#### Newsletter of the Issaguah Alps Trails Club

# ALPINER



October ♦ November ♦ December 2007

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

## HIKERS BOOST ECONOMY

# The Washington Trails Association reports that active outdoor recreation is a huge part of the economy in Washington State and the nation. The info comes in a report called *The Value of Hiking: Economic Benefits of Hiking and Non-Motorized Recreation* by WTA's Jeanne Frantz.

The report shows that one in three Washington residents identify themselves as hikers, backpackers, trail runners or climbers, and that nearly half of all residents went hiking at least once during the year.

Low-impact outdoor recreation (bicycling, camping, fishing, hunting, paddling, skiing, snowshoeing, climbing, hiking backpacking and wildlife viewing) contributed \$730 billion to the US economy in 2005.

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# CLUB MARKETS MANNING

# Harvey Manning's 55 Hikes Around Snoqualmie Pass is now being sold at a discount by the Issaquah Alps Trails Club. The book, a 2005 printing, lists for \$14, but the club will sell it for \$10, with sales benefiting the club's project to erect a statue for Manning.

Over 200 copies have been purchased from the publisher, Mountaineers' Books. The book can be ordered through the *Alpiner*, or purchased at Salmon Days or other shows.

The book lists many hikes that IATC offers during the warm season, along the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River, the north and south ridges of the South Fork, and around Snoqualmie Pass and east of it.

Some of the popular hikes included are Mount Si, Dirty Harry's Balcony, Mason Lake, Bandera Mountain, Melawkwa Lake, Annette Lake and Snow Lake.

#### IATC MEETINGS OPEN

The annual meeting of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club is held the fourth Thursday in January, in this case January 24. At that meeting an election is held to select the club's officers and at least three other board positions.

With Doug Simpson stepping down as president after four years, a new president will be elected. "We are always looking for new blood," said Simpson, "and 2008 would be a good time for others interested in the club to get involved."

The club meets quarterly, so the next meeting is October 25. Meetings are open to the public. "Interested members are welcome any time," Simpson reminded, "so the October meeting would be a good time to see how the club functions and to gauge possible interest."

Meetings begin at 7 p.m. at the Trail Center at 1<sup>st</sup> and Bush streets in downtown Issaquah, the location from which club hikes begin.

#### The Apparatus

#### Club Founder

Harvey Manning

#### **President**

Doug Simpson • 392-6660 • d.simpson@msn.com

#### Vice Presidents, Advocacy

Ken Konigsmark • 228-4839 • kenkonigsmark@yahoo.com

#### Treasurer

Jackie Hughes • 641-3815 • jhughes62003@yahoo.com

#### Secretary

Sally Pedowitz • 206-323-2714 • sjoped1@msn.com

#### **Board of Directors**

Jackie Hughes • 641-3815 • jhughes62003@yahoo.com

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Harry Morgan • 432-3249 • hcmorgan@att.net

Bill Longwell • 222-6775 • longwell2@comcast.net

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#### **Hikes Coordination**

Melinda Livingstone • 392-7455 • melindal@blarg.net

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#### Webmaster

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Doug Simpson • 392-6660 • d.simpson@msn.com

#### Advocates

Cougar Mountain: Steve Williams • 453-8997 • wilbs@worldnet.att.net

Issaquah: Connie Marsh • 392-4908 • auntgrumpy@comcast.net

Tiger Mountain: Larry Hanson • 392-2458 • larmarhan@msn.com

Raging River/Preston: Maryanne Tagney Jones • 222-7615 • branches@mindspring.com

Rattlesnake Mountain/Taylor Mountain: Ralph Owen • 746-1070

Squak Mountain: Doug Simpson • 392-6660 • d.simpson@msn.com

and Cathy Brandt • 430-9877

#### Chief Ranger/Trail Maintenance Crew Chief

Bill Longwell • 222-6775 • longwell2@comcast.net

#### **Volunteer Trail Maintenance Coordinator**

Scott Semans • 369-1725 • ssemans@aol.com

#### **Mountains To Sound Greenway**

Ken Konigsmark • 222-4839 • kenkonigsmark@yahoo.com

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

The Alpiner is published in January, April, July, and October.

Issaquah Alps Trails Club PO Box 351, Issaquah, WA 9027 Website: 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

The Issaquah Alps Trails Club has entered into the realm of high finance. Occasionally it is a big expenditure for us if we print 500 copies of a new edition of one of our books. Now, though, we have ventured into an expensive artistic project: the creation of a statue for our founder, Northwest icon Harvey Manning. We are planning a splendid bronze larger-than-life statue that could cost as much as \$75,000. Of course, we are seeking contributions from outside organizations and individuals. That expense is nearly three times our current assets (not counting inventory).

Many of you may wonder why we are undertaking such a project. If you read our special edition that came out last December, you know why. But let me review just a few reasons why we wish to so honor Mr. Manning. As stated, he founded the IATC and was its president for ten years. Others of us who served in the position can never approach his accomplishments.

\*Harvey was a great hiker, of course, and as you know he authored many hiking guides and other books as well. So his impact on opening Northwest hiking trails to the public cannot be minimized.

\*Harvey gave our mountains the name of "Issaquah Alps." But more than that, our Alps certainly would not stand as we know them without him and his vigorous and effective conservation efforts. The Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park would not exist were it not for Manning. It would be crisscrossed with roads and development were it not for his unrelenting pressure and sales pitch to King County officials in the late 70's and early 80's. That is well documented. Similarly, his advocacy for public land acquisition and state park expansion on Squak Mountain was critical. And his role in creating a public use, working state forest on Tiger Mountain helped keep it from being logged off and peddled to developers.

\*Harvey's vision had much to do with the concept and creation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway and the North Cascades National Park. I don't need to tell you how much those projects have enhanced the beauty and appeal of our state. Until his death last November, Manning remained active in the North Cascades Conservation Council and its important work in that region.

\*Harvey is the most recognized, most honored conservationist in the Pacific Northwest. AND HE IS OURS. We don't want him to be forgotten. He put the Issaquah Alps and the IATC on the map and in the public eye. In many ways he was larger than life, and we want him remembered in the concrete visible form of a statue.

As this is written, we have about \$35,000 in our fund for this project. The three largest contributors to date are the IATC itself, REI, and the City of Issaquah Arts Commission. As president of IATC, I am in contact with other organizations to bring us closer to our goal. As noted on a page 1 story of this issue, we will benefit from selling copies of one of Harvey's books, 55 Hikes Around Snoqualmie Pass. Proceeds from its sales will go into the statue fund.

We are also seeking gifts from individuals. Nickels and dimes aren't going to help us much, but donations of \$25, \$50, \$100 or \$500 certainly will. Any individual or organization which contributes \$1,000 or more will be listed on a plaque attached to the statue.

Will you help us? If so, send your tax-free donations to the IATC Manning Fund at the usual mailing address (PO Box 351, Issaquah, 98027). Thank you for considering it.

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#### **REFLECTIONS ON COUGAR**

#### Part Three

By Harvey Manning

(Ed. Note: This is the final installation of what we believe to be Harvey's last submission for publication.)

#### JULY

Pit-a-pat in trees, a luscious summer rain stirs freshness in the air, cools my burned forehead and recharges the puddles.

A great blast! Trees heavy-burdened by leaves groan! Oh, the clouds backlighted! Sidelighted! Frontlighted!

Rosy spire (hardhack), ocean spray, St. John's wort (hang it by the door to fend off witches), mullein, Deptford pink, perennial pea, morning glory, bedstraw, pineapple weed, groundsel, nipplewort, wormwood, three foreigner geraniums including the stinkflower.

#### **AUGUST**

Clouds engulf the peaks of Cougar, hard rain dents my skin and pushes through. Something wicked comes. Bones suspect winter.

One day, 35 flowers. Another day, 31. Catchfly, goldenrod, monkeyflower, a pretty pink mystery not in the book.

Three bumblebees jostling in a single plant.

#### **SEPTEMBER**

Still 30 bloomers. Black crap, piles and piles, everywhere in the hellberries. Under the apple trees, too, containing chunks of undigested apple.

The arc of the sun is low across the southern sky. Sidelights the columns of smoke rising from slash-burning for the advance of Puget Sound City toward the Cascades, the ascent of the peaks by clearcuts,

the wildness within and the wildness without dwindling together. Here I walk the anacronism in anacronism.

Spider webs beaded by morning fogs, electrified as sun shafts through. The silk blinds eyelids, tickles nose, too big a bug for the strands to be wrapped around and stored in the pantry. Sorry about that. To save the trouble of rebuilding, my walking stick carefully relocates the anchor lines. Indeed, how can they ever manage to rig that first long line from one side of the trail to the other?

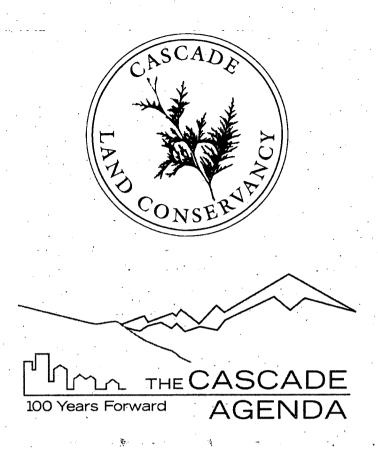
Look! In the sky! Is it a bird? A plane? Superman? No, 'tis an airship on flyabout. Whereaway? Wherever the spider is, that's where it's supposed to be. Ditto me.

#### **OCTOBER**

Now, no mister nice guy. The iron fist. All night the rain punished the roof, rivered off the eaves. All summer Coal Creek was down in the mines, now was roaring here. The sky is cold, cold.

Yet I pick a sprig of Deptford pink. Behind my ear it advertises that I'm available, if anybody is shopping around. I discovered a new book of English wild-flowers, and it revealed that many I find on Cougar Mountain came from gardens there—and the text tells that many were not native to England, either, but came with the Roman legions from Persia, with the barbarian hordes from Scythia. The pretty pink mystery is centaury. Were its ancestors born in Xanadu?

A scattering of flowers lingers, but the perfume is gone. There is in the air a sour chemical reek, the rotting of the green. Our way of life has fallen into the sere and yellow leaf, and the red, and orange, and maroon.



### THE CITY OF ISSAQUAH: A Leader in Conservation

The City of Issaquah repeatedly demonstrates a commitment to sustaining both a sound economy and a healthy environment. Issaquah's cutting edge Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs) program works to protect the Issaquah Creek watershed by harnessing the market to redirect growth from privately owned farmland, forestland and natural areas to areas that can accommodate additional growth.

The City is also currently developing a TDR banking ordinance, which will allow the city to purchase and hold development rights for later sale, lending more flexibility to the TDR program and hopefully helping to create a more fluid and robust TDR market.

In addition to backing a leading TDR program, Issaquah plans to build King County's first "zero energy" neighborhood by 2009. The ten new town houses will be designed to produce as much electricity as they consume.

In April 2007, The City of Issaquah took another great step forward towards being a regional conservation leader by becoming a member the Cascade Agenda City Program. Issaquah, Kirkland and Tacoma are the first cities to gain the designation.

The Cascade Agenda City Program is part of a greater effort to further the Cascade Agenda, a long-term vision hosted by the Cascade Land Conservancy aimed at preserving the quality of life in our region in the face of great population growth. A Cascade Agenda City works to create attractive, vibrant and livable cities. These cities provide the great places to live that act as a magnet for growth, protecting our region's natural and working lands from sprawling development.

Currently Issaquah is exploring the opportunity to evolve into a Cascade Agenda Leadership City, which would create a partnership between the Cascade Agenda and the City to advance specific strategies that would make the city even more vibrant and livable.

If you would like to know more about the Cascade Agenda or its host organization, the Cascade Land Conservancy, please visit www.cascadeagenda.com and www.cascadeland.org or contact Leda Chahim at 206.292.5709 x 228 or at ledac@cascadeland.org.



#### Reflections on Cougar continued from page 4

The last day of the month. Dad called. Mother died in the night. I walk from Red Town toward the Far Country. Gusting, swirling winds strip the last leaves from the trees and fling them in my face. The night's torrents have brimmed the puddles. I stop at the shore of one as enormous as the sky. Because it IS the sky. I look down to the sere and yellow, and I look beyond to frightening Whiteness in terrifying Blueness. I look down, down in the sky and am falling, falling, falling.

#### TWICE AROUND THE GLOBE

By Bill Longwell

On June 28, 2007, I reached a major personal hiking goal, 50,000 hiking miles. That's twice around the globe. This milestone came on a hike with companions on the Snoqualmie Valley Trail from Rattlesnake Lake to the small town of Snoqualmie.

Basically, this accumulation of miles began in 1959 when I was 23 years old and began tallying each of my hikes. This year I am 71 and have kept that hiking tally for 49 years.

I've always recorded numerous items and have been interested in statistics, even though I was never a good math student. Over the years I have kept numerous lists of scores of items (I even keep track of baseball stats). It was natural on each individual hike to list the location, date, miles, companions, weather, and the elapsed time of the hike. Perhaps my most valuable possession is my 49-year personal hike list; it is probably the first item I would grab in case of fire.

My total hikes since that 1959 list? **4972** hikes on **5275** days. Rain or shine. Twelve months a year. **2730** of those hikes solo. A 1992 retirement provided a boon to my hiking. Walking three to four times a week since then has boosted the total almost by half.

I keep all kinds of hiking lists. Foremost is the list of the hundreds of times I've hiked with my two daughters over the past 40 plus years. I keep bird and flower lists. For seventeen of my favorite trails, I have devised a type of hand-made spread sheet, a sheet divided into trail segments. With a blue marker pen I ink in whatever section of trail I walked on a particular day. Most of my favorite trails cover at least 20 miles, say the Pacific Crest Trail from Stevens to Snoqualmie, the Mt. Defiance Trail, the PCT from Snoqualmie to Chinook or the Taylor River to the Miller River. I spent a lot of time looking over these spread sheets that span my hiking history. I've also made scores of trail logs, which I constantly use and give to friends.

Other lists? I have a half-century record of back-country wilderness hikes (779), a list of my birthday hikes, cross-country hikes—no trail (77), solo and companion hikes, hikes on the PCT (almost 400), day hikes of 20 plus miles (217), Olympic ocean beach hikes (45), and Olympic Mountain hikes (31). Another list includes my trail work party hikes. Like a persistent runner, I know exactly how many miles I hike each time.

For the past 40 years my idea of paradise was taking 20-30 mile day-hikes into the mountains. The idea was to cover and see as much territory as I could see in one day. One of the last of these marathon hikes came on an enjoyable walk up the Suiattle River Trail and back over Canyon Creek, past the Image Lake junction and all the way to the 150 foot PCT Suiattle Bridge.

Until a recent lung disease curtailed most elevation hikes, elevation never deterred me. I climbed up trails as fast as I could descend them. Some of my favorite day hikes (I also back-packed them) included the PCT from Chinook Pass to White Pass. (After camping at Chinook, I'd get up at daybreak, hide my camping gear and leave at 5:30 for White Pass. I did that 30mile hike 27 times over the years. I've often hiked the Columbia Gorge on both sides of the river, hiked the Mt. Defiance Trail from I-90 exit 47 to Ken's Truck Town, about 24 miles (24 times). I walked a dozen times from Snoqualmie Pass to Park Lakes and back in a day, about thirty miles and walked around Granite Mountain (I-90, Melakwa, Tuscohatchie and Pratt Lakes) 44 times. Recently a favorite hike followed an American Ridge route that included Mesatchee Creek, the PCT near Chinook Pass and the Dewey Creek Trail. I walked the Chelan Lakeshore 19 times and have hiked into Stehekin 32 times on various trails. Of course, I hiked between Stevens Pass and Snoqualmie Pass in segments or the whole way over 60 times. I once walked between these passes in three days in dawn-to-dusk hiking. For almost 50 years I've walked from Spur 10 in Weyerhaeuser lands to Hancock, Calligan, and Moolock Lakes and back.

Since my lung problems, I've taken to a more measured, level hiking regimen and have walked

#### President's Report cont. from page 3

#### **UNSUNG HERO #9**

If this man is unsung, he shouldn't be. KEN KONIGSMARK was president of the club for six years, second only in duration to club founder Harvey Manning. Most recently, Ken presided in 2002; since then he has been a vice-president for advocacy. This position is little understood and vastly underappreciated.

Ken seldom leads hikes anymore, and he doesn't do trail maintenance work, but if there is an important issue facing the club—a greenspace opportunity, a land use problem, a rights issue—he is the man who most diligently and effectively takes it on. Since his years dealing with advocacy go back to 1993, he seems to know everyone who matters politically and environmentally. Konigsmark was the 2007 recipient of the Ruth Kees. Award, given by the city, for his distinguished environmental stewardship. He serves on countless boards besides IATC, where his insight and opinion are often sought out. Thus, he is an invaluable resource person to IATC.

Konigsmark came along at a critical time in the club's history. Ken's concern about abuses of the trails led him to the club—and in the nick of time. The IATC was in disarray after the resignation of President Gus Nelson. The rudderless ship needed a captain, and soon Ken was running the club as president. In all, he has been on the board for 15 years, more years as an officer (14) than anyone else.

When I became president in 2004, I was a real greenhorn. Ken was one of the people I most relied upon for information, advice and support. Even though his job with Boeing security often takes him out of the area, it is comforting to know that he keeps his finger on the public pulse, and is always there when needed. His presence on the IATC Board of Directors continues to add stability and credibility.



#### **HIKER'S CORNER**

By Joe Toynbee

Where are the critters? Hiking in a group has many advantages, but viewing wildlife is not one of them. A person hiking alone is much more likely to see animals and birds than if in a group. Probably the most frequent animal sighted in the Alps is the squirrel. Deer are occasionally seen, bear and cougar almost never.

The best technique for seeing wildlife is to be quiet and scan both sides of the trail for movement. A pair of binoculars can be helpful. Remember that you are a visitor in the critter's home: be respectful.





#### **OCTOBER 2007**

OCTOBER 6 + 7 SALMON DAYS NO HIKES SCHEDULED

Friday, October 12 – 9:30am MIDWEEK HIKE Taylor Mt Loop – new trails + Holder Knob, possible Mt Rainier views 2B, 5 miles, 800' gain Betty Culbert 425-432-7387

Saturday, October 13 – 8:30am Hike PCT past Lodge Lake to great Views of mountain peaks along I-90 corridor. SLOW PACE 2B, 6 miles, 1000' gain Fred Zeitler 425-882-3435

Saturday, October 13 – 9am Tiger Mt from Highpoint TH Tiger 1 + 2 loop 3C, 8 miles, 2600' gain Richard Mann 425-391-0410

Sunday, October 14 – 9:30am Taylor Mt – new 1-way hike With short car shuttle 2B, 4 miles, 600' gain Harry Morgan 425-432-3249

Sunday, October 14 – 10:30am Cougar Mt – Fantastic Erratic Loop If rain, call leader to confirm hike 2B, 3 miles, 700' gain Bert Drui 425-746-0709

Wednesday, October 17 – 9am MIDWEEK HIKE Taylor Mt RR Grade 2A, 4 miles, 500' gain Steve Williams 425-453-8997

Saturday, October 20 – 9am Loop hike over West Tiger 2 Via TMT and K3. Return by West Tiger 3 Trail 3C, 8 miles, 2500' gain Scott Prueter 425-369-6016

Saturday, October 20 – 9:30am – 1pm Loop hike on Swamp, Big Tree and Adventure Trails FAMILY NATURE HIKE 2A, 3-4 miles, 400' gain Karl Brummert 516-426-4358

Sunday, October 21 – 9am
W Rattlesnake Loop – Visit Stan's
Overlook + the Powerline Prospect
Along with some of the most 'extreme'
Mountain bike jumps and trails on the
Lower slopes of W Rattlesnake Mt
2B, 5 miles, 1200' gain
Ralph Owen 425-746-1070

Thursday, October 25 – 7pm IATC BOARD MEETING Trails Center – 1st + Bush

Saturday, October 27 – 9am Squak Mt loop from May Valley 3C, 8 miles, 1800' gain Richard Mann 425-391-0410

Saturday, October 27 – 9:45am Grand Ridge grand traverse Ride the 10:10am 927 bus to Klahanie Hike the Grand Ridge Trail to Issaquah 2B, 9 miles, 600' gain Jay Wilson 206-729-0415

Sunday, October 28 – 9am Little Si – an old North Bend favorite 2B, 5 miles, 1300' gain Mary Nolan 425-837-1535



#### **NOVEMBER 2007**

Saturday, November 3 – 9:30 – Noon Tiger Mt – Talus Caves + Nook trails FAMILY NATURE HIKE 2A, 2-3 miles, 500' gain Karl Brummert 516-426-4358

Sunday, November 4 – 9am
Cougar Mt – Follow Coal Creek trail
From CC Parkway to North Fork Falls.
Return with partial, loop via Primrose
Trail. SLOW PACE
2B, 6 miles, 700' gain
Fred Zeitler 425-882-3435

Saturday, November 10 – 9am Cougar Mt from Newport Way 3C, 6-8 miles, 1800' gain Richard Mann, 425-391-0410

Sunday, November 11 – 9am Exploring the Grand Ridge Trail A nice walk in the woods of Grand Ridge Park. Possible extension thru Duthie Hill Park 3C, 8-10 miles, 1000' gain Ralph Owen, 425-746-1070

Thursday, November 15 – 9am MIDWEEK HIKE Weona Beach Park Timberlake Park 2A, 3 miles, 250' gain Steve Williams, 425-453-8997

Saturday, November 17 – 9am Lower Tiger Traverse 2B, 7 miles, 1000' gain Joe Toynbee 425-228-6118

Sunday, November 18 – 10am DOGS WELCOME Hike-bring Leash and clean-up supplies Tradition Lake Plateau Loop 2B, 5-6 miles, 600' gain Karen Tom 425-391-7585

Sunday, November 18 – 11am Grand Ridge Exploratory Trails may be poor, muddy 2C, 6-8 miles, 1300' gain Dave Kappler, 425-392-3571

Monday, November 19 – 7pm HIKE LEADERS' MEETING Trails Center – 1st + Bush

Thursday, November 22 – 9am THANKSGIVING DAY HIKE Get ready for turkey with a Hike to Cedar Butte 2B, 5 miles, 900' gain Bob Gross 425-427-8449

Saturday, November 24 – 9am Cougar Mt – Double loop around Wilderness Pk and on to Longview Pk 3C, 7 miles, 1900' gain Scott Prueter; 425-369-6016

Sunday, November 25 – 9am Squak Mt – East Ridge to Summit From Issaquah 3C, 7 miles, 2000' gain Tom Palm 206-783-6005

Sunday, November 25 – 9:30am Cougar Mt – DeLeo Wall and Coal Creek Falls 2B, 5-6 miles, 1200' gain Doug Simpson 425-392-6660

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



#### **DECEMBER 2007**

Saturday, December 1 – 9am Visit the top of Mt Si 4C, 8 miles, 3400' gain Richard Mann 425-391-0410

Sunday, December 2 – 9am S Tiger Loop – possible Rainier views 2B, 5 miles, 1000' gain Steve Williams 425-453-8997

Saturday, December 8 – 9am
Squak Mt – Loop hike over Central +
West Peaks via Eastside Trail + Old Griz
Possible Rainier views for lunch
3C, 8 miles, 2000' gain
Scott Prueter 425-369-6016

Sunday, December 9 – 9am Cougar Mt – Suburbia Trail to AA Peak 2B, 6 miles, 1400' gain Bob Gross 425-427-8449

Saturday, December 15 – 10am
Cougar Mt – Nike Missile Launch Site to
AA Peak – Some history along the way
2A, 4 miles, 250' gain
If rain, call leader to confirm
Bert Drui 425-746-0709

Sunday, December 16 – 11am Hike from Trails Center to Tradition Plateau 2B, 6 miles, 600' gain Dave Kappler 425-392-3571

Saturday, December 22 – 9am Visit North Bend's Cedar Butte with Grand views north and east from the top 2B, 5 miles, 900' gain Doug Simpson 425-392-6660

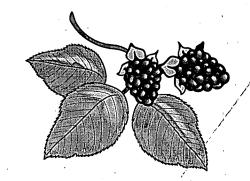
Sunday, December 23 – 9am Tiger Mt – Nook Trail, Section Line + Tradition Trails 2B, 7 miles, 1000' gain Tom Palm 206-783-6005

Saturday, December 29 – 10am FAMILY NATURE HIKE Cougar Mt – North Cougar Loop with Critter ID along the way 2A, 3-4 miles, 450' gain Steve Williams 425-453-8997

Sunday, December 30 – 9am Cougar Mt – Visit 3 Falls – Coal Creek, Doughty, and Far Country Falls 2B, 6 miles, 500' gain Bob Gross 425-427-8449

#### JANUARY 2008

Tuesday, January 1 – 10am NEW YEAR'S DAY HIKE Visit Twin Falls in North Bend 2B, 4-5 miles, 900' gain Jackie Hughes 425-641-3815



#### **BRIDGES GET BUILT**

Summer is apparently bridge-building time. Three bridges were completed by early August, two on Tiger Mountain and one on Cougar.

On August 3, the Bear Ridge Connector Trail Bridge was completed. This is the bridge that links the Talus development to the Cougar Mountain trail system.

"It looks great," said Interagency Coordinator Margaret Macleod. "I was very impressed. The fiber glass bridge looks very good."

The \$30,000 project was paid for evenly by Talus and by the City of Issaquah. Steve Lindsley, supervisor of the city's maintenance crew, headed the project, aided by Matt Mechler and Anne McGill.

The Talus developer is building the trailhead entranceway to the bridge. Scott Semans of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club will construct the connection from the bridge to the Bear Ridge Trail.

The Tiger Mountain replacement bridges are on the Bus Trail and Around the Lake (Wilderness) Trail. Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust received funds from the state legislature and hired Sahalee Construction for the work.



"There must still be a Lake Chelan National Park." --H. Manning



#### Hikers Boost Economy cont. from page 1

"The Washington active outdoor recreation economy," the report reveals, "contributes \$11.7 billion to Washington's economy, supports 115,000 jobs, generates \$650 billion annual in retail sales and services statewide, accounting for 3.5 per cent of the gross state product."

The report is available online at www.wta.org or will be mailed by calling (206) 625-1367.

#### **REI TO ISSAQUAH**

REI (Recreational Equipment, Inc.) is coming to Issaquah. REI currently operates 80 stores in 25 states as well as two online stores (REI.com and REI-OUTLET.com). The store to open in November will be located in the former Long's space next to Safeway off Gilman Boulevard.

REI is a national outdoor retail cooperative, committed to inspiring, educating and outfitting for a lifetime of outdoor adventure. Founded in 1938 by a group of Northwest mountaineers, REI is today the nation's largest consumer co-op with more than 2.5 million members. Members pay a one-time \$15 fee and receive a share in the company's profits based on their purchases.

The store should be a boon for the Issaquah Alps Trails Club, as local hikers can shop more conveniently than making the drive to Redmond, Seattle or some other outlet. In addition, the company is in the process of hiring as many as 60 new employees for the store. (If interested, visit www.rei. com/jobs for online applications--job #2413).

"We heartily endorse REI and its opening a store in Issaquah," said Doug Simpson, IATC president. "REI has long supported us by selling our books, and they have donated \$10,000 to the Harvey Manning statue project. And, of course, few other businesses offer as much in the way of hiking equipment."



On camping below the Kautz Ice Cliff: "Do not watch the sunset lest you lose your nerve and run barefoot and shrieking down the glaciers toward the lights of Paradise." --H. Manning



#### **CREEK PROPERTY PURCHASED**

Using \$10,000 from the recently passed park bond, the City of Issaquah has purchased a small property on Issaquah Creek near Sycamore. The purchase is a critical acquisition to protect the riparian habitat of the creek.

#### President's Report cont. from page 3

#### **UNSUNG HERO #9**

If this man is unsung, he shouldn't be. KEN KONIGSMARK was president of the club for six years, second only in duration to club founder Harvey Manning. Most recently, Ken presided in 2002; since then he has been a vice-president for advocacy. This position is little understood and vastly underappreciated.

Ken seldom leads hikes anymore, and he doesn't do trail maintenance work, but if there is an important issue facing the club—a greenspace opportunity, a land use problem, a rights issue—he is the man who most diligently and effectively takes it on. Since his years dealing with advocacy go back to 1993, he seems to know everyone who matters politically and environmentally. Konigsmark was the 2007 recipient of the Ruth Kees Award, given by the city, for his distinguished environmental stewardship. He serves on countless boards besides IATC, where his insight and opinion are often sought out. Thus, he is an invaluable resource person to IATC.

Konigsmark came along at a critical time in the club's history. Ken's concern about abuses of the trails led him to the club—and in the nick of time. The IATC was in disarray after the resignation of President Gus Nelson. The rudderless ship needed a captain, and soon Ken was running the club as president. In all, he has been on the board for 15 years, more years as an officer (14) than anyone else.

When I became president in 2004, I was a real greenhorn. Ken was one of the people I most relied upon for information, advice and support. Even though his job with Boeing security often takes him out of the area, it is comforting to know that he keeps his finger on the public pulse, and is always there when needed. His presence on the IATC Board of Directors continues to add stability and credibility.



#### **HIKER'S CORNER**

By Joe Toynbee

Where are the critters? Hiking in a group has many advantages, but viewing wildlife is not one of them. A person hiking alone is much more likely to see animals and birds than if in a group. Probably the most frequent animal sighted in the Alps is the squirrel. Deer are occasionally seen, bear and cougar almost never.

The best technique for seeing wildlife is to be quiet and scan both sides of the trail for movement. A pair of binoculars can be helpful. Remember that you are a visitor in the critter's home: be respectful.



#### **BRIDGES GET BUILT**

Summer is apparently bridge-building time. Three bridges were completed by early August, two on Tiger Mountain and one on Cougar.

On August 3, the Bear Ridge Connector Trail Bridge was completed. This is the bridge that links the Talus development to the Cougar Mountain trail system.

"It looks great," said Interagency Coordinator Margaret Macleod. "I was very impressed. The fiber glass bridge looks very good."

The \$30,000 project was paid for evenly by Talus and by the City of Issaquah. Steve Lindsley, supervisor of the city's maintenance crew, headed the project, aided by Matt Mechler and Anne McGill.

The Talus developer is building the trailhead entranceway to the bridge. Scott Semans of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club will construct the connection from the bridge to the Bear Ridge Trail.

The Tiger Mountain replacement bridges are on the Bus Trail and Around the Lake (Wilderness) Trail. Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust received funds from the state legislature and hired Sahalee Construction for the work.



"There must still be a Lake Chelan National Park."
--H. Manning



#### Hikers Boost Economy cont. from page 1

"The Washington active outdoor recreation economy," the report reveals, "contributes \$11.7 billion to Washington's economy, supports 115,000 jobs, generates \$650 billion annual in retail sales and services statewide, accounting for 3.5 per cent of the gross state product."

The report is available online at www.wta.org or will be mailed by calling (206) 625-1367.

#### **REI TO ISSAQUAH**

REI (Recreational Equipment, Inc.) is coming to Issaquah. REI currently operates 80 stores in 25 states as well as two online stores (REI.com and REI-OUTLET.com). The store to open in November will be located in the former Long's space next to Safeway off Gilman Boulevard.

REI is a national outdoor retail cooperative, committed to inspiring, educating and outfitting for a lifetime of outdoor adventure. Founded in 1938 by a group of Northwest mountaineers, REI is today the nation's largest consumer co-op with more than 2.5 million members. Members pay a one-time \$15 fee and receive a share in the company's profits based on their purchases.

The store should be a boon for the Issaquah Alps Trails Club, as local hikers can shop more conveniently than making the drive to Redmond, Seattle or some other outlet. In addition, the company is in the process of hiring as many as 60 new employees for the store. (If interested, visit www.rei. com/jobs for online applications--job #2413).

"We heartily endorse REI and its opening a store in Issaquah," said Doug Simpson, IATC president. "REI has long supported us by selling our books, and they have donated \$10,000 to the Harvey Manning statue project. And, of course, few other businesses offer as much in the way of hiking equipment."



On camping below the Kautz Ice Cliff: "Do not watch the sunset lest you lose your nerve and run barefoot and shrieking down the glaciers toward the lights of Paradise." --H. Manning



#### CREEK PROPERTY PURCHASED

Using \$10,000 from the recently passed park bond, the City of Issaquah has purchased a small property on Issaquah Creek near Sycamore. The purchase is a critical acquisition to protect the riparian habitat of the creek.

#### Twice Around the Globe cont. from page 6

seemingly countless times along the Iron Horse Trail, on Snoqualmie Tree Farm lands, along the Snoqualmie Valley Trail, and between North Bend and Issaquah along the King-County Trail there. A person can't stay young forever, but I've had a good run.

I even keep a list of hikes I wish I could have taken.

My 5000-plus hikes include 268 backpacks in the three Western states, totaling about 8000 miles. Sixty-seven backpacks covered more than 50 miles and 24 of them were solo backpacks. Of course, my backpacks included the PCT from the Canadian border almost to Mt. Lassen in California. I've hiked the whole Crest Trail in Washington State twice, once on the old Cascade Crest Trail (original route) in the 60's and 70's and once on the current trail route in the 80's and 90's. My favorite backpack still remains the Chelan Summit Trail #1259. That I've walked eight times. With numerous side trips and climbs. I have hiked up to 90 miles along this high and scenic trail in an eight-day backpack. Also, I try to backpack along the Olympic National Park Ocean Strip at least once a year.

Then came the "other" backpacks–380 of them, trail-work parties where I carried heavy machines to build or clear trails (brush cutters, chain saws), or heavy equipment, like five-foot pry bars, various handsaws (from two to five feet long), iron wedges, loppers, all types of hardware, axes and sledge hammers. Through my hiking years I've had a hand in 1526 trail work-parties, many of them multi-day and 800 of them solo. Over the past 30 years, a group of my companions from the Issaquah Alps Trails Club (I call them professional hikers), and I have built most of the trails on Squak and Tiger mountains – and we still maintain them. It took us 16 years to build the 16- mile long Tiger Mountain Trail (TMT).

In the past 20 years this same group from the IATC have also worked numerous Forest Service trails, brushing, sawing out logs and clearing debris. Trails worked included the whole Mt. Defiance Trail, the Granite Mountain Trail (we've opened and closed the lookout for the past ten years), the Dingford Creek

Trail, the Pratt Lake Trail, the Pratt River Trail from Pratt Lake to the Middle Fork (walk it sometime, 16 miles from I-90), the Bear Mountain Trail and the Chelan Lakeshore Trail. Of course, we worked others too. You might discover our handiwork. We currently work the whole 15-mile Middle Fork Trail and the Taylor River Trail.

Much of my hiking in winter months followed pavement. In the 1980's and 90's I often took pavement walks after teaching a day at school. After leaving my home in the Renton Highlands, I walked to Bellevue or walked through Renton to Tukwila and pick up the Green River Trail to amble all the way to Auburn or until my wife got off work to pick me up. Fifteen miles. During two years in the late 1980's, I walked over 2000 miles doing this. And, without injuries.

So I count myself as indeed blessed that my body has kept up with my ambitious hiking intentions. With all my 50,000 miles, long back packs (seven over a 100 miles), hundreds of 20-30 mile day-hikes and cross-country hikes, I've never suffered an injury. Two small knee operations kept me from hiking only a few days. Only in the past year or so have my feet changed (common for older people), and so I have hiking boots I can no longer wear. I wear light walking shoes now.

What started me hiking? I've hiked since childhood. My grandparents' place on Hood Canal looked right across to the Brothers and Jupiter and Constance; that view drew me toward them. In the sixth grade I spent two weeks at the Boy Scout Camp Parsons on Hood Canal and listened to descriptions about hikes into the interior Olympics and ocean beaches. In the eighth grade I read Stephen W. Meader's *Behind the Ranges*, a fictional story about a boy's hike into the Olympics (I've read that to my grandson). In college I read William O. Douglas's *Of Men and Mountains*. Both these books still inspire me as I continue to read them.

Hiking. My life-long endeavor. 50,000 miles. Just a beginning.

#### A VIEW OF THE DUMP

By Bill Longwell

When we first began hiking and developing Tiger Mountain trails, in the early 1970's, Middle Tiger, 2607 feet high, was a far different mountain from what it is today. Then the summit was a vast, open, almost alpine slope. Grasses, flowers and low scrubs formed its cover. Views abounded. Rainier, St. Helen's, Lake Youngs, Lake Washington and Puget Sounds loomed to the south and west. Taylor Mountain dominated the eastern view. Only the hulk of East Tiger kept summit climbers from northern views.

TMT trailbuilders, working in 1977-78, four hundred feet below the Tiger summit, often used the open Summit Trail to access their work.

Middle Tiger in the 1970's was a highly popular climb or short hike. It was the feature in Harvey Manning's first Issaquah Park's hike. Two trails wound their way to the summit, one short and one long.

Then the trees began to grow as they did on other places on Tiger Mountain.

After finishing the TMT along the Middle Tiger slopes, for some reason, I did not again visit the summit for almost fifteen years. When I returned in the 1990's, I was shocked. No longer could anyone see those long-distance views. A vast forest had grown up on the summit, a veritable national forest. Climbs to Middle Tiger became less popular as a result.

So we decided in late February, 1995, to restore some of the view, at least toward Mt. Rainier.

It would be easy; all we had to do was top a few trees below the summit to restore this view.

Five of us climbed to the Middle Tiger Summit on a cool, intensely foggy day to restore Middle Tiger to its former glory.

When we arrived on the wooded summit, we faced one major problem. Which direction was Mt. Rainier? It was too foggy to see anything and not one of us had brought a compass. In the fog we had no idea of direction, so we guessed and went to work anyway.

One person climbed numerous trees while others shouted directions from below. The climber's job was to top various trees just below the summit in the direction Mt. Rainier would loom on a clear day. We lopped the tops of twenty trees into what appeared to be an appropriate swath toward the south.

At least that's what we hoped.

Later in that month, Ralph Owen, long-time IATC member and hike leader, led an IATC hike to Middle Tiger; he had a clear day for his hike. I had asked him to check the newly-opened view. He did.

He called in his report to tell us that we had badly missed our objective. The view we opened up was not to the south to Rainier, but more to the west. We had opened up a glorious vista to the major King-County Dump, Cedar Hills land fill.

That was the last of our tree-topping work parties. The Middle Tiger Summit remains in a deep and growing forest.

#### **JUST A REMINDER ABOUT MEMBERSHIP**

Please take a moment to check the subscription date on the label of your Alpiner. IATC does not send out annual renewal notices. As you know, your dollar contribution of any amount helps support our trails advocacy, trail work and free guided hikes programs. If we have not heard from you in several years, we assume you are no longer interested in receiving the Alpiner and begin removing your name from our mailing list. Now, for example, I have begun removing names we have not heard from since 2004. One way, of course, to bypass this issue is to become a lifetime member. With a one time contribution of \$250, you become a lifetime member and continue to receive the Alpiner until you ask us to stop. Many of our current lifetime members continue to make periodic contributions, however, as an indication of their continued support of our programs. If you have any concerns or questions about your membership, please feel free to contact Jackie Hughes at jhughes62003@yahoo.com.

### **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-perhour 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 17

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

NOTE: Group hikes do not lend themselves to dogs. Please leave your dogs at home when going on a Trails Club hike.

#### **Meeting Place**

Trails Club hikes meet in the parking lot at the corner of First and Bush streets next to the IATC clubhouse (the little yellow stationmaster's house). To get there, take exit 17 (Issaquah Front Street) from Interstate 90 and turn south into downtown Issaquah. Go about one mile through town on Front Street, then go two blocks past the light at Sunset Way, and then turn left on Bush Street. Go two blocks to Rainier and turn into the lot on the left.

#### **Clothing**

Dress for the Pacific Northwest outdoors. Expect rain, snow, sunshine, fog, and everything in between. Bring extra clothing, raingear, food, drink, matches, flashlight, and first-aid supplies. Wear comfortable hiking boots or hiking shoes.

#### Trail Maintenance

Volunteers periodically organize and schedule trail maintenance parties as listed in the hikes schedule. Work parties meet at the same place as hikes (see above). The Club is well supplied with heavy trail maintenance tools, but workers may also bring their own loppers, weed whackers, and other tools.

Trail work parties last at least four hours. Trail maintenance is vital to the Club's work and is



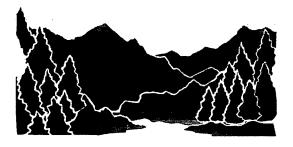
- Food
- Water
- Daypack
- Raingear
- · Warm clothes
- Hiking Shoes

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

Don't leave the trailhead without them!

an integral part of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) management plan for Tiger Mountain.

Work parties must limit their activity to trails listed by the DNR as scheduled for maintenance. Construction of new trails is not allowed. Work parties are a great way to meet people! Individuals and groups are encouraged to adopt a trail—or section of trail—and take the responsibility of maintaining it.



#### Issaquah Alps Trails Club Publications Order Form

Return this completed form along with your check to: Issaquah Alps Trails Club Publications, P.O. Box <u>466</u>, Issaquah, WA 98027

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