



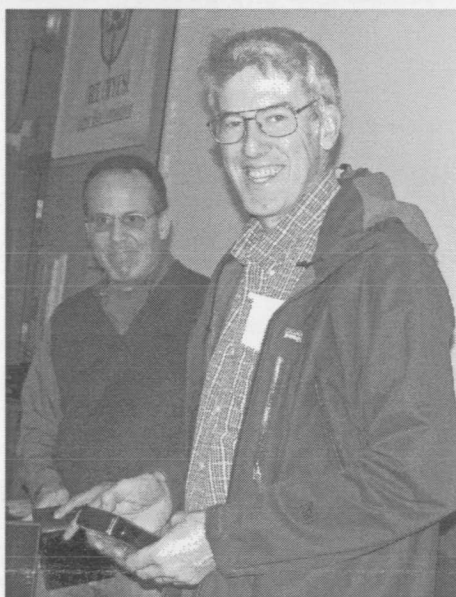
KAPPLER RETIRES FROM COUNCIL

David Kappler, a pioneer in the Issaquah Alps Trails Club and its second president, stepped down from his position on the Issaquah City Council after 18 years of service. Mayor Ava Frisinger declared December 21 David Kappler Day, and he was further honored by the Council and the community at a Council meeting January 19.

As described in the *Issaquah Press*, Kappler was “a tireless advocate for trails and open space preservation.” He also “led the push to conserve land and cast critical votes to shape transportation and public safety in Issaquah and across the Eastside.

Despite great demands on his time for Council business, Kappler has remained an active member of IATC. He has continued to lead hikes over the years, was active in trailwork projects, and was the backbone in maintaining the club’s Salmon Days booth. Kappler has taken an active interest in club affairs and helped advise many of the club’s leaders on policy issues.

“I couldn’t have gotten by were it not for my frequent chats with Dave about club history and issues,” said



Doug Simpson, club president from 2003-2007. “He was always there for me.”

With his long service to the City Council completed, it is expected that Kappler will become even more involved in IATC affairs. “He is a valuable resource who can be of immeasurable help to us in managing club affairs,” Simpson said.

Councilman Fred Butler called Kappler “a practical problem solver” who has demonstrated over the years “a long-term sustained commitment to make things better in our city.”

Another Council veteran, Maureen McCarry, described him as “a mentor and go-to source for environment issues.”

IATC BOARD RE-ELECTED

The Issaquah Alps Trails Club held its annual meeting January 28 at the Trail Center in Issaquah. The board remained constant, as all officers and board members were re-elected.

Ex-officio members (officers re-elected were President Steve Williams, Vice-presidents Ken Konigsmark and Doug Simpson, Treasurer Cornelia Remy and Secretary Kathleen Petty. Re-upping for new three-year teams on the board were Scott Semans, Jackie Hughes and Ed Vervoort (after completing Rich Johnson’s term).

The club approved an amendment to the bylaws that officially makes club meeting dates the fourth Thursday of January (annual meeting), April, July and October. It also voted to endorse the American Alps efforts to expand the North Cascades National Park.

A proposed budget of \$25,305 was adopted, including \$13,000 for new additions for Cougar and Squak books and the Family Hikes booklet. As of last December 31, the club has 678 members.



The Apparatus

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Harvey Manning

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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 98027
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 Steve Williams

Daytime hours I want to be out in the woods and on the trails, but after dark I have to admit to a certain amount of TV addiction. It's easy to do with the Winter Olympics taking place as I write this, and "The National Parks—America's Best Idea" showing on public TV. What a treasure we have in all of our parks and natural areas! What a great humanitarian ideal that those treasures should always be accessible to all citizens regardless of station or income. And, in a similar way, what a pleasure it is to see the fresh faces and unbounded energy of the athletes. No matter what racial background or political system they come from, they all express a common humanity and true joy in discovering what the human body can do, and in what their determination and optimism can achieve.

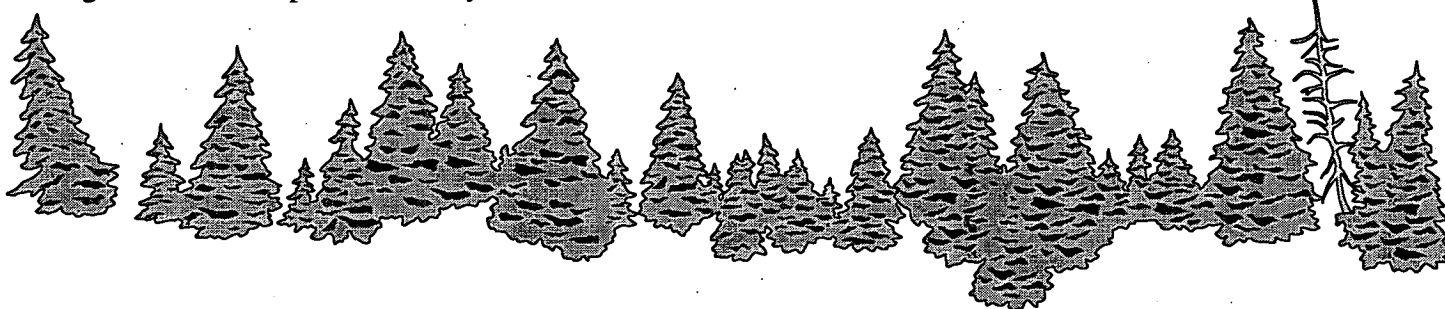
I also have to confess a fondness for the melody of Canada's national anthem, but the words that keep playing over and over in my head right now are "...we stand on guard for thee."

That, I think, has to be my message in this time of economic and political turmoil. We, all of us who use the trails and love the parks, need to stand on guard lest they be taken away, diminished or neglected. I would call on each of you to send one e-mail, voice-mail or handwritten note each week to your state, county and city officials. They were elected to represent you, but they need to hear your voice. Your message doesn't have to be detailed or profound—just tell them that you love the parks, and that your children need them, and that you don't want them sold off or closed. It is going to be a tough year for all public services.

On the positive side, it is an early spring—the sun is shining and the Indian plum is already in bloom. That

is the IATC message: "**Enjoy – Cherish – Share.**" Let me elaborate. **Enjoy** our parks and trails. Get out there and experience sunshine, clean air, wind and rain, verdant growth, songs of birds, ancient rocks, fresh flowers, tired muscles, effort and reward, mountain-top vistas, good memories and good sleep at night. **Cherish** all those good things by helping where you can. Take a shovel to that clogged drainpipe or leaf-filled ditch. Clip those blackberry vines and nettles before they clog the trail and ruin some youngster's day. **Share** your enjoyment with others—especially those who have never been there or might not get into the Alps otherwise. Learn as much as you can about our plants and animals and history, and then share them with others. Help the new folks learn how to read a map, plan a trip, or look up that bird or flower. Knowing something about a place can make all the difference in feeling at home there. Also, the big woods can be scary until you've been there with a guide. Think back. . . most of us had a friend or parent, grandparent or scout leader who first introduced us to nature and hiking. Now it may be your turn to be that critical link for someone else.

Three final notes: 1) We are almost out of hiking guides, so we will be updating and reprinting them this year. If you have energy and time, we could use your help. Distances and directions need to be checked, etc. Please e-mail me at my new address: swilliams453@yahoo.com. 2) The Crestpictures DVD about Harvey Manning and wilderness preservation is excellent! I highly recommend it for both motivation and as a bit of high mountain treasure to be enjoyed at home year-round. (www.crestpictures.com) 3) The state legislature hotline (state DNR needs funding) is 1-800-562-6000. Call now!

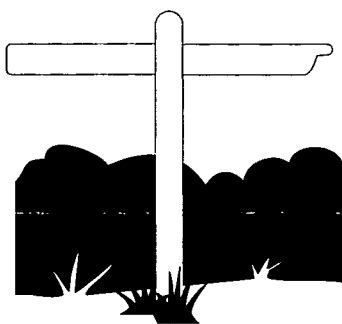


Kappler Retires *continued from page 1*

The commitment to conservation and trails earned Kappler the 2006 Ruth Kees Award for a Sustainable Community, a top honor for natural resources conservation in the city.

About IATC, Kappler says, "I keep thinking about how we need some new and younger leaders for our club. We have a great crew now, but the club's work will never be done and our club has a great deal of influence that really helps to solve potential problems early in the game. Some new blood will help."

But "old blood" is good if it includes David Kappler!



CLUB'S TRAILWORK EFFORTS ONGOING

Scott Semans, overseer of IATC's trailwork efforts, reported at the club's annual meeting that workers put in 3,100 hours in 2009, 2,000 hours of treadwork, 1,000 hours of brushing and 100 hours of scouting trail alternatives and possibilities.

Semans put in 103 days of trail work himself, and Ed Vervoort, also on the board, put in nearly 800 hours on 85 different days.

Semans praised the efforts of Mountains to Sound Greenway crews for their 12,000 hours spent on Squak Mountain alone in 2009 at a cost of \$420,000 in man-hours. Twenty miles of trails were worked on, including labor intensive 1.5 miles of ditches and a quarter mile of turnpike work.

MANNING BOOKLET NOW AVAILABLE

In recent issues of *The Alpiner*, two chapters were reprinted from an unpublished Harvey Manning manuscript. The seven short chapters totaling 26 typewritten pages detail Harvey's beach hike from Tacoma to Seattle. Thus the hike forms a sort of continuum with Manning's book *Walking the Beach to Bellingham*.

As Manning wrote to friend Betty Culbert, who possesses the original manuscript: "Much of my walking was on beaches of the Whulge (Lushootseed word for 'the saltwater we know'). Herein is a classic bit—the first person to walk the beach from Tacoma to Seattle meets up with the first American to climb Mt. Everest (Jim Whitaker at his Seattle home)."

Copies of Manning's manuscript can be purchased by sending \$10 to the Issaquah Alps Trails Club at PO Box 351, Issaquah, WA 98027.

COUNTY SEEKS OPEN SPACE

King County has been working over the past few years to preserve open space in the vicinity of Cougar Mountain and the Cougar-Squak Corridor. The county has sought and secured grant funding from the Conservation Futures Tax Levy and from the King County Parks Expansion Levy, according to Ingrid Lundin of KC Parks, and continues to seek additional funding from those and other grant sources.

If acquisition efforts are successful over the next few years, the lands added to Cougar Mountain and to the Cougar-Squak Corridor would support long-time hiking and open space conservation priorities of Mountains to Sound Greenway, the Issaquah Alps Trails Club, the City of Issaquah and King County.

HIKER'S CORNER

By Joe Toynbee



HELPING HANDS:

It is no secret that public land managers do not have enough money to do their jobs properly.

Right now the situation seems worse than ever. What can hikers do to help? Here are some suggestions:

- 1) Carry a pair of hand clippers and do so light brushing along the trail.
- 2) Pick up litter. There is surprisingly little of this, but there is some.
- 3) If you see some violation, such as dogs off leash or bicycles where they are not allowed, say something (if you safely can).
- 4) If you see something especially flagrant, call the advocate for the area. These advocates are listed in the Alpiner.
- 5) Write or call your legislators and ask that trails be properly funded.

Doing these things and others will not solve all problems, but they will help.



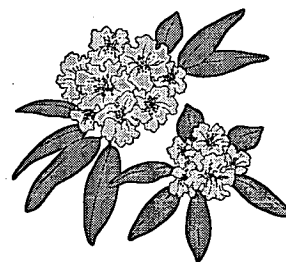
HIKES PROGRAM REMAINS HEALTHY

According to Joe Toynbee of IATC's Hikes Committee, the club held 105 hikes in 2009 with a total of 1023 hikers, an average of nearly ten per hike. "Those are pretty constant numbers for recent years," Toynbee reported at the club's annual meeting.

IATC had 22 hike leaders last year, averaging 5.6 hikes over the 12 months. Richard Mann, Toynbee noted, was on 52 of the 105 hikes, many of which he led himself.

"The success of our hiking program," Toynbee suggested, "is because we are close in the the population centers and convenient to area hikers. And we have good hike leaders and a minimum of bureaucracy to hinder the hikes.

Toynbee described the hikes program as "a noble thing" IATC does to introduce new hikers to area hikers on an ongoing basis.



TMT WORK DUE BY AGENCIES

State Department of Natural Resources, using FEMA funding, will be rerouting 6,500 feet of the Tiger Mountain Trail this spring and summer. The project is a cooperative agreement between DNR and the Mountains to Sound Greenway, according to Sam Jarrett, DNR's Public Use Forester.

The area in question is around the upper High Point Creek crossing, a few miles up from the north end of the Tiger Mountain Trail.

DNR SET TO IMPROVE MAILBOX, TENERIFFE

Major improvements are in the works for the Mailbox and Teneriffe sections of DNR lands, according to Kelly Heintz, the Natural Resources Area Manager for the Department of Natural Resources.

In the summer of 2011, a trailhead with parking for 50-60 cars will be completed. It will have a kiosk and interpretive signs and serve as an entrance station for the Middle Fork area. As early as this fall or next spring, extensive trailwork will be completed.

"We're rerouting 85-90 per cent of the trail," Heintz said. "There have been too many accidents there, so the rerouted trail will be safer and more sustainable."

The trailhead project is being funded by the Federal Highways Administration, which is paving the Middle Fork road.

TENERIFFE FALLS

In other DNR news, Heintz reported that a new trail is being built to Teneriffe Falls. The falls, once known as Kamikaze Falls, is reached via a three-mile trail from the end of the Mount Si Road. The trail is currently closed, but should be reopened by late spring or early summer.

"The trail follows the stream course, so there's a lot of erosion," according to Heintz. "We're going to make it much more sustainable."

MT. SI SADDLE

In addition, two properties totaling about 40 acres have been purchased atop Mount Si after two years of negotiations. The land is the saddle between Mount Si and Mt. Teneriffe, where many hikers have been traversing private property for years. Funding was provided by the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

MTSG STALWARTS LEAVE POSITIONS

After eight years as the Trail Program Manager for Mountains to Sound Greenway, Mike Stanger left his post at the end of February. Also departing is Will Robbins, who worked with Stanger as Field Coordinator.

"But Mike's not going anywhere," exclaimed Doug Schindler, the Greenway's Director of Field Programs. Stanger is opening a private consulting service for outdoor greenspace programs. "If we need Mike, we can just hire him," said Schindler. Robbins is moving to the East Coast for family reasons.

"I've developed life-long bond with Mount Si, Rattlesnake Mountain, Tiger, Squak and the Middle and South Form Snoqualmie basins. There is a lot of diverse trail country right in our backyard!" Stanger exclaimed.

"My interactions with people dedicated to stewarding public lands and to bringing about positive change has been a highlight," Stanger stated. "It was a great experience too work with people devoted to moving shared goals forward. It was also gratifying to work with so many young people whether they were crew members and leaders or volunteers out on a project for the day. I've also benefited from my interactions with really committed land managers, as well as project partners and interested citizens, who all worked to make our trail projects successful."

Always busy, the Greenway has several projects in the works. The MTSG is working on a small trail in the upper Luther Burbank Park on Mercer Island to provide neighborhood access to the park.

Working with the City of Bellevue, MTSG is upgrading the Coal Creek Trail between the Coal Creek Parkway and Interstate 405.

Soon the Greenway will tackle parts of the Tiger Mountain Trail along with the State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to improve sections of the trail damaged by the storm of a year ago.

APRIL 2010

Friday, April 2, 10 am
MIDWEEK HIKE

Dogs Welcome Hike. Bring leash, baggies, water.
Leader's choice in the Issaquah Alps
2B, 3-5 miles, 600-1000' gain
Tom Pohle 425-481-2341

Saturday, April 3, 8:30 am
Tiger Mountain – Linger Loop
2B, 7 miles, 1000' gain
Ron Howatson 425-392-8341

Sunday, April 4, 9 am
Northeast Squak Loop to Central Peak,
starting and ending at Trail Center.
Squak Access, East Ridge, Old Griz
& Eastside Trails.

3C, 10 miles, 2400' gain
Ralph Owen 425-746-1070

Saturday, April 10, 9 am
Little Si in North Bend
2 C, 5 miles, 1300' gain
Mary Nolan 425-837-1535

Sunday, April 11, 9:30 am
Cougar Mt. Loop from Sky Country to AA Peak
Via Mineshaft and Clay Pit
2B, 5 miles, 650' gain. SLOW PACE
Fred Zeitler 425-882-3435

Friday, April 16, 9:30 am
MIDWEEK HIKE
Echo Mountain – Flower & Plant Identification
2B, 5 miles, 600' gain
Betty Culbert 425-432-7387

Saturday, April 17, 9 am
Loop over West Tiger 2 via TMT and K3.
Return via West Tiger 3 Trail
3C, 8 miles, 2500' gain
Scott Prueter 425-269-3079

Sunday, April 18, 9 am
Tiger Mountain, starting from Trail Center.
Talus Caves via Section Line, return via Nook Trails
3C, 7 miles, 1500' gain
Richard Mann 425-281-8465

Thursday, April 22, 7 pm
IATC Board Meeting
Trail Center, 1st and Bush Streets

Saturday, April 24, 9:30 am
Cougar Mountain, AA Peak from Talus TH
2B, 4 miles, 1000' gain
Bob Gross 425-427-8449

Sunday, April 25, 1 pm
Tradition Plateau – Human and Natural History
emphasis on flowers and shrubs
2B, about 5 miles, 600' gain
Dave Kappler 425-392-3571

Friday, April 30, 10 am
MIDWEEK HIKE
Dogs Welcome Hike. Bring leash, baggies, water.
Leader's choice in Issaquah Alps
2B, 3-5 miles, 600-1000' gain
Jean Lanz 206-322-0990

MAY 2010

Saturday, May 1, 9:30 am
Rattlesnake Ledges
2C, 5 miles, 1300' gain
Mary Nolan 425-837-1535

Sunday, May 2, 8:30 am
Middle Tiger Loop starting and ending at
Tiger Summit on Hwy 18
Walk on trails and little used routes
3C, 9 miles, 2100' gain
Ralph Owen 425-746-1070

Friday, May 7, 10 am
MIDWEEK HIKE
Dogs Welcome Hike
Bring leash, baggies, water
Leader's Choice in Issaquah Alps
2B, 3-5 miles, 600-1000' gain
Tom Pohle 425-481-2341

Saturday, May 8, 9 am
Squak Mountain Summit Loop
Circular loop from Mountainside Drive
2B, 4 miles, 1200' gain
Joe Toynbee 425-228-6118

Sunday, May 9, 10 am
Dogs Welcome Hike. Bring leash, baggies, water.
Leader's choice in Issaquah Alps
2B, 3-5 miles, 600-1000' gain
Jean Lanz 206-322-0990

Friday, May 14, 9:30 am
Echo Mountain – interesting plants
and views of Mt. Rainier
2B, 5 miles, 600' gain
Betty Culbert 425-432-7387

Saturday, May 15, 9 am
Squak Mt. Loop over Central and West Peaks.
Mt. Rainier views for lunch
3C, 7 miles, 2000' gain
Scott Prueter 425-269-3079

Sunday, May 16, 9 am
Squak Mt. – Sunrise Loop, Central & West Peaks,
Return via Issaquah Junction
3D, 10 miles, 3000' gain
Richard Mann 425-281-8465

Thursday, May 20, 7 pm
Hike Leaders Meeting
Trail Center, 1st and Bush Streets

Friday, May 21, 10 am
MIDWEEK HIKE
Dogs Welcome Hike. Bring leash, baggies, water.
Leader's choice in Issaquah Alps
2B, 3-5 miles, 600-1000' gain
Jean Lanz 206-322-0990

Saturday May 22, 9:30 am
South Tiger Mt. Flower Walk on TMT
2B, 5 miles, 800' gain
Joe Toynbee 425-228-6118

Sunday, May 23, 9 am
Middle Fork of Snoqualmie River
Hike upstream from Gateway Bridge on reggraded road.
Ups and downs, lunch at peaceful river site
2B, 6 miles, 800' gain, SLOW PACE
Fred Zeitler 425-882-3435

MAY 2010 cont.

Saturday, May 29, 9:30 am
Middle Tiger Mountain, starting from
Tiger Summit on Hwy 18
3C, 8 miles, 1300' gain
Bob Gross 425-427-8449

Sunday, May 30, 9 am
Poo Poo Point from the Chirico Trail
2C, 4 miles, 1600' gain
Mary Nolan 425-281-8465

Monday, May 31, 9:30 am
MEMORIAL DAY
Cougar Mt. – Loop Hike from Sky Country to
AA Peak via Mineshaft and Clay Pit
2B, 5 miles, 650' gain, SLOW PACE
Fred Zeitler 425-882-3435

JUNE 2010

Saturday, June 5, 10 am
Dogs Welcome Hike. Bring leash, baggies, water.
Leader's Choice in Issaquah Alps
2B, 4 miles, 3-5 miles, 600-1000' gain
Tom Pohle 425-481-2341

Sunday, June 6, 1-4 pm
"Return to Newcastle" Coal Mining History Walk
Coal Creek and Cougar Mt. Parks with
Eastside Heritage Center & Newcastle Hist. Society
2A, 2 miles, 150' gain, EASY AND SLOW
Steve Williams 425-453-8997

Saturday, June 12, 9 am
Cougar Mountain – Double loop
around Wilderness and Longview Peaks
3C, 7 miles, 1900' gain
Scott Prueter 425-269-3079

Sunday, June 13, 9:30 am
Stan's Overlook – West Rattlesnake Mt.
2C, 5 miles, 1400' gain
Mary Nolan 425-837-1535

IATC ENCOURAGES CARPOOLING +
RECOMMENDS \$1 MINIMUM OR
15¢/MILE GAS CONTRIB TO DRIVER

Saturday, June 19, 9:30 am
GREENWAY DAYS HIKE
Rattlesnake Ledge
2B+, 4.5 miles, 1300' gain
Doug Simpson 425-823-0747

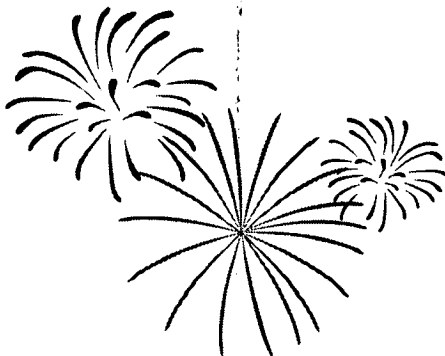
Saturday, June 19, 8:30 am
Southeast Squak Mt. Loop
Seldom visited East Peaks with
some primitive boot-paths en-route
Return via May Valley Trails
3C, 8 miles, 2200' gain
Ralph Owen 425-746-1070

Sunday, June 20, 9 am-12 pm
GREENWAY DAYS HIKE
Tiger Mt. Tradition Plateau Loop.
Lake, Bus, Wetlands, Tree & Swamp Trails
2A, 3 miles, 200' gain
Steve Williams 425-453-8997

Sunday, June 20, 9am
Cougar Mt. – Bear Ridge Loop to Long View
Return via AA Peak
3C, 7 miles, 1800' gain
Richard Mann 425-281-8465

Saturday, June 26, 9 am
West Tiger 3 – Hike to 2 vistas
3C, 9 miles, 2600' gain
Denis Harney 425-9-837-1535

Sunday, June 27, 9 am
Tiger Mt. – Hike to Otter Lake then to
Site of 1925 RR Crash. Return via road
2B, 5.5 miles, 900' gain – SLOW PACE
Fred Zeitler 425-882-3435



JULY 2010

Saturday, July 3, 9 am-2 pm
Taylor Mt. Holder Ridge – Whiskey Still Loop
Mt. Rainier views in good weather
There may be horses on the trail
2B, 6 miles, 1500' gain
Steve Williams 425-453-8997

Sunday, July 4, 6:15 pm
INDEPENDENCE DAY – FIREWORKS VIEWING
Evening hike to Poo Poo Pt. via
Issaquah High School and
Poo Poo Pt. Trails. We will spend time
after sunset at Poo Poo Pt.
Bring hot drinks, snacks, warm clothes
& bright headlamps
or flashlights and extra batteries.
Return via the Chirico Trail in the dark
at a moderately slow pace.
Car shuttle required.
3C, 7 miles, 1900' gain
Ralph Owen 425-746-1070

Monday, July 5, 9:30 am
Cedar Butte
2B, 5 miles, 1000' gain
Doug Simpson 425-823-0747

★ ★ ★

**GEAR CHECKLIST = WATER, FOOD,
DAYPACK, RAINGEAR, WARM CLOTHES,
HIKING SHOES/BOOTS**

★ ★ ★

**PLEASE CHECK
NUMBER / LETTER CLASSIFICATION
FOR HIKE DIFFICULTY**

★ ★ ★

**ALL HIKES MEET AT THE TRAILS
CENTER – 1ST AND BUSH IN ISSAQUAH.
HIKES LEAVE AT THE TIME STATED
SO PLAN TO ARRIVE A BIT EARLIER**

★ ★ ★

THREE CITY PARKS IN MASTER PLAN

By Doug Simpson

Three downtown Issaquah city parks are in the process of being integrated into a Master Site Plan. In all, 15.5 acres are being incorporated into the city's Issaquah Creek Confluence Park Area Project. The Tille Anderson, Cybil-Madeline and Issaquah Creek parks plus the Parks Maintenance facility are being confluenced.

The intent of the project is provide a strong connection between Olde Town and the redevelopment area with the confluence future park area being the cornerstone and providing the linkage between the two.

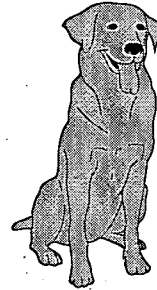
"The Confluence Park location," according to the City proposal, "is strategically positioned between the City's old main street area, the City's cultural/art district, and the City's primary shopping district, which currently is undergoing a major planning review of its redevelopment potential."

By late February, the City Review Team was to name five top firms for consideration for the project. In the next stage, two or three firms will be chosen to develop Concept Master Site Plans of the confluence park area. Eventually, the team will select a landscape architect/consulting firm based on their creativity, their presentation and their qualifications.

Minimally, the site plan for the confluence park is to include botanic garden elements with paths or trails and park furniture; a children's play area emphasizing natural features; incorporation of the Anderson and Ek farmhouses on the property; restoration and enhancement of the creek riparian zone; creekside platforms and viewing areas, including a pedestrian bridge to connect the park areas separated by Issaquah Creek; interpretive elements; picnicking facilities and gathering places; a restroom; and parking facilities.

The project is funded as part of the bond voters approved in 2006 for the acquisition of parks and natural open space and development of park sites.

Funds available for the design and construction of the Issaquah Creek Confluence Park Area Project are approximately \$1.7 million dollars.



DOG HIKES FLOURISH

Since IATC reestablished dog hikes in the past year, they have become increasingly popular. Participants need to be reminded of a few rules. First, hikers are limited to one dog each. Second, dogs must be kept on leashes. And third, owners are expected to clean up after their dogs.

In addition, hikers with dogs are reminded that the club's regular hikes do not permit dogs.

DWIGHT RIGGS

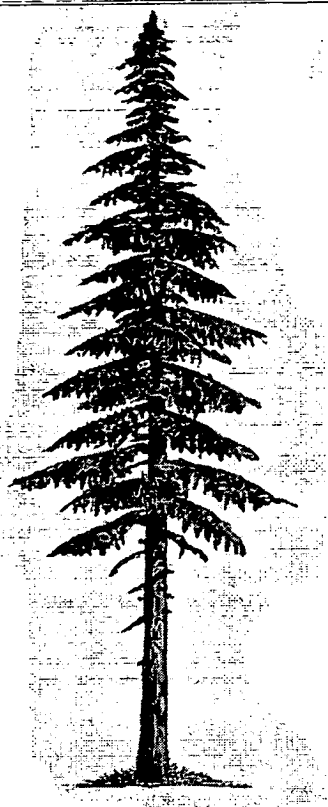
The IATC and the hiking community in general lost a good friend with the recent death in Tucson of Dwight Riggs. He was 61.

Dwight was very active in the early days of our club. He began by leading trips, and soon noticed the great amount of trail work that needed to be done. To address this, he founded a group called the Wednesday Weed Whackers, of which I was a member. He also led trail maintenance work parties for the US Forest Service.

In 1985 he founded a camping club called the Hard Corps, which is still active. Hikers on Tiger Mountain are familiar with "Dwight's Way," a trail which he pioneered.

Dwight was a big man—big physically, big in his activities, and big-hearted. He will be greatly missed by those of us who knew him.

—JOE TOYNBEE



WESTERN HEMLOCK STANDS TALL

(Ed. Note: This article is reprinted from a 1992 Alpiner.)

By Fred Weinmann

Five species of trees (Douglas fir, western red cedar, western hemlock, big leaf maple, and red alder) will be seen along nearly every trail in the Issaquah Alps. My favorite is the western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*), the official state tree of Washington.

There are good reasons why the western hemlock is the most frequently seen sapling in the alps forest understory. Unlike Douglas fir and most other evergreen species,

germination and seedling growth is tolerant to the shady conditions on the forest floor. As a result western hemlock will be the long-term ecological winner in the absence of forest fires, avalanches, hurricanes, clearcutting and other disturbances. Even though not so huge or long-lived as Douglas fir or red cedar, at 24 tall, 8 feet in diameter and up to 500 years old, they can become majestically large and ancient by human terms. In the category of mosts among its forest peers, western hemlock is the most prolific seed-producer, and in dense strands can produce more wood per acre than any other Northwest species.

A combination of distinctive cone and needle characteristics minimizes confusion in identifying western hemlock. The needles are the shortest of any alps evergreen. Even more distinctive is the uneven length of the needles largely in two planes, but a few projecting upward from the top surface of the twig (its scientific name *heterophylla* means varied leaves). The closest look alike needles belong to western yew, but yew needles are slightly darker green, of even length and clearly in two planes. If you are still uncertain about identification, stand back and look for a drooping tip (I prefer the term "lopping leader") at the apex of the tree.

Hemlock is a ubiquitous understory evergreen and frequent habitat of nurse stumps and nurse logs. Cones, although less than an inch long, are produced in such numbers to carpet the forest floor. Each cone harbors 30-40 seeds.

Many uses have been made of hemlock by Northwest tribes (the tannin laden bark for tanning skins is mixed with salmon eggs to add yellow tones to dyes; the pitch as stickum for facial cosmetics or to prevent chapping. Inner bark, although seemingly more slimy than palatable, provided emergency rations either raw or steamed; and of course in modern times hemlock is sold as dimension lumber labeled "white wood" or "hem-fir." Presumably, the name hemlock derives from a superficial resemblance to the poisonous parsley infamous in the death of Socrates.



HIKING IN RAIN

It's a rainy day and you're not sure if you want to go on the scheduled IATC hike today. What if you drive all the way to Issaquah and nobody shows up?

First of all, the hike leader will be at the trail center regardless of the weather. If two people show up wanting to hike, the leader must take them—unless the weather has created unsafe conditions. He/she can say "no go" to a single hiker, however.

In adverse weather, the hike leader may opt to take the group on a shorter, simpler or closer hike. If you are unsure about what to expect, call the hike leader, whose name and number are listed with the hike in the Alpiner or website.

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.



continued on page 10

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:

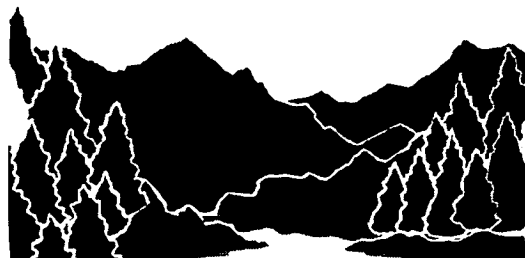
- Food
- Water
- Daypack
- Raingear
- Warm clothes
- Hiking Shoes

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 Cougar Mountain, 2001 revision	2.00		
Map: Issaquah Alps Squak Mountain (2005)	6.00		
Green Trails Map: Tiger & Taylor Mountains, Map 204S	(List 9.50) 8.00		
Green Trails Map: Cougar & Squak Mountains, Map 203S	(List 9.50) 8.00		
Green Trails Map: Rattlesnake Mountain & Upper Snoqualmie Valley Map 205S	(List 9.50) 8.00		
Green Trails Map: Mount Si NRCA & Snoqualmie Corridor, Map 206S	(List 9.50) 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:

p The basic hiker.....\$15 p The project supporter.....\$25

p The IATC sponsor.....\$50 p 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

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U.S. Postage
PAID
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Permit #70



Charles & Malena McCrone

PO Box 593

Issaquah WA 98027-0022

Last Contribution Date /

11/1/20X

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Issaquah Alps Trails Club

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. (List \$9.50) \$8.

o *Green Trails Cougar & Squak Mountains*. Map 203S. (List \$9.50) \$8.

o *Green Trails Rattlesnake Mountain & Upper Snoqualmie Valley*. Map 205S. (List \$9.50) \$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 Cougar Mountain map*. 2001 revised.

o *55 Hikes Around Snoqualmie Pass* By Harvey Manning. \$10.