



**NEW PARKS LEADERS:** Jennifer Finch and Jeff Watling pose with Harvey Manning Statue

## LENARD SEEKS HELP FOR IATC

By Doug Simpson

The October 27 meeting of the IATC board was focused prominently on improving the club's efficiency by taking on staff help. President Kirt Lenard, overseeing the club's finances without a club treasurer, proposed to hire a professional bookkeeper. He also proposed to explore the possibility of hiring an executive director to oversee the administrative aspect of the club. Both requests were passed by the board.

The bookkeeper, on pay not to exceed \$1000 per year, would produce monthly and quarterly reports and produce an annual financial statement and budget. Lenard has someone in mind for the position.

The executive director would be a contracted employee who would be an administrative assistant to the board, acting on duties designed by the board and president.

In other business, Rachel Hopkins resigned from her board seat to devote more time to her family. John Sherwin was nominated and elected to serve the remainder of Hopkins' three-year term. (*See story on p.4*)

Efforts have been undertaken to contact 187 individuals who have

## NEWCOMERS TAKE PARK POSTS

By Doug Simpson

After losing two community icons—Anne McGill and Margaret Macleod—the City of Issaquah was fortunate to land capable and dedicated replacements in Jeff Watling and Jennifer Fink.

Watling is the new Parks & Recreation Director, hired last August to replace McGill. Fink, hired in August 2015, replaced Macleod in a more limited and focused job as park planner. Whereas Macleod's title was Interagency Coordinator serving the city, the county, state parks and local DNR, Fink's services are totally funded by the City of Issaquah, under Watling's parks

umbrella.

Both are enthusiastic and committed to their new tasks in the Issaquah community, and both come prepared from similar roles in the area. Watling came to the area from City of Kent and previously worked for both Sammamish Parks and Metro Parks Tacoma. Fink comes from employment in Issaquah Highlands Community Association and a post with the Shoshone National Forest in Wyoming.

Watling is local, having graduated from Kentridge High School and the University of Washington in 1990. Jennifer's roots go to Ari-

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Whenever possible, please use e-mail to contact any member listed below.

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IATC subsists on member donations only. Please send your tax-deductible contributions to the address above to help sustain our efforts to preserve, protect, and promote the Issaquah Alps and local environment.

Articles are welcome, preferably via e-mail to: [d.simpson6191@gmail.com](mailto:d.simpson6191@gmail.com)  
Send diskette or hard copy to post office box number above.

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

As I write this note, we are looking at closing out another great year for IATC. David Kappler will comment on the key advocacy issues elsewhere in the newsletter, but in addition to his great work, our hiking program has made amazing contributions, bringing the beauty of the Alps to the public, and our revitalized trail maintenance program has done the same, working closely with DNR and King County Parks.

We are also making progress on infrastructure issues, which, while not glamorous, are essential to keeping the group going forward efficiently. We have made progress on updating membership lists, increasing the frequency of communication to members, and engaging the services of an accountant to assure our books are in order.

We are also looking at other ways to supplement our core group of volunteers by seeking out and engaging more volunteers and adding other professional expertise when appropriate. Last, we were also able to negotiate a favorable insurance program renewal. I know, no sizzle here, but it's important for you to know what's taking place "behind the curtain."

Looking forward, there is certainly much more to do. While our membership numbers are steady, it is worrisome that we are not seeing growth reflecting the population increases in Issaquah and surrounding areas. There is growing interest in outdoor recreation, but seemingly we are not connecting and converting enough outdoor enthusiasts into advocates!

If we are going to continue to be effective promoters and defenders of wild spaces, we are going to have to do more than just keep our current membership base. Have you recently invited a hiker friend to join us? Please do!

## ADVOCACY REPORT

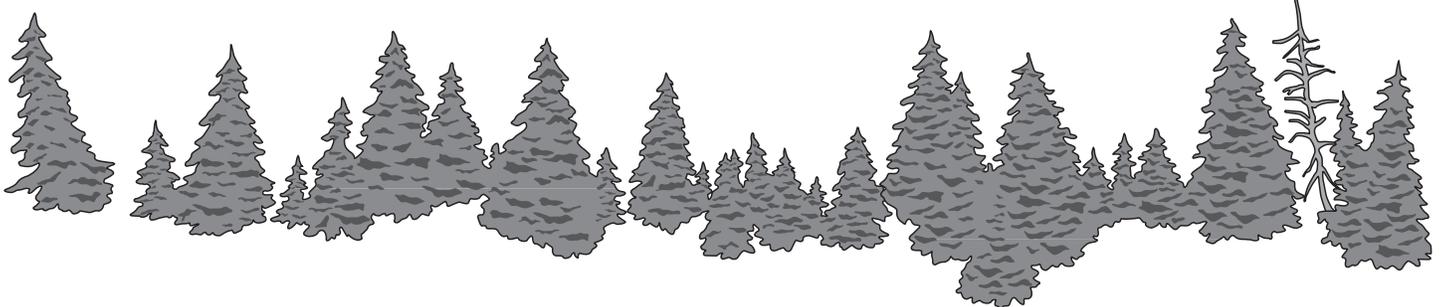
By David Kappler, Vice-President for Advocacy

Although "Trails" is part of our organization's name, we are a "land and water" group first and trails where appropriate come later. We are constantly working with our main partners on various land acquisitions. Some parcels are quite small and some very large. The best way we could make those parcels expensive and hard to purchase would be to list them here, but be assured that many public and private organizations and agencies are working on a number of acquisitions at this time.

Where we can be very public in our support of acquiring land and trails is through the land development process. Just in the City of Issaquah a half dozen properties in development review include creeks, wetlands, and other critical areas that need permanent protection and have the potential to provide local and even regional trail segments. We are following these proposals all through the review process.

We have a new parks director in Issaquah, and our work with him has been quite positive; he comes into the job fully appreciative of the park open space and trail systems that have been developed in and around Issaquah--and our role in making it happen. The city is going through a year-long process to update their Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan (PROST Update) and we will be very involved with that process.

The need for more trails, trailheads and more public transportation to serve trailheads is made obvious by the parking problems and congestion we see at nearly every trailhead. We have ideas about future trailhead locations and trails. We welcome your thoughts about what opportunities you see and what you are willing to do to make those opportunities become realities.



## COUGAR MTN. PARK HAS MANY EVENTS

By Steve Williams

**Running Events:** Six trail runs, ranging from 5 kilometers to a 26-mile marathon, were held at the park this year. Over 1,200 runners and an estimated 550 supporters and family members participated. All of the events started early in the morning at the Sky Country Trailhead, and most were finished by mid-day to minimize conflicts with other trail users.

A big chunk of each runner's registration fee went back to King County Parks, which has now raised over \$155,000 for park maintenance since 2003. A few runners even volunteered at work parties helping to maintain the trails.

Also, as the teenage writers of IATC's scholarship essay noted, many younger folks now use the trails for cross country team conditioning or "just to go running for fun with my friends."

**Wilderness Awareness School Classes:** For the past ten years, summer day-camp programs have been held at the park, serving several hundred kids each year. The children spend the day out in the woods with adult and youth counselors, learning about local plants, animals, eco-systems, safety and survival.

In addition, there are lots of games, songs and fun activities, all aimed at giving the kids an appreciation of nature and fostering a love of the outdoors. IATC leaders have often said that "the youth of today will become the park advocates of tomorrow," so we are pleased to see the kids out on the trails being introduced to nature and conservation on Cougar Mountain.

**Trail Upgrades and New Signs:** The County Parks crew responsible for Cougar Mountain also has to take care of twenty other parks, such as the Coalfield baseball and soccer fields, the Taylor Mountain Working Forest, and both the east and west sides of Squak Mountain. As a result, only a third of their time can be devoted to Cougar. (You hikers can help by reporting trail problems, clearing wind-fall branches, and removing leaves from trail drains.)...

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## SHERWIN BRINGS ENERGY TO IATC

By Douglas Simpson

The Issaquah Alps Trails Club may have a closer connection to Lake Sammamish State Park by filling a vacant position of its board with John Sherwin. The 44-year old Microsoft employee is the standing president of the Friends of Lake Sammamish, an activist organization that works in many ways to improve the park.

A native of Dallas, Texas and a graduate of Texas A&M, Sherwin over the years developed an affinity for mountains and oceans and connected with some Washingtonians; his interest led him to jump at the chance to take a Microsoft job, having done casualty work with the company previously.

Sherwin is not without links to David Kappler is his brother-in-law, related to the husband of wife Ann Newcomb, a Seattle native. They were married in 2012. He also helped George Potter and Kappler in 2012 to rework the club's website. Encouraged to join the club, he met IATC President Kirt Lenard earlier this year, the final step in bringing him onto the board.

Shortly after arriving in the area in 1995, Sherwin

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1st Place : “Dew Drop on the Nook” by Connie King

## PHOTO WINNERS ANNOUNCED

By Geri Potter

Congratulations to the winners of the second annual “Picture the Alps” photo contest. First place went to Connie King, for her “Dew Drop on the Nook,” taken on Tiger Mountain. Runner up was Kristy Swanson for “Forest Through the Trees,” taken on Cougar Mountain, and third place went to Tony Messer for “Lilies on the “DeLeo Wall,” also taken on Cougar.

Entries to the contest were judged on technical merit, creativity and the best representation of natural beauty on the Issaquah Alps. Ten finalists were selected from the eligible submissions. Those ten were then put on display at the Issaquah Alps Trails Club booth at Salmon Days. Visitors to the booth were given ballots and voted for what they thought were the top three photos.

Plenty of time remains to get out your camera for next year’s contest and share what you see through your lens with others. September 1, 2017 is the deadline for submitting entries. Besides the sheer joy of sharing your visions of the Issaquah Alps, the winners will receive REI gift cards. Details will be posted on the club’s website months prior to the due date.

*continued from page 1, “Newcomers”*

zona, where she graduated from the University of Arizona in 1992, specializing in landscape architecture.

“This job for me is a chance to feather my career,” Fink stated, “doing what I love, being outside in the natural world in parks.”

Watling said he has always had an affinity for Issaquah, where he cites the community’s passion for parks and open space. He loves the important role that parks and trails play in the community.

“What we have here is unique in the Puget Sound area,” Watling said, “one of a kind. Livability is important, and

our job is to preserve parks and open space as a big part of what defines Issaquah.” Both cite the importance of parks and open space in a community that is surrounded by a lake and mountains and forests. “We want to do our part in helping to create a lasting legacy for the area,” Watling said.

Both are involved in updating the Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Trails (PROST) Plan, a long-term strategic plan for the city’s parks and recreation system. After the first of the year, public meetings will be held to gather citizens’ input to provide a clear vision for the parks system and its connection to open space. The goal is to see how to preserve the parks legacy for the next 20-30- years.

Knowing that people have different needs and uses for the outdoors, they point out the need for balance. “Some want trails and protected green space while others want athletic fields,” Watling said. “We need to advocate for the entire system. Infighting over differences only gets you so far. We’re here to steward for the whole system.”

Current projects, Fink pointed out, are at Confluence Park, a skate park at Tibbets Valley Park and athletic fields at Central Park in the Highlands. Confluence Park will have a new pedestrian bridge over Issaquah Creek for access to Margaret’s Meadow and an upgraded playground. The 15.5-acre park, under construction now, will have a new 14-stall parking area

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## JAMES ADVANCES ON PACIFIC CREST



By Doug Simpson

*(Ed. Note: The Spring 2015 Alpinist presented a story about 70-year old Marjorie James and her efforts to trek the entire Pacific Crest Trail. This is a follow-up story on her progress.)*

“Grandma,” as Marjorie James has been dubbed on the Pacific Crest Trail, completed two more sections in April and September this year, but much remains for the now 71-year-old.

In April, Marjorie completed the first 150 miles of the PCT, from the Mexican border to Idlewild in less than two weeks, typically hiking 12 miles a day, and 18 miles one day. She found trailmates to be consistently friendly folks like Frodo, Wildcard, Magical and Cookie.

At the tiny town of Julian, Marjorie befriended Carmen (at Carmen’s Place), who made her a huge sandwich, then sat down and enjoyed a lengthy visit. Carmen is now a Facebook friend, as are other PCT hikers.

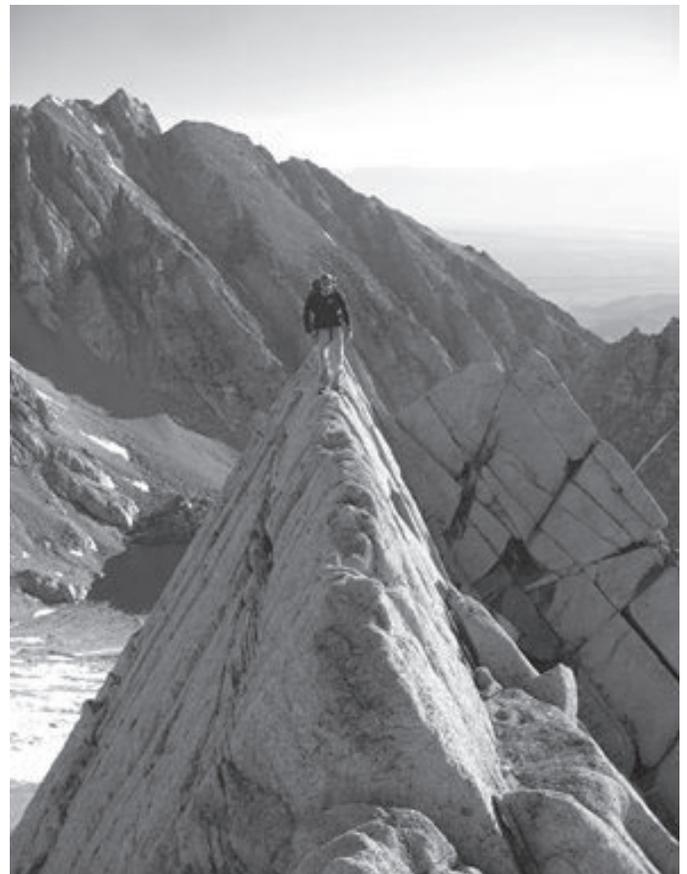
James says her time on the trail has taught her two valuable lessons. First, trust the trail because count-

less hikers have completed it no matter how difficult sections may seem. It is survivable, so just put one foot after the other and keep going. Second, respect the trail. It is demanding and requires careful attention to assorted obstacles.

In September “Grandma” trekked from Mt. Adams to White Pass, an injury getting her off the trail before reaching her Snoqualmie Pass destination. She had wrecked her knee—a torn medial meniscus and small tibia fracture that might require surgery. Friend “Apple” gave her some pain reliever, enabling her to trudge the last 12 miles to White Pass.

Before the injury, Marjorie did conquer the Knife Edge in the Goat Rocks area, one of her main goals. She had read about Goat Rocks in Tammy Agar’s book and saw her slide presentation of what Agar’s calls “the most beautiful place in Washington.”

“I’m done hiking alone,” James said. Despite her adventurous spirit, IATC pals Richard Mann and others have “given me grief” and advised her to hike with steady companions.



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## IATC PARTICIPATES IN 2016 SALMON DAYS

By Gail Folkins

Led by IATC Vice-President Dave Kappler, the IATC maintained an active presence at the 2016 Salmon Days Festival through a booth located at the Fish Hatchery. This is the club's 35th year participating in the event, which celebrates the return of the salmon up Issaquah Creek.

While rain fell on Saturday, Sunday's summer-like temperatures brought out the crowds. IATC volunteers shared information about the club, including a popular handout about upcoming hikes, along with books about the Issaquah Alps, trail maps, and a children's scavenger hunt activity.

One of the highlights of the booth was a quiz developed by IATC Board members. Two versions – one multiple choice and the other a challenging fill-in-the-blank effort – tested visitors' knowledge of the local landscape and the IATC. Many of the quiz takers spent time in the booth searching for clues (and learning about the organization in the process), while others took their clipboards outside for inspiration.

Throughout the weekend, IATC booth volunteers spoke with visitors about the club's ongoing mission of free hikes, trail work, and advocacy. Hiking and volunteer opportunities were among the most popular topics during my Sunday early afternoon shift.

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### MORE PHOTOS FROM THE ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST



2nd : "Forest Through the Trees" by Kristy Swanson



3rd : "Lilies on the DeLeo Wall" by Toni Messer

## ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR TRAIN DEPOT

The January meeting of the Issaquah Alps Trail Club, the year's most significant, will be held at the Issaquah Train Depot on January 26.

Highlighting the meeting at 7 p.m. is a panel discussion on future trails in the Issaquah Alps with reps of DNR, State Parks and the City of Issaquah participating.

Prior to the panel, starting at 6:30, is a social time with refreshments. Membership reports will be given at 8 p.m., followed by discussion of 2017 priorities.

Finally, around 8:30 will be election of officers and board members and approval of the budget.

The address of the Train Depot is 78 First Avenue, adjacent to Memorial Park in Issaquah.

## CHAPTER 14: Spring to December 1993

# KONIGSMARK FILLS PRESIDENCY VOID

By Doug Simpson

IATC was taking an active role both as a watchdog and a participant in the future development of Grand Ridge. Most important was the preservation of significant open space to avoid the area's becoming an over-developed parking lot.

June was set to be a busy month. On the 6th, King County Parks sponsored "Return to Newcastle," including exhibits and former miners on hand to discuss the Cougar Mountain park's history. Then on the 12th-13th another Grand Traverse was scheduled. Hikes of 12-14 miles on Cougar and Squak mountains were planned. "Our goal is to maximize the hiking experience rather than to besiege the mountains in a test of our energy and endurance," Fred Weinmann wrote.

The club's January election installed Ken Konigsmark as president, filling a void since Gus Nelson's resignation, Bill McFerrin as vice-president for operations, Jim Cadigan as treasurer and Pam Wallenstein as secretary. Roger Delmar was the only new board member. Konigsmark outlined an extensive list of goals for the club. Included were park acquisitions for Squak and Cougar mountains, promotion and preservation of Grand Ridge, and promoting and supporting the Mountains to Sound Greenway concept.

An Issaquah Forum identified fifty "Issaquah Treasures," as many as thirty of which related to IATC, including the club itself, being a "Trailhead City," Tiger Mountain views, Squak Mountain trees, and even Harvey Manning himself.

Ted Thomsen noted that Greenway President John Ellis announced that the Greenway had now raised \$750,000 of the \$900,000 needed for its four-year budget.

Harvey Manning's lengthy article on the Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park offered an extensive look at issues relating to the park. Among others things, he commented on the park's master plan, the ongoing battle for funding, keeping the bikers out, and the pending Newcastle Golf Course. A sample of Manning's expressionistic verbiage: "We

are told that the fat-tire bikers continue howling, but they will not prevail. . . We are given to understand that the scofflaws who continually violate the law on Cougar and sneer at Parks personnel may soon be in for a rude surprise."

Phase one of the Tiger Mountain DNR improvements was announced, including Paw Print access improvements, Tradition Lake upgrades and many additions to the High Point trailhead.

President Konigsmark wrote a message praising the work of the Washington Trails Association and encouraging membership.

The first National Trails Day was scheduled for June 5. The day, overseen by the American Hiking Society, was initiated to create a plan to establish a nationwide network of trails and greenways to bring trails "within 15 minutes of most American homes." IATC made plans to participate locally.

Supplementing Marty Hanson's article on bird sightings, Bill Longwell prepared a chart of the arrival history of nine area birds from 1986 to 1992. Longwell was always fascinated by area birds.

### July-September: Macleod Arrives

Overcoming developers and the City of Issaquah, the rural aspects of Grand Ridge were upheld, supporting the rural boundary decisions of King County's 1985 comprehensive plan. Councilman Larry Phillips led the board majority in the positive decision for the rural designation.

IATC's George Comstock interviewed Margaret Macleod, the new Trails Coordinator for Issaquah. She was busy at work trying to add the Tibbetts property at High Point to Tiger Mountain open space. Macleod was also trying to develop a consistent trail signing system for Issaquah Alps trails on the three local peaks. Other plans were also in the works. As Comstock wrote, "The Issaquah Alps are going to be a better place in the future due to Margaret Ma-

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cleod's work." History certainly proved the truth of that statement.

President Konigsmark announced that the City of Issaquah has offered IATC the use of the old station master's house as a headquarters for the club and as a base for "the Trailhead City." The house adjacent to the community Center at 2nd and Bush streets, of course, remains IATC's headquarters.

IATC's Mark Bullock was appointed to serve on King County's Open Space Citizen Oversight Committee. The committee sought to preserve open space, promote land use acquisitions and develop county trail routes.

Chairman Harvey Manning published a very lengthy essay entitled "A Post-Frontier Trail Ethic for King County—from Anthropocentrism to Biocentrism. . . From Egotism to Sociocentrism." Enough said! One subquote: "The bicycle is as orally neutral as a gun. . . Because it is a 'so anywhere' vehicle, owners assume they have a right to go anywhere."

The club took a strong opposition to the proposed Issaquah bypass that would have sliced along the side of Tiger Mountain. The proposal would have wiped out the trailheads at the Sunset interchange and the High School Trail. It later failed, of course.

Some trailwork projects were a reroute of the West Tiger 1 trail to detour from the microwave towers atop the mountain; trailbuilding on the upper reaches of the Rattlesnake Ridge; improvement at Tiger's Tradition Lake; and finishing with improvements for the trail from Issaquah High to Poo Poo Point.

## October-December: Section 9 Acquired

IATC took a strong position against the proposed housing development on 1700 acres of the Manke property on Taylor Mountain. The proposed 290 one-acre lots would mean the loss of a third of the open space between the Tiger Mountain State Forest and the Cedar River Watershed. It was hoped that an environmental impact statement would doom the proposal.

Doug McClelland of the Department of Natural Resources announced that DNR was developing trailheads at the Tiger summit off SR-18 and at South Tiger off the Southeast Tiger Mountain Road.

President Konigsmark announced that the State Parks Commission approved purchase of the long-sought Section 9 property on the south side of Squak Mountain for \$1.8 million. Another \$196,000 was approved to establish a trailhead off the May Valley Road for southside access.

Seeking financial assistance to support its efforts, King County Search and Rescue announced that in 1991 it conducted 251 missions, traveled 90,656 miles and spent 12,549 hours on its rescue missions.

Citing problems with trail and resource damage, user conflicts, and hiker safety and enforcement, IATC's board of directors issued a strong statement supporting the continued ban of bicycle usage within the Cougar Mountain Park, Squak Mountain State Park and off-road trails within the West Tiger Mountain NRCA. The board stated that "hikers should be physically separated from bikers."

A new interpretive center and handicap-accessible trails was opened at Tiger's Tradition Lake Trail. The dedication included presentations by Issaquah Mayor Rowan Hinds, City Administrator Leon Kos, DNA Regional Manager Bonnie Bunning, DNR's Doug McClelland, and the Greenway's Jim Ellis. The trail itself is a two-mile loop.

Only three new hike leaders came forth in 1993: Roger Delmar, Bert Drui and Robert McGraw. An appeal was issued for more hike leaders, though hike offerings were plentiful in the last quarter, with 18 hikes in October, 19 in November and 10 in December. Included were frequent weekday hikes.

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*continued from page 5, "Newcomers"*

at Margaret's Meadow. The project should be completed sometime in the spring.

Both Jeff Watling and Jennifer Fink are outdoors people with a love of Issaquah parks and green space. They are enthusiastically working hard to fill the shoes of their iconic predecessors.



# MORE LONGWELL FAVORITE BIRDS

By Bill Longwell

*(In a recent Alpiner, I reprinted Bill Longwell's spring 1990 essay on part 1 of his favorite birds in the Issaquah Alps area. The club's Chief Ranger for years, Bill was without question the most outstanding naturalist in the club's history. Here is part 2, reprinted from the summer 1990 issue. —Ed.)*

**Wilson's Warbler:** The first Wilson's Warbler I observed was in July, 1970, at the blockhouse on Squak Mountain. I stood in a grove of salmonberry and watched this bright yellow-green warbler flit from branch to branch. It peered at me with its jet-black eyes and tilted its black cap toward me.

While it's the tiniest of warblers and certainly the most energetic, the Wilson's Warbler is the easiest to observe. It is always curious and almost always willing to work toward me when I return its call. Often a pair flies to me at the time time. This bird is a flycatching warbler. It feeds near water and stays put only a short time. . .

This is a bird that chatters. Imitate the "chichichichichi" and wait patiently for results. Watch for it almost anywhere in the Issaquah Alps. For an almost certain sighting, try the wetlands along the King County Trail between Preston and the Raging River crossing. The Wilson's Warbler winters from Mexico to Panama and stays in the Northwest from April to September. Observers can best find it in May and June.

**Northern Bullock's Oriole:** Surprised to find an oriole in the Issaquah Alps? The large size and brilliant color of this cousin to the Baltimore Oriole make this a prized sighting.

One warm spring afternoon I was hanging over the Mile Four Bridge near the Lake Alice Road, trying to penetrate the thick alder brush in order to sight this fiery orange, black and white bird. Somewhere in the thicket perched a Northern Oriole. It was answering my call, but was too smart to show itself and reward me with a closeup glimpse. I finally gave up.

The flute-like whistles of the Northern Oriole are dif-

ficult to mimic. Perhaps this is the reason I see this bird just three or four times a season. A little larger than a robin, this oriole seems misplaced. It belongs in the tropics. It does winter there, from Mexico to Costa Rica. Adult males have a black crown, chin, nape and back. Other than white wing bars, the rest is orange. An expectant observer almost never sees this oriole in open areas. Look for it in the alders near Lake Alice or along the Puget Power road on Snoqualmie Ridge. It prefers mature deciduous trees, a reason it is so difficult to find.

**Western Wood Pee Wee:** It's early evening and the piercing "phee-yer" of the Western Wood Pee Wee rings through the broken forest of Manning's Reach, snapping me to attention. I work along the Tiger Mountain Trail, searching above and below the trail to find the snag this bird sings from. Finally rewarded, I see a small, olive-brown flycatcher sitting at the end of a branch, searching the space before it for one more meal before darkness.

This is not a bird of the deep forests. Hear it at the high and open vistas of Tiger Mountain or in high alpine meadows, like the Pacific Crest Trail near Chinook Pass. This mite of a bird stands on the highest perch of a long snag, darts from branch to branch to catch an insect and flies right back to the same perch. Perhaps the most fierce predator of insects among flycatchers, the Western Wood Pee Wee takes flies, wasps, ants and termites—all insects most humans do not appreciate.

This is a jaunt bird. Its call cheers the hearts of those who hear it. Look for it in the Issaquah Alps from May to August. After that it's speeding back to spend winters in Central America and northwestern South America.

**Western Tanager:** Bird lovers are hard put to find another species more brilliantly colored than the Western Tanager. Look for a red head, yellow underparts and black back and wings. Only a...

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Mountain Bluebird comes close to matching the color. A painting of a Western Tanager hangs on the wall above my desk.

I often find the Western Tanager along the King County Trail between Preston and Lake Alice, one of my favorite birding areas. I hear the “pittik, pit-tik” call far more often than I see this bird. Generally the Western Tanager perches so far up in the leafy canopy that the observer must be satisfied with just the call or its slow, Robin-like song. It is about the same size and shape as a Robin. It calls for an extended time from just one perch and then moves on. Any sighting is a treat.

This bird winters in Baja California, Central Mexico and all the way south to Costa Rica. It certainly carries the plumage to the tropics.

In mid-May, 1988, I was preparing a church choir for an early summer concert. One piece we sang, which since has become my favorite, was “Jesus Christ the Apple Tree,” by Elizabeth Posten. On this afternoon the words of this anthem were coursing through my mind when I heard the call of the Western Tanager. I immediately began to whistle the music to it. As soon as I started whistling, I saw the tanager move toward me. Before I had whistled the music through twice, this beautiful bird was perching on a branch just above my head, seemingly absorbed in my music, as I was in its.

## TRAIL UPDATES FROM GREENWAY NEWS

### *Private and Public Interests Help Repair and Maintain Middle Fork Trail*

Access to the Middle Fork Trail, a scenic region in the Snoqualmie Valley that was badly damaged by storms in the mid-2000s, is coming in 2017, according to the *Greenway News*. Just as private and public entities came together to help repair the trail, which was badly damaged by storms in the mid-2000s, a long-term coalition comprised of nonprofits, public agencies, local businesses, and private citizens will help maintain this landscape. Among the concerns addressed by the coalition will be trail safety, transit and access to the trail, equity in the outdoors, and connections to North Bend and surrounding areas.

### *Mount Si Road Safety Highlights Trail Access and Transportation*

Cars parked along Mt. Si Road to access popular trails such as Mount Si, Little Si, and Mt. Teneriffe can lead to safety concerns for those walking along the roadway once the parking lot fills. This past summer, Mt. Si Road neighbors, the State Department of Natural Resources, and King County Roads Services worked together to end unsafe parking practices and design a new trailhead for Teneriffe. In the longer term, the Greenway is working with King County Metro and other partners to explore public transportation options for popular trailheads. According to the Greenway, a pilot shuttle by Snoqualmie Valley Transportation between North Bend and Rattlesnake Lake will provide a first test of this partnership.

### *Multi-Use Trail Planned for Mt. Washington*

Starting in summer 2017, the 8.6-mile, the Olallie Trail, located just east of North Bend, will open to hikers and bikers. Over the long term, this new trail option will provide a gateway to a growing network of multi-use trails. The Olallie Trail will climb 2,700 feet along the slopes of Mt. Washington, rewarding hikers and bikers views of Mount Si, Mailbox Peak, Mt. Teneriffe, Bandera, and McClellan Butte. Collaborators on the project include the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, the Washington State DNR, and the Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance.

*continued from page 1, “Lenard Seeks”*

not contributed to the club in the last 18 months. It was pointed out that those receiving the printed Alpiners are costing approximately \$20 per year. Membership makes a significant difference in the club’s cash flow, Lenard pointed out.

Cornelia Remy, now assisting with the hikes program, reported quarterly hikes totals. Just 11 hike leaders (more are needed) led 31 hikes during the quarter, with 221 hikers, an average of 7.1 per hike. It was noted that due to Jean Lanze’s injury Tom Pohl has taken over all of the club’s dog hikes.

Lenard issued another appeal for a new treasurer, which would relieve him of those responsibilities.

IATC’s annual meeting, including elections, will be held January 26.



## WTA PICKS SIMMONS

Jill Simmons has been named the new executive director of the Washington Trails Association, to assume office next February 13. “The opportunity to combine my professional skills with my personal passion—hiking—is a dream come true,” Simmons said.

Simmons comes from Evergreen Strategic, a consulting firm she founded to serve local governments, nonprofits and foundations nationwide. Before that she worked for two previous Seattle mayors in the city’s Office of Sustainability and Environment.

“WTA has a leading role to play in shaping the future of Washington through our work to protect trails and connect the growing number of Washingtonians to the outdoors,” Simmons stated.

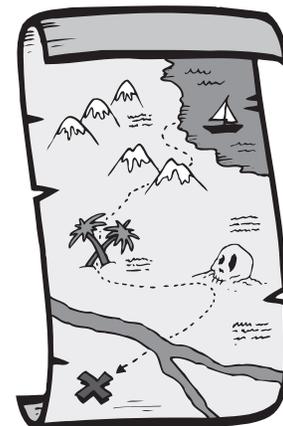
WTA’s six-person search committee conducted a national search, which led right back to Simmons in Seattle. Rebecca Lavigne continues as WTA’s interim executive director.

## 11 WAYS TO MAKE YOUR MARK

*(Without Leaving a Trace)*

(Ed. Note: This article is reprinted in part from WTA’s *Washington Trails* magazine for Nov.-Dec. 2016)

- Go beyond leaving no trace. Leave a place better than you found it by packing out trash and litter.
- Learn the fine art of making a trail by joining a work party.
- Foster awe for wild places in a child or a teenager.
- Leave a financial legacy (or donate) to protect
- Share responsibly on social media.
- Use your trail experience to speak up for trails—help convince legislators that trails are worth funding.
- Consider if your project (stacking rocks or leaving treasures) will negatively impact the experience of other hikers.
- Think about what you’re hoping to get from your photos before snapping them. Looking up from your camera more frequently might serve you better.
- Share trips via trip reports for fellow hikers.
- Consider sketching a view rather than photographing it—you’ll spend more time taking in details.
- Take a hike just for yourself. Leave your phone turned off and your camera at home.



## TIGER HAS NEW TRAILS

By Ed Vevoort

This fall two new trails forming a loop were opened between the eastern section of the Northwest Timber Trail and the Eastside Road (7000 Rd.). See the map <http://file.dnr.wa.gov/geo/easttiger.pdf>. Their names are The Legend (.8 miles) and Easy,Tiger (.6 miles).

The Legend branches off Easy,Tiger and ends at the East Tiger Road. It is for skilled riders and is downhill-only. It was named for Len Francies, who recently passed away. He was a long-term mountain bike trail maintenance and construction volunteer. Easy,Tiger, named for its beginner skill level, is suitable for two-way traffic and hikers.

Both trails are part of a long-term plan to connect the Tiger Mountain and Raging River state forests. This will also provide a missing link in the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail. DNR has plan to extend this loop below the Eastside Road, which would add an additional three miles of trail.

These trails are being completed in collaboration with the Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance, with funding from a Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program state lands development grant.

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*continued from page 4, "Sherwin"*

took a hike from Cougar Mountain's Red Town trailhead and became caught up in the aura of the Issaquah Alps. Subsequently, he did lots of running on trails of Cougar and Squak mountains.

"Besides hiking," Sherwin stated, "I'm interested in land issues, restoration and trail maintenance." Sherwin, who joined IATC in 2012, hasn't hiked with the club yet, but he is looking forward to doing so and probably leading hikes as well.

"I want to help continuing to make IATC a significant force," he stated. Sherwin is well aware of the club's history and iconic role in the Issaquah Alps.

At Microsoft, he is on the Team X-Box, a community support group whose Ambassador's Program helps users, mostly those in their 20 s. "I enjoy it. It's a very entertaining job," Sherwin says.

Sherwin has just begun his one-year commitment as Friends of Sammamish president; the group has some 50 active members and is currently mapping the park and raising funds for its current growth/remodeling spurt. "We recently raised \$1.2 million including matching funds," he said proudly.

John Sherwin has a lot to offer both organizations.

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*continued from page 6, "James"*

"With some 1900 miles remaining on the PCT, realistically I may not be able to finish it. But I'm going to keep doing it. I love meeting people and hearing their stories."

Imagine the stories that hikers named Mary Poppins, Lazy Boy, Rawhide, Tough Broad, Aquarius and Chili Cheese Dog (her favorite trail name) have to tell. And then there was Naked Man, who hiked naked except for shoes and his day pack. Yikes!

Next summer Marjorie will hike the Devil's Post to Tuolumne Meadow in California (near Yosemite) with her sister Judy. Then, after a little rest, she'll undertake the White Pass to Snoqualmie Pass miles section with her daughter Karen. She invites IATC friends to join her later on a Snoqualmie to Stevens Pass link.

"Grandma" Marjorie James has her work cut out for her as she proceeds into her 72nd year.

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*continued from page 4, "Cougar Mtn. Park"*

This year the crew has installed new trail signs throughout Cougar Mountain. These are made by a computer-controlled laser-cutting machine, which reduces set-up time and sets a county-wide standard appearance. Note the new Harvey Manning Trail signs on what used to be AA Ridge Trail.

Look also for a new interpretive sign explaining 50 years of history at the Claypit, and another one on the Shy Bear Trail related to the 100-year old piece of logging equipment located there.

King County Parks continues to deserve our thanks for saving land and for maintaining a great trail system.

# Hiking Information

## Hike Leaders

Hike leaders are volunteers who donate their time to lead people who want to hike and explore the trails in the Issaquah Alps and other nearby foothills (Cascades) in King County. Hikes are scheduled and led year-round unless severe conditions pose a safety hazard. Minimum attendance is three, including the leader.

Trails in the Issaquah Alps may be good or bad, easy or hard, muddy or dusty, brushy or clear, steep or flat—or all the above. Some are not much more than animal trails. As volunteers, neither hike leaders, the Issaquah Alps Trails Club (IATC), or Club directors are in any way responsible or liable for a hiker's comfort, transportation, property, safety, or general well-being while traveling to and from the trailhead or hiking or working on any trail.

The Club's sole purpose is to show hikers where the trails are and to lead the way. The public, other clubs, youth groups, church groups, and others are welcome and wholeheartedly invited to join hike leaders and others who want to hike these trails. Children under 18 should be accompanied by an adult. Please, dogs only on designated dog hikes.



## Degree of Difficulty

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

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

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

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

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

## Hike Description Modifiers

**Leader's choice:** The leader had not decided where to hike before publication of the hikes schedule.

**Trail party:** Trail maintenance work party.

**Exploratory:** The leader goes cross country off the main trail system to explore animal trails, canyons, old logging roads, or old railroad grades.

Expect to go through brush, over logs, tiptoe through wildflowers, and/or mud while having a good time hiking where others seldom tread.

### WEBSITE HELP NEEDED

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

*continued on page 15*

## HIKING INFORMATION

*continued from page 14*

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

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

### Meeting Place

Trails Club hikes meet in the parking lot at the corner of First and Bush streets next to the IATC clubhouse (the little yellow stationmaster's house). To get there, take exit 17 (Issaquah Front Street) from Interstate 90 and turn south into downtown Issaquah. Go about one mile through town on Front Street, then go two blocks past the light at Sunset Way, and then turn left on Bush Street. Go two blocks to Rainier and turn into the lot on the left.

### Clothing

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

### Trail Maintenance

Volunteers periodically organize and schedule trail maintenance parties as listed in the hikes schedule. Work parties meet at the same place as hikes (see above). The club is well supplied with heavy trail maintenance tools, but workers may also bring their own loppers, weed whackers, and other tools.

Trail work parties last at least four hours. Trail maintenance is vital to the Club's work and is

## ✓ Checklist:

- Food
- Water
- Daypack
- Raingear
- Warm clothes
- Hiking Shoes

Each item is required in order to participate in an Issaquah Alps Trails Club hike!

*Don't leave the trailhead without them!*

an integral part of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) management plan for Tiger Mountain.

Work parties must limit their activity to trails listed by the DNR as scheduled for maintenance. Construction of new trails is not allowed. Work parties are a great way to meet people!



Issaquah Alps Trail Club  
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Issaquah, WA 98027

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**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