It took nearly ten more years with continued activity and lobbying by the IATC before the 1990 Mountains to Sound March and the work of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust began to carry out many of the visions of the original IATC founders.



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.

Tiger Mountain Fireworks

By Bill Longwell

In the 1980's our newly formed IATC was introducing both experienced and novice hikers to the then relatively new Tiger Mountain trail system. At that time the Tiger Mountain Trail was just ten miles long (not 16, as it is today) and few other trails existed on Tiger. Few outsiders hiked there.



In those days most I-90 corridor hikers knew nothing of Tiger Mountain and thought only of traveling towards Snoqualmie Pass and beyond for national forest hiking. Tiger was unknown hiking territory. The IATC quickly changed that mentality. Early Tiger hikes were extremely popular and often saw 20 or more hikers on club-sponsored hikes.

Harvey Manning, our first club president and also our first hike coordinator, was always drawing up potential hikes to create interest in Tiger and the rest of the Issaquah Alps. Harvey and the IATC were highly successful in this because the Issaquah Alps was mostly virgin territory to most hikers.

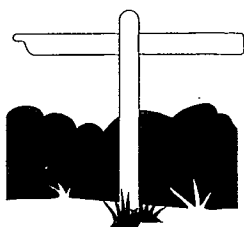
All of this early, organized hiking came before the Washington Department of Natural Resources really established its new authority on Tiger.

In the 1980's all sorts of illegal activity occurred on Tiger. No gates on the roads meant that any type of vehicle traversed Tiger roads and even Tiger trails. Hikers in those days would often meet noisy motorcycles bearing down on them, hear constant gunfire, see animal poaching, see tree poaching and find abandoned cars and garbage dumps. Until DNR really organized itself on Tiger, scary people plagued Tiger.

continued on page 11

The Signing on Tiger

By Bill Longwell



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Fireworks *continued from page 7*

The road gates, one of DNR's solutions to illegal activity, solved many of these problems. I continually thank DNR for these gates.

It was in this context that Harvey began, over a series of years, to lead backpacks to the West Tiger 3 on July Fourth evenings. From that 2522-foot summit a hiker could view several Seattle area firework displays. Visitors to West Tiger 3 on these July Fourths could also view a virtual tent city of backpackers. These trips were the only backpacks that the IATC ever sponsored.

These hikes attracted first time overnights and those looking for novel trips. Fathers took their children on these trips to an easy summit. On July, 1984, my daughter Gretchen and I decided to join Harvey and his holiday group.

The backpackers generally carried up cold dinners and breakfasts to that bare but not barren summit. Twenty-five years ago West Tiger 3 was ablaze with flowers, mostly daisies. Today, so many people visit that summit that flowers have no chance to bloom.

All of us met at High Point, began walking from Lake Tradition and climbed the two and one half miles to the summit to set up camp and await the fireworks. Most people pitched their tents down off the summit in the trees.

After awhile, however, it seemed to Gretchen and me that the summit area was too crowded, so the two of us walked an additional half mile to Manning's Reach to a tent site on that steep hillside.

That was a mistake.

West Tiger 3 is a protected summit a half mile from the end of the main Tiger Road, which stopped at the West Tiger 2 summit. In those days without gates, any vehicle could drive to West

Tiger 2. That summit sat directly above Manning's Reach and our campsite.

Gretchen and I had just set up camp when World Was III broke out.

Rather than watch the area's many firework displays from sea level, several pyromaniacs had driven to West Tiger 2 to set off their own. Numerous people atop that summit, 150 feet above us, launched rocket after rocket and all seemed aimed for our tent. I was sure that at least one would land on us. Gretchen and I huddled amid the noise under the trees expecting to see our tent explode in flames. It was no fun!

Finally the long-awaited darkness settled on the mountain and brought quiet. The howitzers above us ran out of ammunition and their gunners packed up for home to drive back down the dark Main Tiger Road to civilization. Both Gretchen and I looked for spot fires around dry Manning's Reach and then went to bed.

When we emerged from our tent the next morning we were relieved to see that a thick, wet and drizzly cloud had dropped over the West Tiger 2 summit and around our campsite. No fires burned in those damp woods.

After a quick, cold breakfast we packed up our gear to descend the TMT toward High Point. We quickly emerged from the wet cloud cap and walked on a dry trail to our car.

We heard no reports of casualties from the other July Fourth Campers.

(Note: camping is no longer permitted on Tiger Mountain.)



Something Hidden *continued from page 1*

About the place where the present TMT leaves the upper High Point valley (Milepost 12 today), I climbed rapidly (high above where the TMT descends today) to gain the top of the ridge and discovered an area I've never been able to find again. Today, in retrospect, it seems like a Shangri-la to me.

As I climbed through the sunshine to the ridgetop, I found myself standing in an open west-east trending small valley. The setting sun reflected from a small stream, heading east. The open valley seemed more lovely than anything I had yet seen on Tiger, and I determined to come back and explore. Sad to say, I never returned, but I know where it is. . .

Does it remain as I remember it? Someone should search it out and tell me.

Something hidden—go and find it.
Go and look behind the ranges—
Something lost behind the ranges,
Lost, and Waiting for you—go!

From "The Explorers" by Rudyard Kipling



HIKER'S CORNER

By Joe Toynbee

Trails in the Issaquah Alps are now probably in the best shape ever. Back in the pioneer days of the blub in the 1980s, most of the trails we now use were in poor shape, with the exception of Cougar Mountain, where King County Parks has always done a great job. On Squak and Tiger many trails were little more than way trails, with severe brushing and drainage problems.

In 1985, a group known as the Wednesday Weedwhackers was formed to address the trail problems. Our founder was an energetic hiker named Dwight Riggs. Each Wednesday our group

would sally forth to do what we could on trails. It was apparent to us at the time that we were just scratching the surface. In recent years a wonderful thing has happened with the advent of the Washington Trails Association and other trail maintenance groups. We old Weedwhackers can now rest on our laurels, knowing we don't have to do it all anymore!

Enjoy our great trails.

DNR PROJECTS PENDING

Two much anticipated trail projects well be undertaken in the coming months by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. This summer and fall the work will focus on the major new trailhead for Snoqualmie Point, on the west end of Rattlesnake Mountain. Then in the spring and summer of 2007, the West Tiger 3 Trail will receive a much-needed major overhaul.

The proposed Rattlesnake Mountain Trailhead is a parking lot located on approximately four acres of a 17.25 acre site. Development of the parking lot will include 50 parking spaces for cars, a kiosk, a toilet facility, catch basins, swales, and grassy areas to accommodate surface water. Besides trails in the immediate vicinity, it will also enhance the route across Rattlesnake to the popular areas above Rattlesnake Lake.

The West Tiger 3 Trail is approximately three miles long, extending from the High Point Trailhead to the summit of West Tiger 3, an elevation gain of approximately 2000 feet. The trail requires reconstruction due to the heavy hiker use and because hikers are creating braided trails where they want to miss obstacles or muddy areas. The trail reconstruction project also includes other measures to improve the trail such as installing drainage structures and surfacing with gravel.

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.

Hike Information *continued from page 13*

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.

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

✓ Checklist:

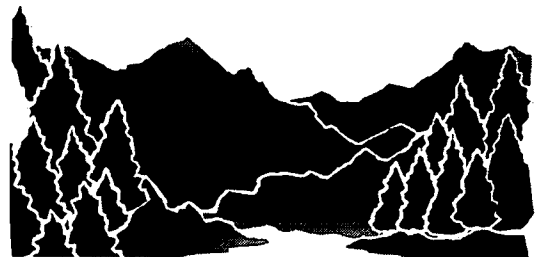
- Food
- Water
- Daypack
- Raingear
- Warm clothes
- Hiking Shoes

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

Don't leave the trailhead without them!

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	2.00		
Map: Issaquah Alps Squak Mountain (2005)	6.00		
Green Trails Map: Tiger & Taylor Mountains, Map 204S	8.00		
Green Trails Map: Cougar & Squak Mountains, Map 203S	8.00		
Green Trails Map: Rattlesnake Mountain & Upper Snoqualmie Valley Map 205S	8.00		
Green Trails Map: Mount Si NRCA & Snoqualmie Corridor, Map 206S	8.00		

*All prices include shipping and handling.

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

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

Total: _____

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

See page 15 for the publications order form.

❑ ***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. \$8.

❑ **Green Trails Cougar & Squak Mountains.** Map 203S. \$8.

☐ **Green Trails Rattlesnake Mountain & Upper Snoqualmie Valley.**
Map 205S. \$8.

☐ **Green Trails Mount Si NRCA & Snoqualmie Corridor.** Map 206S. \$8.

☐ **Green Trails Quality Squak Mountain Map.** By IATC member Harry Morgan. \$6.

☐ *LATC Tiger Mountain map*. 1998 revised. \$2.

☐ **LATC Cougar Mountain map.** 2001 revised. \$2.

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