



January ♦ February ♦ March 2016

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

DAUBERT SPEAKS AT IATC MEETING

The annual meeting of the Issaquah Alps Trails club will be held at the Eagle Room of the Issaquah City Hall at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, January 28. The site, next to the city police station, was chosen in anticipation of a larger attendance not only for club elections and business, but also for the special guest, Karen Daubert, executive director of the Washington Trails Association.

Daubert will lead a discussion of future trails and possible acquisitions in the Mountains to Sound Greenway. Daubert, former deputy prosecuting attorney for King County, was also the founding director of the Seattle Parks Foundation before taking the reins for WTA.

“We hope our members will come to this important meeting,” said IATC President Dave Kappler, “not only to hear Daubert, but to have a say in the goals and direction of the club.”



BRIDGE NAMED FOR YOUNG VICTIM



Murat Danishek, a popular young man who loved the outdoors (along with his parents Steve and Dee), has posthumously had a major bridge on Tiger Mountain named for him. Murat, who battled a heart condition and many physical challenges, was 33 when he passed in January of 2013.

“My wife and I were looking for something to commemorate him and learned that a planned replacement bridge on Tiger lacked funding for engineering costs. So

we supplied that, working with Sam Jarrett and DNR,” father Steve stated.

Murat, a graduate of Shorecrest High and the University of Washington’s screen writers’ program, had plans to write. In recent years he was an ever popular bellhop at Seattle’s Westin Hotel.

“He was such a good kid. He had many friends and everyone liked him,” said his father Steve. “It was a suitable connection in our minds,”

continued on page 5

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.simpson6191@gmail.com
Send diskette or hard copy to post office box number above.

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(Note: All telephone numbers are area code 425 unless otherwise noted.)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By David Kappler

Our wonderful partnerships with various jurisdictions continues to pay dividends as we end a successful year and start a new one. I don't want to speak too soon or out of place, but there are promising developments in the City of Issaquah on the park acquisition front and commitment to increase restoration and maintenance of its park and open space parcels. This along with an increased interest within King County Parks and Washington State Department of Natural Resources will further explore cooperative efforts in planning for improved access and facilities to Grand Ridge County Park, West Tiger Natural Resources Conservation Area and Issaquah's Tradition Plateau.

New board members Kirt Lenard and Tom Anderson have been great assets working to bring the club into more modern times with technological improvements and exploring new ways to get our message delivered and people involved.

We are looking forward to our annual meeting and our special guest, Karen Daubert, executive director of the Washington Trails Association. Our mutual cooperation on the acquisition of the Squak property and the building of the Margaret's Way Trail by WTA must be repeated as we go forward together. We also hope to get updates from our other partners on what new initiatives they are planning and how we can be involved.

We also face potential challenges. Larry Phillips is retiring from the King County Council. He may have officially represented Magnolia, Ballard and Queen Anne Hill, but Larry represented every piece of land in King County that should be farmland, forestland, open space or park! Before Larry was elected to the council, he was the staff person for County Executive Randy Revelle, making Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park a reality, and while on the council was the leading force behind many Cougar and county-wide acquisitions, restorations and enhancements to our landscape. Others are stepping forward to fill Larry's shoes, and we will be there to help and keep them on the correct path to the best of our abilities.

★ ★ ★

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Betty Manning. Betty was a great supporter and participant in IATC, but left the public rabble-rousing to Harvey. She and Harvey were both original members of the North Cascades Conservation Council, and she edited its "The Wild Cascades" publication. Betty was brilliant and had amazing insight and knowledge, which she was not reluctant to voice. With her strong passions matching Harvey's, it must have made for a lively household. For most of her life she was a strong advocate for conservation and a great team member with a lifetime of accomplishments far greater than most of us know of or can match.



HIKERS CORNER

By Joe Toynbee

HELP WANTED!

The IATC has recently lost several veteran hike leaders. Replacements have been slow in coming forth. If you think you would like to try your hand at hike-leading, give me, Joe Toynbee, a call at 425-228-6118 or Jackie Hughes at 425-641-3815.

You could also attend one of our hike committee meetings, where we plan schedules for the upcoming quarter. Hike leading is not for everyone, but can be very rewarding if you give it a try.





AN OVERLOOKED OCTOGENARIAN

Betty Culbert, age 88, is the fifth octogenarian with an active presence in the Issaquah Alps Trails Club. (She was somehow overlooked in the last issue, which featured Lena Cushing, Bob Gross, Richard Mann and Joe Toynbee.)

While working for IBM in Washington D.C., Betty met Bill Culbert, a forest service officer, and after marriage embarked on travels around the world, primarily ten years in Geneva, Switzerland, where she gained a love of mountains and hiking. She also started raising her six kids (she and Bill now have 22 grandchildren from ages 3 to 30).

The couple settled in Bellevue in 1978 near Harvey Manning, and soon she was a frequent companion of Manning on Cougar Mountain hikes and in the battle for park status. She lives in Maple Valley now.

“Harvey was a good friend. I admired him a lot,” Culbert mused. She became active on club hikes in 1980 and was soon leading hikes herself. She became hikes chairman in 1981, served on several committees, and was on IATC’s board of directors in 1981-1982.

Besides IATC, Culbert was a member of Mountaineers and the Renton Ladies group, for which she has been leading hikes for 30 years. She has also been active for years with the Hard Core hikers group and their Northwest camping outings.

Betty’s favorite hike is the Naches Loop, a 5-mile trek on part of the Pacific Crest Trail off Chinook Pass. This used to be an annual outing for her. Her longest hike was 14 miles up the Elwah River with Bob Wood. The most difficult was a 7-mile trek to the rim of Mt. St. Helens, especially challenging due to the post-eruption terrain.

Culbert’s hiking stopped for a while last March when she fell and cracked her pelvis. Bouncing back from her injury now, she has several shorter outings every month, most recently 2.5 miles to Iron Goat off Highway 2 with the Renton Ladies.

“I have loved being here and going on so many hikes. My life would have been a lot different if I hadn’t joined IATC,” Culbert stated.

Today Betty prefers outings with the Renton Ladies and midweek hikes with IATC when offered, which somewhat limits her opportunities. In the past 35 years, Betty Culbert has been a great asset to IATC.

TIGER MT. HAS NEW PREDATOR

By Ed Vervoort

There is a new predator on Tiger Mountain, but you don’t have to worry about being attacked by it—unless you go into its lair. It doesn’t have any legs: The new Predator Trail is the first mountain bike-only downhill only trail on Tiger. If it were a ski trail, it would be Double Black Diamond (experts only) rated.

According to the Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance, “It features 1.8 miles of steeper and more challenging terrain, including a committing rock waterfall chute. This one-way descent is full of rock armored steeps, with some tight turns over fast and undulating terrain packed with obstacles that will keep even highly skilled riders challenged.

It starts from the upper Crossover Road (5500 Rd.) crossing over the Main Tiger Mountain Road

continued on page 5

BRIDGE NAMED *continued from page 1***Steve and Dee Danishek**

said both Danisheks, who frequently hike the trails on Tiger Mountain.

As the 220-foot bridge was assembled from 13 sections helicoptered in, the Danisheks hiked up the TMT to the site several times, bringing donuts to the construction crew.

The bridge has a plaque, which reads: “Murat’s Bridge, 1980-2013.”

Steve Danishek is president of TMA Travel and a busy travel analyst.

TIGER MOUNTAIN *continued from page 4*

(4000 Rd.), finally ending in the upper Tiger Summit parking lot near where the Iverson and Connector trails start.

You definitely don’t want to go for a hike on this trail (It is closed to hikers.), but it might be interesting to walk up the Main Tiger Mountain Road on a nice day and watch them drop from above, cross the road and descend some tight turns below. The difficulty of this trail, however, will limit the number of riders you are likely to see.

**IN MEMORIAM,
BETTY MANNING**

Betty Manning passed away on September 1, 2015 in Issaquah at the age of 91. Always in the shadow of her husband Harvey, she was an amazing free-spirited lady on her own.

She is survived by four children, three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Born in Gresham, Oregon, Betty attended Reed College and later the University of Washington, graduating with a degree in English. She married Harvey Manning soon after, and they made their home on Cougar Mountain. She was a librarian at several Seattle high schools and later was head librarian in other area high schools.

Betty and Harvey camped, hiked and climbed many of the major peaks the Pacific Northwest. Their children were also taken on many wilderness adventures and learned great stories to tell. Always a free thinker and a fiery conservationist, Betty was also an artist of paintings and wool designs. She helped Harvey with many of his writings. For the Issaquah Alps Trails Club, which Harvey founded, at various times she served on the board, as hikes coordinator, and as editor of the *Alpiner*. Later, she was the editor of “The Wild Cascades,” the journal of the North Cascades Conservation Council.

She will be missed by many old friends and associates.

— Marty Hanson

CONFLUENCE PARK TRANSFORMS CITY

Tucked next to the heart of downtown Issaquah is the new crown jewel of its park system: Confluence Park. Located where Issaquah Creek and its east fork meet, this scenic park was started more than twenty years ago when the city began acquiring land along the confluence, combining Margaret's Meadows and Cybil-Madeline Park with the Tolle Anderson homestead to create the new 15.5 acre park.

The park includes a picnic shelter, play area, community garden, restrooms, and various trails. Future development will add a bridge, creek view trails, playground, and parking area.

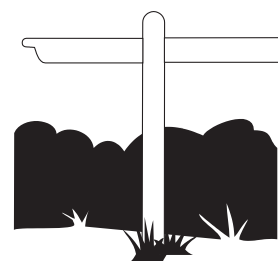
This summer, the City of Issaquah broke ground on a massive ecological restoration project at Confluence Park. The project will restore aquatic and riparian wildlife habitat, including naturally meandering curves, install large woody debris, and replace invasive weeds with native plants.

The Greenway Trust is teaming up with the city this fall to help plant more than 6,000 native trees and shrubs at Confluence Park, in a long-term effort supported by the citizens of Issaquah, King County Conservation District, Washington State legislature, Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, and Carter Subaru. Plantings will help increase native plant diversity, canopy cover, and tree regeneration, all of which will benefit native salmon populations.

Confluence Park is the crown jewel, not only of Issaquah's park system, but also of the green necklace encircling the city. That network of parks, open space, and trails is part of what defines the excellent quality of life in Issaquah.

In the decades ahead, this open space will only become more important as Issaquah grows. As the business district evolves, more local residents will be able to connect with their natural environment at Confluence Park.

(This article is reprinted and edited from the Mountains to



MIDDLE FORK CONSERVATION

The Trust for Public Land recently conserved a key piece of land at the entrance to the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley, next to the Mailbox Peak Trailhead. This 80-acre forested parcel surrounds the Middle Fork Road serving as the new gateway to this spectacular destination.

As the first step of a two-step process, TPL assumed ownership of the property formerly owned by Buse Timber Company. The next step will occur near the end of the year when the property is conveyed to the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and King County for inclusion into the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Resources Conservation Area.

“King County and the Trust for Public Land deserve a huge thanks for their valuable work on this crucial property. Along with the continuing efforts of Forterra and the Greenway Trust, we are all working together to ensure we fully conserve this river valley for future generations,” said Doug McClelland, Assistant Region Manager at DNR.

The parcel is a gateway to dozens of trails, picnic sites, and river access points, and an important piece of a connected corridor of wildlife habitat. TPL is working with the Greenway Trust, DNR, and King County to determine its ecological and recreational opportunities. Old roads through the mature rainforest of the property could provide opportunities for accessible trails, and state ownership of this property will allow for expanded parking at the extremely popular new Mailbox Peak Trailhead.

(This story is reprinted from the Greenway's “Connections” publication.)

BOARD TALKS SOCIAL MEDIA

The board of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club met on October 28, with half of the meeting devoted to a presentation about FISH and the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery by Larry Franks. (See story on p. 8)

Ed Vervoort discussed the new Murat Bridge on the Tiger Mountain Trail, funded by a gift from the Murat family.

Social media was a large topic at the meeting. The club's photo contest was a successful venture with hundreds of voters during Salmon Days. (See the club website or p. 12 for the four winning photographs and related details.) Kirt Lenard suggested that future contests should be simpler, with fewer categories than the four this year and a longer time for submission of photos.

Rachel Hopkins reported that the committee's efforts to attract Facebook friends have yielded 400-500 faithful followers. Sixty percent of those are female, and 50% are in the 30-50 age range. Ninety percent live in the Issaquah area. Pictures of the new bridge and a short video on salmon were the most popular topics.

Efforts to reach younger participants, Hopkins suggested, might require utilization of Instagram.

Ken Konigsmark, in a presentation mode, made recent presentations on the IATC and the Mountains to Sound Greenway, and had another slated to the Snoqualmie Ridge Homeowners Association last month.

Karen Daubert of the Washington Trails Association is expected to be a speaker at IATC's annual meeting scheduled for January 28, 2016. Her topic is "The Future of Trails." Possible need of a larger meeting site is being explored. The meeting will include election of club officers and three board members.



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TIME TO RENEW?

By Jackie Hughes

Many folks like to renew their memberships in January. It's easy to remember and gets it done for the year. Unsure when you last donated? If you receive a paper Alpinist, the date of your last contribution will be on your mailing label. In order to be considered an active member, you must have made a contribution of \$20 or more in the last 18 months. ALL active members will be mailed a postcard invitation to our annual meeting in January. Only active members are eligible to vote.

Why renew, you might ask? The Issaquah Alps Trails Club is your advocate for our local wildlands, trails, and protection of our native habitat. We support efforts to expand and protect public lands and trails and are strong advocates for wildlife and the environment. We represent these goals politically with the various public agencies, and offer multiple free guided hikes each week to educate and engage the public.

If it's been a while since you remember sending us a contribution, why not do it now and get on the easy January schedule? You can renew through PayPal on our website, issaquahalps.org, or send a check to IATC, PO Box 351, Issaquah, 98027. We promise to use your money wisely in support of our goals.

FACEBOOK WANTS PICS

The Issaquah Alps Trails Club is inviting members to email hiking photos so that we can highlight your images on our Facebook page. Please include your name as well as the name and location of the hike. As we update our Facebook page and list upcoming hikes, we would like to include a photo or two of our hikes so that the general public can see where we adventure and enjoy our scenic grandeur.

Send your photos to Rachel Hopkins at
director4@issaquahalps.org.



LOCAL HATCHERY SERVES VITAL ROLE

By Doug Simpson

Supporting streams has always been a key activity for the Issaquah Alps Trails Club. Board members thus benefited greatly from a presentation at the October 22 board meeting by Larry Franks of FISH (the Friends of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery).

The hatchery and its fall return of the coho and chinook salmon are, of course, the central focus of the annual Salmon Days Festival the first weekend of October each year. The Issaquah hatchery, the most visited of the state's 87, is vital to the health of the salmon industry in Washington State.

The hatcheries, like so many other state organizations, are greatly underfunded with just a few full-time staff, so they rely on some 5000 volunteers statewide, who in 2014 hosted 9,310 visitors on volunteer-led tours, oversaw 2,519 students who made in-class presentations, and had a hand in nearly 18,000 science fairs and other special events.

State hatcheries, in addition to funding that has been reduced five years in a row, according to Franks, face a number of great challenges—urbanization, climate change (Water temperature is consistently rising, a problem for salmon, a cold-water fish), overfishing of forage fish, and invasive species.

FISH and the hatcheries rely on partnerships and outreach efforts. The Issaquah hatchery receives \$30,000 annually from the City of Issaquah, a \$30,000 grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Federation, over \$20,000 from the government and memberships, \$12,000 from the City of Sammamish and \$1500 from the Washington Foundation for Environment. It isn't enough for all that needs to be done, however.

Coho salmon spend 1-3 years at sea, chinook 3-5 years. Most head north into cooler waters. Besides fishermen, they must survive predators such as sea lions, whales and bears. Still 80% of salmon and steelhead come from the hatcheries, even after their 42-mile journey from the ocean, through Shilshole, the locks, two lakes, the Sammamish River and, finally, Issaquah Creek to their hatchery of origin.

Nearly 23,000 coho and over 5,000 chinook from 2014 are projected to return. Between the 80% from the hatcheries and 20% from fishing, the salmon industry generates \$1 billion in annual spending on sport fishing and \$3 billion from commercial fishing. And think of the value of all the salmon consumed in restaurants and other food processing.

The hatcheries and FISH are critically important to the economy of Washington State. For more information, google the FISH website. FISH, certainly in Issaquah, is always looking for more volunteer friends.

REPORT A PROBLEM?

What do you do if you discover a situation, problem or concern when hiking in the Issaquah Alps? Reporting an issue can be difficult. When hiking on Squak Mountain, for example, you may be on property managed by the City of Issaquah, King County Parks or Washington State Parks. And people frequently talk about "Tiger Mountain State Park" instead of West Tiger Natural Resources Conservation Area or Tiger Mountain State Forest.

The same confusion can occur on all our public lands in the Mountains to Sound Greenway corridor. We have set up an email address that you can use to report something that just doesn't seem right. We will help to figure out what jurisdiction should respond, and we can help get notification to the correct person in the responsible agency. Of course, in the case of an emergency, calling 911 would be the appropriate response.

To report a concern please email us at:
Concerns@IssaquahAlps.org.

THE END OF PRECIPICE TRAIL

By John Johnson

The Issaquah Alps Trails Club was founded on dreams of trails. One of those dreams was of a trail across the northern face of Cougar Mountain—the Precipice—from Lakemont Boulevard to Big Tree Ridge at the extreme northeastern corner of the mountain, then running south along the not quite so steep eastern face to Wilderness Peak.

Some parts of this trail were never built, while others were parts of other trails. The Precipice Trail was the part west of Big Tree Ridge. This was an extremely challenging proposition, as the northern face of Cougar is very steep, and most of the less steep sections were already occupied by houses. The only section of this ever built was the Precipice Trail, west of Big Tree Ridge.

It started from Big Tree Ridge at the extreme northeastern corner of Cougar Mountain, crossed AA Creek, and ran nearly level to a spur that juts out towards the Summerhill development. Here it turned west and ran across the steep north face of Cougar to a trailhead on Kline Hill Road. At one point there was a route to Peggy's Trail near Lewis Creek, but that was wiped out by the Montreaux development. The Precipice Trail was also accessible by a trail that came up AA Creek from a trailhead at Summerhill.

The slopes in this particular section are challenging because they are formed in weak sediments deposited at the edge of a glacially formed lake. Crossing AA Creek was especially challenging, as it runs right against the base of Big Tree Ridge, and the constant undermining of the soft bank has created a slope too steep for building trail. However, at the head of the ravine a large block of soil that had partially slumped into the creek permitted descent by means of a steep switchback. Known as Harvey's Mudslide, it was so steep and slippery that a rope was added to facilitate passage. This was so foreboding that some hikers balked at attempting it.

Just past the Summerhill spur, the Precipice Trail split into Ralph Owen's Hi-Line and Harvey Manning's Lo-Line, though the latter seems to have been lost in

the early 1990s. Both routes reached a trailhead on Kline Hill Road. This was very unfavorably situated, as the road is steep, narrow, winding, and busy. There was barely room to park two cars. It was not a popular hike terminus. Charles McCrone and Scott Semans tried to keep the route open, but when they stopped it was quickly reclaimed by nature.

In 2000, Bob Gross began a trail from Newport Way up to the Summerhill Spur. He and I (with assistance from Semans and Jackie Hughes) then began improving the Precipice Trail from the spur back to the Big Tree Ridge Trail, generally widening and flattening it. This is also where we developed techniques of surveying trail that we used to improve other trails in the region.

A side trail from Gross' trail linked back to Summerhill, providing a loop. We were quite pleased when the improvements encouraged some of the neighbors to start exploring the trail, and I had some hope the PT might be viable as a neighborhood trail. However, the side trail had to be closed due to objections from a neighbor, and thereafter usage dwindled.

The key problem with the Precipice Trail was always getting access out of the ravine of AA Creek. Harvey's Mudslide was never satisfactory, and extensive exploration showed the alternatives were worse. The only good possibility up the west bank to SE 60th Street is blocked by a row of houses. When King Country Parks acquired Big Tree Ridge and rebuilt it, the PT was cut-off because of a policy of not connecting with trails on private property.

Last winter part of Harvey's Mudslide was undermined by the ongoing erosion, and early this year a falling tree tore out a large section of trail. This is unlikely to be repaired, as Gross and I have gotten too frail and decrepit for this work, and there seems little point to it. As the sword ferns close in, it seems we have reached the end of this trail.



CHAPTER 10: IATC HISTORY MID 1988–THRU MID 1989

‘SUPER HIKE’ EVOLVES INTO GREENWAY

By Doug Simpson

Len Gardner and Don DeWitt set out to explore the Pratt Valley, new territory for the club. Accessing there other than summer required using rafts or canoes up the Middle Fork. They were in awe of some of the big trees. They found two red cedars 40 feet around and a 29-foot Douglas fir, larger than any others found in King County.

In his 37th report to members, Harvey Manning discussed some of the developers' plans to carve up Cougar Mountain. One proposed "highway" would have sliced through the west fork of Tibbetts Creek (Bear Ridge Trail area). "Village developers might contemplate a four-lane highway up through this magnificence." Fortunately, that never happened.

However, plans for a roadway up through the Lewis Creek Gorge did come to pass. Today it's called Lakemont Boulevard, as we all know so well. I guess you can't win all the land battles.

Planning was underway for a 20-25-mile "Super Hike" from Lake Washington through the three primary Alps and on to Preston. It was a celebration of sorts. "Developers negotiate with us because they can no longer run rampant. Thousands of persons have hiked with us, seen our Alps and become political supporters," Manning wrote. A planning meeting was held at Jack Hornung's house in Seattle, with the hike scheduled for October 29, 1988.

After years of "benign neglect" of Squak Mountain, members led by Hornung planned to "turn up the heat" and instigate a cadre of hikers to make the mountain better known and more used.

Manning's 38th report, in early 1989, called his final one, signified the end of his reign as club president for its first ten years. He extended the gavel to David Kappler, hereafter being labeled chairman on the club's Apparatus list. In the column itself, Manning went to great length to praise the ongoing work of

State Land commissioner Brian Boyle, citing his role in establishing four Natural Resource Conservation Areas, one of course on Tiger Mountain. New board members for IATC were Ralph Eaking and Jack Hornung. Vice-president was John Seebeth, and Berni Dionne stayed on as club treasurer. After Connie Down stepped down as club secretary by summer, Suzy Roth stepped up.

Kappler wrote a lengthy "state of the union" address in which he touched on all bases of the Issaquah Alps. He outlined five major points in need of support, including Cougar park inclusion of Protector Ridge, the West Tibbetts and Claypit gorges and Big Tree Ridge and the original Military Road.

The "Super Hike" metamorphosed into the first Grand Traverse. It was slow to get off the ground though, with just seven hikers signed up until articles in the Seattle PI and Issaquah Press led to an explosive sign up of 43 participants for the now 28-mile traverse. The 16-hour outing in the end saw 24 of 40 hikers finish the trek.

As Hornung's post-hike article stated: "I regaled my captive audience with grand visions for the future—our path today part of a 'Sound to Mountains' route, a 'feeder trail' linking Seattle metropolis with the Pacific Crest Trail." That prescient statement, dear readers, was the beginning of the push to today's glorious Mountains to Sound Greenway!

As president, Dave Kappler's first Alpiner report, in the spring of 1989, he discussed member involvement in many possible ways. He stated: "Preserving this kind of experience (hiking special trails) makes it all the more essential that we keep an eye on those who control our wild areas."

Hornung may have taken the first step toward developing an I-90 greenway, but Harvey Manning

continued on page 11

CHAPTER 10 *continued from page 10*

was thinking along the same lines when he wrote: “The I-90 corridor must become an increasingly more important emphasis of the trails club.” Manning advocated the establishment of more trails clubs and a unified alliance “to provide a base for citizen action.” President no longer, but advocate still!

On June 4, 1989, for the seventh year, the IATC celebrated Cougar Mountain history with guided history and nature walks as well as work parties.

In his second report as president, Dave Kappler sought to enlist an action group of 100 to step to the fore when issues needed to be addressed to governmental agencies or for general projects. He also noted King County’s administrative rule to keep bicycles out of the Cougar Mountain park and to bring back hikers who had departed because of the previous bike dominance.

The second Grand Traverse was announced for September 30, 1989 in cooperation with the City of Issaquah and the Salmon Days festival. “Our purpose is to provide a special hike to educate the public in the uniqueness of the Issaquah Alps,” Hornung wrote. The distance was pegged at 28 miles with about a mile of elevation gain.

The “world premiere” of the Tiger Mountain Trail was scheduled for September 9. Two years in the making, the TMT was a project overseen by IATC’s Chief Ranger, Bill Longwell. (Note: a photograph of Longwell was the first ever for the *Alpiner*.)

A new hiking idea was to go up West Tiger I in the evening to have an overview of area fireworks displays on July 4. . . . The Snoqualmie Valley Trails Club was formulated in the fall of 1989 with Pat Brevington as present. . . . A series of walks in conjunction with Volkssport were planned for Salmon Days weekend. . . . Members were warned of the danger of tick bites and lyme disease.

In the fall, President Kappler urged support of the King County Open Space bond, which “includes some very important acquisitions in the Issaquah Alps.”

Manning’s “Thus Spake Me” message this quarter expounded on his predictions. Among them: “Forest lands will be recognized as too important to the national, state and local society to be managed by free enterprise.” He also foresaw more independence and financial latitude to protect state lands.

Laurene McLane editorialized on the long-standing (still today, of course) issue of Tiger Mountain trail use. She urged compatability with 1) the land itself and suitable recreational use; 2) with neighboring land use (concerns of noise, danger and trespass); and 3) with other recreational uses on the site. DNR needs to develop a recreational policy, she urged, that meets these compatabilities.

An article by Dennis Burk urged development of four trailheads to access the beauty of Grand Ridge. Hikes coordinator Gail Palm tallied January to June hikes: 171 hikes, 932 participants, and average of 5 per hike with a high of 214 hikers (8 average) in May to a low of 103 hikers (4 average) in March.

New hikers in the past 18 months included *Peggy Barchi, Laurence Baum, Leight Borton, Greg Brigance, Dennis Burk, Clifton Cooper, Dan DeWitt, Berni Dionne, John and Joan Held, Jack Hornung, John Kaald, Carol Meyer, George Mischler, Maury Muzzy, Gus Nelson, Linda Reiter, John Seebeth, Tom Wood and Archie Wright.*



PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS



**Tiger Mountain - Ted Eckert -
"Above the Fog"**



**Grand Ridge - Chris Clark -
"Black Tailed Deer"**



**Squak Mountain - Kristy Swanson -
"Fungi Salad"**



**Cougar Mountain - Chris Clark -
"Coal Creek Falls, Early Spring"**

HIKING INSTRUCTIONS FOR MURATS BRIDGE



MURATS BRIDGE

Murat's Bridge replaces the old Lower High Point Creek Bridge which washed away in November 2009. At 220 feet, it is a steel bridge of 13 segments spanning High Point Creek on the Tiger Mountain Trail.

Hiking Instructions:

Drive east on I-90 to Exit 20. Turn right and park by White Gate on the left. (Discover Pass required; if you don't have a pass, park along the shoulder across the road)

Walk 5 minutes down the road past the White Gate to the High Point Trail.

Walk up the High Point Trail.

At about 10 minutes, pass the Lingering Trail Junction sign. Keep going straight.

At about another 10 minutes, pass the Dwight's Way Junction sign. Keep going straight.

At about another 5 minutes, arrive at the Tiger Mountain Trail Junction sign.

Turn right and go another 5 minutes to MURATS BRIDGE.

So it is about 1.25 miles or 35-40 minutes. Muddy when wet.

Also accessible from the main High Point Trailhead Trailhead (Exit 20, turn right, turn right again and drive about 2 miles to the parking lot. Then hike east on the TMT for 2.5 miles.



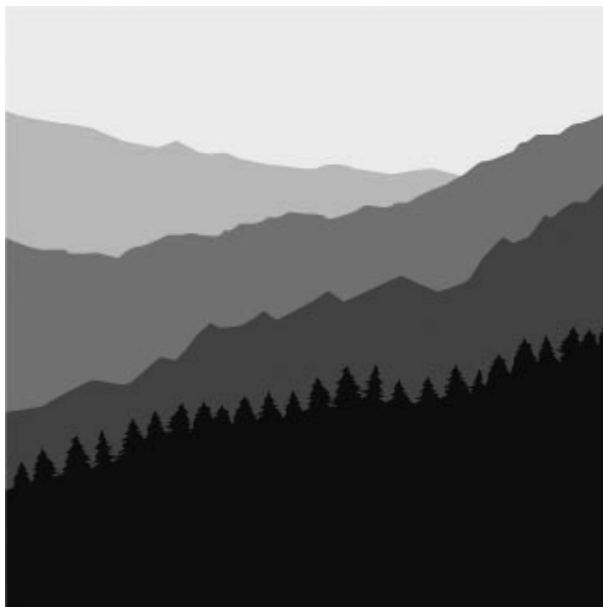
Hiking Information

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.

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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16

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