



## **BOARD CHANGES IMMINENT**

By Doug Simpson

The annual meeting of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club, set for January 25, will bring about a new look for the club. Stepping down will be President Kirt Lenard, after two years, Secretary Kathleen Petty, after nine years, and board member Gail Folkins, after two years.

In addition to electing their replacements, Mary Jo Barlow, picked at the October 26 meeting to finish the year as treasurer, will be up for a full year's election. The position had been open for nearly two years, with Lenard handling club finances in the meantime.

After sizable gatherings for the last two annual meetings, sites were considered for the January meeting, but on balance it was decided to once again hold the meeting at the railway depot in downtown Issaquah.

Due to apparent oversight on the annual meeting date (bylaws actually had it set for the second Thursday, though in practice it has generally been the fourth Thursday like all other quarterly meetings), a bylaws amendment will be on the annual meeting agenda to correct the problem.

Lenard expressed concern about the club's budget, with several significant bills yet to be paid. Austerity was discussed with less spending projected from limiting the size of the Alpiner to possibly discontinuing or altering the club's scholarship program.

An ongoing club issue is monitoring the club's membership base, partly so as not to subsidize lapsed members from club mailings. Suzanne Kagen and David Dunphy will be working on a Quickbooks data base while eyeing future use of a Customer Relation Database (CRM).

Looking farther to the future, Tom Anderson proposed planning to celebrate IATC's 40th anniversary—it was founded in 1979. President Lenard named Anderson chairman of the committee.

Reports given at the meeting, besides the above, included the club's improved Salmon Days booth, the hiking program, trailwork, website, and social media. Anderson noted that Facebook likes were slowing at 750, but he was look to reach 1000 in the near future.

The meeting started at 6:30 and ended at 8:45.

## **IATC NEEDS A SECRETARY**

As Kathleen Petty steps down after nine years of dedicated service as IATC's secretary, the club needs someone to step up to the position. While secretarial skills would be welcome, more important is dedication and reliability. Contact club President Kirt Lenard or Executive Director Suzanne Kagen if you are interested. The secretary is on the club's executive committee and is a full voting member of the club.

## **ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA SET**

"40 Years of IATC Successes in 3 Minutes" is the theme and will set the tone for the annual meeting of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club on Thursday January 25 at the historic Issaquah Train Depot. Keynote speaker will be Issaquah Mayor Mary Lou Pauly.

Social time for the evening will begin at 6:30 p.m., with the program beginning at 7. Featured will be a panel presentation on "Community, Conservancy & Capacity: Loving our Public Lands to Death" with Laurie Benson of the Department of Natural Resources, John Ernster of Washington State Parks, Jeff Watling of City of Issaquah Parks and Ingrid Lunden, Conservation Futures Coordinator for King County Parks

IATC's business meeting follows with election of officers and board members and reports to membership on advocacy, finances, membership and the hiking program. For more information, contact Kirt Lenard at [President@issaquahalps.org](mailto:President@issaquahalps.org).

# The Apparatus

## CLUB FOUNDER

Harvey Manning

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Suzanne Kagen • 681-6739 • executive.director@IATC.org

## PRESIDENT

Kirt Lenard • 894-7790 • kdlenard@gmail.com@IATC.org

## VICE PRESIDENT OF ISSUES AND ADVOCACY

David Kappler • 392-3571 • DavidKappler@hotmail.com

## VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS

*Open*

## INTERIM TREASURER

Kirt Lenard • 894-7790 • kdlenard@gmail.com@IATC.org

## SECRETARY

Kathleen Petty • 885-4349 • pettykathleen95@gmail.com

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tom Anderson • 206-245-3787 • tnetherly@comcast.net

David Dunphy • 206-999-4797 • david.dunphy@gmail.com

Gail Folkins • 394-8657 • gailfolkins@gmail.com

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

George Potter • 557-6554 • george.q.potter@gmail.com

John Sherwin • 785-8819 • john@johnsherwin.net

Doug Simpson • 823-0747 • dsimpson6191@gmail.com

Ed Vervoort • 206-523-6461 • evervoort@comcast.net

Steve Williams • 453-8997 • SWilliams453@yahoo.com

## LEGAL ADVISOR

Jim Hilton

## HIKES COORDINATION

George Potter • 557-6554 • george.q.potter@gmail.com

## WEBMASTER

George Potter • 557-6554 • george.q.potter@gmail.com

## CHIEF CARTOGRAPHER

Harry Morgan • 432-3249 • hcmorgan@gmail.com

## THE ALPINER

Doug Simpson • 823-0747 • dsimpson6191@gmail.com

## ADVOCATES

Cougar Mountain: Steve Williams • 453-8997 • SWilliams453@yahoo.com

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

Tiger Mountain: Ed Vervoort • 206-523-6461 • evervoort@comcast.net

Rattlesnake Mountain/Taylor Mountain: Ralph Owen • 270-3322

Squak Mountain: Cathy Brandt • 430-9877

## VOLUNTEER TRAIL MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR

*Open*

## 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](http://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.simpson6191@gmail.com](mailto:d.simpson6191@gmail.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 Kirt Lenard

It has been an honor to have served as President of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club for the past two years. During that time, I have done my best to strengthen the support for the club's mission of preservation and protection of green spaces within the Issaquah Alps. I am pleased with the progress made, although much more remains to be done.

It's important to note that even as we begin preparations to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the founding of the club, it is critically important to be aware of the need to plan for the next forty years. This means continuing to bring the operations of the club into the digital age by updating our online presence and making sure we communicate and share our work with our members and the general public in ways that effectively reach the broadest possible audience.

Even more importantly, it means reaching out across generations and into a wider, more diverse cross section of groups within our community. This is an important and difficult challenge, but one that will ensure our mission continues so that future generations can enjoy the benefits of living in harmony with our natural environment.

We have several initiatives underway and others in planning for the coming years. We will also be adding some new faces (and perspectives) to the club leadership, and while that's encouraging, we are always looking for more volunteers and funding to keep things moving forward.

After my term of office passes, I plan to remain active with the club in other ways. I hope that many members and other lovers of the Issaquah Alps will also pitch in, as time and resources permit, and contribute by volunteering and financially supporting the next forty years of IATC!

See you on the trails!



## ADVOCACY REPORT: FALL 2017

By David Kappler, Vice-President for Advocacy

With publishing deadlines and the months this report covers, it is not always as up to date as we would like it to be. We will be emailing advocate reports as needed—and please attend our annual meeting at the Issaquah Train Depot on Thursday, January 25 to get more updates from representatives of Washington State Parks, Department of Natural Resources, King County Parks and City of Issaquah Parks.

Both State Parks and DNR have projects and associated staffing in the capital budget, which has not passed the legislature yet. This is causing project delays and reduction of staff associated with various projects. We hope this budget can get passed soon in order to get needed projects back in the various work programs.

We are working with Friends of Lake Sammamish State Park to come up with a description of trail and restoration projects that should be evaluated in the EIS. Projects which have their environmental work done are much more able to get funding from a variety of sources.

Perhaps our longest-running effort is to deal with the Bergsma property on Newport Way that adjoins King County's Big Tree Ridge trailhead and Issaquah's Harvey Manning Park at Talus (not to be confused with the Harvey Manning trailhead on Anti-Aircraft Peak well above HM Park and the Big Tree Ridge trailhead). The property has been owned by Bill Bergsma Sr. heirs for 28 years and has been for sale that long. Because of a very difficult access problem across a very steep slope, numerous developers have found the property unable to financially pencil out. Windward Real Estate Services has an option on the property and believes that in the present market development of the property is financially viable. Originally we believed development of the property would have much less impact and between establishment of several trails and protection of critical open space parcels the development was only marginally acceptable.

As more detailed engineering work was done and  
*continued on page 5*

EDITORIAL:**HAPPY TRAILS & DOG HIKING**

Hiking is enjoyable not only for humans, but also for our canine friends. My pug Theo gladly walks the trails around Snoqualmie with me. We see not only the woods and the wildlife, but also other hikers and their dogs. Most of the time, these are pleasant encounters. Other times, Hiking is enjoyable not only for humans, but also for our canine friends. My pug Theo gladly walks the trails around Snoqualmie with me. We see not only the woods and the wildlife, but also other hikers and their dogs. Most of the time, these are pleasant encounters. Other times, the trail is dotted with colored “poop” bags or I watch a dog navigate a steep trail he’s not ready for. With these moments in mind, here are some best practices for hiking with a canine companion on our public lands.

**Use the leash, in consideration of other hikers.** On state and county trails, having a leashed dog is a rule enforceable by parks officials (the exception being the area’s off-leash parks). I’ve seen many an off-leash dog bound toward me on a trail followed by an owner saying “he/she is really friendly.” Most of the time this true, but not always. The leash rule keeps the dog in the owner’s control and prevents encounters with other hikers, who may not be comfortable with dogs.

**Use the leash, in consideration of other animals.** A leashed dog confronted with a loose dog is at a disadvantage, putting both dog owners at risk if things turn aggressive. Horses are often weary of dogs – when a hiker with a dog spots a rider, keep the dog close to avoid spooking the horse, which is a prey animal. A leashed dog is also less likely to disturb wildlife, or be harmed by it.

**Pick up the poop.** Keep the trails clean with poop bags. And rather than leaving bags alongside the trail

for pick-up on the way down, double-bag them and take them along (or fashion a way for the dog to carry them on a harness or in a pack). Too often bags left for pickup on the way down remain forgotten on the ground or in a tree branch, creating an unsightly and unsanitary addition to the trail.

**Gauge each dog’s fitness level.** Poo Poo Point on Tiger Mountain is a popular destination, yet can be a challenging one. Hikers need to consider if their dogs can navigate the elevation and obstacles each trail presents, such as steps, rocks, logs, or water, and train for difficult hikes over time, just as hikers prepare themselves.

**Bring water and snacks** – for the dog. Lightweight, portable water bowls are available in outdoor recreation and pet stores and are easy to bring along. Don’t assume there will be water along the way, and be prepared to share with the dog. Snacks, meanwhile, help refocus the dog on its owner in case of trail distractions.

Ask to approach another hiker’s dog. Although it’s fun to admire one another’s canine companions, a safety best practice is to ask before petting a dog or letting one’s own dog approach it.

Follow the rules of the hike. IATC hosts many types of hikes, including dog hikes of varying levels. Hikes that aren’t designated as dog hikes won’t be appropriate for hikers to bring their dogs. Contact the hike leader in advance with any questions.

Happy trails with your four-legged friends!

— Gail Folkins

---

## LOT NOW PAVED!

If you haven’t been there lately, the High Point Trailhead has finally been paved. The project also paved the long-time bump-infested roadway off the I-90 interchange. Check it out!

---

## HIKES REPORT

In 2017’s third quarter, IATC held 29 hikes with 208 participants, George Potter reported, an average of 7.1 participants per hike, fairly consistent with previous quarters.

Members totaled 126 participants, non-members 70, with 12 others not identified. Seven hikes were cancelled or lacked the three required participants.

One injury occurred, a cut forehead that required stitches.



## WATLING SHAPES PARK

By Doug Simpson

It's been a great, fast-moving year," said Jeff Watling, as he looked back on his first year as chairman of the Issaquah Parks Department. "I'm really glad to be here and be a part of this."

Watling reviewed Parks' three capital projects under his stewardship: Confluence Park, Tibbett's Valley State Park and Grand Ridges' Central Park. All the while, Watling and his staff have been working on Parks' Strategic Plan.

The Central Park field expansion is the most recent project, scheduled for completion this December. The second athletic field there has synthetic turf and lighting, making the area expanded now to four synthetic, multi-sport fields. The new field is expected to be used for baseball, soccer, football, lacrosse and even cricket. Several parking areas ring the field complex.

Another site, called Pad 4, is undeveloped, but in the plans for future expansion. It will feature family use such as picnics and has a great view to the south.

The second project, competed in October, is a skate park at the northwest corner of the Tibbetts's Valley complex. It is situated across from the transit center so accessible by busses, and has ample parking as well.

The third project was the completion in the spring of the downtown Confluence Park with construction of bridges and other improvements.

A community survey was recently completed to help provide the 42-person parks staff a vision for 2018 and beyond. Funding for future projects comes from grants, park bonds and some fees.

"The Strategic Plan will hopefully give us a game plan for future projects," Watling said. "We're anxious to find out what the community wants. This will enable us to set priorities and to provide for multiple sports interests that don't need to compete against each other."

Watling speaks with pride and enthusiasm about the Issaquah area, surrounded as it is by open spaces and green space. "The city identity is tied in to parks and recreation," he pointed out.

## MECHLER GETS NEW POSITION

By Doug Simpson

Matt Mechler, long-time Open Space Steward for the City of Issaquah, has a new title, as Open Space has been combined with Parks Maintenance. He is now designated as the Parks Operations supervisor as of November 16. Mechler has eight full-time staff, with seasonal employees added during the summer months.

With other projects largely completed, Mechler's next big job is rebuilding the Swamp Creek Trail on Tiger Mountain. The trail, perhaps 25 years old, has been closed annually from October 15 to April 15. The boardwalk is deteriorating rapidly and is often very slippery.

During 2018 the trail, in sections, will be given fiberglass decking that will require little maintenance and will not rot. As a result, it will probably be open year round. During construction, closures are possible.

Recently, Mechler and crew have been doing restoration work at the Sammamish Cove Park. Working with Mountains to Sound Greenway, they have planted 1400 trees and shrubs, with the city aided by the Greenway and

Carter Subaru (tree donors).

Other projects in recent months include trail work at Park Pointe aided by WTA, putting the finishing touches on the family-oriented Squak Valley Park and rebuilding a bridge on the Squak Mountain Access Trail.

Mechler proudly displayed the new Issaquah Trails Map, produced by the City of Issaquah. It includes parts of Cougar, Tiger and Grand Ridge as well as the more central Squak Mountain. A very useful map for Issaquah area hikers, it is available at the Issaquah City Hall and the Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center on Gilman Boulevard as well as online.

---

*Advocacy Report cont. from page 3*

shared, it became clear that the impacts of development were much greater than first expected. The road up from Newport requires much of the steep, heavily-forested slope along Newport to be cleared. Slope stabilization will require 1,200 feet of retaining walls up to 20 feet in height. The actual proposed maximum road grade does not reach to the top of the slope so parts of the building area need to be lowered to match the top of the road. It is estimated that over 80,000 cubic yards of material would need to be exported from the site, resulting in thousands of truck trips to an unknown location.

We are strongly supporting a combined city and county joint acquisition of the site for park and open space uses. A very well-organized group of neighbors in Talus and along Newport Way has formed a group, SaveCougarMountain.org, to work for public acquisition of this key property.

Please feel free to contact me with questions or concerns—VP Advocacy David Kappler at 425-652-2753.

## WRITER DETAILS SEARCHES & RESCUE

By Doug Simpson

Whenever we embark on a hike, there is always a chance of an accident, serious or otherwise. IATC has never experienced a fatality or life-changing accident. But in the case of a fall from on high or an injury requiring medical assistance, we need help.

Bree Loewen, an area resident, is a volunteer for Search and Rescue (SAR) who has written a book describing her life and experiences with SAR. Entitled "Found: A Life in Mountain Rescue," the book is published by the Mountaineers (priced at \$17.95 in softback.). It details a number of experiences on trails visited by IATC, and it is well worth the read.

Loewen is married and has a young daughter. Sometimes when she is called, she must make hasty arrangements and often break other promises and commitments to do so, as do all the SAR volunteers.

"I've gotten used to SAR's cadence, where an average call lasts six hours, and it's not uncommon for a single rescue to last for three or four days; and there are no shifts, I get called out for everything," Loewen explains.

In the first half of the book, Loewen describes rescues or recoveries of the deceased on Granite Mountain, Rattlesnake Ledge, Chair Peak near Alpentel, and Red Mountain and Otter Falls in areas deep within in the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River.

The call to Granite Mountain was to rescue a man who had a heart attack near the summit. "Granite is not a climb, it's just a hike. It has about 3,800 feet of gain and it's so familiar," Loewen writes. "I've done dozens of rescues there."

She promised the victim that her crew was a good one, the best crew on call that day. "So if you want to live," she told him, "you have to focus on what you want to live for and not give up. Promise me you'll do that, and I promise you we'll bring our A-game today too."

The descent down the familiar but challenging trail with all its switchbacks and boulders is well described. The rescue was successful and the hiker survived.

Loewen describes the interaction and friendships with her rescue mates, including her husband Russell. They are mostly well-educated and dedicated to the task at hand. "We (of SAR) have about sixty climbers total, and

*continued next page*

## SQUAK FIREPLACE STORY

*(Ed. Note: Anyone who hikes Squak Mountain is aware of the fireplace remains from a once house there. Here is the story by Bill Longwell of what happened to that house.)*

By Bill Longwell

The Bullitt House was standing virtually intact when I first viewed it on a February 22, 1966 hike. The roof covered all of the present concrete floor, with most of the partitions attached, most of the plumbing visible in the walls (I also remember a water heater and a bathtub), and few people ever seemed to reach the site.

Later I led a group of Earth Day I hikers to the Bullitt House on April 23, 1971. Most of what I viewed in 1966 still stood. We walked into the service road on an old trail from an area on the SE May Valley Road where Washington State Parks plans to build a trailhead someday.

It wasn't long after these early visits that Phil Hall and I decided to use the Bullitt House for winter campouts. Five times we took some of our school students and family members for over-nighters, warming ourselves before roaring fires in the fireplace that never quite drew well, at least not until a hot fire developed. We camped there on November or December nights, often in cold and snow. Someone would get up during the night to keep the fire going.

However, in 1973 vandals decided to trash the Bullitt House.

On a solo October 21 hike, I noted the first attempts to destroy the house. In those days adventurous drivers could reach the house by four-wheeling. Later, at the end of November, I swept out the floor from damage in preparation for what was our last camp at the Bullitt House.

As a teacher, Phil Hall was tough. His students learned from him, cared for him, but got away with nothing. An ex-marine, Hall came into each school year with a reputation. He rarely faced a discipline problem; kids were afraid to do anything that might get them in trouble with him. Punishment was swift and effective if they did get into trouble.

Our last camp occurred on November 30 and December 1, 1973. We had just eaten our dinner before that warm fireplace when two jeeps rolled into the driveway. Out strutted four or five boys seemingly determined to intimidate the campers. Out stepped Phil Hall.

*continued next page*



## MEET NEW IATC TREASURER MARY JO BARLOW

by Gail Folkins

Mary Jo Barlow joins the IATC as the organization's treasurer. A Seattle native, Barlow was raised in Kirkland and now lives in Bothell. She has been a small business owner with a bookkeeping business for more than 20 years.

Barlow has spent most of her adult life hiking, camping, and enjoying the outdoors. She has two dogs, Panzer and Prince, that are her regular hiking companions. She also has two cats, Eleanor and Amelia, who have never hiked a day in their lives.

Over this past summer, Barlow enjoyed many hikes with IATC. Among her other pursuits, she enjoys cooking, gardening, sewing, taking care of her pets, and hopes to take up fly fishing again. Please join us in welcoming Mary Jo.

---

### *Writer Details Search. , cont. from page 6*

we're on call every day of our lives, and as volunteers we do, on average, 135 rescues a year."

She claims the SAR volunteers are not world-class athletes, but they work hard and train at night. . ."they leave after work one day, and spend all night lowering an injured climber or even just stuck hikers off one peak or another, and then they drive directly back and work the next day like nothing happened."

Rattlesnake Ledge, "a trail at its most urban," is a short four-mile round trip. Many of Rattlesnake's so-called hikers, she points out, are first timers just out to lose weight or take romantic photos.

The rescue described in the book involves two men stuck over the edge of the famous overlook. Sometimes hikers choose Rattlesnake Ledge to commit suicide; Loewen has recovered some half dozen bodies from the bottom of

the ledge. In this case, the two men were rescued.

A lone skier was reported lost off Red Mountain 15 miles into the Snoqualmie Middle Fork area. Monika, the lost woman, is the girl friend of Loewen's friend Ryan who wished to participate in the search, but was denied. Some of Monika's gear is found beneath the 600-foot drop from the cliff.

Loewen's party was unable to find her before dark, so they made camp for the night. Her body was found the next day, but taking it out was an arduous process, first needing to get her up the cliff.

Three teenage boys attempted to climb Otter Falls in its dry season. "They got stuck, each in his own place on the undulating damp rock." Two fell and eventually died; the third somehow managed to get down and stayed with his dying friends. Removing the bodies was extremely difficult—"we finally got back to the trailhead at ten minutes past three in the morning."

Imagine the feeling of someone who experiences such things. (*Part two about Loewen's book will be described in the next issue.*)

---

### *Squak Fireplace Story. , cont. from page 6*

Suddenly, all was quiet, until one of the boys said, "Hello, Mr. Hall."

It just so happened that he had been in Phil's math class and Phil remembered him. Hello, \_\_\_\_\_," Phil said to him.

All the steam left the boys when they recognized Phil Hall. After a short conversation, both jeeps left, but we knew they'd return at later time when Phil was gone.

I came back just before New Year's Day to view the certain destruction. It was discouraging. The roof was down; vehicles had pulled out the eighteen-inch thick cedar pillars that held it up. The roof had crashed onto the concrete slab.

During the first week of school after the New Year, a student came to me to say that the same group that visited us on that November night had indeed returned to destroy the roof. Within a year all roofing, the pillars and other wood had disappeared, most as fuel for the fireplace.

However, some of the roof lay hidden in the forest, only to resurface years later as TMT bridges on Tiger Mountain. In that respect the Bullitt House lives on, at least for a few more years.

## CHAPTER 18: 1997

# A PLETHORA OF LAND USE ISSUES

By Doug Simpson

## January to March: Grand Ridge, Cougar Settlements

The development of 3512 acres of Grand Ridge was announced to include 3250 homes and three million square feet for office and commercial buildings. On the positive side for preservationists, 1400 acres were to be left as public open space for trails and wildlife.

East Cougar Village, a 1600 home project on the lower east bench of Cougar Mountain, was due to be finalized soon, IATC President Ken Konigsmark announced. He noted that 52 acres of the 250-acre area would remain as open space, "providing a broadened connective corridor between Squak and Cougar mountains."

Connie Dow Leahy wrote a brief memorial for unofficial club mascot Annie, a dog who often went along on IATC hikes. Annie disappeared near Fifteen Mile Creek on November 12, 1996. "She's gone now into the mists of the mountain she loved."

The High Point Trailhead (Exit 20 off I-90) was given a new parking area off the crowded lower roadway and uphill closer to the trails. It was laid out for 80 cars. In addition, the new trailhead was completed at the Tiger Summit off Highway 18. DNR, the City of Issaquah and Puget Power were the movers for those projects.

New members of the IATC board of directors elected at the January annual meeting were Todd Hausman as Vice-President for Advocacy and Christina Jackson as treasurer. Bill McFerrin and Maryanne Tagney Jones stepped down from board positions.

## April to June: Construction of the TMT

At the January 22 annual meeting, three new board members were seated: Bill McFerrin, Brenda Running, Bill Longwell, celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Tiger Mountain Trail, wrote a comprehensive history of how the TMT came about. As was written, "The TMT did not just suddenly

appear on the various slopes of Tiger Mountain."

It all started when fourteen Seattle Mountaineers met at Ruth Ittner's apartment on May 16, 1972 to plan a major trail on Tiger. Besides Ittner, dubbed our "patron saint of the trails" by Harvey Manning, also instrumental was George Ambrose, a legendary Mountaineer who knew well the Tiger terrain. IATC leaders Phil Hall and Longwell, area residents, were chosen to contact landowners for permission to proceed. It took four years of negotiations before ground was broken for the trail.

Hall, Longwell and Joe Toynbee spent days mapping the route, including a February 1974 work party "that traversed an old railroad grade on West Tiger, climbed near the summit of West Tiger 2 in two feet of snow and dreamed of routes under the snow." In June, they pioneered a route over West Tiger into Fifteen Mile Creek, a ten-mile round trip that took 18 hours to walk.

After Weyerhaeuser finally gave its permission to proceed, in February 1977 work began, with Longwell leading many of his Hazen High School pupils off and on for years. The Mountaineers and other groups worked the other direction, north to south.

Finally by 1979 the TMT was completed, and for the first time hikers could traverse the entire trail in one day. Construction took 288 person-days and 1355 hours (Longwell was famous for his meticulous records) to complete the 10.3-mile route. The trail evolved over the years to its present 16-mile length.

## COUGAR GAINS ALSO

Manning celebrated the club's 18th year by detailing additional gains to Cougar Mountain. King County Open Space paid Quadrant builders \$300,000 for 27 acres to keep the west end of the Military Road attached to the Cougar park. And four acres in the Far country Creek area were acquired from Quadrant to preserve parts of the Licorice Fern trail area. Councilman Larry Phillips, long an open space/IATC supporter, helped the county acquire 442 acres

*continued on page 9*



*Chapter 18, cont. from page 8*

on Cougar's east slope and across to Squak Mountain. The negative was the loss of the China Creek area (part of the present Newcastle golf course). He decried the role of "the California thug who bullied King County by threatening to take his major league baseball team and run, backed by his slathering pack of hired sports reporters and the addled mob fans with hot dogs for brains." (classic Manning prose!)

On March 13 an open house celebrated the opening of the old Station Master's House at 1st and Bush streets, which became IATC's clubhouse.

President Ken Konigsmark reported that the December storm was the worst in memory, with trails "blocked by downed trees, branches, and blowdown, forcing hikers to climb over or through many such blockades." In addition, many bridges were damaged. IATC volunteers put in 222 hours of labor in January to clear Tiger and Squak trails.

King County Parks was set to sponsor a "Return to Newcastle" on June 1, with IATC sponsoring history walks and hikes. Historical photos, natural history exhibits, entertainment and food were planned.

***July – September: The Bypass Rears It's Ugly Head***

Ralph Owen, Manning and Konigsmark attended a crowded March 17 hearing to oppose the construction of the Newcastle Golf Club, but it was assumed that the moneyed interests would win out—and they did.

The DNR Board of Natural Resources made a land exchange to acquire 7500 acres of land in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River valley and Cedar Butte in exchange for land near Morton.

Discussion of Issaquah's southeast bypass reared its ugly head for the first time, Christina Jackson reported. IATC planned an active role to protect trails and wildlife habitat that might be affected by the bypass.

An April ceremony announced the ownership acquisition of 1100 acres to DNR sponsorship in the Snoqualmie Winery area, which provided "a continuous ink of publicly owned land across the face of Rattlesnake Mountain from the winery to Rattlesnake Lake."

Vice-President Marilyn Moon reported on Woman Walk IV, a success with three dozen participants,

nearly half of whom had not hiked before. The ladies split into three groups led by Moon, Margaret Macleod and Bellingham's Jeanne Reneau, Moon's sister. Afterwards, the women had a potluck supper outside the trail center. The Woman Walks were scheduled for the last Saturday of each month.

***October – December: Taylor Mountain Aquisition***

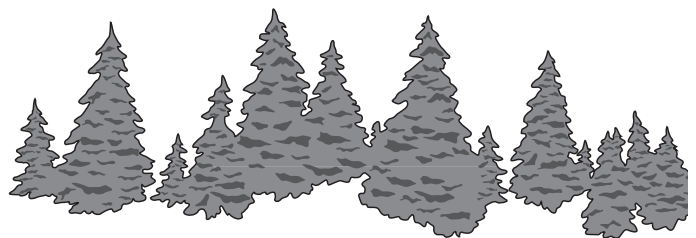
Over 1700 acres on Taylor Mountain were saved from development when King County came up with \$10 million to immediately purchase 1291 acres, the remainder to be purchased later. The Hobart Rural Association took an active role in delaying development by Manke Lumber Company. "The property covers the southerly slopes of Taylor Mountain. . . and includes the sensitive headwaters of Issaquah Creek, fed by the Carey and Holder creeks."

King County, with IATC backing, couldn't stop development on Cougar Mountain's southwest corner, but did get agreement to put a buffer zone and a chain link fence between the park and the Newcastle development.

President Konigsmark discussed the club's vehement opposition to the City of Issaquah plan to construct a water tower above the Sycamore development on Squak Mountain. He pointed out that the acreage in question was previously committed to provide a wildlife corridor and habitat, not to be developed.

In another Woman Walk article, Marilyn Moon discussed the program's success in not only getting a lot of women out on the trails, but also in overcoming the insecurities or doubts of many women to hiking. Nearly 100 women had gone on the monthly hikes since April.

There was only one new hike leader in 1997: Charles McCrone, who was busy writing the club's book on Cougar Mountain.



# 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 11*

### 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 10*

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

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

Address Service Requested



Thomas Walsh  
10319 NE 19th Pl  
Bellevue WA 98004-2731

T 1 | 1

**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.

**Don't forget to renew your membership!**

\$20 Membership Renewal (PDF Newsletter)

\$25 Membership Renewal (Print Newsletter)

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