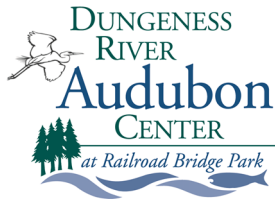


2013 Annual Report



Our mission is to inspire understanding, enjoyment, and stewardship of the Olympic Peninsula's unique natural and cultural resources, with emphasis on birds, rivers, fish, and people.

From the President

In 2013 our Board completed the process begun in 2012 to formally adopt policies and



procedures, to insure accountability and transparency of our operations. We feel we have now covered the bases: budgeting, accounting, record keeping, conflict of interest, etc. Our multi-talented, fully engaged Board of Directors (see page 4) meets monthly, and committees meet more often, to turn these policies into actions and programs.

2013 also saw the addition of one new Board member, Dennis Dickson, and two staff members: Becca Nissley transitioned from AmeriCorps to full-time Education Coordinator and Vanessa Fuller joined us as Administrative Services and Volunteer Coordinator.

We kept the youth and adult

education programs going, sponsored 52 bird walks, added a pre-school weekly Adventure Camp and several new Summer Camps, held successful fund-raising events, and made some modest improvements in the Park (including well-defined parking spaces) and dealt with emergencies, such as falling trees and ruptured pipes. Highlights of the year are detailed elsewhere in this Report.

For me, the singular highlight of 2013 is the knowledge that through the efforts of our staff, Board, our partners and our excellent cadre of 70-some volunteers, the Center and Park continue to serve our community, implement our mission – and bring joy to everyone involved. We look forward to the same and more for 2014, as we gear up for the Railroad Bridge 100th Anniversary in 2015.

Lyn Muench,
President

Milestones

- Conducted field studies in the Park with more than 2000 students.
- Returned to full staffing.
- Enlarged Park to 56 acres - nearly doubling its size.
- Added Girls in Science summer camp.
- Survived the flood.
- Established Legacy Circle.
- Railroad Bridge provided best view of record fall salmon run.



**Dungeness River Audubon Center in partnership with
the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society, and National Audubon Society**

River Center Highlights 2013

Flinging into Spring



These students are removing Scotch Broom in Railroad Bridge Park as part of a hands-on lesson about invasive species.

Our annual activity-based, ‘feel good’ fundraiser during the month of May encourages participants to get outdoors, have fun, and increase their fitness for a good cause. In 2013, work parties for the Broom Busters, a new team led by Gretha and Doug Davis, put in 137 volunteer hours eradicating invasive Scotch Broom along a five mile stretch of the Olympic Discovery Trail west of Blyn. They also raised \$2,000 of the \$28,000 Spring Fling raised to support River Center programs.

Park Expands

In 2013 the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe secured funding through the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and EPA to purchase 27 acres in the Dungeness River floodplain immediately north of Railroad Bridge Park. The newly acquired land ensures preservation of the mainstream and side channel habitat in this stretch of the river that is vital to Chinook, Coho, steelhead and cutthroat, bull trout, chum, and pink salmon. The addition also nearly doubles the size of the park from 28 to 55 acres, and provides an appealing site to develop a measured walking/nature trail.

River Festival

“Think Downstream...Go Green!” was the theme of the 14th Dungeness River Festival. Held in Railroad Bridge Park on September 27-28, the Festival attracted about 3,000 visitors. The Festival celebrates the richness and resources of the Dungeness watershed with walks, talks, music, and more. The



presentation by renowned Jamestown S’Klallam story teller and Tribal Elder Elaine Grinnell was one of the highlights. Nearly all the local, state, federal, tribal and nature-oriented entities active on the north Olympic Peninsula had engaging exhibits and activities that appealed to all ages.

Their booths were especially popular with the 820 public and home-school students who filled the Park on Friday. A major attraction in the Center on Saturday and Sunday

was the Olympic Driftwood Sculptors show, held in conjunction with the Festival.

Flood of 2013

On Sunday afternoon, December 8, water pouring from the ceiling flooded the Center and caused \$16,000 damage. The sprinkler pipe that burst in the ceiling activated a fire pump that released approximately 2,500 gallons of water in less than 10 minutes covering 90% of the Center’s floor to a depth of nearly 1.5 inches. Thanks to the quick actions of the art instructor and students in the Center



at the time, the flood resulted in the loss of only four birds from our priceless taxidermy collection. The Center re-opened in mid-January 2014, as repairs continued.



Thank You to our 2013 Donors



The Dungeness River Audubon Center 'family' continues to grow thanks to the strength of its programs, generous supporters and vibrant partnerships. We are grateful to the growing community of River Center members and donors and for their commitment to supporting our mission. Their gifts enable us to operate the Center, maintain the Park and provide free and low-cost programs.

The insert to this report shows the breakdown of the Center's revenues and expenses; income for the Center exceeded expenses by

\$12,720 in 2013. The Endowment Fund, established in 2006, provides a perpetual source of income to help meet annual operating needs of the Center and Park. In 2013, the Endowment contributed \$68,000 to operating needs, and as of December 31, the fund totaled \$1,563,464. Gifts designated to the Endowment in 2013 included several memorial donations, shares of stock, and proceeds from the sale of a 1994 Cadillac DeVille donated by Ken Leuthold.



Donations

The list of 2013 donors on pages 3 and 4 includes memorial and

honorary gifts as well as donations of \$100 or more for dues, operations, and the Endowment. Memorial donations were made for Rosemary Bridge, Susan Chapman, Weldon Clark, Arthur Dolan, Dorothea Hover-Kramer, Mary Lou Lyman, and Richard Newlon.

Legacy Circle Established

Honoring its most visionary donors for their commitment to the long-term success of the Center and Park is at the heart of the Legacy Circle the River Center established in 2013. Membership in the Circle is open to donors who have included or intend to include the Center in their financial or estate plans. Gifts from Legacy Circle members will help ensure that generations of children and adults will have a chance to learn the importance of protecting and enjoying our natural places.

\$5,000 & above

Anonymous
Rex Bates
Dave & Julie Jackson
Richard & Tuttie Peetz

\$1,000 - \$4,999

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Shirley Anderson
Anonymous
Beatrice & T. William Booth
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Shirley Dennis
Laura Dubois & Bob Sheridan
Maria Jackson
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Renee & Elliott Leiter
Ken & Janie Leuthold
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Rebecca & Alexander Stewart
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Ingrid Lehrner
Martha & George Moyer
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Yvonne Yokota & Stephen Tharinger

\$200-\$499

John & Diana Anderson
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GE Foundation matching gift
Barbara Fitzgerald

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Stephanie Holliday
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Dave & Ann Perkins
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Marion Rutledge
Kirt Smith
Ann Soule & Dave Shreffler
Judith McInnes Tozzer
Roger & April Uhden
Scott van Dyken

Continued

River Center Supporters 2013

\$100-\$199

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 Charlotte Watts & Charlotte McElroy
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 Dick & Phyllis Wenger
 Marty Zupan

Under \$100

259 valued supporters.

River Center Staff and Board



Powell Jones,
Executive Director

My vision for the River Center is sustainability. I would like to see the Center able to offer our natural-science programs for generations to come.



Vanessa Fuller,
Administrative Services & Volunteer Coordinator

Vanessa's strong background in Olympic Peninsula tourism shows as she welcomes visitors to the Center and Park, works with volunteers, manages the gift shop, organizes events and keeps everything 'shipshape.'

Becca Nissley,
Education Coordinator



When Becca, a biology teacher from Pennsylvania, joined the staff, she quickly mastered the programs, started the monthly e-newsletter and developed trainings for volunteers.

Board: Lyn Muench, President; John Bridge, Vice President; Ann Sargent, JST, Secretary; Gregory Voyles, Treasurer; Annette Nesse, JST, Chair, Exec. Com; Jim Gift, OPAS President; Shirly Anderson, OPAS; Sue Chickman; Dennis Dickson; Hansi Hals, JST; Clare Hatler; Julie Jackson; Les Jones; Tuttie Peetz; Ken Wiersema, OPAS; Kathy Steichen, Liaison, Olympic National Park; and Annette Hanson, Emeritus.

Staff: Powell Jones, Executive Director; Rebecca Nissley, Education Coordinator; Vanessa Fuller, Administrative Services and Volunteer Coordinator; Linda Dolan, Park Host

Annual Report: Design and production by Ann Sargent. Credits: Photos by Sue Chickman, except for the staff photos.

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