

# THE ALPINE



October ♦ November ♦ December 2006

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

## CRISIS IN BYPASS ISSUE

By Connie Marsh

The battle over the proposed Southeast Bypass continues. The SE Bypass is the proposed road that would cut along the western-most base of Tiger Mountain, directly behind Issaquah High School. The project has a myriad of environmental impacts, from the steep slope cuts into the unstable hill near the Sunset Interchange to the floodplain near the Issaquah-Hobart Road and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue. This road also takes the heavily used Rainier Trail and turns it into sidewalks, like that at 148<sup>th</sup> Ave. in Bellevue.

The project was nearly stopped last year, but a last-minute vote switch changed that and kept the project alive. With the recent resignation from the Issaquah City Council of Nancy Davidson, the issue is now totally up in the air. The Council is split 3-3 over the issue. The to-be-selected Davidson replacement will become the deciding vote.

The City Council needs to understand how many people are against this project. Please email them with your opinion at [citycouncil@ci.issaquah.wa.us](mailto:citycouncil@ci.issaquah.wa.us). This email address contacts every Council member plus the city administration.

For more information on the SE Bypass, contact Connie Marsh, president of the Issaquah Environmental Council, at [auntgrumpy@comcast.net](mailto:auntgrumpy@comcast.net) or (425) 392-4908.

## PARKLESS ON TIGER

By Harvey Manning

The Tiger tale told by Ralph Owen in the previous *Alpiner* is good. However, the story isn't perfectly straight, and the happy ending is left incomplete. Aside from a bit of confusion about "visionaries," a major problem is that a person might get the impression that the Trails Club sought or at least favored a park on Tiger. Never. We sought—and got—something better.

Our Tiger campaign began with a very big stunt, the "Wilderness on the Metro 210" hike, conceived, organized, and led by Buz Moore, Visionary. Boarding the bus at the Seattle Center, picking up recruits at stops along the way, he got off in downtown Issaquah and set a cityful of dogs barking as 100-plus pedestrians marched out of town onto Tiger Mountain. The next year, Visionary Tim O'Brian organized and led out of town a second memorable stunt, the "Public Officials Awareness Hike," with 100-plus of them and voters ascending from the city to Tiger heights. These two visionaries and a third, Dave Kappler, were at the table in the Rolling Log when we cooked up the notion of a hiking-and-agitating club. Visionary Bill Longwell was not at the table, busy as he was pioneering the Tiger Mountain Trail that was to be hailed by experts from the mysterious East as "America's grandest in-city wildland trail."

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# The Apparatus

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Website: [www.issaquahalps.org](http://www.issaquahalps.org)

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: d.simpson@msn.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.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Doug Simpson

Unlike IATC's recent experienced leaders Ken Konigsmark and Steven Drew, I have not had much opportunity to get involved in the political process. Thus I was flattered to be invited to serve on the Issaquah Park Bond Citizen Advisory Committee and anxious to interface with leaders and prominent citizens from the Issaquah community. This was not a decision-making body, but rather one to take public input, discuss various needs and wants of Issaquah citizens, and set some general parameters to go back to the Issaquah Park Board and, ultimately, the Issaquah City Council. I was not the only "greenie" to serve on this committee, as Konigsmark was there, along with Elizabeth Kappler, the bright and engaging daughter of veteran IATC leader David Kappler (who also happens to be City Council president).

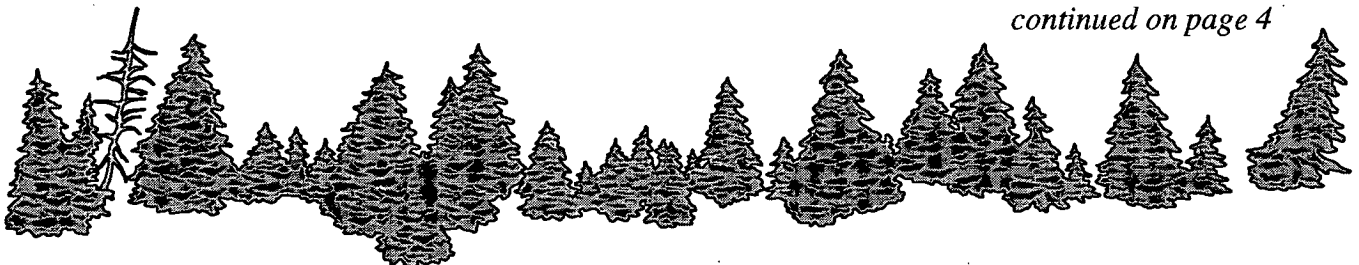
Ultimately, the public input was a two-sided tug-of-war for potential, precious park bond dollars. On the one hand were those who saw the most important objective to be preservation of green space and acquisition of properties along Issaquah Creek and upon the Issaquah Alps. This group came forth primarily via overwhelming numbers from an extensive survey conducted by the Trust for Public Land. Thus the survey participants strongly favor protecting water quality, preserving open space, and protecting wildlife habitat and natural areas. Those surveyed gave far less priority to creating new parks, playgrounds and athletic fields.

The other side, strongly favoring those latter improvements, came out in force to the committee's meetings and flooded internet and paper surveys to encourage not so much just parks and play-

grounds, but very specifically soccer fields. Their support and entreaties were impressive and effective, but less so when their primary spokesman, Darrell (In Your) Face not only challenged the validity of the TPL Survey, but impugned the integrity of the committee itself and its chairperson, Julie Hjelm. I believe some of our backs were steeled a bit by his overaggressive tactics.

Like most of the committee members, I believe that all of the citizens' requests are important and that all should benefit to some extent from the fall park bond—assuming it is put forth by the City Council. However, much as we need and would like to have more parks and playfields, my position is that Issaquah must preserve and protect first and foremost. If the city doesn't buy land along Issaquah Creek when it becomes available, inevitably the developers will. Do we want multi-story condos along the creek precluding public access and surely contributing to lower levels of water quality? Another possible land acquisition is the M & H property on Squak Mountain, which, if developed, will have deleterious effect on the Mountainside Drive trailhead and Bullitt Access Trail. Once these areas are developed, there is no turning back and Issaquah's wonderful green space will have suffered a serious setback and reduction in the area's greatest asset—its overall quality of life. Ultimately, the recommendation from the Park Board to the Council was for a pretty even split in funds between the two areas of request. When it comes time, your input to the Issaquah City Council as it plans the specifics of this park bond will be not only welcome, but perhaps critical.

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## President's Message *continued from page 3*

### UNSUNG HERO #6

For the first time, I am selecting my "unsung hero" from the sitting IATC board: JACKIE HUGHES. Jackie is a very versatile lady who has contributed unselfishly to the Issaquah Alps Trails Club in many ways. She is usually quiet, but she goes about her business (and ours) with a relentless efficiency and commitment. Serving as treasurer of the club is a demanding, yet relatively thankless task. When the position came open three years ago, Jackie stepped up to take on the job. She has been diligent, even creative in handling the books for IATC these past three years.

Before coming onto the board, Hughes participated by doing trailwork, usually with her two friends, John Johnson and Bob Gross. They and others put in countless hours making and improving the Licorice Fern Trail on Cougar Mountain's south end. In addition, Jackie and friends have made a special project out of maintaining and improving the Cedar Butte Trail south of North Bend. Hughes, of course, leads regular hikes on Cedar Butte.

Last year when the hikes program was in jeopardy due to the resignation of Fred Zeitler after years of dedicated service, I was having a difficult time finding a leader to step up to the demanding position of Hikes Coordinator. It was Jackie who first suggested doing it by committee, but I was skeptical about how well this would work. But when Melinda Livingstone offered to share the planning and scheduling with Jackie, and when Joe Toynbee offered to do the post-hike record-keeping, it all fell into place. And it has worked extremely well due to the ability of Hughes, Livingstone and Toynbee to get the job done with a high degree of cooperation.

Finally, Jackie is a great support person to me. Whenever there is something to get done, she will step up, whether it is with our booths at shows such as Salmon Days, with working out the best

and most efficient way to print the Alpiner and our books, or with other issues we need to stay on top of. She helps plan and coordinate our booths and shows, making signs, working herself, and, of course, dealing with the finances. For all these reasons and more, JACKIE HUGHES is another UNSUNG HERO of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club.



## County Funds for Squak

"I am pleased that we were able to support open space acquisition on Squak Mountain during what continues to be tight budget times," stated Larry Phillips, King County Council chairman, recently. The Council has committed \$578,160 in Conservation Futures Tax funds to be used for acquisition of the controversial 40 acres owned by M & H on Squak.

M & H has been trying to get the go-ahead to build homes on the acreage, which straddles the Bullitt Access Trail. IATC has been strongly opposed to the project, as have Forest Rim homeowners, whose sole road would be the only access for the proposed project. It is hoped that the fall park bond levy in Issaquah will also include significant funding to provide sufficient funding to buy out M & H and preclude their building plans on Squak.

Phillips, in a letter to IATC President Doug Simpson, said "Your (IATC's) advocacy and work on behalf of open space preservation benefits the citizens of King County in a tangible way."

### Parkless on Tiger *continued from page 1*

The Trails Club did indeed seek the assistance of the National Park Service, but not to get a park—rather to gain the planning help offered by the agency under its short-lived “bring parks to the people” program. We did so because no help was to be expected from the Washington Department of Natural Resources under that merry old soul, Bert Cole, who followed orders dictated by Weyerhaeuser Inc. The lofty motives of the Park Service did not, as Ralph would have it, get lost in committee. Rather, they were stomped on by President Reagan, implementing the strategy devised by the American Enterprise Institute to provide more elbow room for profit-making by starving to death the government infrastructure, as continues to this day as the policy of the Republican Party.

Not that it mattered as far as Tiger was concerned. The denefestration of ol’ Bert Cole had brought the state DNR into play under its newly elected boss, Brian Boyle. Brian soon got Weyerhaeuser off the mountain and off our back by a land exchange. He then appointed a citizen committee to help prepare a master management plan, organized by ringmaster Bob Rose.

By and large, the resulting plan was excellent. Boyle had named the goal “a working forest in an urban environment,” a better definition than our “urban tree farm.” (The “urbanity” was that of Puget Sound City, wherein Issaquah, Seattle, Bellevue, etc., are neighborhoods of a single opolis.) The goal of both DNR and IATC was a sustained yield of wood fiber and local jobs from a succession of yearly clearcuts, rather than the Weyerhaeuser policy of slaughtering forests from horizon to horizon, going away for half a century, then returning for another slaughter—economical for the company, boom and bust, over and over again, for the community.

The disappointment to us was that the plan failed to recognize the northern section of the mountain as geographically, ecologically, and sociologically

quite different from the “working forest” of the southern section. I had to wonder whose side Bob was on. As it turned out, Bob the politically adept, and the DNR for which he at that time was “The Brains,” did not confide in us their ultimate aim, fearing that we’d blab it around and tip their hand.

The tipping at last was done, to us and the public, in the Summer 1988 issue of *Totem*, the DNR magazine. Articles by Boyle and his staff detailed the progress of Senate bill 5911 through the legislature to being signed into law by Governor Booth Gardner on May 18, 1987. The measure designated “certain areas of exceptional scenic and environmental values as Natural Resource Conservation Areas.” Four were named (including Mount Si). Others were added in 1989, including West Tiger Mountain NRCA. (The City of Issaquah joined in by designating city-owned lands as the Tradition Lake NRCA.)

The language of 1988 cleverly avoided the poetry of the 1984 National Wilderness Act, which could have rattled the cage of those Eastern Washington confederates who had enough book larnin’ to lipread. However, the intent was similar. From Brian and his Brains (Bob Rose) the Trails Club got what we had sought—something better than a park—national or state or local.

As a concluding emendation of Ralph’s tale, I refer to the 2004 printing of my 55 Hikes Around Snoqualmie Pass. A foreword by Jim Ellis praises me as “an early advocate” of you know what. Jim & Company installed Brian and me as the two initial members of the Greenway Hall of Fame. We were, of course, selected as stand-ins for our respective groups of Visionaries, and we refuse to be icons of cults.

My preface to the book traces the history of the Greenway concept from 1859 to 1990. In 1975, Stan Unger took a four-day walk from Discover

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## Parkless on Tiger *continued from page 5*

Park to Snoqualmie Pass. In 1978, my Footsore 2 urged creation of a Cascade Gateway Recreation Area centered at North Bend. In the same period, John Warth, author of the first proposal for an Alpine Lakes Wilderness, proposed a Lake Washington-to-Cascade Crest Ecology Trail.

In 1981, reaction to the proposal by President Reagan's pet crocodile to sell leases for geothermal energy in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness prompted Jim Whittaker, first American on the summit of Mount Everest, led a Mountains-to-Sound March from Snoqualmie Pass to Gasworks Park, where the largest gathering of environmentalists in the history of our area was addressed by two Congressmen and a host of other notables.

The 1990 Mountains-to-Sound March led by the Issaquah Alps Trails Club was not a brand new Vision. What was new was that Jim Ellis politely asked afterwards if we would mind his getting involved. Cried IATC President Dave Kappler, joyously, "You are most welcome, sir!" That fall Jim incorporated the Greenway Trust, and the rest is becoming history.

## Naked Volleyball, Anyone?

By Harvey Manning

"Too prudish for Nudish" was the title of Cathy Sorbo's June 24 column in the P-I. She announced that on July 16 an Issaquah organization, Forestia, planned a 5K, clothing-optional "Bare Buns Fun Run." Saturday night there would be a dance, with potluck and karaoke. She said that she could think of nothing more horrifying than naked karaoke. In her opinion, nude is not lewd—but naked volleyball is.

In prowling around Tiger Mountain years ago, I had come upon the cabins, clubhouse, swimming pool and volleyball courts of what then was called Fraternity Snoqualmie or, by Issaquah neighbors, the "nudist colony." As individuals the members were friendly, and as a community were outspokenly supportive of our Tiger Mountain agenda.

Their enthusiasm doubtless was due largely to the inconsiderate and ruthless Weyerhaeuser clearcut to the edge of their property, opening a close view of the swimming pool. Rumor had it that an entrepreneur intended to build a grandstand and sell tickets to the Bald-Headed Row of the Rivoli Theater and the beer-addled frat boys who came there to holler at the strippers, "Take it off! Take it ALL off!"

To cement the bond between the Fraternity and the Trails Club, I led a New Year's Day hike via logging roads to Poo Poo Point and looped back through fresh slash to Yah-er Wall and the trail the Fraternity had built from the swimming pool to the viewpoint. (The word "yah-er? Derives from an unroped climber falling down a very tall, very sheer cliff. Companions hear a protracted "YAH" that continues, receding, to the first bounce. Yah-er Wall was the tallest, sheerest precipice I had found on Tiger.)

Of greater significance was that the loggers were spooked by the cliff and beside the brink-spared Douglas firs. Also, exposure to the hot sun had preserved an ecosystem which in effect was a relic of the Climatic Optimum that preceded the Little Ice Age. Oregon white oak grew here, and shrubs and flowers "belonging" east of the Cascades. I warned a group of forest ecologists planning to study the anomaly to watch out for poison oak. As it happened, they had already made a first visit to the wall. Holding out bandaged arms, they laughed, "Tell us about it!"

My Trails Club group descended the trail to the swimming pool, unpeopled on this brisk January day. We were passing the clubhouse, rocking with jollity, when a jolly fellow (fully clothed, almost) emerged, tall glass in hand, and invited us in. Of course, we'd have to take off our clothes.

Here I draw veil. For the denouement, track down the two dozen Trails Club members who were in my (so to speak) party.

## Funding for MTS Greenway

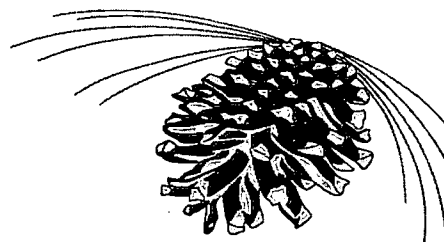
(Reprinted by permission from  
MTSG Newsletter)

In late March, the Washington State Legislature appropriated \$1.55 million dollars to five, high-priority projects in the Mountain to Sound Greenway. Legislators funded these projects in a Greenway Trust program to make it easier for people to use previously acquired public lands along I-90. One of the funded projects will help protect the landscape along the scenic highway from development outside the urban growth boundary.

"People are hiking and bicycling on Greenway trails in increasing numbers," says Greenway Trust Board President Bill Chapman. "Since the trail to the Rattlesnake Ledge was improved two years ago, the estimated use there has jumped from 35,000 a year to 100,000 a year. There are just very few places in the country where big-city jobs are so close to backcountry woods, trails and mountains."

State-funded projects include improvements to the Squak Mountain hiker and equestrian trail system on the edge of Issaquah and two projects just off Exit 27 of I-90: completion of visitor facilities at Snoqualmie Point Community View Park and completion of the cross-Rattlesnake Mountain trail and trailhead. The legislature also funded the start-up of a long-term project to seek a national designation for the 100-mile Greenway that would help public land managers keep the Greenway lands in better condition with more cost-effective financial resources. Land managers in the Greenway include the US Forest Service, the State Department of Natural Resources, Washington State Parks, King Count Parks and city parks and trails departments.

"The Greenway has protected huge areas of land in this corridor through public acquisition," says Chapman, "but we haven't been able to invest

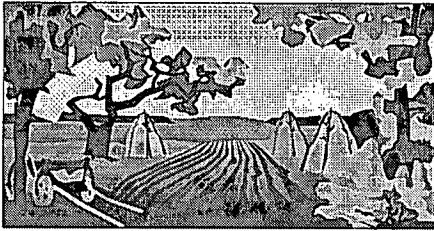


enough to build and improve the trails to keep up with demand. So when a small surplus accumulated in the State's reserves last summer, a number of people urged us to seek a small allocation for our most important projects. It was good fortune that legislators from many districts around the state realized the pressures on these lands from growing public use."

Doug Schindler, Greenway Director of Field Programs, worked with agencies and user groups to identify over 80 projects in the scenic corridor that would make recreation more accessible. Before seeking the state allocation, public land and recreation managers advised on winnowing the long list to the 14 most needed and viable projects that could be funded with \$15 million.

A number of key legislators backed the request to facilitate its success. Governor Gregoire, a long-time supporter of the Greenway, approved the allocation when she signed the budget into law. "This was the first time we had ever gone to the Legislature directly," says Chapman, "and we feel extraordinarily lucky to have his affirming response."

The Greenway Trust was so pleased with the response in Olympia that plans are now being rolled out to return to the 2007 session of the Legislature to seek funds for the remaining projects on the original list of 14 submitted in the fall of 2006. Remaining projects include a new trail for hikers and climbers up Mailbox Peak, a trail for bicyclists and hikers connecting High Point to Preston in the King Country regional trail network, and improvements to the John Wayne Pioneer Trail and Ollalie State Park that will benefit hikers, the bicycle community and horseback riders.

**OCTOBER 2006**

Sunday, October 1 – 9am  
 Little Si – Popular hike  
 With great views  
 2C – 5 miles, 1300' gain  
 Mary Nolan 425-837-1535

Saturday, October 7 and  
 Sunday, October 8  
**SALMON DAYS**  
 No Hikes Scheduled

Saturday, October 14 – 8:30am  
 Rattlesnake Mt – from winery  
 To Donna's Pinnacle  
 3D – 10 miles, 3000' gain  
 Richard Mann 425-391-0410

Sunday, October 15 – 9am  
 Ollalie Lake and Ridge  
 3B – 7 miles, 1000' gain  
 Doug Simpson 425-392-6660

Saturday, October 21 – 9am  
 Cougar Mt – Newport Way  
 To AA Peak  
 2B – 6 miles, 1400' gain  
 Bob Gross 425-427-8449

Sunday, October 22 – 8am  
 East Tiger Loop – Trails, roads,  
 And seldom hiked routes from  
 High Pt to highest Tiger Peak  
 4D – 12 miles, 3500' gain  
 Ralph Owen 425-746-1070

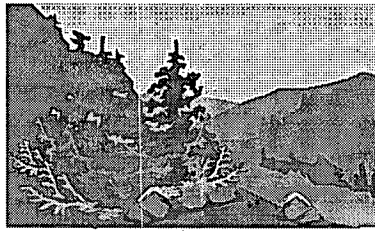
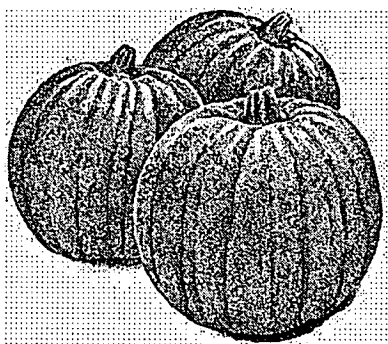
Sunday, October 22 – 12 noon  
 Tradition Plateau – visit lakes  
 Creeks and wetlands on Tiger Mt  
 2B – 6 miles, 600' gain  
 Dave Kappler 425-392-3571

Thursday, October 26 – 7pm  
 IATC Board Meeting  
 Trails Center – 1<sup>st</sup> + Bush

Saturday, October 28 – 8:30am  
 Old trail to Mt Si  
 3D – 8 miles, 3300' gain  
 Richard Mann 425-391-0410

Saturday, October 28 – 9am  
 Be a Cougar Mt detective. What  
 Are these 10 strange objects, who  
 Put them here, when + why?  
 2A – 3 miles, 200' gain  
 Steve Williams 425-453-8997

Sunday, October 29 – 10am  
**DAYLITE SAVINGS ENDS 2AM**  
 Squak Mt Loop – Debbie's view,  
 Chybinski + Coal Mine Trails  
 2B – 6 miles, 1200' gain  
 Karen Tom 425-391-7585

**NOVEMBER 2006**

Saturday, November 4 – 10am  
 Cedar Butte via Christmas Lake  
 Some off trail hiking  
 2B – 6 miles, 1000' gain  
 John Johnson 425-281-0636

Sunday, November 5 – 8:30am  
 Exploring Grand Ridge - partly  
 Along a recently built trail  
 3B – 8-10 miles, 1000' gain  
 Ralph Owen 425-746-1070

Sunday, November 5 – 9:30am  
 Twin Falls – lunch along river  
 after hike if weather permits  
 2B – 5 miles, 700' gain  
 Mary Nolan – 425-837-1535

Saturday, November 11 – 9am  
 Tiger Mt – Loop hike over  
 West Tiger 2 via TMT + K3  
 Return via W Tiger 3  
 3C – 8 miles, 2500' gain  
 Scott Prueter 425-369-6016

Sunday, November 12 – 9am  
 Squak Mt – south end to Debbie's  
 View, West Peak and Summit  
 3C – 8 miles, 2200' gain  
 Doug Simpson 425-392-6660

Wednesday, November 15 – 7pm  
 Hike Leaders' Meeting  
 Trails Center

Saturday, November 18 – 9:30am  
 Squak Mt – Eastridge trail to  
 Mountainside Dr – car shuttle  
 2C – 6 miles, 1500' gain  
 Melinda Livingstone 425-392-7455

Sunday, November 19 – 9am  
 Tiger Mt – Chirico Loop  
 Chirico Trail to West Side Rd,  
 Hidden Forest + One View  
 3C – 7 miles, 2100' gain  
 Tom Palm 206-783-6005

Sunday, November 19 – 12 noon  
 Lake Sammamish Park Loop  
 Pickering, E Lk Samm + SP trails  
 2A – 5 miles, 0 gain  
 Dave Kappler 425-392-3571

Saturday, November 25 – 9am  
 Squak Mt Loop via Central,  
 May Valley + cemetery trails  
 4C – 10 miles, 2500' gain  
 Richard Mann 425-391-0410

Sunday, November 26 – 9am  
 Licorice Fern to Wilderness  
 Peak with car shuttle  
 3B – 7 miles, 1100' gain  
 Bob Gross 425-427-8449

**DECEMBER 2006**

Saturday, December 2 – 9am  
 Tiger Mt – Sectionline trail +  
 Tradition and Round Lakes  
 2B – 4 miles, 600' gain  
 Rich Johnson 425-392-0288

Sunday, December 3 – 9am  
 Cougar Mt – Double loop to  
 Wilderness + Longview Peaks  
 3C – 7 miles, 1900' gain  
 Scott Prueter 425-369-6016

Saturday, December 9 – 9am  
 Cougar Mt – Wilderness Peak to  
 AA Peak + down Bear Ridge  
 Car shuttle  
 2C – 7 miles, 1500' gain  
 Doug Simpson 425-392-6660

Sunday, December 10 – 9am  
 Tiger Mt – TMT to Tiger 2+3  
 2C – 7 miles, 2200' gain  
 Tom Palm 206-783-6005

Sunday, December 10 – 12 noon  
 Tradition Plateau – 2 lakes,  
 Creeks + wetlands  
 2B – 6 miles, 600' gain  
 Dave Kappler 425-392-3571

Saturday, December 16 – 8:30am  
 North Cougar Loop – Neighborhood  
 and park trails to AA Peak via  
 Lewis Creek Park  
 3B – 8 miles, 1000' gain  
 Ralph Owen 425-746-1070

Sunday, December 17 – 9am  
 Cougar Mt Loop – Wilderness,  
 Longview + AA Peaks  
 3D – 10 miles, 2500' gain  
 Richard Mann 425-391-0410

Saturday, December 23 – 9am  
 Cougar Mt Loop – Redtown,  
 DeLeo Wall, Wilderness Peak  
 Coal Creek Falls  
 4C – 10 miles, 2500' gain  
 Richard Mann 425-391-0410

Sunday, December 24 – 9am  
**CHRISTMAS EVE DAY**  
 Christmas Lake  
 2B – 4 miles, 600' gain  
 Bob Gross 425-427-8449

Saturday, December 30 – 10am  
 Tradition Plateau – popular  
 Trails past 2 lakes  
 2B – 4 miles, 600' gain  
 John Johnson 425-281-0636

Sunday, December 31 – 9am  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE DAY**  
 Cougar Mt Ramble – via  
 Redtown Trailhead  
 2B – 4-5 miles, 500' gain  
 Joe Toynbee 206-723-6716

Monday, January 1 – 9am  
**NEW YEAR'S DAY**  
 Cougar Mt – Mid Coal Creek  
 2A – 3 miles, 200' gain  
 Steve Williams 425-453-8997

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

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## IATC In Planning Groups

By Ken Konigsmark

While we'd like to think that summer means lots of good hiking and vacations, this year it has also meant lots of time in key planning meetings for IATC officers. Several activities have been underway that required IATC involvement and advocacy. Three planning activities have been underway, including:

**ISSAQUAH PARKS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE:** The City of Issaquah has now approved putting a \$6+million bond issue on the November ballot to seek voter approval for funds that will be used to preserve open space and update existing parks, trails, and recreation facilities. Doug Simpson and Ken Konigsmark participated on a citizens' planning committee that reviewed priorities for how bond funds should be allocated and made a strong recommendation that the City proceed as planned with the bond issue on the ballot. IATC believes it is essential to act now to acquire and preserve key private parcels that will otherwise likely be developed. Similarly, it's essential that the City have the resources needed to properly maintain and improve existing parks and trails. IATC's involvement helped to ensure a top priority is placed on open space preservation.

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that is defined by the forested hillsides, trails, wildlife, and recreational opportunities. And the City should establish clear priorities and strategies to preserve, protect, and enhance Issaquah's open spaces and environment through creative policies that encourage redevelopment of existing urban spaces, transfer of development rights, clustering, or other creative means. We're happy to report that these sentiments have been solidly embraced by the task force.

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- 1) **WADNR must put priority on protection of resources over accommodating human uses. DNR should not seek to accommodate new public recreational uses and should limit—or eliminate—motorized recreation from public lands.**
- 2) **Growing public use, combined with growing criminal activities on DNR lands requires much larger staff and presence of law enforcement personnel.**

*continued on page 11*

## Funding for MTS Greenway

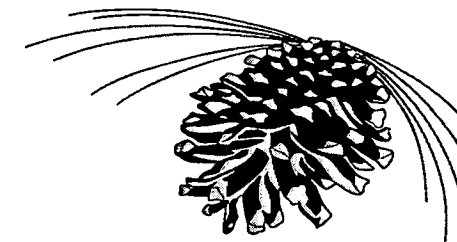
(Reprinted by permission from  
MTSG Newsletter)

In late March, the Washington State Legislature appropriated \$1.55 million dollars to five, high-priority projects in the Mountain to Sound Greenway. Legislators funded these projects in a Greenway Trust program to make it easier for people to use previously acquired public lands along I-90. One of the funded projects will help protect the landscape along the scenic highway from development outside the urban growth boundary.

"People are hiking and bicycling on Greenway trails in increasing numbers," says Greenway Trust Board President Bill Chapman. "Since the trail to the Rattlesnake Ledge was improved two years ago, the estimated use there has jumped from 35,000 a year to 100,000 a year. There are just very few places in the country where big-city jobs are so close to backcountry woods, trails and mountains."

State-funded projects include improvements to the Squak Mountain hiker and equestrian trail system on the edge of Issaquah and two projects just off Exit 27 of I-90: completion of visitor facilities at Snoqualmie Point Community View Park and completion of the cross-Rattlesnake Mountain trail and trailhead. The legislature also funded the start-up of a long-term project to seek a national designation for the 100-mile Greenway that would help public land managers keep the Greenway lands in better condition with more cost-effective financial resources. Land managers in the Greenway include the US Forest Service, the State Department of Natural Resources, Washington State Parks, King Count Parks and city parks and trails departments.

"The Greenway has protected huge areas of land in this corridor through public acquisition," says Chapman, "but we haven't been able to invest



enough to build and improve the trails to keep up with demand. So when a small surplus accumulated in the State's reserves last summer, a number of people urged us to seek a small allocation for our most important projects. It was good fortune that legislators from many districts around the state realized the pressures on these lands from growing public use."

Doug Schindler, Greenway Director of Field Programs, worked with agencies and user groups to identify over 80 projects in the scenic corridor that would make recreation more accessible. Before seeking the state allocation, public land and recreation managers advised on winnowing the long list to the 14 most needed and viable projects that could be funded with \$15 million.

A number of key legislators backed the request to facilitate its success. Governor Gregoire, a long-time supporter of the Greenway, approved the allocation when she signed the budget into law. "This was the first time we had ever gone to the Legislature directly," says Chapman, "and we feel extraordinarily lucky to have his affirming response."

The Greenway Trust was so pleased with the response in Olympia that plans are now being rolled out to return to the 2007 session of the Legislature to seek funds for the remaining projects on the original list of 14 submitted in the fall of 2006. Remaining projects include a new trail for hikers and climbers up Mailbox Peak, a trail for bicyclists and hikers connecting High Point to Preston in the King Country regional trail network, and improvements to the John Wayne Pioneer Trail and Ollalie State Park that will benefit hikers, the bicycle community and horseback riders.

## IATC In Planning Groups

By Ken Konigsmark

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- 1) WADNR must put priority on protection of resources over accommodating human uses. DNR should not seek to accommodate new public recreational uses and should limit—or eliminate—motorized recreation from public lands.
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*continued on page 11*

IATC in Planning Groups *cont. from page 10*

- 3) **Specifically on Tiger Mountain, DNR must maintain this as a working forest in an urban environment, using Tiger as an educational classroom to demonstrate to the public that forest can co-exist with people, wildlife, scenic values, proper environmental care, and recreation.**
- 4) **On Tiger and elsewhere, special attention must be paid to view impacts of forestry or other activities, particularly in the I-90 National Scenic Byway.**
- 5) **Increased educational opportunities must be provided to the public via kiosks, signage, and onsite personnel. . education on forestry, recreational rules, proper behavior, plants and wildlife, etc.**
- 6) **On Tiger, trail density is already maximized. No new trails should be approved for any uses, and no new uses should be accommodated.**
- 7) **DNR must evaluate impacts of certain recreational uses. Clearly, motorized uses, mountain bikes, and horses have significant trail damage impact on any Westside trails. If these trails can't be maintained or cost too much to maintain properly, then they should be closed to these types of users.**

## PEDAL, PADDLE, RUN

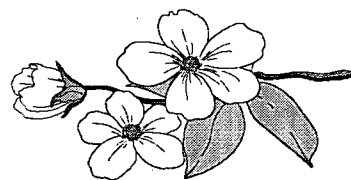
By Harvey Manning

As these words are typed, the stunt has already been done as part of this year's Mountains to Sound Greenway Days, so this is just for the record, to what good or ill the typist knoweth not.

City League Sports Inc., presumably a profit-making (or hoping) enterprise, accepted entry fees from some 600 participants in the June 25 relay event.

From Snoqualmie Pass (Hyak), 100 relay teams of five members each, plus 30 "Iron Man" soloists, were to mountain-bike 22 miles on the Iron Horse Trail to Rattlesnake Lake, pass batons to road bikers who would race 50 miles on the Snoqualmie River Trail, after which canoeists and kayakers would paddle the Sammamish River 12 miles to Lake Washington. Runners were then to race 13 miles on the Burke-Gilman Trail to Gasworks Park, the 100 miles to be completed by a 4-mile sprint to Golden Gardens Park.

The gala was approved by the Mountains to Sound Greenway Foundation. The good news is that none of the route was in the Issaquah Alps, where the Issaquah Alps Trails Club brought the Greenway idea to the attention of Jim Ellis.



## MEMBERSHIP QUESTION?

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

## TIGER'S STORM TRACK PHENOMENON

By Bill Longwell

Tiger Mountain rarely saw visitors before 1977. A few hiking groups, mostly sponsored by the Mountaineers, came occasionally. The Tiger Mountain Trail, for five years in the talking stage, finally was slowly creeping up the High Point Creek Corridor and followed routes of already known trails. All trail work on the new trail came up High Point Creek.

So on Washington's birthday, 1977, Phil Hall and I with three of our students walked in from Highway 18 to what is now Manning's Reach, to begin work on actual new trail tread along the south and west side of West Tiger 2, then known as Mt. Issaquah. We had just begun our work, after our two-hour walk, clearing brush, sawing logs and hacking in tread with rudimentary tools (the group knew nothing about trail-building tools then), when we looked up to the south. What we saw approaching shocked us.

Some had noticed a compact storm approaching from the Lake Young area in Kent, but thought the storm would veer away. They were wrong. The storm raced in, sweeping up the slopes of West Tiger (Mt. Issaquah) and aiming right at we fledgling trail builders. We ran into the dark woods of Mt. Issaquah and huddled in the trees, covering ourselves as best we could, as the storm raged over and at us, quickly dropping a half-inch of snow and lashing us with fierce winds.

Happily, it quickly passed over us, and we emerged from the woods to dry off and resume working the trail. These trail builders were perhaps the first to experience the Tiger Mountain storm track, but certainly not the last. Hikers for thirty years since that storm have often faced wild conditions on West Tiger Mountain, especially in the descent down the steep road of West Tiger 1, where sudden raging winds, accompanied by blizzard conditions have battered them. Frequent travelers here regularly commented on this.

Here on the West Tiger summit, sudden winter storms plaster the trees with an almost impenetrable wall of snow, and walking down the steep road is risky, especially if a half-inch of snow barely covers the small pebbles on the road. In those conditions, it's almost impossible to walk down that road; it's a tilted ice rink, or so it seems. My wife and I have since moved in the path of that storm track. Our home on the west edge of what's called Snoqualmie Ridge, hanging 600 feet above the Raging River, lies in that storm track's path. Here, at 900 feet elevation, we face at least 25 raging windstorms a year, mostly from late October to March, and most in excess of 40 miles per hour, many more fierce than that. These storms bring heavy rains and, about ten times a year, snow. I've kept track of these storms since I've lived there.

Issaquah receives about 38 inches a year. Five or six miles to the east, Preston receives 77 inches of rain per year, according to one long-time resident. Preston lies in the path of the storm track. A forty inch difference in just six miles. Amazing!

The Raging River, flowing rapidly right down the middle of this storm track, is not called "Raging" by accident. Because of the track racing over Tiger and vicinity, it is the fastest rising river in King County, and it's fun to watch. Perhaps for that reason, people actually find gold in the river, trapped in front of river boulders and perhaps sluiced down from Tiger Mountain environs. I've watched gold hunters, crawling up the river in wetsuits and tugging along floating vacuums, dig up bits of gold among the river gravels.

Perhaps you'll be fortunate enough to descend West Tiger Mountain during one of these frequent and sudden winter storms. If so, you won't forget it.

# 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:

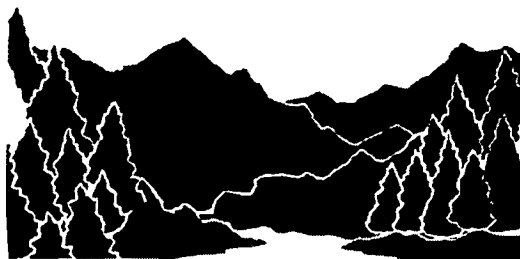
- Food
- Water
- Daypack
- Raingear
- Warm clothes
- Hiking Shoes

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.

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 15 for the publications order form.

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

❑ **Flowering of the Issaquah Alps**—Revised! By Fred and Ann Weinmann and Harvey Manning. 1996 updated edition. This new edition lists trees, shrubs, ferns, and flowers found in the Issaquah Alps. Flowers are listed by color, season when flowering, and where many of the plants can be found. \$9.

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

❑ **Guide to Trails of Tiger Mountain**—By Bill Longwell. 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.

❑ **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**

**Address Service Requested**

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