

Issaquah Alps Trails Club

"The Apparatus"

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ALPINER

July • August • September 1991

Greenway puzzle pieces fall into place

*Ted Thomsen
Greenway Chief*

On the Fourth of July last year, when we set out on our five-day "march" from Snoqualmie Pass to Elliott Bay, we hoped to gain wide support for the idea of creating a broad, multi-use greenway along the I-90 corridor from the Cascade Mountains to Puget Sound -- the "Mountains to Sound Greenway." We succeeded. Much has been accomplished since our march. Much more remains.

MTS Greenway Concept Evolving

Since last Fall, an informal group of interested persons has met periodically with the goal of refining the MTS Greenway concept and getting the Greenway proposal off the ground. As presently envisioned by that group, the goal of the Greenway would be to keep substantial portions of the I-90 corridor green and scenic, provide open space buffers between new and growing urban areas, maintain wildlife corridors, protect unique natural and historic features and provide recreational opportunities for the public.

The Greenway is not envisioned as a single trail or a corridor of specific width, but rather as a mosaic of green places, with connecting links east and west and north and south, existing within a framework of controlled urbanization and enlightened forestry. The concept is, of course, still evolving and will continue to evolve as specific opportunities arise and as public opinion points the way.

Rattlesnake Mountain Option Obtained

In March, an agreement that could lead to the preservation of 1,800 acres of forest land near Interstate 90 was reached between Weyerhaeuser and the Trust for Public Land (TPL). The land is on Rattlesnake Mountain (ridge),

southwest of North Bend. It is a key link in the MTS Greenway. The agreement gives TPL a two-year option to purchase the property, valued at \$4.5 million. TPL has an interim need to raise \$500,000 over the next two years to keep the option in place. Weyerhaeuser agreed to suspend logging operations during the option period.

In announcing this agreement, Craig Lee, Regional manager of TPL, pointed out the next step is to begin working with various groups that support preserving Rattlesnake to come up with a financing plan. He noted that the acquisition of this property would be a "giant step toward realizing the dream of creating a forested greenway stretching from the Cascades to Puget Sound."

"There is a tremendous amount of public interest in this land," said Charles Bingham, Weyerhaeuser executive vice president. "Weyerhaeuser recognizes this and wants to make the land available to those who wish to see it in public ownership," he said.

We agree with the Seattle Times editorial of March 22 that both TPL and Weyerhaeuser "deserve a salute" for this agreement. Their efforts will pay off, of course, only if we are able to come up with the \$4.5 million purchase price. State Representative Gary Locke and State Land Commissioner Brian Boyle, both enthusiastic supporters of the MTS Greenway, have pledged every effort to obtain state funds toward this acquisition. County and other funds may also be needed. All Trails Club members are urged to support funding to compete the purchase of this vital link in our Greenway.

DNR-Weyerhaeuser

Land Exchange Completed

In April, the State Department of

Continued on page 2

The Mountains to Sound Greenway begins to take shape

Continued from page 1

Natural Resources and Weyerhaeuser consummated a land exchange of considerable importance to the MTS Greenway. The lands conveyed by Weyerhaeuser to DNR through the exchange included 1,500 acres near Mt. Washington, along the I-90 corridor, and 2,350 acres, including patches of old-growth timber, to expand the Mt. Si Natural Resources Conservation Area.

In agreeing to this exchange, Weyerhaeuser's Charles Bingham said, "This agreement we are signing today ensures that some very sensitive forestland will be available to the public for recreational and aesthetic purposes. Together with the recently announced agreement to sell our Rattlesnake Ridge property to the Trust for Public Land, real progress is being made toward creation of a public forest beltway stretching from the Cascades to Puget Sound. It's an exciting idea and we are pleased to make these lands available for the Greenway."

Public Land Commissioner Brian Boyle said, "We've succeeded in making the Mt. Si Conservation Area larger than ever envisioned, and it will soon encompass nearly 10,000 acres. The pieces of the land puzzle along the I-90 corridor are coming together to benefit the citizens of Washington. And, we're negotiating on other properties that will add even more to this greenway vision."

First Organizational Meeting Successful

An initial organizational meeting for the MTS Greenway was held at the Preston Community Center on April 25. The meeting was planned by the interim working group, Donna McBain of the Trust for Public Land, Dave Kiehle and Doug McClelland from DNR, Marty Wine, Assistant to Representative Gary Locke and yours truly on behalf of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club. The purpose of the meeting was to broaden support for the Greenway and to discuss ways to formally organize the Greenway effort. A group of some 65 high-powered civic leaders, conservationists, elected officials and resource agency officials were invited.

More than 50 attended!

The meeting was chaired by Trails Club Vice President Tom Wood and the featured speakers including Harvey Manning, Jack Hornung, Leah Larsen, a 14 year-old participant in last summer's march, Stan Unger, Ralph Owen, Brian Boyle, Jim Ellis and Craig Lee.

Lee proposed that a new, non-profit organization be formed to play the leading role in promoting, planning and bringing to realization the MTS Greenway. He explained how this has been done successfully for similar projects in other communities. The meeting ended with a wide-ranging discussion in which most participants expressed enthusiastic support for the MTS Greenway concept and for the idea of creating a new, non-profit organization to lead the effort. Jim Ellis and Brian Boyle agreed to serve as co-chairmen of an interim committee, whose mission will include bringing about the formation of the new organization by this Fall.

Interim Action Plan Formulated

The interim committee has met and has formulated an action plan to guide its work through this Fall. By that time, the new organization should be up and running.

During the interim period our main focus will be on assembling an outstanding Board of Directors to lead the new organization. We will also be developing ideas for various advisory and working committees. Additionally, we will continue our efforts to obtain endorsements in support of the Greenway from selected agencies, organizations and individuals.

We have an immediate need for an explanatory brochure or vision document, with maps, to help garner additional support for the Greenway throughout the community. We also need working maps to help us identify critical land parcels. We hope to hire an interim Greenway Coordinator to spearhead these and other organizational tasks. DNR and others are also proceeding with some very promising mapping efforts.

Of course, many of these things require money. You will not be sur-

prised to learn that, in due course, we will be asking for money. In the interim, those indispensable folks from the Trust for Public Land have again come to our rescue. TPL has set aside \$5,000 to initially establish a Greenway fund. This coupled with the other contributions received to date (smaller, but no less deeply appreciated), will enable us to initiate action to meet our most pressing needs.

All in all, not a bad beginning.

Message from the President

Our present Alpiner editor, Rodi Ludlum, has announced her pending retirement. She has done a wonderful job over the last three years. Long time members certainly remember our rather folksy publication of earlier times. Rodi brought the Alpiner (if not our Chairman) into the computer age and ended all complaints about not being able to read the hike schedule. The Alpiner has become our showpiece, not just because it looks sharp, but because it better tells what we are doing. Please talk to Rodi if this sounds like a job you might like.

*** **

Through the years we have seen a high level of interest and participation in our special hikes. These have included evening plant identification walks, geology hikes, history walks and big productions such as the Mountains to Sound March. We welcome your thoughts about special places in the Alps you would like to see us have more hikes and what topics you would like to see covered. We most welcome your ideas accompanied with interest in leading such a hike or your willingness to coordinate a special hike using resource people outside the club. Call Roy Thompson at 831-6339 or write us at Box 351, Issaquah, WA 98027.

*** **

Issaquah's annual celebration of the salmon's return will be October 5 and 6. We will have our booth set up as usual and will need a number of volunteers to staff the booth. Please call our volunteer coordinator, Mary Cadigan, at 641-4046.

Take a rare chance to hike the Cedar River Watershed

"A hike I've been dreaming of for 30 years."

-Bill Longwell

Issaquah Alps Chief Ranger

Join us Saturday, July 18 for a hike through "forbidden gates"; Landsburg to Cedar Falls, penetrating Seattle's Cedar River Watershed: combination full day and morning versions.

Thanks to watershed manager Susie Flager, special arrangements have been made for this marvelous opportunity. Mountains to Sound hikers will recall with pleasure the special efforts and warm welcome provided us by Susie and her staff last July. Now we have a chance to walk all (full day-12 miles) or half (morning only- 6 miles) of the old railroad running through the Cedar River Valley wilderness-- an area usually off limits to the public. (Because of construction on the railroad grade, no children under 10 will be allowed on the hike.)

Susie Flager will personally lead the hike, assisted by several of her naturalist staff, hopefully including Dwayne Paige whose talks last July were so in-

teresting. Here is a chance for you to walk and talk and get personally acquainted with a new watershed "establishment" wishing to work with the public.

Although the walk is reported to be very beautiful with high probability of seeing elk and other wildlife, hikers should also expect that it is through a wooded valley this time, not "viewpoint country" and that we will be walking on or along the railroad.

Near Rattlesnake Lake we will visit the watershed headquarters, tour the charming historic railroad town of Cedar Falls, and see the first municipal hydroelectric dam in the U.S.

We are especially anxious to have IATC hike leaders on the trip to further explore cooperative public educational hiking efforts between the watershed and our trails club. Looking to the future, the watershed needs a cadre of experienced volunteer leaders to conduct supervised educational hikes respective of their clean water responsibilities. In turn, our leaders will benefit from the natural opportunities inherent in the

vastness of Seattle's wonderful watershed.

Because this opportunity is so unusual, we have combined a morning version for hikers with less time or endurance. The pace will be moderate to encourage participation by many as would like to come.

Meet at Issaquah City Parking Lot by 7 a.m. We will have logistic matters to handle and will conclude these and leave by 7:30 sharp.

For further information, contact any one of Susie's "elves". From the Trails Club: Chief Ranger Bill Longwell-255-1295; Vice President Tom Wood-391-8027; or Flashlight Jack Hornung-545-9122.

Special Note: It is precisely because the Cedar River Watershed is closed to the public that it has long served as a defacto wildlife refuge providing a Cascade to Lake Washington wildlife travel corridor. For that reason the Trails Club wants to see the watershed kept closed except to such limited and light and carefully supervised public use as this hike.

Midsummer Night' hike goes dusk to dawn over Tiger Mountain

The Issaquah Alps Trails Club, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, and the Preston Community Council jointly present: "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

The three organizations will lead a moonlight, dusk-to-dawn traverse of mighty Tiger Mountain July 26-27 in a nocturnal reverse enactment of the middle day of the Mountains to Sound March. The hike will begin in Issaquah and end in Preston with shorter options.

An unusual summer celestial confluence makes possible this spectacular hike. Climb in early evening to West Tiger 3 and watch the sun set over the Olympics as you enjoy your sandwich supper. Then relive that magic moment in September of 1988 when the first Grand Traversers gazed spellbound as the lights of Puget Sound City twinkled on-- strewn across the night landscape like phosphorescent plankton on an inky sea.

Watch the full moon's early rise to guide us in its lunar wash as we hike on the safe and convenient service roads to most of Tiger's peaks. Then we will hike to east Tiger as the moon's ghostly lantern descends toward the horizon and Aurora's golden glory brings forth the new day over the Cascades to the east. Then to Preston where we will join the morning hikers for a well-deserved pancake breakfast. Bring your kids, yours, your relatives, your neighbors and let them share a lifetime moment with you.

If you can't do the whole event, that's no reason to stay home. Join us for the evening portion only, or get up with the roosters on Saturday morning and hike the five pleasant easy miles from Issaquah, fragrant with the morning dew, to Preston along the RR grade and join us for pancakes in Preston.

Details:

Leaders: Doug McClelland, DNR, Tom Wood, Jack Hornung, IATC.

Full Event and Evening Hikers:

Bring flashlights and meet in Issaquah in the customary parking lot next to city hall at 6 p.m. Friday night, July 26.

Morning Hikers: Meet in the same place at 5:30 a.m. Saturday, July 27.

For breakfast reservations, send \$5 for persons 12 and older, \$2.50 for kids 4-11. Kids 3 and under are free. Send to Treasurer Jim Cadigan, 12134 SE 49th Place, Bellevue, WA 98006. Do this right now and mark your check "Moonlight Breakfast".

We need volunteers to lead the evening and morning hikes. To volunteer, or for further information, call Tom at 391-8027(h) 448-0585(w); or Jack at 545-9122.

Special Note: the King County Parks Department may also be a co-sponsor. We have invited County Executive Tim Hill to be an official leader, schedule and knee problems permitting.

July 1991 Hikes and Events

Monday July 1
Evening hike to Tiger Caves
2B 6 p.m.
Tom Wood 448-0585

Tuesday July 2
Lake Tradition Plateau 2B 9:30
Al Blalock 746-4155
Ed Bowser 747-3349

Friday July 5
Tibbets Creek or Big Tree Ridge
to AA Park
3B 9 a.m. Gail Palm 783-6005

Sunday July 7
Squak Mtn. from Downtown on
NEW trail 3C 9 a.m.
Joe Toynbee 723-6716

Tuesday July 9
"Beyond the Alps" Granite Mtn.
— not a club sanctioned hike
4D 8 a.m.
Joann Howe 432-0741

Wednesday July 10
"Beyond the Alps" Mason Lake
— call leader
3C 9 a.m.
Peggy Owen 746-1070

Thursday July 11
Tiger Mtn. leader's choice
3C 9 a.m.
Will Thompson 488-8592

Friday July 12
Squak Mtn. Perimeter Loop Trail
3C 9 a.m.
Tom Palm 783-6005

Saturday July 13
Cedar River Watershed — no
children allowed due to construc-
tion See Alpiner article page 3.
Jack Hornung 545-9122

Sunday July 14
Tiger Mtn. family hike
Tradition Plateau 2B 1 p.m.
Mary Cadigan 641-4046

JULY						
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"Beyond the Alps" I-90 Green-
way North Side Lakes, Pratt
Lake Trail to Defiance Trail,
some off-trail. Call leader.
4D 8 a.m. Ralph Owen 746-1070

Tuesday July 16
DNR Forester Hike — learn
about Tiger Mtn. State Forest
with a DNR Forester
3B 9 a.m.

Wednesday July 17
Red Town Dam (Toddler/Family
Hike) 1A 10 a.m.
Peggy Barch 432-5446

Saturday July 20
Deja Vu--Day Two Mountains to
Sound March Commemorative
Hike, Rattlesnake Lake to Hwy
18 — rugged bushwack, new
route 4D 8 a.m.
Ted Thompson 454-8643

Sunday July 21
Tradition Lake Pateau, Tour of
Best Trails 2A 1 p.m.
Ted Thompson 454-8643

Cougar Mtn. Red Town to
Wilderness Peak 3C 9:30
Tom Walsh 453-8319

Monday July 22
Board Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Issaquah Community Hall
(next to the fire station)

Tuesday July 23
Twin Falls 2B 9:30
Al Blalock 746-4155
Ed Bowser 747-3349

Wednesday July 24
Cougar Mtn. Family Hike,
Anti-Aircraft Peak 1A 10 a.m.
Peggy Barch 432-5446

Friday July 26
Tiger Mtn. Midnight Madness
See Alpiner article page 3.
Jack Hornung 545-9122

Saturday July 27
Cougar Mtn. West Tibbets Creek
3B 9:30 a.m.
Ann Leber 746-3291

Little Si 2C 12:30
Leonard Eisenberg 392-4034

Sunday July 28
Tradition Lake Plateau
2B 1 p.m.
Bob Gross 392-0539

Wednesday July 31
Tradition Lake Plateau for Kids
1B 10 a.m.
Dave Kappler 392-3591

**August 1991
Hikes and Events**

Sunday August 4
Coal Creek Falls 2B 10
a.m.
Patty Olwell 391-6719

Thursday August 8
Lake Alice Road - Snoqual-
mie Falls 3B 9:30 a.m.
Al Blalock 746-1455
Ed Bowser 747-3349

Friday August 9
West Tiger 2&3, 3C 9 a.m.

Tom Palm 783-6005

Saturday August 10
"Beyond the Alps" Twin
Lakes Loop 3C 8:30 a.m.
Warren Jones 888-0262

West Tiger Mtn. 2C 12:30
Bob Gross 392-0539

Sunday August 11
Squak Mtn. Central Peak
Loop & Summit (nice for-
est)
3C 12 p.m.
Clifton Cooper 932-3124

Wednesday August 14
Family Hike — Lake Hills
Greenbelt 1A 10 a.m.
Peggy Barchi 432-5446

Friday August 16
DNR Forestry Hike with a
Tiger Mtn. State Forest fo-
rester
(new hike — should be
great)

AUGUST

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Saturday August 17
Tiger Mtn. Big Trees and
Caves 2C 12:30
Leonard Eisenberg 392-
4034

Sunday August 18
Tradition Plateau 2B 1 p.m.
Bob Gross 392-0539

Wednesday August 21
"Beyond the Alps" Lake
Lillian 4D 8 a.m.
Joann Howe 432-0741

Saturday August 24
Squak Mtn. Thrush Gap &
Tie Mill 3B 9:30
Ann Leber 746-3291

Sunday August 25
Tiger Mtn. Leader's Choice
3C 9 a.m.
Will Thompson 488-8592

Monday August 26
Board Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Issaquah Community Hall
(next to the fire station)

Wednesday August 28
Family Hike — Yellow
Lake
1A 10 a.m.
Peggy Barchi 432-5446

Friday August 30
Squak Mtn. 3C 9:30
Mary Cadigan 641-4046

**September 1991
Hikes and Events**

Sunday September 1
Cougar Mtn. North/South
Traverse Peggy's Trail to
Far County 3C 9 a.m.
Ralph Owen 746-1070

Saturday September 7
Hobart Railroad Grade &
Middle Tiger Loop
3B 10 a.m.
Gail Palm 783-6005

Sunday September 8
Cougar Mtn. Red Town to
Wilderness Peak 3C 9:30
Tom Walsh 453-8319

Tuesday September 10
East Tiger Variations
3C 8:30 a.m.
Bob Knutsen 243-4546

Saturday September 14
Cougar Mtn. DeLeo Wall
3B 9:30 a.m.
Patty Olwell 391-6791

Sunday September 15
Wilderness Creek to Wild-
erness Peak (Cougar Mtn.
high point and forest)
2C 12 p.m.
Clifton Cooper 932-3124

**Wednesday
September 18**
"Beyond the Alps"
Pratt Lake Loop 4D 8 a.m.
Joann Howe 432-0741

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Saturday September 21
Little Si 2C 12:30 p.m.
Bob Gross 392-0539

Sunday September 22
West Tibbetts Gorge
2B 12:30
Dave Kappler 392-3571

Monday September 23
Tiger Mtn. Leader's Choice
3C 9 a.m.
Will Thompson 488-8592

*Board Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Issaquah Community Hall
(next to the fire station)*

Friday September 27
DNR Forestry Hike with a
Tiger Mtn. State Forest fo-
rester 2B 4 p.m.

Sunday September 29
Tradition Lake Plateau
Tour of the Best Trails
2A 1 p.m.
Ted Thompson 454-8643

Monday September 30
Cougar Mtn. Wilderness
Peak 3C 9:30
Mary Cadigan 641-4046

**Snoqualmie Valley
Trails Club
Summer Hike Schedule**

Thursday July 4

Mt. Washington. 10 miles 3350'
4D 9 a.m. NB
Summit views of Cedar River
Watershed and Mt. Rainier. Hiking
boots required.
Tom Palm 783-6005

Saturday July 6

Mt. Defiance. 10 miles 3300'
4D 8 a.m. NB
Matchless views and
outstanding wildflowers.
Hiking boots required.
Warren Jones 882-0262 or
284-0748.

Saturday July 13

Pratt River 2A 8:30 NB
Canoe crossing of Middle Fork
River. Beautiful easy hike along
the Pratt. Wonderful old growth.
10' and 13' trees! Hiking party
limited to 15. For signup call
888-2426 Don DeWitt.

Sunday July 14

Island Lake. 6 miles 1640'
2C 9 a.m. NB
Gorgeous alpine lake. More se-
cluded. Rocky terrain.
Peggy Owen 746-1070

Saturday July 20

Guye Peak. 5 miles 2000'
2C 10 a.m. NB
Rough path leads to exciting
summit with great views of Sno-
qualmie Pass Peaks. Hiking
boots required.
Cliff Cooper 932-3124

Sunday July 21

I-90 Greenway. Ashael Curtis to
Snowshed. 3.5 miles 350'
1A 10 a.m. NB
Easy pleasant walk on old RR
Grade.
Pat Brewington 888-2426

Sunday July 28

Commonwealth Basin
5 miles 800' 2B 9 a.m. NB
Old trail. Creek and waterfalls.
Hike in wilderness after a short
walk. Mike Leake 333-4243.

Wednesday July 31

Silver Peak
9 miles 2200' 3C 8 a.m. NB
Rocky peak high above Lake An-
nette. Big Cascade views. Hiking
boots required.
Pat Love 243-0355.

Saturday August 3

McClelland Butte
9 miles 4000' 4D 8:30 a.m. NB
Hike to just short of the top to
outstanding panoramic views.
Old growth forest.
Hiking boots required.
Jerry Wheeler 242-9344

Sunday August 4

Moon Wall. 8.5 miles 1800'
3C 9:30 a.m. NB
New acquisition to the Mt. Si
Conservation area. Boulder
fields, Canyon Creek and old
growth forest. Optional sidetrip:
Hawks Rocks.
Daucy Brewington 888-2426

Saturday August 10

Mt. Catherine
6 miles 2200' 3C 9 a.m. NB
Hike Twin Lakes trail to lovely
summit with outstanding views
of Snoqualmie Pass area.
June Stevens 222-5452

Sunday August 11

Sunday Lake
5 miles 400' 2A 9 a.m. NB
Beautiful hike along Sunday
Creek through ancient
old growth forest.
Diane Guthrie 788-6755

Saturday August 17

Bear Lakes
8 miles 2600' 3D 8 a.m. NB
Old mines and lofty lakes in
beautiful Lenox Creek country.
Hiking boots required.
Warren Jones 888-0262

Sunday August 18

Boxley Blowout / Cedar Butte
6 miles 650' 2B 9:30 a.m. NB
Proposed logging area. Good
views of watershed. Some off-
trail but easy cross country.
John Johnson 633-3805

Saturday August 24

Kendall Katwalk
10.5 mi. 2700' 4D 7:30 a.m. NB
Most spectacular section of Cas-
cade Crest, 5400' highpoint.
Gradual grade. Note: slow pace.
Hiking boots required.
Alexandra Dye 935-8510

Wednesday August 28

Little Si
5 miles 1200' 2C 5 p.m. NB
Wonderful, enchanting trail. Im-
pressive rock wall. Views of
Snoqualmie Valley. Optional:
River trail to the Blue Hole.
Cliff Cooper 932-3124

Saturday August 31

Loch Katrine and Ridge
7.5 mi. 1600' 3C 9:30 a.m. NB
North Fork valleys, simplest and
shortest route to high views. Su-
perb panoramas. Pleasant Cirque
Lake. Pat Brewington 888-2426

Sunday September 1

Thompson Lake
13 miles 3400' 4D 8:30 a.m. NB
Gorgeous lake set in a virgin for-
est. A full day, but easier than
you'd expect.
Mike Leake 333-4243

Monday September 2

Moss Vista
3 miles 800' 1B 9:30 a.m. NB
Short hike off the Little Si trail
Huge mossy rock buttresses.
Beautiful views of the valley.
Daucy Brewington 888-2426

*(Snoqualmie Valley Summer
hikes continued page 8)*

*(Snoqualmie Valley Trails Club
summer hike schedule, continued
from page 7)*

Saturday September 7
Gravel Ridge and Alaska Lakes
14 miles 2700' 4D 9 a.m. NB
Spectacular views at 4 miles.
Good hike for those who only
want to go part way. Lovely Al-
pine Lakes. Hiking boots re-
quired. Peggy Owen 746-1070

Sunday September 8
Lodge Lake
5 miles 500' 2B 1 p.m. NB
Easy hike on Pacific Crest Trail
to peaceful lake. Picturesque
views of Snoqualmie Summit
peaks.
Cliff Cooper 932-3124

Saturday September 14
Melakwa / Upper Melakwa Lakes
9 miles 2300' 3C 8:30 a.m. NB
Pleasant hike in and out of dense
forest. Waterfalls, huckleberries
and fall colors culminating at
beautiful Melakwa Lake.
Jeff Hogan 888-2961

Monday September 16
Twin Lakes
6 miles 1500' 2C 9 a.m. NB
Big views, mountain meadows
and a secluded alpine lake. Op-
tional sidetrip to Lake Lillian.
Roy Thompson 831-6339

Saturday September 21
Old CCC Truck Road, Big Blow-
out and Moss Cliffs
4 miles 570' 2B 9:30 a.m. NB
Easy scenic walk on old aban-
doned road just above Middle
Fork River. Views of the Pratt
Valley and Middle Fork peaks.
Pat Brewington 888-2426

Sunday September 22
Granite Mt. 8 miles, 3800' 4D
8:30 a.m. NB Brilliant rock
gardens. Blueberries. Splendid
summit trail. Panoramic views.
Hiking boots required. Note:
slow to moderate pace.
Tom Wood 391-8027

Saturday September 28
Red Mountain Pass
10 miles 2600' 4D 8 a.m. NB
Former Pacific Crest Trail leads
to outstanding fall colors and
views. Hiking boots required.
Warren Jones 888-0262

Sunday September 29
Rattlesnake Ledge
2 miles 1381' 1C 9 a.m. NB
Steep, rough trail through subal-
pine herbs and shrubs to the rock
nose of Rattlesnake Mt.
June Stevens 222-5452

*N.B. = meet at the North Bend
Park and Ride 4th and Main by
the library.*

**Snoqualmie Valley
Trails Club
888-2426**

Issaquah Alps Trails Club T-Shirt Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

City /State / ZIP _____

Phone _____

Size: Small Medium Large X-Large

Color: Royal Blue White

Sleeve length: Long (\$15) Short (\$11)

*Postage and tax included in price. Please fill out a separate
form for each shirt ordered. Make checks payable to Issaquah
Alps Trails Club for the full amount. Mail orders to: Issaquah
Alps Trails Club, T-shirt order, P.O. Box 351, Issaquah, WA
98027*

Issaquah·Alps·Trails·Club



Harvey Manning's notebook (from the bottom of the birdcage)

Wanna go bear hunting on Tiger Mountain? Pick a spot off in the woods and regularly set out chunks of tasty meat. After a while, post yourself in ambush. Comes Brer, BAM! Bear-baiting, it's called. And it is legal!

Have you read "Mister B" by Irving Petite? It's in all the libraries and some bookstores. A momma bear who had triplets, as occasionally happens, felt unable to cope with more than twins. Though Irving knew better than to meddle with "abandoned" young, this one really was abandoned so he nurtured it through infancy. He was in the process of gradually adjusting Mister B to wildhood when a Nimrod barged onto Irving's private property and shot Mister B dead. The book is not Bambi-ish sentimental, but reinforces a distaste for the notion that wild animals "belong" to man--and most especially to the man with a gun.

* * *

It started off as "North Village". The east half, owned by Northern Pacific then Burlington Northern then Glacier Park Company, became "Glacier Ridge". Blackhawk/Port Blakeley, otherwise known as the Grand Ridge Partnership, acquired the property and renamed it "Montreaux". That's French. It comes from a popular book, "1001 Names for Subdivisions". At last count there are in the United States 1001 Montreauxs. (More in Quebec.) The homes will be in the half-mill range; for Cougar Mountain, that's "affordable." Come see between July 13 and August 18, when 100,000 folks are expected to tour the eight houses that will constitute the 1991 Street of Dreams. "To sleep, perchance to dream..." ARGH!

*** The official name is Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park. The press often mishears and substitutes "Wildlife Park" and that's fine by

us. But now we find the official trail-head signs and brochures referring to "Cougar Mountain Regional Park".

Is there a cabal that does not want a "wildland"? Is there some middle-level functionary still machinating to get bicycles on the foot trails? Does the pedal-pushing County Chief have anything to do with it? (Or with anything?)

Or is there an innocent explanation, like plain stupidity? Next time you speak to your King County Councilperson, ask him or her.

King County Public Works know it has a tiger by the tail--make that a cougar. It has commenced a special periodical to try to hold down the brickbats. To get on the mailing list for Lakemont Boulevard Bulletin, write or call: Mike Gillespie, Senior Engineer King County Department of Public Works, King County Administration Building, Seattle, WA 98104 296-3741; ask for Mike, please, no rough language on the phone, just say NO!

The King County Surface Water Management Division has established an East Lake Sammamish Basin and Non-Point Action Advisory Team (BAT). Call 296-6519 for the date and place of the next public meeting. As for Meg Moorhead, the Project Manager. Be nice. Attend a meeting to not be nice. Do a little hollering about the destruction of Yellow Lake. Speak up for Saddle Swamp, Queen's Bog, any of the other 20 wetlands, lakes, and streams identified as having important values, and other not yet identified.

The Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition and Governor Booth Gardner have asked the 1991 legislature to authorize \$295 million in general obligation bonds to purchase and en-

hance outdoor recreation lands and wildlife habitat. In 1990 \$53 million was appropriated. The 10-year goal is a total of \$450 million.

The existing fund would have acquired Section 9 on Squak Mountain in 1990, had it not been for the Grand Ridge Partnership from Hell sitting in a corner with dollar signs in their eyes and their thumbs up their noses.

Call your legislators and insist they support "Governor Gardner's 1991-93 Capital Budget Request for outdoor recreation and conservation lands" and his "\$1 billion Capital Forum proposal".

Write a letter. Or use the toll-free legislative hotline: 1 800 562-6000. Hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays.

King County tells us that Klahanie could not now be built, not as it is. Because the county has suddenly discovered wetlands. Some of us recall standing at the microphone, looking the County Councilors in the eye, and telling them they were granting free license to lubricious Lowe Enterprises, the "environmentally sensitive" developer, to destroy Yellow Lake.

Many of us recall the long, wide flat valley dating from Ice Age, May Valley, part drained by May Creek, part by McDonald Creek and West Fork Issaquah Creek. Local residents who saw the valley regularly become a lake assumed no developer in his right mind would build there, no government whose brain was hooked up would permit it. The February 10, 1991 Seattle Times devoted half its front page and the entirety of two inside pages to the incredible story of "Sunset Valley Farms". Chances are no developer will go to jail, no county official will be fired--but one guesses there'll be a whole lot of suing going on for years to come.

Fred Rounds 1907-1991

Fred was five years of age when his family came to Newcastle from the old country (North Dakota). Among his boyhood chores was swamping out the stables, downslope from today's Red Town Gate; an open shaft was handy and became (and remains?) a horse-manure mine.

One summer a hard-rock miner hired him to shovel gravel into a sluice box at the Ball Park. The miner never let Fred watch while he cleaned the rug, so the gold output of Coal Creek remains unknown. Fred's first man's job was helping clear the grade for the logging railroad of Washington Timber & Spar. An afternoon in the 1980s when I encountered him on what is now the stretch of trail we call "Fred's Railroad," he told of felling trees and chopping brush there at the age of 15. Sixty years later, using the grade as a truck road to haul firewood, he reflected, "Haven't gained much ground since then. Haven't lost much, though."

Over the years he worked as a logger on Cougar -- old growth, second growth, firewood -- also on Tiger, out of the Hobart Mill, to Fifteenmile Creek and beyond.

However, as early as state law allowed, he went down in the mines. ("Liked to log in summer. Come winter and the weather was better underground.") No humble wage-slave, he took his pay by the carload and chopped coal at such a pace as to earn astonishingly big money. He enjoyed the earning -- and the spending. He fondly recalls certain holiday festivities in the Issaquah jail.

The coal company once treated the entire town of Newcastle to a huge party in Seattle's grandest hotel; the hotel ended up calling the police, who escorted the entire town of Newcastle to the train and told it never to come back. (--Or is that still another of the tales Fred spun to test my gullibility? Newcastle folk were notably moral and well-behaved. Mostly.)

As a coal-digging superstar he was chosen for the Newcastle Mine Rescue Squad, which was summoned to disasters throughout the West. When Pacific Coast Coal Company abandoned Newcastle, Fred went to other mines, including a 1930's "hell" operation on the Cedar River. On Cougar he worked for Strain, a gypo who "mined to the grass roots," his area of activities are now marked by scores of cave holes. Fred returned to logging, finally for firewood.

He had cutting rights on property of Palmer Coking Coal (which had bought out the Pacific Coast Company) in exchange for his services as caretaker and de facto police department. (Among his extra assignments in the 1920s was bringing the company payroll -- all in gold and silver coins from Seattle to Newcastle. Small in physique though Fred was, he had a look in his eye that potential train-robbers recognized as meaning business.)

It was with Fred's authorization (and Palmer permission) that we began in 1976 our trail-building and mapping and general publicizing of the area that was to become the heart of the Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park. When we commenced the annual Returns to Newcastle, he was a fixture, his truck parked near Big Top, outfitted with a cooler (filled by courtesy of Evan Morris) which served as miners' hospitality center. Illness kept him from the 1990 Return; May 14, 1991, he passed on.

(For more reminiscences by and about "The Mayor of Newcastle," see our guidebook. The first edition contained the best anecdotes because I then swallowed everything Fred told me. Later editions still have many colorful tales, most of the true, or almost.)

Harvey Manning

Thousands of visitors, some four-legged, Returned to Newcastle

Red Town Trailhead- Sunday June 2: a good time was held by all who attended the 9th annual gathering of Newcastle miners and their families. King County Parks, the events primary sponsor, estimated the crowd at a few thousand. Celebrities included King County Councilman Bruce Laing and author Harvey Manning who graciously autographed "Hiking and Strolling the Trails of Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park" (co-authored with Ralph Owen.) Ralph and Peggy Owen again did an outstanding job of displaying historical photos of the area and its people. Milt Swanson's display of artifacts was constantly jammed with history buffs.

The only tense moment occurred the night before the event. Dave Kappler, his daughters, Elizabeth and Sarah, their friend Sara Delmar, and Bill McFerren watched as a white pet mouse rampaged through their camp. The mouse was put under house arrest by Mr. Kappler, but escaped during the night. When the Red Town Bear was spotted Sunday afternoon, they were thankful s/he was not their midnight visitor.

Much thanks to the many volunteers who helped staff booths, represent the club, and lead walks and hikes. Without their help the event would not have happened.

--Bill McFerren

All welcome to Trails Club Board meetings

The Trails Club Board of Directors meets monthly to discuss the State of the Alps and plan club activities. Members are welcome to sit and listen-- and speak up.

Meeting are held at the Issaquah Community Hall on Sunset Way east of Front Street, next to the fire station. As of this quarter, meeting have been switched to Mondays: July 22, August 26 and September 23.

Hike Information

HIKE LEADERS

The hike leaders are volunteers who have donated 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 regardless of weather or attendance.

Trails in the Issaquah Alps may be good or bad, easy or hard, muddy or dusty, brushy or clear, steep or flat, easy or hard--or all of the above. Some are not much more than animal trails. As *volunteers*, neither the hike leaders, the Trails Club or club directors are in any way responsible or liable for hiker's comfort, transportation, property, safety or general wellbeing while traveling to and from the trail head or while hiking or working 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 with the hike leader and others who want to hike these trails. Children under 13 should be accompanied by an adult.

HIKE CLASSIFICATIONS

Each hike has a number and letter designation after it (i.e. 2C). Numbers indicate the hiking time and letters indicate the degree of difficulty.

Hiking time

Class 1: 2 hours

Class 2: 4 hours

Class 3: 6 hours

Class 4: 8 hours

These are *approximate* hiking times, not including travel time to and from the trailhead (20 to 70 minutes, depending on the hike) and meal times (lunch will add another 20-70 minutes, depending on the mood of the group). The times are based on an assumption of a two mile per hour pace, with a half hour added for each 1000 feet in elevation gain. Trail conditions, weather, and unexpected hazards can extend the hiking time.

Degree of Difficulty

A: little or no elevation gain, up to 500 feet, no difficulties for average walker

B: some climbing: up to 1200 feet, or some other difficulty

C: more climbing: up to 2500 feet, or some other difficulty

D: much climbing: over 2500 feet elevation gain

This is an *estimated* degree of difficulty. Most trails in the Issaquah Alps are not up to the high standards of state and national parks. Issaquah Trails can be very steep in parts or muddy and brushy. Hikers may gain 1000 feet in just one mile of a five-mile, 1500-foot elevation gain hike. Sometimes there are trees to climb over or nettles and berry bushes to beat through. *Short* doesn't automatically mean easy and *long* doesn't automatically mean tough.

HIKE DESCRIPTION MODIFIERS

Exploration

The leader shows trails and points of interest along the way. The trails to be hiked or points visited depend on the weather and the group's interests.

Leader's Choice

The leader had not decided where to hike before publication of the hike schedule.

Trail Party

Trail maintenance work party.

Variation

The leader may detour, take short cuts and loops, explore or otherwise deviate from the main trail to make the hike more interesting.

Exploratory Bushwhack

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 and have a good time hiking where others seldom tread.

Youth Hike

For children ages six to 12.

Parents must come along.

Toddler's Walk

For parents with very small children or infants.

MEETING PLACE

Trails Club hikes meet in the parking lot just south of Issaquah City Hall. To get there, take Exit 17 (Issaquah-Front Street) off Interstate 90 and turn south into downtown Issaquah. Go one mile or so down Front Street, past the light at Sunset to S.E. Andrews. Turn left into the KC Foods complex. Go one block to parking area between First Avenue and Rainier Blvd. Park south of Andrews Street.

CLOTHING

Dress for the Pacific Northwest outdoors--expect rain, snow, sunshine, fog and everything in between. Bring extra clothing, rain gear, food, drink, matches, flashlight and first aid supplies. Wear comfortable hiking boots or hiking shoes.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE

Volunteers organize and schedule trail maintenance parties from time to time. These work parties generally meet at the same place as the regular hikes (see "Meeting Place" 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 a vital part of the Club's work--and a great way to meet people!* Individuals and groups are also encouraged to adopt a trail, or section of trail, and be responsible for maintaining it.

ISSAQUAH ALPS
HOTLINE: 328-0480
24 hours a day, recorded hike descriptions and club messages

Membership Application Issaquah Alps Trails Club

P.O. Box 351, Issaquah, WA 98027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

- Annual Regular Dues \$10
 - Annual Contributing Dues \$20
 - Lifetime Membership \$100
 - Limited Income \$5
- All memberships cover the entire family.
- A regular annual family membership is \$10. This covers the cost of printing and mailing the Alpiner and a part of the club's overhead expenses.
- Contributing memberships at \$20 or more cover the rest of the club's overhead expenses and allow us some financial leeway in planning special events, publishing new trail guides and keeping our trail maintenance tool supply fit and ample.
- Lifetime memberships at \$100 give us room to be creative and visionary, to venture forth on projects otherwise beyond our means and dreams.

Issaquah Alps Mail Order Service

P.O. Box 351, Issaquah, WA 98027

- Guide to Trails of Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park, Coal Creek Park, May Creek Park* By Harvey Manning and Ralph Owen. 1990 updated edition. This new edition brings you all the old favorites plus new favorites--new trails on the west side connecting to Renton and May Creek plus and *all new maps!* \$8.50 (includes map, tax and shipping)
- Guide to Trails of Tiger Mountain* By Bill Longwell. 1989 updated edition. New trails: Tradition Plateau Trail (adding Swamp and Wetlands Trails), the *new* Bootleg Trail, the *new* Preston Trail. Plus encounters with animals. \$8.50 (includes map, tax and shipping)
- Bedrock and Bootsles--An introduction to the Geology of the Issaquah Alps* By Marvin Pistrang. A thorough but simple chronology of the geology of the Alps from the early Eocene period to modern times. \$3.50 (includes tax and shipping)
- The Coals of Newcastle: A hundred years of hidden history* By Richard K. McDonald and Lucille McDonald. A complete history of the once-thriving coal mining area on Cougar Mountain, now hidden from all but hikers. More than 100 photos, four maps and Tim O'Brian's account of the incredible Seattle and Walla Walla Railroad. \$11.50 (includes tax and shipping)
- Tiger Mt. map* \$1.75 (includes tax and shipping)
- Cougar Mt. map* \$1.75 (includes tax and shipping)
- Tradition Lake map* Free. Send business-sized (#10) stamped, self addressed envelope.
- Grand Ridge Map* Free. Send business-sized (#10) stamped, self-addressed envelope.
- T-Shirt: "Issaquah Alps Trails Club"* Specify size (S,M,L,XL) color (blue or white) and sleeve length. Short sleeve: \$11, long sleeve: \$15.
- T-Shirt: "Mountains to Sound March"* Specify size (S, M, L, XL). \$11. All shirts are blue and short-sleeved.
- Poster: Mountains to Sound March.* Full-color poster depicts the dramatic sweep of Interstate 90 as it winds down out of the Cascades into Seattle. \$12.50.

Issaquah Alps Trails Club

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