

THE ALPINE



January ♦ February ♦ March 2009

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

TALUS BRIDGE TRAIL NOW OPEN



By Doug Simpson

The Talus Bridge Trail, begun last July, is reaching completion, IATC's Scott Semans reports. The trail is a connector from the Talus community's southwest corner (off Shangri-La Way) across West Tibbetts Creek and on to the Bear Ridge Trail, one of Cougar Mountain's primary east-west trails.

The bridge, close to Talus itself, was completed last year, built and placed by funds from Talus, the City of Issaquah and grant monies. The trail itself is only about a quarter mile long, but it is very scenic and spans not only West Tibbetts Creek but extends gradually from the bridge up to the Erratic Creek and Bear Ridge Trail.

Semans estimated that as of mid-November 556 man hours had been spent on the connector trail as it reached 90 percent completion. Finishing it, he estimated, would add another 100-200 man hours. Though Semans has had a great deal of volunteer help, well over half those hours are his. In the process, much earth has been moved and perhaps 50-100 sword ferns have been transplanted.

Talus itself is installing an informative kiosk at the trailhead. "We hope Talus residents will become interested and start hiking on Cougar," Semans stated. "We

PARK POINTE DEAL LOOKS GOOD

By Doug Simpson

City of Issaquah negotiations with Port Blakely may soon lead to a satisfactory compromise, freeing Park Pointe on Tiger Mountain's west flank from an unsightly and environmentally harmful development that no one wants.

As Issaquah Mayor Ava Frisinger stated, "This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Issaquah to forever protect one of its last significant pieces of open space."

In exchange for ceding 100 acres and 360 housing units of the proposed Park Pointe development to the city, and additional acreage in the Highlands totaling 144 acres of permanent open space, Port Blakely would be allowed to develop 36 acres in Highlands, consistent with the city's goal of limiting growth to urban density rather than sprawl.

In addition, Port Blakely would 1) provide \$3 million in recreational improvements to Highland's Central Park; 2) sell 3.2 acres to the city at a negotiated price for affordable housing and a human services campus; and 3) build 50 affordable housing units (80% or less of median income).

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The Apparatus

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

Articles are welcome, preferably via e-mail to: 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 Steve Williams

What has the club done in 2008? Our threefold accomplishments have been considerable. We have introduced well over a thousand people to the Northwest woods and the joys of hiking our "Alps." Twenty-three different leaders guided 139 different day hikes ranging all the way from Lake Washington to Snoqualmie Pass. As our new banner declares, "Free guided hikes, every week of the year!" Thanks again to Joe Toynbee, Jackie Hughes and Melinda Livingstone for organizing that effort.

Scott Semans and his dedicated volunteers again did amazing high-quality trailwork, which is featured in this issue and in a front page *Issaquah Press* article (11-12-08), about the Cougar Mountain Talus Bridge Trail. Building and maintaining trails is a "legacy" function of the club, and there is something very special in knowing that your work on a single day will be enjoyed by future generations for years and years to come. Countless other volunteers helped in other areas. Ed Vervoort, for example, brushed over 23 miles of Tiger Mountain trails. (Incidentally, it is really important to report your trailwork and trail inspection hours to Scott. These hours are essential in getting matching grant money for law enforcement and trail staff on state DNR lands.)

On the political front many different things have been happening. The Washington State Department of Natural Resources is revising its laws for lands like Tiger Mountain, Mount Si and the Snoqualmie Middle Fork for the first time in thirty years. (Hopefully, this will put a lid on illegal mountain bike abuse, and perhaps find a constructive use for their energies.) We provided testimony and participated in a number of meetings on the rules. During the coming year we will also be working with a new statewide committee on a "future vision for recreation on DNR lands." The challenge remains finding a place for wheel sports and motorized access without destroying the beautiful statewide trail system that has been developed over the past 70 years. Please write DNR and tell them how much you value habitat and hiking trails.

Locally, I have spent hundred of hours (along with Dave Kappler, Ken Konigsmark and others) on the Park Pointe Development proposal for the hillside between Issaquah and Tiger Mountain. What might have been a complex of 350 housing units with roads and retaining walls just recently evolved into a trade for development rights in the Highlands Community north of I-90. If negotiations are successful, the Park Pointe site will become dedicated city open space and the Highlands will increase office density, and obtain park facilities and family residences on what was state DOT land. Ken and I have also submitted comments on ill-advised "enterprise" ideas for King County Parks at Grand Ridge and Cougar Mountain. Protecting special places like those, and new ones like the Highlands wetland valley, continues to be the club's third function as "Guardian of the Issaquah Alps."

We were successful in nominating Bill Longwell for the Ruth Kees Environmental Award, and held a moving memorial for him on Tiger Mountain in February. Doug Simpson's tireless efforts have now raised \$64,000 for the Harvey Manning memorial statue, and sculptor Sara Mall Johani is well into work on that project. Richard Amadei has taken on webmaster responsibilities, and Cornelia Remy has volunteered to be our new treasurer. Dave Kappler led a whole series of hikes for families with children. Harry Morgan's Squak Mountain map has been installed at the Mountainside Drive trailhead, and Bellevue Parks has installed three storm replacement bridges at Coal Creek Park. Hundreds of new Northwest residents met the club on Greenway Days hikes and at our Earth Day, Salmon Days, and Trailfest 2008 event booths.

We do need your help for 2009, be it letters, time, sweat or money. Please contribute in whatever way you can. Regardless, you can certainly be proud of your membership in the Issaquah Alps Trails Club, and in the efforts of your fellow volunteers.



NEW LINK ADDS TO GREENWAY

The once dream-like goal of continuous hiking trails from Lake Washington to Snoqualmie Pass has come ever closer to reality. Work has begun on a link along I-90 from Lakemont Boulevard to State Route 900.

The City of Issaquah's Project Manager Gary Costa confirmed that work began in November along the north side of Newport Way to Oakcrest Drive. From Oakcrest, the Talus Development will finish the route to SR-900, with construction expected in 2009.

"The core idea of the Greenway is to be able to walk or bike from Seattle to Snoqualmie Pass," said Doug Schindler, the Deputy Director of Mountains to Sound Greenway. "We're 90% of the way there now," he said, "but we still have four gaps to take care of. It will be completed in not too many more years."

One of the remaining gaps is in Bellevue, where the city has submitted grant requests for the stretch from Factoria to Newport Way. "It's an expensive project," Schindler said. The second gap is in Issaquah, where a route over I-90 to the north side is needed.

The third gap is between High Point and Preston, the Exit 20 area. That route has been engineered and should be finished in the next two years, according to Schindler. The final gap is near Snoqualmie Falls, where negotiations with the Snoqualmie Tribe must be worked out.

"What the Greenway has accomplished in less than twenty years is truly amazing," said Margaret Macleod, the Interagency Coordinator.



HIKER'S CORNER

By Joe Toynbee

I have before me a copy of the very first Alpiner, dated October 30, 1979. In it are listed hikes for November and December of that year and January 1980. I thought it might be of interest to compare our beginning hiking program with that of today.

The first thing to note is how extensive the 1979 hiking program was. There was a hike for each Saturday and Sunday, plus one for midweek. Most hikes gathered at the Issaquah Park & Ride lot (the current Trails Center was not yet available), with a few at the actual trailhead. Most hikes were on Cougar and Tiger mountains, with but three of 42 on Squak. About half a dozen hikes were out of the Issaquah area.

Another thing to notice in 1979 is how many hikes were exploratory. The trail system was much less developed than it is today. We owe a great debt to those intrepid folks who pioneered the trail system we now have. Special thanks go to the three members of the first IATC Hike Committee: Harvey Manning, Russ Williams and Virginia Gallagher. Kudos also to Dave Kappler, the only one of the 1979 hike leaders still active.

Finally, a bit of advice from 1979: "THE FIRST LAW OF HIKING AROUND PUGET SOUND: IF YOU WAIT FOR THE SUN TO COME OUT BEFORE LEAVING THE HOUSE, YOU WILL NEVER LEAVE THE HOUSE."

Next year the club and its hiking program will celebrate our 30th anniversary. In those years we have introduced thousands of people to our Issaquah Alps, and we should feel good about doing so.



CALLAHAN REPORTS

Sean Callahan, the Education and Enforcement Officer hired via a NOVA grant, has continued to provide important services to area hikers. In his reports the past two months, Callahan announced:

*That he has been aggressively pursuing illegal mountain biking on Tiger Mountain, Snoqualmie Ridge as well as ATV's on Rattlesnake Mountain.

*That three trails on Tiger—the Northwest Timber Trail, the Iverson Railroad Grade, and the Preston Railroad Grade—are now closed for the winter.

*That the South Tiger Traverse has been reopened following completion of the Peacock timber sale.

*That he is working to identify potential parking areas and new trails in the Middle Fork area.

*That the Washington Trails Association is now working on Tiger's High Point area to improve the Dwight's Way Trail and to build a turnpike on the High Point Trail to improve drainage.

*That a small bridge near the Mount Si trailhead has been reinforced to keep it functional prior to replacement sometime in 2009.

Callahan is in the process of lining up camp crews to remove illegal bike courses on the above-mentioned sites. "When the camp crews destroy the course on the Ridge," he stated, "we hope whoever is building will get the message that we are serious about this."

Making his job more difficult on Tiger, Callahan pointed out, is that trail closure and hiker only signs have been removed from the Tiger summit area.

Callahan noted that a DNR map for Tiger Mountain is in the works. Like those on Cougar Mountain, it will be available to assist hikers. He added that some existing trails may not be included on the map, as DNR discourages their use.

ATV's have been accessing the backside of Rattlesnake via a stretch of roadway that he is seeking to have closed.

"He's doing a great job," said Margaret Macleod, interagency coordinator. "He's out there all the time, and if he sees something wrong, he fixes it. He talks to people and is a good educator."

Callahan, a NOVA hiree, is working on a grant that lasts through summer of 2009. He works in the Snoqualmie Unit, mostly with DNR and the Mountains to Sound Greenway.

"His being there, and what he is accomplishing, underscores the need for a permanent position," Macleod pointed out.

GRANTS FOR DNR

The Snoqualmie Unit of the Department of Natural Resources has received three grants for 2009 projects—one for bridge replacements, one for ongoing maintenance, and one for trail and trailhead construction.

In the Middle Fork valley the project is for trail reconnaissance for the valley and Midfork Snoqualmie State Forest to address facility needs. According to DNR Recreation Manager Sam Jarrett, "The proposed project includes a site assessment, completed design and permit-ready construction package for a regional trailhead." The program area covers 14,000 acres between Si, Tenneriff and Bessemer mountains on the west and Mailbox Peak/Russian Butte on the east.

Two dilapidated bridges at the Mount Si trailhead will be replaced. One, on the Francis North Interpretive Trail, has led to trail shutdown due to unsafe conditions. The other, on the main trail, has been temporarily buttressed until it can be replaced. The 15-year old bridges were on the verge of collapse.

The trail maintenance grant extends for two years the current trail maintenance crew, enabling them to continue projects such as "removal of downed trees; repairing of bridges; reconstruction of trail tread and graveling; rebuilding of water bars, drain drips and other trail structures; clearing of parallel ditches; side clearing of vegetation; and coordinating volunteers."

Jarrett notes that DNR's Snoqualmie Unit is accessible to over 3 million people in less than an hour's drive. Without such projects, heavy use in these areas threatens massive destruction that can be avoided with routine maintenance.

DNR POLICY

Months of meetings and negotiations have led to recommended adoption of new regulations governing recreational use on State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) land. According to Doug McClelland, Assistant Region Manager who oversees DNR's Snoqualmie Unit, the regulations were expected to be formally adopted by the State Legislature no later than early in January.

The changes were necessary due to tremendous growth and more varied recreational activities since the previous policies were adopted in 1971. As DNR has pointed out, "Recreation in Washington State is at a crossroads. The increase in population in the state brings an increased use of the land and competition for limited space from a variety of recreational activities."

"DNR is now responsible for over 3 million acres of land statewide, but has only six law enforcement officers," IATC President Steve Williams pointed out. "Problems like meth labs, transient encampments, pot farms and timber theft were not issues 30 years ago, but they are huge today."

The main issue for the Issaquah Alps Trails Club has been new procedures for trail maintenance that could possibly have affected club workers from gaining access for needed trailwork projects.

The new rules are tighter, but McClelland doesn't want them to limit IATC's Tiger projects. DNR wants advance written notice of work to be done except for ongoing efforts by existing groups such as IATC or in case of emergency, such as after a major storm blowdown of trees. DNR, in turn, will not only cover the trailworkers under the State Labor and Industry umbrella, but also gain credit for hours put in, a benefit for funding for grants and field worker Sam Jarrett's position.

IATC President Steve Williams has given the club's written endorsement to the new policy. "Overall, this is a good thing," said Scott Semans, IATC's volunteer coordinator. "DNR is obviously taking its stewardship role very seriously."

Williams and Semans, however, cite the need for the Volunteer Maintenance Agreement to be instituted, so club workers can proceed without possible limiting red tape.

One of the concerns of DNR and IATC is illegal use of hiker-only trails by mountain bikers, whose activities can be damaging to trails and area ecology.

"We have nearly 15 miles on three trails for bikers off the Highway 18 access," McClelland said. "And we have seen to it that three illegal downhill courses have been removed." Bikers have been told, McClelland pointed out, that hiking trails are for hiking only.



ISSAQUAH IS A 'HEALTHIEST PLACE'

The US News and World Report recently cited Issaquah, one of just ten cities in the United States, as one of "the Best Healthiest Places to Retire." The article refers to Issaquah as the "Trailhead City," centered in the Issaquah Alps.

"Trailheads along the Issaquah Alps provide access to more than 150 miles of trails," the article pointed out. It cited Issaquah for offering "1,146 acres of active and passive parks, as well as non-motorized cross-town access for residents, who can easily maintain a walking, running or biking exercise program through downtown."

As Issaquah Mayor Ava Frisinger stated, "Issaquah offers countless opportunities for everyone in our community to stay active. It's an honor to be recognized not only for our recreational programs, but also our exceptional natural environment."

Anne McGill, director of the city's Parks & Recreation Department, added: "We pride ourselves on providing high quality and affordable recreational program to Issaquah residents of every age."

FEBRUARY 2009
cont.

Sunday, February 22 – 9:30am
Cougar Mt: Anti-Aircraft Peak Ramble; loop hike
including Clay Pit & Nike Site
2B, 4 miles, 500' gain
Joe Toynbee 425-228-6118

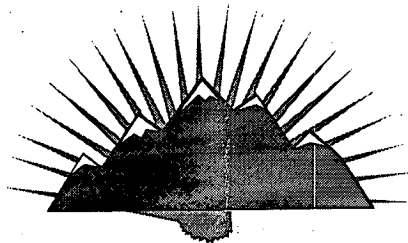
Thursday, February 26 – 7pm
HIKE LEADERS' MEETING
Trails Center – 1st & Bush St.

Friday, February 27 – 9:30am
DOGS ALLOWED HIKE
Bring leash, baggies, water
Hiker's choice in Issaquah Alps
2B, 4- 5 miles, 600-900' gain
Jean Lanz 206-322-0990

Saturday, February 28 – 9:30am
Cougar Mt. loop from Red Town trailhead
2C, 6.5 miles, 1500' gain
Denis Harney 206-545-2829



IATC ENCOURAGES CARPOOLING +
RECOMMENDS \$1.00 MINIMUM OR
\$0.15/MILE GAS
CONTRIBUTION TO DRIVER



MARCH 2009

Sunday, March 1 – 9:30am
High Point Loop: hike from downtown Issaquah
up to High Point on South side of I-90;
return on northern route
2B, 7 miles, 500' gain
Joe Toynbee 425-228-6118

Saturday, March 7 – 9:00am
Squak Mt.: loop hike over Central Peak and West
Peak with Rainier view for lunch
3C, 6 miles, 1800' gain
Scott Prueter 425-292-9115

Sunday, March 8 – 9:30am
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
Squak Mt. Ramble-Mountainside trailhead to
Sunrise Pl. with possible loop off East Side Trail
2B, 5 miles, 750' gain
Doug Simpson 425-392-6660

Saturday, March 14 – 9:00am
Tiger Mt. loop from Trails Center over
Tiger #2 and Tiger #3
3C, 8 miles, 2500' gain
Richard Mann 425-281-8465

Sunday, March 15 – 10:30am
Cougar Mt: AA Peak, from the top down to
Clay Pit, Mine Shaft & Nike Launch Site
2B, 4 miles, 225' gain
Bert Drui 425-746-0709

Saturday, March 21 – 9:30am
Little Si-an old favorite
2C, 5 miles, 1300' gain
Mary Nolan 425-837-1535

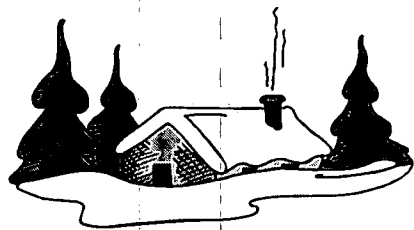
Sunday, March 22 – 9:00am
West Tiger Loop: climb to West Tiger 1 & 2 via
the Chirico Trail and others before returning to our
starting point via the West Side RR & Chirico Trail
4D, 10 miles, 3500' gain
Ralph Owen 425-746-1070

Friday, March 27 – 9:30am
DOGS ALLOWED HIKE
Bring leash, baggies, water
Hikers' Choice in Issaquah Alps
2B, 3-5 miles, 600 - 900' gain
Jean Lanz 206-322-0990

Saturday, March 28 – 9:30am
From Trails Center to Central Peak on
Squak Mt., and back
3C, 8-9 miles, 2000' gain
Denis Harney 206-545-2829

Sunday, March 29 – 12 noon
Tiger Mt-Tradition Plateau
Explore trails, lakes wetlands & Biological diversity
2B, 5-6 miles, 600' gain
Dave Kappler 425-392-3571





JANUARY 2009

Tuesday, January 1 – 10am
NEW YEAR'S DAY HIKE
 Leader's Choice
 2B, 5-6 miles, 1000' gain
 Mary Nolan 425-837-1535

 Saturday, January 3 – 9:30am
 Cougar Mt-Coal Creek Falls
 Loop which includes 3 falls
 2C, 6 miles, 1300' gain
 Bob Gross 425-427-8449

 Sunday, January 4 - 9:30am
 Cougar Mt-Loop hike from Sky Country to
 AA Peak via Clay Pit and Mine Shaft
 2B, 4-5 miles, 600' gain
 SLOW PACE
 Fred Zeitler 425-882-3435

 Saturday, January 10- 9:00am
 Cougar Mt-loop from Bear Ridge Trail Head
 & return
 3C, 8 miles, 2000' gain
 Richard Mann 425-281-8465

 Sunday, January 11 – 9:30am
 Squak Mt-loop from MtSide Dr. to Rainier View
 & back
 2C, 5 miles, 1300' gain
 Steve Williams 425-453-8997

 Saturday, January 17 – 9:00am
 Cougar Mt ring-loop hike to explore perimeter
 of Cougar Mt. Wildland Park; several
 viewpoints en route; a nice
 walk in the woods
 MODERATE PACE
 3C, 10+miles, 1800' gain
 Ralph Owen 425-746-1070



Sunday, January 18 – 10:30am
 Cougar Mt-Nike site to AA Peak; cold war history
 2B, 4 miles, 250' gain
 Bert Drui 425-746-0709

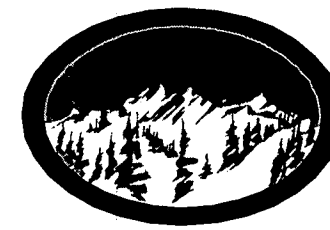
 Thursday, January 22 – 7:00pm
 IATC ANNUAL MEETING
 Trails Center – 1st + Bush St.

 Saturday, January 24 – 9:00am
 Cougar Mt-double loop around Wilderness Peak
 and on to Longview Peak
 3C, 7 miles, 1800' gain
 Scott Prueter 425-292-9115

 Sunday, January 25 – 12 noon
 Tiger Mt-Tradition Plateau,
 explore trails, lakes, wetlands,
 and biological diversity
 2B, 5-6 miles, 600' gain
 Dave Kappler 425-392-3571

 Friday, January 30 – 9:30am
 DOGS ALLOWED HIKE
 Bring leash, baggies, water
 Hiker's Choice in Issaquah Alps
 2B, 3-5 miles, 600-900' gain
 Jean Lanz 206-322-0990

 Saturday, January 31 9:30am
 Coal Creek: new trails & bridges courtesy
 of Bellevue Parks; neighborhood walk and
 optional Starbucks stop
 2B, 5 miles, 500' gain
 Steve Williams 425-453-8997



FEBRUARY 2009

Sunday, February 1 – 9:00 am
 Snoqualmie Ridge Loop: loop hike to nice
 overlook of Snoqualmie Valley, then through
 housing development on return
 SLOW PACE
 2B, 5.5 miles, 800' gain
 Fred Zeitler 425-882-3435

 Saturday, February 7 –9:30 am
 Cougar Mt. Downhill-AA Peak looping down
 to new Talus Bridge Trail
 2B, 3 miles, 100' gain
 Doug Simpson 425-392-6660

 Sunday, February 8 – 9:30am
 Jay Berry Hike-hike Twin Falls trail then off to
 Jay Berry's in North Bend for lunch
 2B, 3-4 miles, 600' gain
 Mary Nolan 425-837-1535

 Saturday, February 14 – 9 am
 From Squak Mt. access trail via Central and
 West Peak; return via Issaquah junction
 3C, 10 miles, 2000' gain
 Richard Mann 425 281-8465

 Sunday, February 15 –10:30am
 Tiger Mt. caves & lakes
 2B, 4 miles, 650' gain
 Bert Drui 425-746-0709

 Saturday, February 21 – 9am
 Peak and a Half, Northern Route: hike from
 Anti-Aircraft Park on Cougar Mt. down to & cross
 Highway 900 before climbing over Squak and back to
 Issaquah Trails Center
 4C, 10 miles, 2400' gain
 Ralph Owen 425-746-1070

Talus Bridge Trail *continued from page 1*

already have quite a few runners, dog-walkers and parents with small kids exploring.”

Matt Mechler, Issaquah’s open space steward who visits the site and trail monthly, foresees the trail’s appeal after nearby construction is finished. “It will be a great feature for those people to have right in their backyards,” he said.

The Talus Bridge Trail is not the only hiking access location. The new community park on the north side has a parking area and access to a variety of Cougar trails—the Military Ridge Trail, the Telephone Trail, the Precipice Tip Trail, the Red Cedars Trail, and, ultimately, on the Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park’s Surprise Creek Trail and the park’s extensive trail system. The Surprise Creek Trail can also be accessed from the road by the water tower high on the west end.

Talus residents also have a network of trails parallel to the entry road down to the east toward SR-900.

The Talus trails model how a residential community, a city, and a trails club can work together to create a better, more extensive trail system. “I think the Talus trail exemplifies the type of trail IATC can do in fulfilling its advocacy mission of getting hikers out into the woods,” Semans commented.

Once the timber harvest – conducted by Hampton Tree Farms of Porland – is complete, roads and trails will be cleared up and reopened.

Park Pointe Deal *continued from page 1*

The city in turn would cede two acres to Port Blakely for inclusion in the Highland community. Port Blakely would be able to develop 1.1 million square feet of commercial and/or retail space and 550 residential units in Highlands.

One possible hangup on the agreement, as of mid-November, was the need for Microsoft to be involved in the property exchanges where their property is affected.

City councilman Dave Kappler pointed out the need to retain areas of tall trees and green space and to protect a few areas of wetlands. “And this plan would protect the view shed from the I-90 corridor to the towers south of Central Park,” Kappler added. He cited the need to have appropriate setbacks from steep slopes, wetlands and creeks to protect the resources from being overtaken by invasive plants, wind damage, and allowance for removal of “danger” trees.

Saving Park Pointe from development, city officials point out, would broaden the wildlife corridor between Tiger and Squak mountains, protect the water quality, preserve the area’s scenic backdrop, and provide a buffer between urban and natural areas.

A city press release on the proposal credits the founder of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club for setting the tone for protecting area open space.

“Decades ago, Harvey Manning, a legend in conservation activism, worked diligently to protect the natural areas in and around Issaquah. He left a legacy of preserving open space lands not only for the City of Issaquah, but throughout the State of Washington,” the release stated.

And even as areas from Grand Ridge to the Highlands are protected, concerns of area hikers are being considered. “The city will develop an updated plan for trails in the area,” stated Kappler. “We need better access to trails in the Highlands, as do Highlands residents themselves.”

It remains an issue, Kappler pointed out, who will maintain and oversee the trails in the Highlands and Grand Ridge areas.

ISSY PARK BOND PAYS DIVIDENDS

(Reprinted from The Trust for Public Land newsletter)

In November 2006, Issaquah, a town seventeen miles east of Seattle, passed \$6.25 million Parks and Natural Areas bond measure. A nice enough success—until you learn the measure passed by an impressive 76%.

“We received emails and phone calls from parks departments around the country asking how we did it,” says Anne McGill, Issaquah Parks Director. “We tell them it’s because we followed TPL’s advice: give the people what they want and respect people’s tax tolerance level.”

It also helps that Issaquah, nestled between Cougar, Squak and Tiger mountains, has a history of preserving open spaces. In the late 1960’s, resident and mountaineering icon Harvey Manning started the Issaquah Alps Trails Club to educate people on the need to care for the land and protect sensitive natural areas. Thanks to their (the club’s) efforts 25,000 acres of protected land surrounds the city.

But as Issaquah continues to grow, the need to preserve smaller green spaces within the city has become more pressing.

“One of our goals is to have a park in every neighborhood that’s walkable,” says Margaret Macleod, Issaquah Parks Planner. “That, along with preserving wildlife corridors within the city, convinced us to do a park bond.”

TPL’s Conservation Finance group helped the city craft a bond measure that reflected the community’s interests. Concerns about water quality were high, so half the money was allotted for creekside and hillside acquisitions. The other half went to park development and improvements.

Today, nearly fifty acres along Issaquah Creek and the upland forests are in public ownership. And plans for two new parks are in the works.

The city is acquiring more land for Cybil-Madeline Park, an undeveloped natural area by the creek. Located in a growing downtown redevelopment area, the future 12-acre park will greatly improve the quality of life for the neighborhood’s residents, who live primarily in condos or town homes with little or no yard space.

Talus Park will serve the Talus neighborhood, a high-density urban village on the town’s east side. Created out of a vacant city-owned parcel, the park will be well suited to the young families in the neighborhood, with a playground, picnic areas, and bike track.

Although the bond money was leveraged to acquire state and local funds, financial resources are nearly exhausted. But another bond measure may follow.

“We’ve accomplished so much,” says Macleod. “We hope our community will want to continue the program.”

MARY CADIGAN

By Marty Hanson

We are sad to note the passing of Mary Cadigan, a long-time member of IATC, on November, 22, 2008. A strong hiker, Mary led many hikes over the years. She was a quiet person, always with a smile on her face, yet strong in her convictions. She was active in so many ways helping the IATC – leading hikes, recruiting volunteers for events such as Salmon Days, and always available to volunteer herself. She is survived by husband Jim, one-time IATC treasurer, who resides in Bellevue.

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 9*

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

✓ Checklist:

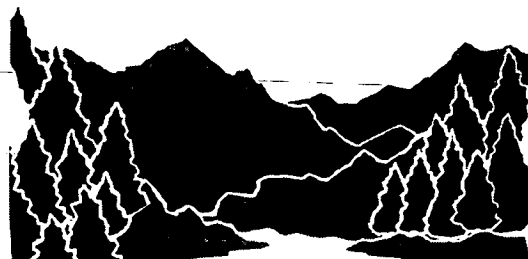
- Food
- Water
- Daypack
- Raingear
- Warm clothes
- Hiking Shoes

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

Don't leave the trailhead without them!

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

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



Issaquah Alps Trails Club Publications Order Form

Return this completed form along with your check to:

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

Name: _____ Address: _____

ITEM	PRICE*	QTY.	TOTAL
Book: The Flowering of the Issaquah Alps--Revised!	\$ 9.00		
Book: The Authoritative Guide to the Trails of Cougar Mountain Wildland Park and Surrounds	15.00**		
Book: Guide to Trails of Tiger Mountain	15.00***		
Book: The Coals of Newcastle: A Hundred Years of Hidden History	15.00		
Book: Eastside Family Hikes	3.00		
Book: Squak Mountain: An Island in the Sky	15.00		
Book: 55 Hikes Around Snoqualmie Pass	10.00		
Map: Issaquah Alps Tiger Mountain, 1998 revision	2.00		
Map: Issaquah Alps Cougar Mountain, 2001 revision	2.00		
Map: Issaquah Alps Squak Mountain (2005)	6.00		
Green Trails Map: Tiger & Taylor Mountains, Map 204S	8.00		
Green Trails Map: Cougar & Squak Mountains, Map 203S	8.00		
Green Trails Map: Rattlesnake Mountain & Upper Snoqualmie Valley Map 205S	8.00		
Green Trails Map: Mount Si NRCA & Snoqualmie Corridor, Map 206S	8.00		

*All prices include shipping and handling.

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

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

Total: _____

Issaquah Alps Trails Club Foundation and Membership Request Form



Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

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

Annual donation levels:

☐ The basic hiker.....\$15

☐ The project supporter.....\$25

☐ The IATC sponsor.....\$50

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

Address Service Requested

Non Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Issaquah, WA
Permit #70

Expiration
8/8/2008

0000180*2*1
CHARLES & MALEN MCCRONE
PO BOX 593
ISSAQUAH WA 98027-0022



Issaquah Alps Trails Club Publications

See page 11 for the publications order form.

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

- o *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.
- o *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).
- o *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).
- o *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.

- o *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.
- o *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.
- o *Green Trails Tiger & Taylor Mountain*. Map 204S. \$8.
- o *Green Trails Cougar & Squak Mountains*. Map 203S. \$8.
- o *Green Trails Rattlesnake Mountain & Upper Snoqualmie Valley*. Map 205S. \$8.
- o *Green Trails Mount Si NRCA & Snoqualmie Corridor*. Map 206S. \$8.
- o *Green Trails Quality Squak Mountain Map*. By IATC member Harry Morgan. \$6.
- o *IATC Tiger Mountain map*. 1998 revised. \$2.
- o *IATC Cougar Mountain map*. 2001 revised. \$2.
- o *55 Hikes Around Snoqualmie Pass* By Harvey Manning. \$10.