

NEWSLETTER
ISSAQUAH ALPS TRAILS CLUB
September 18, 1979

There will be a general membership meeting on Thursday, September 27, 7:30 P.M. at the Issaquah Community Hall, 190 East Sunset Way. We will discuss directions for the club, plan future hikes, arrange committee chairmen and committee assignments. We urge all members as well as prospective members to attend this important meeting. Please mark your calendars!

The club will have an informational booth for Salmon Days in Issaquah on October 6 and 7. Members interested in manning the booth for an hour or two, please phone Dave Kappler, 235-0741 or Tim O'Brien 392-7365.

HIKES FOR SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER: (It is not necessary to notify the leader you are coming - just show up at the appointed time and place.) This newsletter describes five hikes planned for September, October and November and includes a membership application if you are not yet a member, or wish to pass it on to a friend. Due to the high cost of printing and mailing, this will be the last complimentary newsletter to non-members. A year's membership is only \$3.00 for an individual and \$5.00 per family.

GRAND CANYON OF FIFTEENMILE CREEK

Sunday, Sept. 30, 1:00 P.M.

Meeting Place: Issaquah Park and Ride Lot

Leader: Harvey Manning, SH6-1017

Start at 1:00 P.M., return by 4:30

This is the creek that breaks Main Tiger and West Tiger in two distinct masses. Fifteenmile Creek is the central watercourse of the mountain. The most magnificent stretch of a valley beautiful its entire length is the "Grand Canyon," the 1-mile section where the stream tumbles in a series of cataracts between cliffs. The trail ends near the old Tiger Mountain Mine. Round trip 2 miles, elevation gain 400 feet.

GRAND OPENING OF THE TIGER MOUNTAIN TRAIL

Saturday, Oct. 13, 8:30 A.M.

Meeting Place: Issaquah School Bus Barn directly across 2nd Ave. S. E. from Issaquah High School

Leader: Bill Longwell 255-1295 (in cooperation with the Issaquah Parks and Recreation Dept.)

There will be transportation from the Issaquah Park and Ride Lot for those of you coming on Bus 210. (Bus leaves Seattle at 7:30 A.M. from 2nd and Pike and arrives at Issaquah Park - Ride Lot at 8:15. We will have someone there to pick up bus riders. Hike starts at 1500 foot elevation level and gains 1500 feet gradually. Walk 10½ mile trail in alpine and deep woods setting. Spectacular views of Commencement Bay, Vashon Island, Olympic Mts. and Seattle Skyline and four of Washington's volcanic peaks. Moderate hike for those in reasonable condition. We will meet and ferry cars to trailhead so that hikers will be able to get to the trailhead and return to their cars in a reasonable length of time. Return to High School by 5:30 P.M.

MIDDLE TIGER MOUNTAIN

Saturday, Oct. 20, 9:30 A.M.

Meeting Place: Corner of Sunset Way and Front Street. (Thriftway Parking Lot.)

Those who have come by bus or foot can hitch rides with those who have cars.

Leader: Harvey Manning SH6-1017 (In cooperation with Issaquah Parks and Recreation Dept.)

The party will then drive south on Hobart Road to Highway 18 and east to

"Tiger Pass," there turning off on the Tiger West-Side (logging) Road and driving to a parking area at the start of the new Tiger Mountain Trail. One of the very

best viewpoints in all the Issaquah Alps. No road to the top---a genuine trail.

Total round trip, approx. 6 miles, 1200 foot elevation gain. Return to cars by 4:30.

PRESTON TO ISSAQUAH

Sunday, Oct. 28, 11:50 A.M. (Bus leaves promptly at 12:03 P.M.)

Meeting Place: E. Sunset Way and Front Street in Issaquah across from Gull Station

Leader: Barbara Johnson 746-4947

Those leaving from Issaquah will board Metro bus 210 at 12:03 P.M. for Preston.

Hike will start at Preston King County Park and follows abandoned railroad right-

of-way. This is basically a downhill hike through forest with no elevation gain

(except for climb to railroad grade.) Return about 4:30. 5½ miles. If you're

coming from Seattle stay on Bus 210 to Preston. (Bus 210 leaves 2nd Ave. & Pike

St. in Seattle at 11:10.) Plenty of places to park near bus stop in Issaquah.

PRESTON TO SNOQUALMIE FALLS

Saturday, Nov. 3, 8:50 A.M.

Meeting Place: Preston King County Park

Leader: Tim O'Brien 392-7365

This hike follows an abandoned railroad right-of-way along the Raging River and

to Snoqualmie River, ending at an old railroad trestle with views of the Falls,

Mt. Si, valley floor and the canyon of Tokul Creek. For bus riders, 210 leaves

Seattle, 2nd Ave. & Pike St. at 7:30, arriving at Preston King County Park at 8:33 A.M.

Round trip 10 miles, (about six hours). Elevation gain 250 ft.

There is a bus leaving Preston at 5:14 p.m. for Seattle, or you can probably hitch a ride back to Issaquah with a driver.

If you are not already a member, please complete the information on the following form and return with your remittance.

Issaquah Alps Trails Club, P.O. Box 351, Issaquah, Wa. 98027

Name/s _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____ Individual \$3.00 Family \$5.00

Will Help

- Plan Hikes Trail Maintenance & Planning Lead or help lead hikes
 Club Officer

Serve on Committee

- Bylaws Typing Newsletter Phoning Membership

* * *

guard cleans it all up on the way out.

Sometimes there will be an optional sidetrip for the ambitious. In such case appoint a dependable leader for the detached group and agree on rendezvous arrangements.

Upon return, give or mail the Attendance Sheet to the Hikes Committee -- along with your comments on how the trip went, how the folks liked it, any changes in procedure you suggest.

HIKE CLASSIFICATION

So members can decide if any particular trip is what they're looking for, the following classification system has been adopted. Subject to later modification. (Note: a plus or minus after a number suggests a trip is a "hard 3" or "easy 3," or whatever.)

Class 1. Good to excellent path. Short and easy -- about 3 leisurely hours. Little or no elevation gain. Called "Toddler Specials," because especially designed for mothers with children who are toddling slow -- and/or need a lot of carrying, which tends to make a mother toddle. However, everybody is welcome -- some of us, even of mature years, rather like to toddle now and then, with plenty of time to savor the sights. (Note: one whole series of these is being tried on weekdays, mostly Wednesdays, in the middle of the day, so mothers can get back home before schoolkids do.)

Class 2. Either the path is very good or the length is very short. Minor to moderate elevation gain. Slow pace. Typically scheduled for a Sunday afternoon or a summer evening. Lots of stops to reflect on how beautiful the world is.

Class 3. A "standard" hike on decent enough trails, at a moderate pace, covering such distance, gaining such elevation, that a person in fair to poor condition will be glad to take all day, from 9 or 10 in morning to 4 or so. A person in good condition will enjoy the relaxed opportunity to talk and take pictures and study the flowers.

Class 4. More than a 3+ -- maybe a longer day requiring a steady pace, maybe more than usual elevation gain, maybe some brush, maybe an exploration -- such as, scouting a possible new trail route.

Others: Work parties, such as on the Tiger Mountain Trail, or building a trail the length of May Creek County Park. Nature walks for study of flowers, birds, tree-farming. History walks. Picnics, Great Big Annual Get-Together and Weenie Roast.

MEETING PLACES FOR HIKES

The procedure for most hikes is to meet at an assembly point and there pool up into as few cars as possible for a caravan to the trailhead, typically 5-15 minutes drive away. Hikers who arrive without cars (such as, by bus) thus can hitch rides.

Most hikes are coordinated with METRO #210, with service from downtown Seattle through Mercer Island, Bellevue, Issaquah, to Preston. Departure times for such hikes are set to accord with arrival of the 210. So, to avail yourself, get a 210 schedule.

The most-used meeting place is the Issaquah Park & Ride Lot at Goode's Corner, the intersection of Highway 900 and Newport Way, south of I-90 from Exit 15.

Also the Eastgate Park & Ride Lot, located just off 150th, south of the Albertsons etc. shopping center south of I-90.

Another, the Park & Ride area on the wide gravel shoulder along Coal Creek Parkway, where Newport Way comes in. (Near Newport High.)

Another, Preston County Park, in Preston. With a 210 bus stop.

Other meeting places are used from time to time, so watch the schedule -- go to the right spot.

HIKES FOR NOVEMBER-DECEMBER-JANUARY

Hikes Committee: Harvey Manning (SH-6-1017)
Russ Williams (392-5989)
Virginia Gallagher, in charge of midweek "Toddlers Specials"
(255-5591)

Members should understand that in so new an organization, everything is an experiment. If you see how to do it better, call the committee members. Attend the Board meetings. Or just vote with your feet...

It is now winter, or wintry, and some pedestrians may think it wise to shut themselves indoors until the Indian plum blooms. That is a mistake. Often a typhoon is forecast -- and the sun comes out during the interval between two pulses of evil from the Gulf of Alaska. And so what if there is a typhoon? Dress warm, carry an umbrella, and enjoy the tempest. Remember: the trip will go if anybody at all shows up. Perhaps it won't go to the promised destination, should the party be suddenly attacked by a fit of common sense, but there'll be a walk. This club was founded on a Day of Three Lightning Storms. We're indomitable. Special note: If you see white on the peaks and suppose we're going to be reasonable and stay home, think again. Indeed, the special great attraction of the Issaquah Alps this time of year is the chance to take a quick and easy trip up into True White Winter. Snowflakes falling, little critters making funny little tracks.

THE FIRST LAW OF HIKING A ROUND PUGET SOUND: IF YOU WAIT FOR THE SUN TO COME OUT BEFORE LEAVING THE HOUSE, YOU'LL NEVER LEAVE THE HOUSE. Have faith.

PRESTON TO SNOQUALMIE FALLS VISTA (Class 3-)

Saturday, Nov. 3, 8:50 a.m.

Meeting place: Preston King County Park

Leader: Tim O'Brian, 392-7365

Follow an abandoned railway -- soon to be a King County Parks trail-bikeway -- along the Raging River to a superb viewpoint of the falls, Mount Si, and the Snoqualmie Valley.

Round trip 10 miles. High point 500 feet. Elevation gain 400 feet. Return to cars about 4 o'clock.

LAKEMONT GORGE (Class 2)

Sunday, Nov. 4, 12:30 p.m.

Meeting place: Parking area south off I-90 on Exit 13 -- the stub-end of what once was planned to be Lakemont Boulevard.

Leader: Buzz Moore, 746-1866

A wild stream tumbles down a gorge in a virtual rain forest--amid the suburbia a building on the north slope of Cougar Mountain.

Round trip 2 miles. High point 500 feet. Elevation gain 300 feet. Return to cars about 4 o'clock.

MARYMOOR PARK (Class 1)

Wednesday, Nov. 7, 10 a.m.

Meeting place: Entrance to Marymoor Park

Leader: Evelyn Rudolph, 392-4060

Walk along the river, through the old farm, by an archaeological site, all the ducks, into the marshes on a walkway, to view platform where the river flows from the lake. Broad views of the Issaquah Alps.

Round trip about 1 mile, or as much more of the fields as are roamed. No elevation gain. Return to cars about 1 o'clock.

SQUAK MOUNTAIN -- THE REALLY TRULY EAST FACE (Class 3+)

Saturday, Nov. 10, 8:30 a.m.

Meeting Place: Issaquah Park and Ride Lot

Leader: Bill Longwell, 255-1295

This is a new trip for us -- taking off from the Northeast Face Loop we've done before, exploring the genuine East Face, steep and wild and lonesome, with big old forest and looks down to green pastures of Issaquah Creek.

Round trip about 8 miles, High point 2000 feet. Elevation gain about 2000 feet. Return to cars about 4 o'clock.

COAL CREEK COUNTY PARK (Class 2)

Sunday, Nov. 11, 1:00 p.m.

Meeting place: parking shoulder on Coal Creek Parkway where Newport Way comes in.

Leader: Barbara Johnson, 746-4947

A magnificent park, the better for being undeveloped. Coal Creek -- the noble forest -- outcrops of sandstone and coal -- and tracks of coyote and deer and little critters. We'll explore upstream from the crossing of the creek gorge by Coal Creek Parkway. Be prepared to do a bit of easy wading -- wear rubber boots if you have them, or else just figure on having wet feet. It couldn't kill you.

Round trip 2-3 miles. High point 500 feet. Elevation gain 100 feet. Return to cars about 4 o'clock.

EAST FORK ISSAQUAH CREEK (Class 1)

Wednesday, Nov. 14, 10 a.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Virginia Gallagher, 255-5591

Walk the old railroad grade (planned to become a public trail-bikeway) through the woods, along East Fork Issaquah Creek.

Round trip 3 miles. High point 400 feet. Minor elevation gain. Return to cars about 1 o'clock.

POO POO POINT (Class 3)

Saturday, Nov. 17, 8:30 a.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leaders: Harvey Manning, SH-6-1017 and Tim O'Brian, 392-7365

The clearcut promontory jutting out above the Issaquah Creek valley. Great views, and usually hang-gliders leaping into space. Route from the High School via trails in Many Creek Valley. Possible looping return via the 1900 Foot Railroad Trail. Also, possible ascent of West Tiger 3.

Round trip about 7 miles. High point 1825 feet. Elevation gain 1100 feet. (For side-trips add more of everything.) Return to cars about 4 o'clock.

This is a joint hike with The Mountaineers.

LICORICE FERN WALL (Class 2)

Sunday, Nov. 18, 12:30 p.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Steve Smith, 226-2694

A lovely spot, a wild treasure, on the May Valley Side of Cougar Mountain. Route from May Valley School to the Wall, all covered with licorice fern and moss and all with a charming view over the valley, then onward to other wonders as time allows, including another wall.

Round trip 1-3 miles, depending on how far you go. High point 575 feet. Elevation gain 300 feet. Return to cars about 4 o'clock.

MIDDLE TIGER MOUNTAIN (Class 3-)

Tuesday, Nov. 20, 9:45 a.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leaders: Ted and Ann Lober, 746-3291

One of the very best viewpoints in all the Issaquah Alps. No road to the top -- a genuine trail -- the first part, the new Tiger Mountain Trail.

Round trip 6 miles. High point 2607 feet. Elevation gain 1100 feet. Return to cars about 4 o'clock.

COAL CREEK COUNTY PARK (Class 3 and 4, depending)

Saturday, Nov. 24, 9:30 a.m.

Meeting place: wide parking shoulder on Coal Creek Parkway where Newport Way comes in.

Leader: George Heiser, 392-2033

This trip will begin in the lush-and-easy (except for wading the creek) section of the park upstream from the crossing of the gorge by the Parkway. However, it will go a bit beyond to survey what the park should become. The going as far as the Mary Tunnel (one of the first Newcastle mines) is simple enough. Those wishing a Class 3 trip will then climb to "The Farm" section of the park and tour the old fields, with views of the valley. The Class 4 group (if any) will continue another very slow mile into the wildest, loveliest, tangled stretch of the valley -- returning to The Farm via road!!

Round trip 4 or 5 miles, depending. High point 600 feet. Elevation gain 200 feet or 400, depending. Return to cars about 4 o'clock.

WEOUNA COUNTY PARK (Class 2)

Sunday, Nov. 25, 12:30 p.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Bob Lynette, 392-5969

A little-known, undeveloped county park on the scarp above the west side of Lake Sammamish. Contains something amazing -- virgin forest of Douglas firs up to 6 feet in diameter, plus equally fine cedars and hemlocks. And glorious ravines down which fall creeks -- including the outlet of Phantom Lake. Explore the informal trail system, gasping at the giants.

Round trip about 1-4 miles. High point 275 feet. Elevation gain 100-300 feet or so. Return to cars about 4 o'clock.

COAL CREEK COUNTY PARK (Class 1)

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 10:00 a.m.

Meeting place: Eastgate Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Claudia Manning, SH 6-1017

The old farm that has become part of the park offers acres and acres of old lanes through the pastures, the woods, with looks down into the gorge of the wild creek below.

Round trip about a mile or so, minor ups and downs amid foundations of old buildings, artifacts of old cattle. Return to car about 1 o'clock.

WEST TIGER 3 (ISSAQUAH MOUNTAIN) (Class 3+)

Saturday, Dec. 1, 8:30 a.m.

Meeting Place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: A. J. Culver, 392-3002

The most isolated and alpine-feeling of all summits in the Issaquah Alps, with great views straight down on Issaquah and out to Seattle. Route via Tradition Lake Trail. Possible side-trip for the energetic through Many Creek Valley to Poo Poo Point.

Round trip, excluding side-trip, about 7 miles. High point 2522 feet. Elevation gain 2000 feet. Return to cars about 4 o'clock.

CEDAR RIVER TRAIL (Class 2)

Sunday, Dec. 2, 12:30 p.m.

Meeting place: Old Tahoma High School, at 24th on 216th (the Hobart-Maple Valley Road)

Leader: John Bartels, 432-9136 (this is a neighbor's phone, so use the number only to leave very important messages)

Something new and exciting -- a trail along the Cedar River hardly anybody but John knows about. Through the woods, beside the waters, with history of mines and railroads all around.

Round trip about 4 miles. High point about 200 feet. Minor elevation gain. Return to cars about 4 o'clock.

LAKE SAMMAMISH STATE PARK (Class 1)

Tuesday, Dec. 4, 10:00 a.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Barbara Johnson, 746-4947

On a winter midweek the great lawns and groves of willows are un-thronged -- except by enormous flocks of mallards and coots seeking handouts. Saunter along the shores, in broad views over the lake -- and up to the Issaquah Alps, very possibly snowy, very likely with heads buried in clouds. Walk along Issaquah Creek, where it empties into the lake.

Round trip 1-2 miles. High point 50 feet. No elevation gain. Return to cars about 1 o'clock.

COUGAR MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS (Class 3)

Saturday, Dec. 8, 9:45 a.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Harvey Manning, Sh 6-1017

Explore a trail system developed by HM, a shy bear, and the mysterious Red Plastic Man. Climb forests of Wilderness Creek, ascend via Bigview Cliff and Wildview Cliff and the Fall Line Trail to the summit of Wilderness Peak. Loop back via Bear Pass, View Peak, and the fantastic climax, The Boulders, holy and enchanted.

Round trip about 5 miles. High point 1595 feet. Elevation gain 1100 feet. Return to cars about 4 o'clock.

LAKE TRADITION (Class 2)

Sunday, Dec. 9, 12:30 p.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah City Hall, on Sunset Way just east of Front street.

Leader: Leslie Lund, 392-5478

Walk from downtown Issaquah up the scarp of Tiger Mountain to the glacial-drift plateau of the Issaquah City Watershed, a regional treasure, and proceed to a "cirque lake" at the base of West Tiger. See the beaver lodge. Originally this was called "Snake Lake," so watch out.

Round trip about 3 miles. High point 500 feet. Elevation gain 400 feet. Return to cars about 3:30.

SNOQUALMIE VALLEY VISTA (Class 1)

Wednesday, Dec. 12, 10:00 a.m.

Meeting place: Preston County Park

Leader: Virginia Gallagher, 255-5591

The walk will start at the Lake Alice road and follow the old rail grade (to become a King County Parks trail) through woods, by an old farm, to views of the Snoqualmie Valley.

Round trip about 3 miles. High point 500 feet. Minor elevation gain. Return to car about 1 o'clock.

WEST TIGER 1 (Class 3+)

Saturday, Dec. 15, 8:30 a.m.

Meeting Place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Tom Machler, 255-0922

This is the highest peak of West Tiger, the one topped by a thicket of over-communications towers. The route, though, is entirely in wildwoods and solitude -- except for the summit, with its wide views over Puget Sound and Cascades. We'll start on the Tiger Mountain Trail, then at 1900 feet cut off onto the connector to the Preston Trail, using it to reach the summit. An optional looping descent down the lovely Preston Trail, if energies and the leader permit.

Round trip about 6 miles -- or 10, depending. High point 2948 feet. Elevation gain 2500 feet. Return to cars about 4 o'clock.

GRAND CANYON OF FIFTEENMILE CREEK (Class 2)

Sunday, Dec. 16, 12:30 p.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Ted and Ann Leber, 746-3291

This is the creek that breaks Main Tiger and West Tiger into two masses. In its Grand Canyon, where the stream slices deep in gaudy sandstones, are three coal mines, waterfalls, amber, fossils, and a fine frenzy of a forest.

Round trip 2 miles. High point 1200 feet. Elevation gain 300 feet. Return to car about 4 o'clock.

SAMMAMISH RIVER TRAIL (Class 1-2)

Wednesday, Dec. 19, 10:00 a.m.

Meeting place: Parking lot of Redmond City Hall

Leader: Evelyn Rudolph, 392-4060

Beside the river and its ducks and bush-flitters, through the pastures, on King County's splendid new trail.

Round trip 2 miles or so, depending. High point 50 feet. No elevation gain. Return to car about 1 o'clock.

SQUAK MOUNTAIN NORTHEAST FACE LOOP (Class 3)

Saturday, Dec. 22, 9:45 a.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Steve Smith, 226-2694

Climb the west side to undeveloped Squak Mountain State Park, ascend to the summit, loop back via the wild east face, with cliffs and virgin forest and sawdust of an ancient mill -- and views to Issaquah and Seattle.

Round trip about 8 miles. High point 2000 feet. Elevation gain 1700 feet. Return to cars about 4 o'clock.

GRAND RIDGE -- THE HOUR TRAIL (Class 2)

Sunday, Dec. 23, 12:30 p.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Stan Unger, 283-7823

It's called the Hour Trail because that's how long it takes for a horse to go around the loop. We likely won't go the whole way, but will sample the wildwoods where the deer and bear roam, amid great big firs -- and enormous stumps of the railroad-logged forest of old. Just about the only public land on the Ridge. Come help plan a County Park.

Round trip about 4 miles. High point 1100 feet. Elevation gain about 400 feet. Return to car about 4 o'clock.

LAKE TRADITION (Class 2)

Thursday, Dec. 27, 10:00 a.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah City Hall, on Sunset just east of Front

Leader: Ted and Ann Leber, 746-3291

For details, see December 9.

RAGING RIVER TO KERRISTON (Class 3)

Saturday, Dec. 29, 8:30 a.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Buzz Kahn, 392-7167

Walk logging roads (gated, so quiet) up the valley of the Raging, between Rattlesnake on one side and Tiger and Taylor on the other, to the site of the old sawmill and coal-prospecting town of Kerriston. The valley is full of ghosts -- and coyotes and such. Hope for snow, for the sake of animal tracks.

Round trip 10 miles. High point 1396 feet. Elevation gain 700 feet. Return to car about 4 o'clock.

MAY CREEK COUNTY PARK (Class 2)

Sunday, Dec. 30, 1 p.m.

Meeting place: parking shoulder on Coal Creek Parkway where Newport Way comes in.

Leader: Dave Kappler, 235-0741

This superb park is totally undeveloped except for trails beaten out by local walkers and horse riders. Great creek, great forest. Later in the year we'll have an adventure exploration through the un-trailed portion, but for now, an easy sampler on existing paths.

Round trip about 3 miles. High point 100 feet. Minor elevation gain. Return to car about 4 o'clock.

GREAT BIG COUGAR MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE LOOP (Class 4-, or 3+)

Monday, Dec. 31, 8:30 a.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Harvey Manning, SH 6-1017

Scrupulously avoiding private property, staying on lands where "pass through" prevails, the leader will conduct a tour of the Cougar Mountain Wilderness, looping through "open lands" and public lands, with views of the proposed New City of 90,000 people. Further details would simply be inflammatory.

Round trip about 10 miles. High point 1595 feet. Elevation gain about 2000 feet. Return to cars about 4 or 5 o'clock.

WORK DETAIL: TIGER MOUNTAIN TRAIL (Class 2-4)

Saturday, Jan. 5, 8:30 a.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leaders: Bill Longwell, 255-1295, and Harry Kelsey, 325-7445

The great trail is complete, but while the builders were finishing the last part, some of the early part got cluttered with brush. Since IATC has officially adopted the trail, it is our duty to get that brush out of there. Bring brush-nippers, machetes, or whatever you have that attacks greenery. (If you have nothing, call the leaders and they'll try to supply you.) Wear gloves. Work as hard as you feel like -- Class 2 to 4. There will be views, of course, and chanteys by the leaders.

Round trip not many miles.

STAGECOACH ROAD (Class 2)

Sunday, Jan. 6, 12:30 p.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Ted and Ann Leber, 746-3291

Though private ownership forbids retracing the route of the historical Post Road (Bush Road, etc.) up the scarp of Cougar Mountain and down to Newcastle, "open lands" policy on a closeby power line permits a semblance of the old way -- with grand views to the Issaquah Plain and Pickering Farm and Mount Si and Lake Sammamish.

Round trip about 2 miles. High point about 600 feet or so. Elevation gain about 500 feet or so. Return to cars about 3 or 4 o'clock.

LAKEMONT GORGE (Class 1)

Wednesday, Jan. 9, 10:00 a.m.

Meeting place: parking area off I-90 on Exit 13 on south side -- stub-end of what once was planned to be Lakemont Boulevard

Leader: Claudia Manning, SH 6-1017

For details see November 4.

TIGER MOUNTAIN TRAIL (Class 3+)

Saturday, Jan. 12, 8:30 a.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Bill Longwell, 255-1295

The classic tour of the Issaquah Alps, 10½ miles in deep woods, over creeks, in alpine-feeling terrain with broad views -- Commencement Bay, Seattle skyline, Olympics, and four of Washington's major volcanoes. The car-shuttle system we use permits the whole trail to be done in a reasonable day.

One-way complete trip 10½ miles. High point 2700 feet. Elevation gain 1500 feet. Back to the car about 4:30.

THE BOULDERS (Class 2)

Sunday, Jan. 13, 12:30 p.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Virginia Cuykendall, 746-7280

After the Puget Glacier oversteepened the "plucked" southerly slope of Cougar Mountain, andesite boulders tumbled off the scarp of Wilderness Peak. And now lie there along Wilderness Creek placidly growing ferns and moss. Magic.

Round trip about 2 miles. High point 700 feet or so. Elevation gain some 400 feet. Return to car about 4 o'clock.

NOLTE STATE PARK (DEEP LAKE) (Class 1)

Wednesday, Jan. 16, 10:00 a.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Virginia Gallagher, 255-5591

This is a bit out of the Alps proper, but such a grand place for kids, circling the quiet lake in big old trees on an easy path, talking to the ducks, we thought we'd see how you like it.

Round trip 1½ miles. High point 770 feet. No elevation gain. Return to car about 1 o'clock.

CLAYPIT PEAK (Class 3-)

Thursday, Jan. 17, 9:45 a.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Harvey Manning, SH 6-1017

Associated with coal, the geologists tell us, is fire clay. When mined, the landscape is reminiscent of the Painted Desert. Gaudy. And with the trees gone the views are broad. The route is up the east side of Cougar Mountain in climax alder forests on ancient paths, by an old coal mine, to where the deer and the coyote play-- and cougar and bear. The route is on "open lands" with pass-through policy.

Round trip about 6 miles. High point 1525 feet. Elevation gain 1400 feet. Return to cars about 3 o'clock.

MIDDLE TIGER (Class 3-)

Saturday, Jan. 19, 9:45 a.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: A. J. Culver, 392-3002

For details see November 20.

SQUAK MOUNTAIN (CHYBINSKI TRAIL, WEST SIDE) (Class 2)

Sunday, Jan. 20, 12:30 p.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Bob Lynette, 392-5969

Climb the west scarp, in relict big trees, then switch off on an old grade, now footpath, in deep greenery. The climax is a creek gorge over which stringers remain of the old bridge -- "nurse stringers" growing lines of trees high in the air. Great creek, too.

Round trip about 3-4 miles. High point perhaps 1350 feet, though possibly higher if a loop is done (optional). Elevation gain maybe 750 feet. Return to cars by 4 o'clock.

COUGAR MOUNTAIN WOODS AND VIEWS (Class 1)

Wednesday, Jan. 23, 10:00 a.m.

Meeting place: Eastgate Park & Ride Lot

Leaders: Ted and Ann Leber, 746-3291

Amid the New City a-building all around, a woodland path circles a summit of Cougar, in views north, then west, then south.

Round trip about 1½ miles. High point 900 feet. Elevation gain 100 feet. Return to the car about 1 o'clock.

WEST TIGER 3 (Class 3+)

Saturday, Jan. 26, 8:30 a.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Buzz Kahn, 392-7167

For details see December 1.

HIGH POINT CREEK (Class 2+)

Sunday, Jan. 27, 12:30 p.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Tim O'Brian, 392-7365

Where once the "Western Pacific Railway" (as the loggers called it) climbed straight up the valley from the mill at High Point to the 1900 Foot Rail Grade, now the Tiger Mountain Trail climbs the lovely woods. On this trip we'll go to the site of the old landing where the steam donkey raised and lowered the tramway cars that carried logs down to the mill (and carried the rails and locomotive up from there).

Round trip about 4 miles. High point 1900 feet. Elevation gain 1400 feet. Return to car about 4 p.m.

LAUGHING JACOB'S CREEK (Class 1)

Wednesday, Jan. 30, 10:00 a.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Sue Mozer, 746-1028

Hobnob with ducks on the shore of Lake Sammamish, at the boat-launch area. Then walk into the valley of the creek, through the Hans Jensen Youth Group Area to a lovely cedar grove and babbling waters.

Round trip 1½ miles. High point 100 feet. Minor elevation gain. Return to car about 1 p.m.

POO POO POINT (Class 3)

Saturday, Feb. 2, 8:30 a.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: George Heiser, 392-2033

For details see November 17.

LICORICE FERN WALL (Class 2)

Sunday, Feb. 3, 12:30 p.m.

Meeting place: Issaquah Park & Ride Lot

Leader: Tom Mechler, 255-0922

For details see November 18.

WANTED
A BICYCLE COMMITTEE

The publication deadline for this issue of Alpiner came while the search was still in progress. The search continues. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please call SH-6-1017, Harvey Manning.

IATC is devoted to all no-engine, no hydrocarbon, no-racket uses of trails -- and trails to serve all no-engine uses. We seek hiking and horse-riding trails, and also bikeways (including multi-use trails, such as the Sammamish River Trail that serves pedestrians, equestrians, bicyclists, not to forget paddlers). How about these:

Around Cougar Mountain Bikeway (Cougar Perimeter Trail)

Around Squak Mountain Bikeway

Around Tiger Mountain Bikeway

Issaquah to Preston to Snoqualmie Falls Bikeway, connecting on the west to Lake Sammamish Bikeway (and through it to the Sammamish River Trail, and through that to the Burke-Gilman Trail), and connecting on the east to the Snoqualmie River Trail

Around Lake Sammamish Bikeway

What else?

Though the Bicycle Committee will have to set goals and determine how to work to achieve them, it would seem reasonable to have a schedule of bike rides. Some of these might be suitable for any old one-speed, such as tooling along the splendid Sammamish River Trail for an easy afternoon. Some might be for the 10-speeders who aren't content with less than a 40-mile day. And in between there might be middling trips, sort of exploratory -- such as determining a safe and pleasant ride (under present conditions) around Cougar.

If you are interested in participating -- but don't want to serve on the Committee -- please drop a postcard to Issaquah Alps Trails Club, P. O. Box 351, Issaquah, Wa. 98027.

The hope is to announce a schedule in the next Alpiner -- the rides to start in February.

* * * * *

We are including a membership application for anyone you may know who would be interested in joining IATC.

Issaquah Alps Trails Club, P.O. Box 351, Issaquah, Wa. 98027

Name/s _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____

Individual \$3.00

Family \$5.00

Will Help

Plan Hikes Trail Maintenance & Planning Lead or help lead hikes

Club Officer

Serve on Committee

Bylaws Typing Newsletter Phoning Membership