



July ♦ August ♦ September 2015

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

## SQUAK TRAILHEAD DEDICATED

By Doug Simpson

On National Trails Day, June 6, the main event was at the dedication of the Cougar Squak Corridor Park off SR-900. Perhaps 150 people gloried in the warm, sunny day and attended and listened to assorted short speeches before a major hike up the Margaret's Way Trail to Debbie's View.

Rhonda Berry, Chief Operations Officer for the King County Executive Office, emceed the event. "It's a rare opportunity to formally open a new park of this size," she said. "At more than 220 acres in size, the Cougar Squak Corridor Park also occupies an envious spot—wedged between protected lands that comprise the emerald Necklace of the Issaquah Alps."

An honor guard of speakers included Reagan Dunn of the King County Council; Paul Kundtz, Washington State Director of the Trust for Public Land; David Kappler, President of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club; Rebecca Lavigne, Trail Program Director of the Washington Trails Association; Kurt Fraese, Board President of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust; and Kelly Heintz of King County Parks.



IATC's Dave Kappler cuts the ribbon as Greenway's Kurt Fraese, County Councilman Reagan Dunn (with child) and the County's Rhonda Berry look on. (Photo by Kirt Lenard).

"The story of this park is a story about persistence and collaboration—of seizing an opportunity and of looking toward the future," Berry stated.

As did other speakers, Berry credited the IATC's Kappler for his dedicated efforts in getting the property acquired. "David Kappler. . . became the face—and voice—of the grassroots effort for public acquisition of this magnificent land."

Getting the land was the major accomplishment, but much work was necessary to prepare a trailhead—and trails—on the former camping club site. WTA's Lavigne pointed out that as many as 475 people worked on the site and trails. Nearly 60 work parties put in 7,500 hours on the project.

The day's primary hike was on Margaret's Way, named for Margaret Macleod, deceased former

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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.simpson6191@gmail.com](mailto:d.simpson6191@gmail.com)  
Send diskette or hard copy to post office box number above.

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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

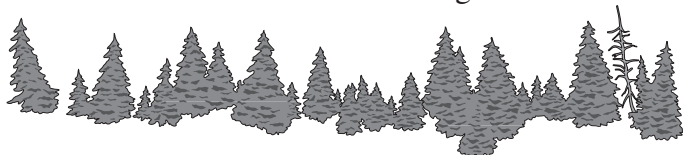
By David Kappler

As we celebrate 30 years of the establishment of the Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park and a much enhanced connection with Squak Mountain, there is still work to do on Cougar. The creation of the urban village now called Talus and referred to in earlier times as “East Village” is not finished, and some properties adjoining Talus need to be acquired to best complete the trail system and Wildlife habitat long recognized as the hallmarks of the Cougar park.

Several parcels above Talus and some north as well need to be acquired. Owners of these properties did not choose to enter into the Talus agreement and were never identified as “expansion” parcels as some other properties were designated and included in the original environmental assessments and agreements. These properties were purchased in speculation that someday they would get road access through easement or some other method and would get water and sewer service as well. It is not incumbent on Issaquah or King County to bail out speculators.

When a person buys a parcel that has no means of access by public or private road or any known easement, they should not expect great financial return on their “investment.” Development of these parcels would impact existing Talus residents and be counter to policies directing development to areas that have transportation facilities - or at least facilities that can be built at lowest cost - have with water and sewer available.

Transfer of development rights from this area to the valley floor is allowed under King County and city of Issaquah regulations. This is the ideal solution for having development occur as the city has planned through a very long and deliberate planning process. Simply bailing out land speculators is not a practice we can afford to continue in our region.



## AN EDITORIAL:

# WARREN'S WAY RIP

Warren's Way, one of my favorite hikes (1), will soon be no more. It is in the process of being re-routed and converted from a hiking route to an extreme bike trail, which has apparently been designed to help pacify the “Down-Hill Bomber” sub-cult of the mountain biking community. This is apparently being done as part of the new DNR Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan, which designates the eastern half of Tiger Mountain as a “Mountain Biking Zone with Hiking and Equestrian Secondary.” (2)

The new trail, which is still under construction, features built in jumps over logs and rock ledges, rocky drops on steep ridgelines and a hard surface trail which replaces a soft underfoot hiking path. I can only assume that when the trail is opened, the current unofficial name of Warren's Way will be replaced by a catchy name such as “Stick That in Your Face, Hikers.”

We have been hiking this route for almost 25 years. As I described in the earlier Alpiner article referenced above, this unofficial hiking route was first shown to my wife Peggy and me in the early 90s by Warren Jones. Warren's Way visits the third and seventh highest “Peaks of Tiger.” (3) Many hikers have been introduced to this route on hikes that have been led on it for three hiking clubs a number of times since then.

A number of these hikers have returned to maintain and improve the route on a volunteer basis. The new route breaks away from the original Warren's Way trail in several areas, most notably in the lower part up to Pete's Pimple (Point 2393) and then down to the Main Tiger Mountain Road. We hope that these bypassed parts are left so that hikers can continue to use as much of the original hiking trails as possible.

— Ralph Owen

1) Alpiner, 1st quarter, 2012, pp 7-8).

2) Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan, Washington State Department of Natural Resources, March 2015, Figure 7, p. 33.

3) Alpiner, 2nd quarter, 2014, pp. 8-10).



## EVANS HIRED TO MANAGE COUGAR PARK



Duane Evans is the new manager of the Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park, succeeding Niki McBride, who retired after ten years on the job. Evans, 55, is just the park's third manager, as IATC's Steve Williams manned the post over 20 years from its inception until his own retirement.

Evans has been with county parks since 1988 after a lengthy stint with the U.S. Navy. He has worked for the county out of Lake Wilderness, Juanita Beach, Angle Lake, Marymoor, Federal Way and assorted other natural resource jobs.

"I'll follow the county's mission statement of stewardship, enhancement and acquisition to serve a healthy community," he said. He will oversee keeping park trails open and free of downed trees and muddy spots. One issue of current concern is off-lease dogs. "We're working toward compliance," he said.

Evans works with three full-time staff, plus part-timers Williams and McBride (for transitional assistance). Doug Johnson, park miller, and recent

hireses Steve Wilkinson, trail maintenance, and Robyn Affleck, are dedicated employees.

As the population and park use have expanded, there is a higher expectation of upkeep, Evans pointed out. And with the additional acres added to Squak Mountain (up to 780 acres of county property now) plus the existing 3200 acres with 36 trails of Cougar property, management is a bigger job than ever. But it's still a smaller area to manage for Evans. "It's a relief not to be running around so much."

Evans noted the ongoing outings with the Seattle Running Club, which spends a lot of time on trailwork before and after the runs. Also in the works for summer is the Wilderness Awareness day camp five days a week with kids of all ages.

Those wishing to contact Evans (206-391-1932 cell) should note that the park's offices have shifted from the Cougar mountaintop to existing structures in the new Squak section formerly used by the camping club off SR-900, near the Wilderness Creek trailhead. At the time of his interview, Evans and staff were busy preparing for the June 6 opening festivities on Squak.

## MCBRIDE KEEPS BUSY

Having retired a few months ago from her 10-year post as manager of the Cougar Mountain park, and 30 years with county parks, Niki McBride remains a busy lady. She'll work part-time into the summer to help new manager Duane Evans ease into the job and to see through the incorporation of the new acreage on Squak Mountain.

"I feel that we have shown real commitment to the presence and protection of the park," McBride said. "Our staff is committed, and I'm proud of what we have accomplished."

She will continue to work part-time with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and she is engaged in a pet project of tracking the wolf population in the Teanaway area. "The wolves move around," she said. "There have even been sightings this side of the mountains."

## IATC BOARD RETREATS

With an eye toward more fully identifying what the Issaquah Alps Trails Club is all about and where it needs to go in the future, the club held a retreat for board members March 30 at the home of George Potter. Doug McClellan, leader of the regional Department of Natural Resources—and a member of IATC-- moderated the event.

McClellan initiated the session by having the members examine the club's mission statement. Several suggestions were made that would modernize and update the club's mission.

Members were asked to identify two topics they felt were important. Later in small groups organized by theme, specific analysis and suggestions were made. Following are some of the suggestions. **The club needs to. . .**

- Have more visibility.
- Have a perpetuation plan.
- Set up a table at High Point to distribute club info.
- Collaborate with other groups.
- Identify causes to work on.
- Work with preservationists for joint success.
- Build a larger mailing list to reach out.
- Host public forums with other groups.
- Get representatives on the boards of WTA and the Greenway (note: Ken Konigsmark serves with the Greenway and Kirt Lenard is joining WTA's board).
- Appoint a programs committee to plan non-hike events.

President Dave Kappler identified four committees to address some of these issues, which were set in motion at the board meeting on April 23.

In attendance for the board were Tom Anderson, Jim Hilton, Rachel Hopkins, Jackie Hughes, Kappler, Konigsmark, Lenard, Kathleen Petty, Potter, Doug Simpson, Ed Vervoort and Steve Williams.



## HIKERS CORNER

By Joe Toynbee

There are those who think that walking through the woods is a rather strange activity.

An example of this occurred some years ago when I was leading a group of Mountaineers up McDonald Peak, a forested peak beyond Maple Valley.

About half way up, a pickup truck pulled up next to us, and the driver asked where we were going. We told him we were going to the top. He then drove on with a puzzled look on his face. About half an hour later he came back down the gravel road. He said this road goes all the way to the top, and we wouldn't have to walk all the way.

I replied, "Well, sir, we are hikers and we prefer to walk." A puzzled look came over his face, and he drove on. I am sure that he is still wondering about those strange people.

## CONSERVANCY BUYS ACREAGE

Nearly 50,000 acres (47,921 to be exact) have been purchased by the Nature Conservancy from Plum Creek Timber, most within the Mountains to Sound Greenway in the Central Cascades in the CleElum/Roslyn area.

"This acquisition represents a great leap forward for healthy forests, clean water, wildlife habitat and the outdoor recreation economy in Kittitas County," the Greenway reported.

The acquisition now conserves most of the checkerboard of forest lands in the upper Yakima basin.

The Nature Conservancy is committed to managing these lands for forests restoration, healthier wildlife and improved recreational opportunities.

## BILL LONGWELL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

By Anne Robertson

Last month I participated in a hike along Tradition Plateau led by Dave Kappler, who astounded me with his vast knowledge of both the history of the area and the life within it. While I typically hike at a quick pace, simply with the goal of exercise in mind, Dave's storytelling leadership led me to understand just how little I know about the beautiful areas around me.

Since I am a budding civil engineer, his discussion about the pathways of the major roads and bridges leading to Issaquah through the I-90 corridor provided a fascinating history that helped me connect my interests with my city. The story of a bright little town which, over the course of 123 years, has blossomed into a thriving city, is one that I'm sure often goes unheard of by high school students. Dave's supply of information didn't stop at city history, however, but continued on to educate me about the native plants and the life of Tradition Plateau – information ranging from where to look for wild ginger flowers, to how to remove scotch broom, to the best type of natural toilet paper.

The educational aspect of the hike truly resulted in a morning well-spent, because I walked away with a much deeper knowledge of the area that we explored – something that makes any outdoor experience memorable for me. The city of Issaquah is lucky to have such a wealth of information and passion available in the Issaquah Alps Trails Club. The opportunity to gain a deeper appreciation for the developmental history and the life – truly, the soul – of Issaquah, often goes unnoticed by students and adults alike. However, for those that discover the Issaquah Alps Trails Club, the experience is unforgettable.

I have had a strong relationship with Mountains to Sound Greenway since 2009, when I first discovered the joy of caring for my city and environment. During my middle school years, I began forging bonds with some of the leaders of the Greenway as I participated in summer camps and weekend volunteer events, which have accumulated to a total of just under 200 hours of blackberry excavations, native

habitat restoration, trail-building and nursery duty. Mountains to Sound Greenway has also introduced me to the character-building that stems from long afternoons in the mud and rain, bonding with fellow involved citizens over planting trees.



Before my service with the Greenway, I took for granted the work that goes into keeping my community happy, healthy, and beautiful. As I began to participate more and more, however, I began to notice all of the little bits and pieces of my city that someone had to work to make beautiful, and it was like seeing for the first time. Recognizing the effort of my community has given me a whole new appreciation for my neighbors, and a new pride that I can join the endeavor. Without this organization, it's questionable whether or not I would have ever discovered my passion for sustainability – a passion that I plan to pursue through my studies at UC Berkeley in civil engineering and sustainable design.

Mountains to Sound Greenway and the Issaquah Alps Club provide an outlet for the constructive commitments of the many caring citizens who want to learn about and give back to their communities. It is easy to take advantage of the excellent recreation opportunities in Issaquah's backyard without

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# SCHOLARSHIP CANDIDATES EXPERIENCE TRAILS

By Doug Simpson

As part of its policy of giving back to the community—and encouraging a deeper awareness of the treasures of the Issaquah Alps—the Issaquah Alps Trails Club has announced the 2015 scholarship winners. In the fifth year of the program, two girls from Issaquah High School took top honors, and a boy from Liberty High placed third.

Anne Robertson, a 4.0 student bound for the University of California at Berkeley, where she will study civil engineering, is the \$1000 first-place winner. Her winning essay is printed in its entirety in this issue of the *Alpiner* on page 6.

Robertson is vice-president of her school's Chemistry Club, is co-president of the IHS Greenpeace program and serves as vice-chair of the Issaquah Youth Advisory Board. She is one of 29 Puget Sound area members of the Assisting Ability Ambassadors, which examines public policy and sustainability issues. She was co-host of a recent summit meeting of the group.

The scholarship candidates were required this year to participate in one of IATC's scheduled hikes and to join a work party of either the Washington Trails Association or the Mountains to Sound Greenway. Then they were required to write about their experiences.

## **SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT** *continued from page 6*

even realizing the depth of attention that goes into protecting and preserving it. However, the efforts of a few hardworking organizations have provided a concrete sense of fulfillment and connection that truly magnifies one's sense of appreciation for the great outdoors – something I know from personal experience. It's difficult to overstate the importance of the outdoors in the culture of Issaquah, but one can't truly understand the outdoors without having had meaningful learning experiences and a chance to give back.

Placing second this year, good for \$500 in scholarship money, is fellow IHS senior Tali Magidson, who will be entering the University of Washington's honors program in the fall. The \$250 third prize-winner is Steven Tuttle, also heading to the University of Washington. Excerpts from essays by Magidson and Tuttle, as well as the two other entrants, are included below.

Tali Magidson participated in a hike led by Steve Williams and several Greenway work parties. She maintains a 4.0 grade-point average. She is in the choir and jazz band at IHS and has participated in the Evergreen Philharmonic as a clarinetist the past two years. She has been president of the school's Math Club and is involved with Global Reading Challenge at Clark Elementary, as well as the Prime Factor Math Circle with Pacific Cascade Middle School. She is also a skiing instructor at Snoqualmie Pass.

Speaking of Williams' focus on Cougar Mountain's vegetation, she wrote: "I loved Steve's analogy that knowing the flora and fauna around you makes you feel surrounded by friends even when hiking alone." Magidson also wrote: "I sat at lunch amid chocolate lilies, thorny rose bushes, and wild strawberry blooms, looking out at a valley through madrona trees. It was so calming on the sun-dappled ground, with strange furry insects buzzing and birds chirping in the multifaceted greenery! The Trails Club unveils a world of accessible opportunities to hikers who would normally have no one to hike with, and it was great to be welcomed into the community."

Of her trailwork, Magidson wrote: "Although I've hiked since childhood, this has been my largest opportunity to give back to my beloved environment, and has made me a spokesperson for sustainable practices. . . there is a certain joy in watching work parties continue coming back and improving preserved wilderness areas, year after year, generation after generation."

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## SQUAK TRAILHEAD *continued from page 4*

Interagency Coordinator, who was responsible for putting together so many property acquisitions and so much grant money. Macleod, who lived on Squak, loved Issaquah and the Alps area.

This new trailhead and its trails are administered by King County Parks. Parts of Squak Mountain, in its complexity, are also administered by Washington State Parks and the City of Issaquah. This new property has become the home office of the Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park, though the former quarters atop Cougar are still in use.

It is anticipated that the new trails, still with work to be done, will become a major destination for area hikers.



**Margaret Macleod**

## KAPPLER HONORED

As part of Earth Day, King County bestowed Green Globe awards to 14 eco-friendly leaders. Besides people, awards were given to businesses, cities and

organizations. The Green Globes are the county's highest honor for local environmental efforts.

The leader in Open Space Conservation is Dave Kappler, President of the Issaquah Alps Trails club.

"Kappler has been a tireless advocate for open space lands in King County. As president of the Issaquah Alps Trails club, he is a voice for the protection of not only trails but the open spaces through which they run. The club was a strong advocate for creation of Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park, West Tiger Natural Resources Conservation Area, Tiger Mountain State Forest, and numerous parks and open spaces. With "Save Squak Mountain," Kappler pushed for acquiring 226 acres of land on Squak Mountain coveted for its ecological value, including sheltering the headwaters of a salmon-bearing stream," County Executive Dow Constantine announced.

"Everyone in our region benefits from the work that the Green Globe recipients are doing, whether its creating a local farm-to-table pipeline, preserving open spaces, restoring natural habitats, or confronting climate change," said Constantine. "Not only are they protecting our environment—they're improving our quality of life."



Green Globe Award Winner



**SCHOLARSHIP CANDIDATES** *continued from page 7*

Steven Tuttle was also on the Steve Williams hike on Cougar Mountain from the Licorice Fern trailhead to Lake Boren. He worked on a Greenway trail relocation project on Tiger Mountain. Tuttle will take his 3.89 GPA to the UW, where he will major in aerospace engineering. At Liberty, he is a member of Key Club and Honor Society, and he has been active in Eagle Boy Scouts.

“Simply hiking the trails,” Tuttle wrote, “you are able to enjoy the scenery and fresh air, but a guided hike allows you to get a deeper understanding of not only the plants, but also the history of the trails themselves.”

Working with Greenway, Tuttle commented: “This project gave me a much greater appreciation for all the work that goes into building the trails I previously took for granted. The organization makes it a priority to not only maintain the trails in this incredible Greenway, but also to make sure they are sustainable for future generations.”

Lina Ghambari, from Skyline High School, will attend Western Washington University. Ghambari participated in a Washington Trails Association work party at the Evans Creek Preserve, and an IATC hike from Snoqualmie Point to Rattlesnake Mountain led by Ralph Owen.

Of the WTA effort, Ghambari wrote: “Working out on the trail from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm, I developed such a huge appreciation for all that these volunteer workers do to make the trails around here where I live so hikeable.

“After I had built a trail from scratch just a short seventeen hours before I took this hike with Ralph, I really noticed all of the aspects of the trail, all of the obstacles that the builders may have had to avoid and how they worked together to make it sound.”

Jonathan Costa of Mercer Island High School, whose mother is an IATC member, plans to attend the University of Oregon in the fall. Costa went on a hike with Jean Lanz on Cougar Mountain and worked on a WTA party in the Middle Fork.

“Volunteering to work on trails,” he wrote, “is somewhat selective in itself. Only truly selfless people were out there building trails. And truly selfless people were needed, as we worked for six hours through light rain, then hail, then a downpour just to build a 20-foot segment of trail.”

*IATC members wishing to support the club's scholarship program are welcome to make earmarked contributions to the program. Send to the club via PO Box 351, Issaquah, WA, 98027.*



## BOARD MULLS RETREAT IDEAS

The April board meeting of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club was a relatively low-key affair. Much of the time in the two-hour session was spent following up on the March 30 retreat meeting.

President Dave Kappler suggested four committees to pursue ideas raised at the retreat. One was for Social Media. Another was a Succession (or Nominating) Committee, which Kappler vowed to having underway by July. The other two — Public Outreach and Public Engagement — will be combined into one.

Also discussed was a possible by-laws change dealing with the annual election of board members. It was decided not to change the existing method of voting.

Kappler, it was announced, was a recipient of King County's Green Globe awards (see story on p. 8), for his efforts in acquiring 226 acres of Squak Mountain to save it from being logged off.

Other reports were mostly routine, including a possible summer picnic, hopefully a repeat at Ken Konigsmark's Grand Ridge mountaintop aerie, which was enjoyed so much last summer.

## CHAPTER 8: IATC HISTORY *MID 1986–THRU MID 1987*

# EXPLETIVES FOR EXEC, DEVELOPERS

By Doug Simpson

Focusing on expansion to the Cougar Mountain park, President Harvey Manning was not satisfied with reaching 80% of the goal for park fulfillment. As he wrote: “The pace of development hereabouts has doubled or tripled every year of the past decade. What we save in the next several years will be all the Wildland Park we’ll ever have.” He was worried about the unresponsiveness of new King County Executive Tim Hill.

Facetiously suggesting moving back to the city — “or to New Zealand, which is relatively nuclear-free and comparatively developer-free,” Manning said most of us will stay and “keep plugging along working with those of our elected officials who demonstrate the sort of intelligence, energy and dedication without which the American Experiment is bound to fail, and working on the rest.”

Plans were already underway for Washington State’s Centennial and Return to Newcastle VII in 1989. Hikes continued to assemble at the Issaquah Park and Ride lot off I-90, Exit 15. Most hikes were coordinated with the Metro 210 bus schedule.

In his 29th Report, Manning cited the increasing popularity of hiking on Tiger Mountain. One hiker told Manning of passing one or two hikers in the past—but now (1986) about a hundred. “Perhaps 1,000 people used a trail,” the president wrote, “that until formation of the Trails Club in 1979 was known to a scant handful and Bill Longwell, IATC’s Chief Ranger and the prime architect of the Tiger Mountain Trail, put a register near the north end of the trail, and in less than a year 1,000 people had signed it. Taking into consideration its length and numerous access points, Manning stated: “A conservative estimate is that 10,000 people used it last year.” Pointing to DNR’s plan for the Tiger Mountain State Forest coupled with the vast increase in trail use, Manning concluded: “Something big is happening on Tiger.”

In late 1986, much attention was focused on Newcastle as an historic site, particularly as the terminus of Seattle’s first railroad, the Seattle and Walla Walla Railway, which dated back to 1878. Tim O’Brian chaired a committee devoted to the affairs of that first railroad, parts of which went through the Cougar Mountain park and ended at the Newcastle mines.

At the August meeting, it was announced that the club’s mailing list was now about 1,000, with 400 new members including 15 life members. The board discussed the increasing lawlessness on Cougar Mountain even though citations were being issued.

The southernmost two miles of the TMT were being torn up by horses, as the trail lacks the necessary heavy foundation needed for horses. “Hikers and horse riders, allies of long standing, may come to a parting of the ways, Manning wrote.

Year end (30th Report) brought—with ample expletives—outrage over developer excesses in Klahanie, adjacent to Lake Sammamish State Park, and the May Creek underway. “Is King County ruled by law? Or is it ruled by developers who have the right connections?” And Exec Tim Hill had been in office for nearly a year “without a single step toward completion” of the Cougar park. Hill was generously invited to attend the club potluck. Any bets on his attendance?

In January, 1987 Manning announced the club’s “most massive, sustained campaign ever to get a step ahead of the developers’ bulldozers.” Schedules over three months were set for trail parties on Cougar’s east side, with coffee and donuts served at the park & ride. Developers were aiming to take over much of Cougar’s east side, it was reported.

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**CHAPTER 8** *continued from page 10*

With funding from public agencies unavailable for trail work, the club set up an “Adopt a Trail” plan asking for volunteers to take over a section of a favorite trail. Chief Ranger Bill Longwell coordinated the trail maintenance effort.

Publication of Manning’s new book “Walking the Beach to Bellingham” was announced. The book covers two years of walking segments of the beach from the South Sound to Bellingham. As noted author Ivan Doig wrote: “What an exhilarating story Harvey Manning hits in this remarkable hike along our Inland Sea—a journey across time as well as his beloved Puget Sound shoreland.”

George Jackman took over chairmanship of the Hikes Committee, assisted by Jim and Mary Cadigan, Dwight and Gloria Riggs, Ann Leber, Steve Cavit, Jeana Micai and Russ Williams. With such extensive assistance, Jackman must have had a pretty easy job!

Candidates for board positions in January of 1987 were incumbents Jackman and Ralph Owen and newcomers Connie Fair and Tom Lucas. The remaining incumbents were Betty Manning, Buz Moore, Bill Longwell, Dave Kappler and Jack Price.



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

On summiting Mount Rainier: “Once more, and again, and crampons bite the crest and only these daggers stabbed into the outermost bulge of Earth prevent the wind from flinging the climber into space to collide with stars and bounce them around the galaxy like billiard balls.” --H. Manning

## LEASH LAW REVISITED

The issue of dogs on trails has arisen again with a recent re-emphasis in King County that dogs must be leashed on DNR lands, Washington State Parks, and National Forests. Sheriff’s deputies are on alert for offenders.

IATC in recent years has scheduled regular dog hikes on which, of course, the dogs must be leashed. The program has been very successful.

In several locations dogs are free to run loose—Bark Park in the Issaquah Highlands, a dog park at Beaver Lake, and Marymoor Park in Redmond.

However, too many dog owners are ignoring the law, sometimes frightening hikers on trails or otherwise getting into unwanted mischief. Irresponsible owners caught in violation could be fined up to \$500.

## FRAESE ON FUNDING

By Kurt Fraese, Greenway Board President

Like many of you, one of my favorite things to do with my family and friends is to escape for a hike or bike ride in the Mountains to Sound Greenway. On our trips, we are starting to see evidence of crumbling recreational infrastructure, not from lack of love, but rather lack of funding. Longer lines, facilities in need of cleaning, inadequate parking, poor signage, and deteriorating trails are more than common these days.

Many of the agencies who manage our public lands are facing two different forces: higher levels of outdoor recreation use from a growing population at the same time as record low levels of financial resources to develop and/or sustain features intended to assure safe and reliable recreational access and use.

Our public land agencies are severely underfunded considering their value and use levels. This is not a question of finding cost efficiencies and tightening belts. We passed that threshold a long time ago. It’s now a question of rethinking how we fund these agencies and how we maintain this land.

*(Reprinted from a Greenway publication.)*



## RAIL-TO-TRAIL PROGRAM GROWS

In recent years once profitable rail lines, no longer useful or needed, have been shut down and de-railed, providing perfect multi-use trails. Over 180 miles of trail in the Greenway have been built on former track sites.

Currently being expanded is the Eastside Rail Corridor, once part of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe line from Renton, along Lake Sammamish, and on to Snohomish, 42 miles in all. Two sections are complete, a mile of the Redmond Central Connector and 5.75 miles of the Cross Kirkland Connector.

The Eastside rail Corridor, a truly urban trail, “presents a unique opportunity to both promote healthy lifestyles and strengthen local economies.” Hikers, joggers, bikers and even families with strollers have means to utilize the outdoors in safety to traverse the countryside.

Among existing rail-trails in the area are the Burke-Gilman Trail (Seattle to Redmond), the East Lake Sammamish Trail (Redmond to Issaquah), the John Wayne Pioneer Trail (Rattlesnake Lake all the way to Idaho) and the Snoqualmie Valley Trail (Duvall to North Bend). Interconnected, they present endless opportunities for exploration and transportation.



“This is the beauty of the regional trail system: we have the infrastructure to get people out of their cars and out into communities and nature to explore, learn and play.”

(Quotes from Mountains to Sound Greenway “Connections.”)



The assembled multitudes at the trail dedication June 6.

# IATC EXPLORES SOCIAL MEDIA

By Tom Anderson

We held the inaugural meeting of the Social Media Committee on May the 4th, and Warren Kagarise of the City of Issaquah Communication Department was our guest presenter. The City has embraced social media in a big way, recognizing that for many people their primary source of information is via the ubiquitous electronic mobile device. It's a brave new world.

Warren's presentation was entitled "The Social Side of Issaquah City Hall." He described the City's use of 9 different social media platforms to connect with their audience: facebook, YouTube, Instagram, LinkedIn, Pinterest, Twitter, Google+, Vines and Foursquare.

The results are impressive:

- The "Legendary Issaquah" campaign using the Sasquatch mascot has reached over 750,000 people;
- The posts related to the renaming of Issaquah to "12SAQUAH" for the Super Bowl went viral and reached 2.2 million people;
- The communication has been bidirectional – citizens are using facebook and twitter to alert the City of issues, and the City responds;
- Year-to-date, across all platforms, they have reached 9.7 million people.

The IATC doesn't have a paid staff like the City, so we will need to set our sights a little lower. Our near-term goals are fairly modest:

- Consistently post to facebook once or twice a week;
- Encourage our fan-base to "like" and "share" our posts to help us expand our readership and fan-base;
- Occasionally use paid promotion of posts to expand our readership and fan-base;
- Experiment with Instagram (as the second most popular platform).

So, dear readers, what can you do to help? If you haven't already, please "like" the "Issaquah Alps

Trails Club" facebook page. Year-to-date we have grown the fan-base from about 170 to 243. That's a good trend, and with your help we are on our way to 500 - and beyond!



The City's Sasquatch photo booth at Salmon Days was a big hit. The photos were posted to the City's Facebook page, which drove traffic to the site in a big way.

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## IRA SPRING TRAIL GETS NEW BRIDGE

A dangerous creek crossing along the popular Ira Spring Trail just got new bridge materials delivered—by helicopter.

The crossing had been in need of a bridge for a while, but a combination of limited federal funding and difficult access kept a solution out of reach. But the stars aligned this spring: working with federal and state agencies, businesses, and Valley Camp, we secured the help of helicopters already installing bridges on adjacent state lands, found logs recently removed from the nearby Middle Ford Road during its construction, and delivered the timber (via helicopter) to the future bridge site.

Completion of the bridge should happen this summer or fall. This effort was funded by a generous donation the Spring Family Trust (of the same namesake as the trail).

(Reprinted from a Greenway publication.)

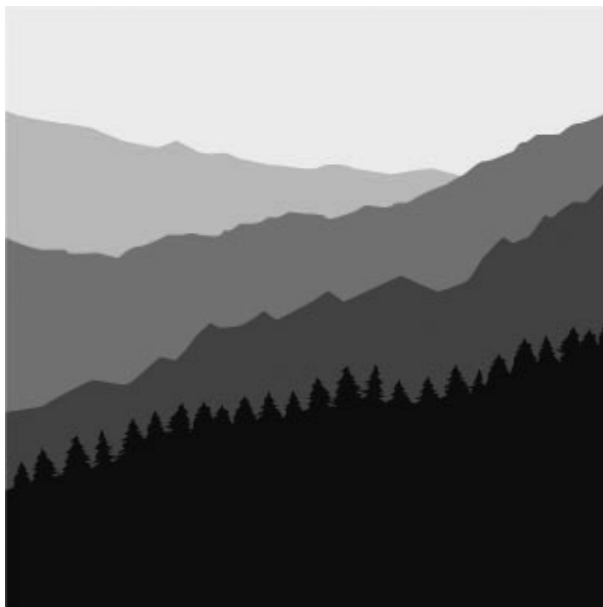
# Hiking Information

## 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, dogs only on designated dog hikes.



## Degree of Difficulty

**Very Easy:** up to 4 miles and 600 feet of elevation gain – for beginners.

**Easy:** up to 6 miles and 1200 feet gain – not difficult for occasional hikers.

**Moderate:** up to 10 miles with 1200 to 2500 feet gain – usually not difficult for regular hikers.

**Strenuous:** up to 12 miles and 3500 feet gain – for experienced hikers in good condition.

**Very Strenuous:** over 12 miles and/or over 3500 feet gain – only for experienced hikers in very good physical and aerobic condition.

## 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 15*

## WEBSITE HELP NEEDED

IATC wants to update its website and could use help. If you are knowledgeable and can help, please contact George Potter at 425-557-6554.



**HIKING INFORMATION**

*continued from page 14*

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

*NOTE: Group hikes do not lend themselves to dogs unless on designated dog hikes.*

**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!



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

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Issaquah Alps Trails Club

### 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.

Suggested donation levels:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The basic hiker.....\$25       | <input type="checkbox"/> The visionary.....\$100 and above  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The project supporter.....\$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> The adventurer.....\$250 and above |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The IATC sponsor.....\$75      |   |

**IMPORTANT:** This form and your donation and/or membership request form should be mailed to:  
IATC Foundation, P.O. Box 351, Issaquah, WA 98027