

Dungeness River Audubon Center—2017 Annual Report



From the President



It has been a great honor serving as Board President for the past year. I am continually amazed at the

passion and dedication that makes our organization a great success. We have an amazing staff and an amazing volunteer/membership base.

Our organizational growth in the past few years seems exponential to me, and I think it's incredibly exciting! We've taken steps to ensure our board operates with professionalism, and is structured to sustain the Center into the distant future.

Our staff and volunteers are continually coming up with exciting new programs, such as the *Focus On* series and *Moonlight* series. Average attendance at the Focus On lectures is around 70! Our first through fifth grade classroom programs continue to grow and earn praise from the students and educators. Our Pre-K-Adventure Club and high-school mentors to the eighth grade program engage even more kids. And, we are doing all this while embarking on a giant capital campaign. None of this would be possible without a

membership that cares so deeply. I thank you all for loving the Center and supporting our success.

A snapshot of the Center's 2017 accomplishments follows. Exciting new changes are on the horizon, so stay tuned and stay involved. To quote my amazing predecessor, Julie Jackson, "I encourage you to renew your connections with nature by visiting the Center and Park as often as you can!"

Greg Voyles, President



Milestones

Milestones

- Increased membership using new eligibility criteria (see graphic on Page 6)
- Greater connection with high-school students through field trips and trail building activities
- New classes, lectures, wildflower walks, and summer camps added
- Ceremonial groundbreaking for the Center's expansion & remodel project
- New roof over and electricity to the River Stage
- New semi-annual rotating Park Host program
- Transitioned Dungeness River Festival to a one-day event
- Huge community participation for Christmas lighting on Railroad Bridge



Dungeness River Audubon Center



EXPANDING Education For ALL Ages

Developing and expanding our educational reach is always a priority for the Dungeness River Audubon Center staff and volunteers. 2017 was an exciting year for new programs that served new audiences while still maintaining all of the amazing programs that have become so popular.

The Center offered two new classes aimed at adult students. A new series, *Flowers of the Dungeness Watershed*, led by John Bridge and Jenna Ziogas, explored a variety of colorful habitats. Another series, *Create a Field Guide to Railroad Bridge Park*, taught by Robert Amaral and Jenna Ziogas, explored and developed skills in observation and artistic renderings of the natural world, focusing on what can be found here in our own park. Both were very successful and will be repeated in the future.

Reaching more high-school students has always been at the top of our list. In 2017 we made a huge leap in reaching all general biology students from Port Angeles. They came to the Railroad Bridge Park to learn about field science while studying Salmon habitat and what is impacting their survival. Both students and teachers were very pleased with the trips, and the High School plans on returning in 2018.



Our Journey to Expand The Center and Inspire MORE Wonder

Progress continues with the project to expand our current 1,600 sq. ft. Center by constructing a new 5,500 sq. ft. wing, remodeling the current space, and building new road access with much better, safer, and flood-free parking.

The project was given a big boost at the end of 2016 when the Center's partner, the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, owner of the land and Center facilities, purchased an additional four and a half acres of land to the east of the Center's building. The "field" parking lot on Hendrickson Road is now connected to the new acreage, which is also connected to the Center, which will allow the main entrance to be re-positioned at the east end of the building.

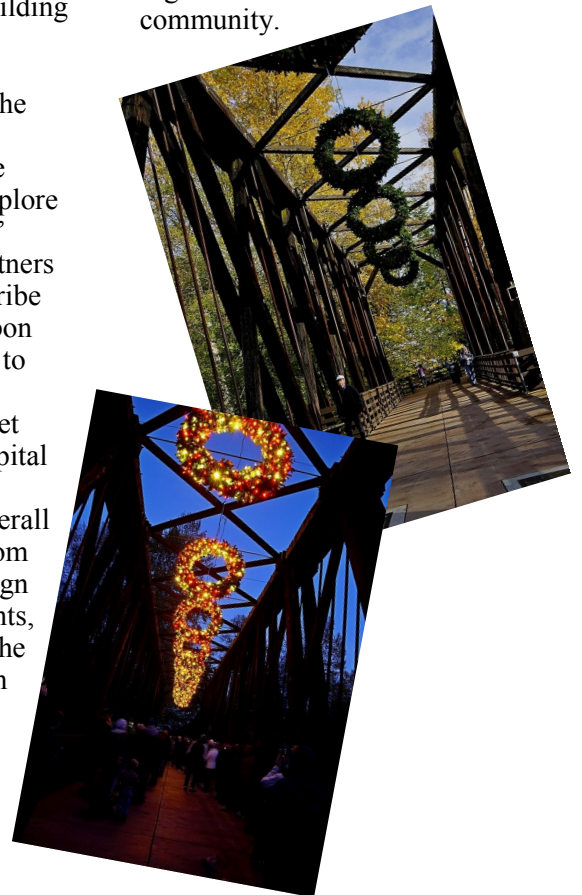
According to our architect, Tormod (Roy) Hellwig, "A building can make an impression of the wonder of nature and state a message..." He has provided the Building Committee with an exciting concept design that he believes "is an invitation to explore the river with new awareness."

The Center's Board and partners -- the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society -- are fully committed to completing this project. As of December 30, 2017, in the quiet phase of the campaign, the Capital Campaign Committee raised \$1,073,758 (or 37%) of the overall project goal of \$2.9 million from our partner boards, the campaign committee, organizational grants, and other individual donors. The committee will publicly launch the campaign in mid-2018.

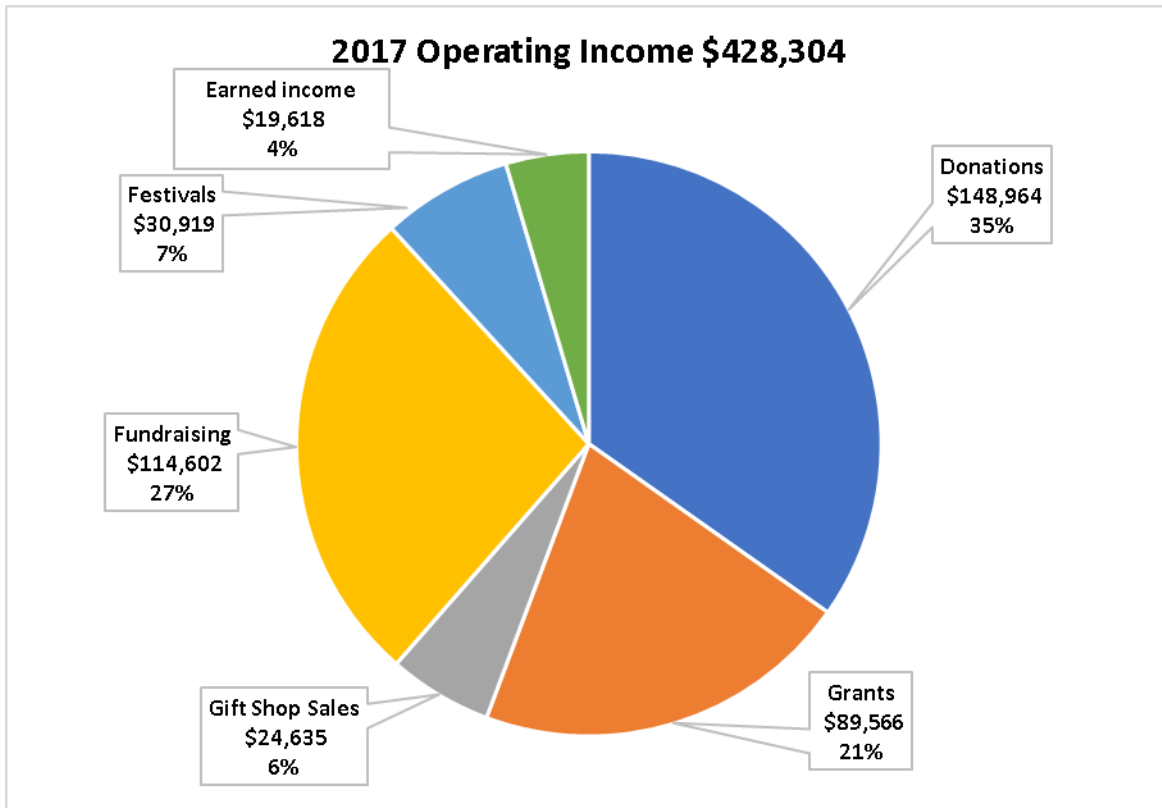
STRENGTHENING our Community's Connection To Railroad Bridge Park

It was a delight to welcome more than 1,000 local residents to Railroad Bridge Park in November 2017 during the first annual holiday lighting ceremony. The community came out in large numbers on this chilly, dark evening. They ushered in the holiday season on the Bridge with cocoa and cookies, and enjoyed the beautiful wreath lighting that the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe helped to provide and install.

Timed to coordinate with the Center's annual Holiday Nature Mart, the event produced more than a pretty light show. It drew many new as well as returning visitors to Railroad Bridge Park for a fun family stroll in nature. And it was a wonderful new way for the organization to connect with the community.



2017 Financial Summary



Operating Income and Expenses do not include the Capital Campaign donations, grants or expenses.

The Center's Legacy Fund is used to supplement cash needs of the operations. Withdrawals from the Legacy Fund are not reflected in the income pie charts or comparison table below.

There were no withdrawals made for operations from the Legacy fund in 2017. The Legacy fund contributed \$50,000 towards operations in 2016.

The fund balance as of December 31, 2017, was \$1,676,500 compared to \$1,505,157 at the end of 2016.

2017 - 2016 Operating Income Comparison		
Income	2017	2016
Donations*	\$ 148,964	\$ 79,322
Grants**	\$ 89,566	\$ 16,986
Gift Shop Sales	\$ 24,635	\$ 15,897
Fundraising	\$ 114,602	\$ 104,286
Festivals	\$ 30,919	\$ 37,576
Earned income***	\$ 19,618	\$ 16,816
	\$ 428,304	\$ 270,884

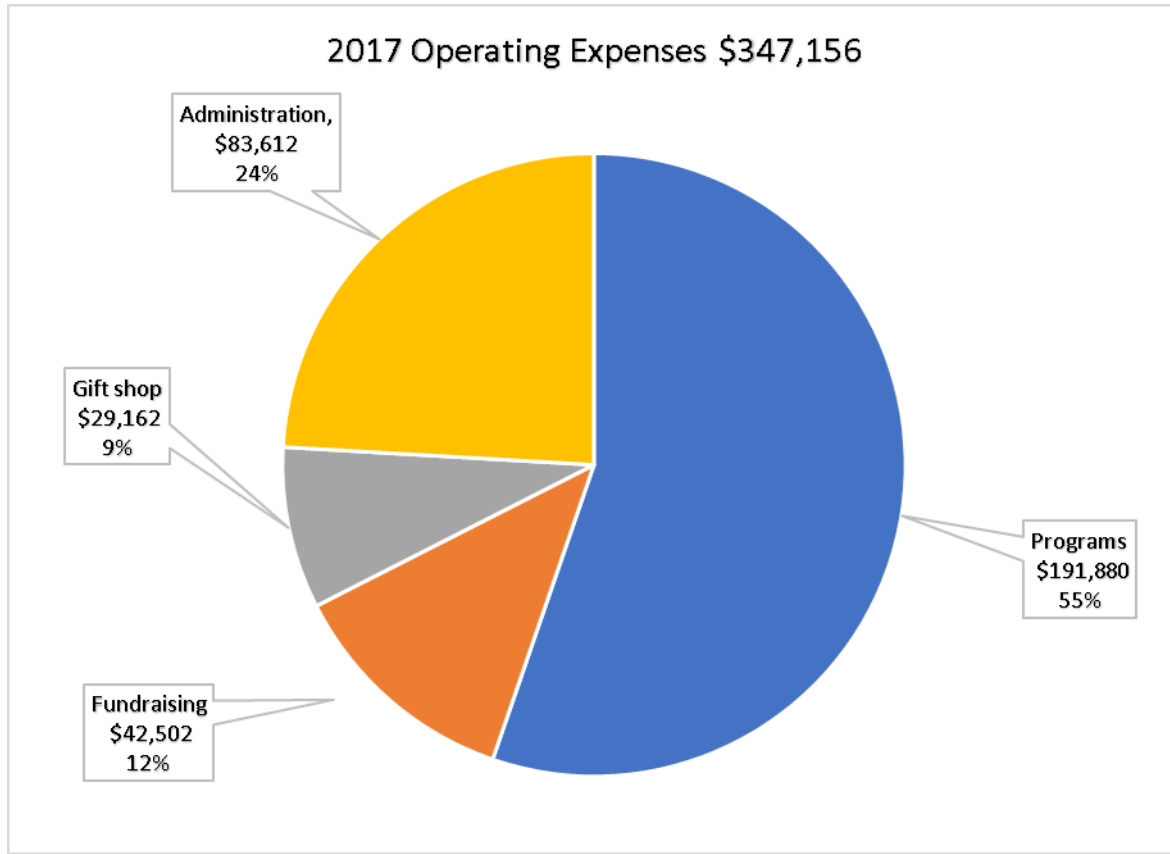
* Does not include \$134,863 and \$73,250 in capital campaign donations for 2017 and 2016, respectively.

** Does not include \$60,000 in capital campaign grants for 2017.

*** Includes income from camps, classes, presentations, and rentals.

Note: 2016 groupings may have changed to be comparable to the current year.

2017 Financial Summary



About 71% of salary and benefits have been allocated to program costs, 15% to administration, 10% to fundraising, and 4% to the gift shop based on a consistent method of time tracking.

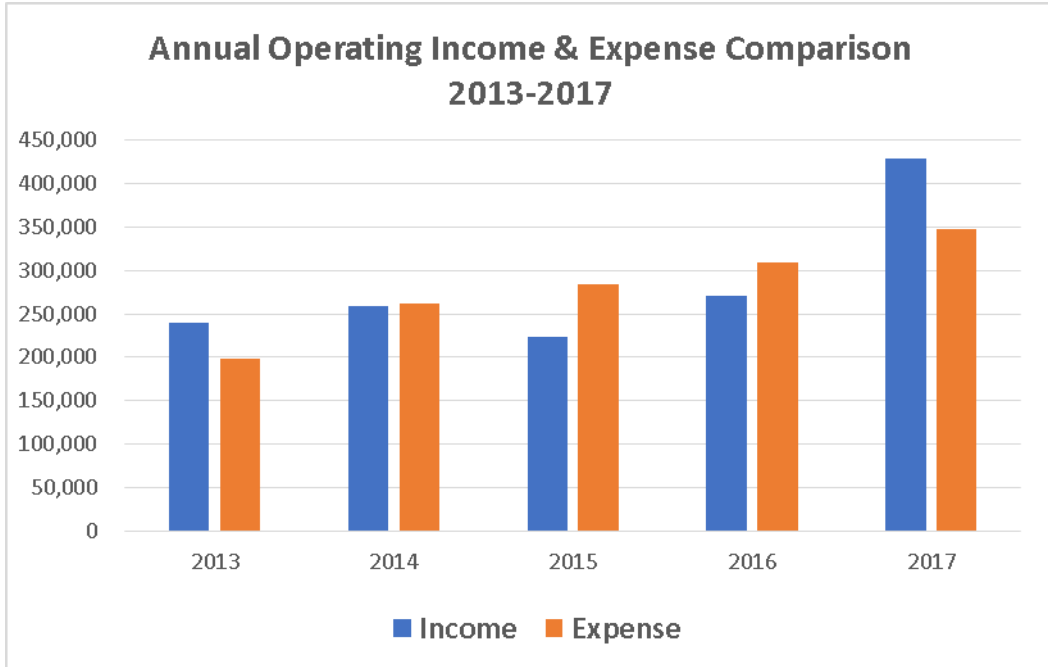
2017 - 2016 Expense Comparison		
Expenses	2017	2016
Programs	\$ 191,880	\$ 159,701
Fundraising	\$ 42,502	\$ 31,831
Gift shop	\$ 29,162	\$ 22,185
Administration	\$ 83,612	\$ 95,821
	\$ 347,156	\$ 309,538

Note: 2016 groupings may have changed to be comparable to the current year.

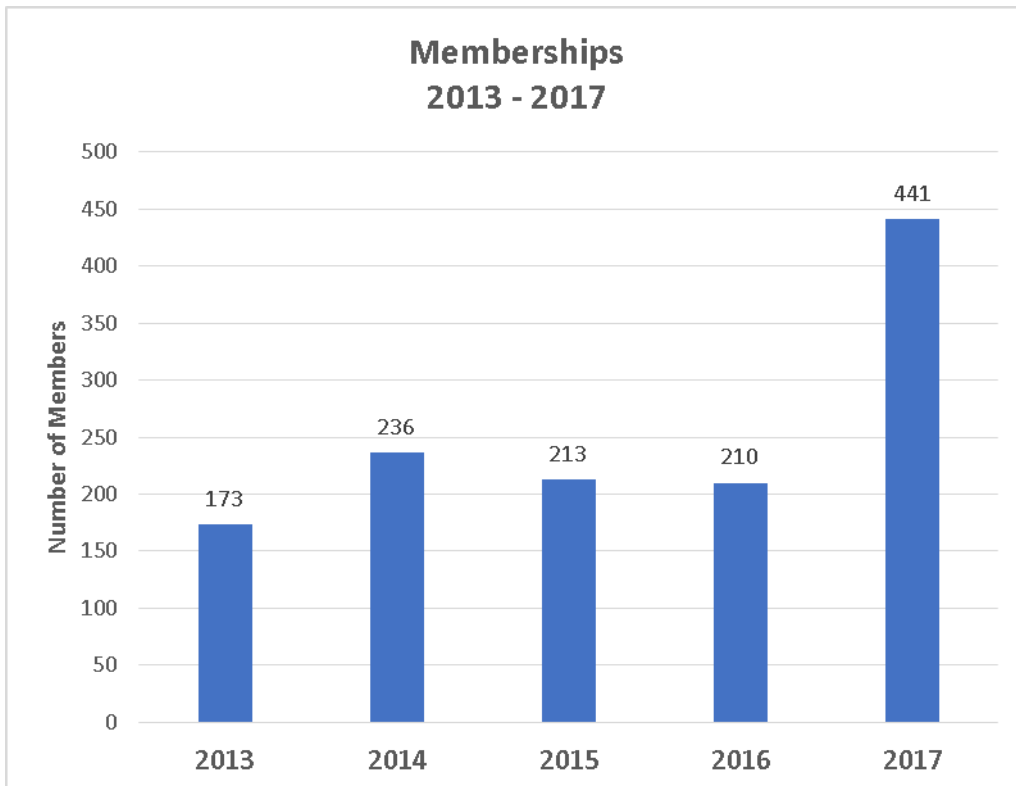
All income and expense amounts are from internally prepared, unaudited year-end financial reports.

Data provided by Wanda Schneider, River Center Treasurer

2013—2017 Comparisons



The blue bars that denote annual income do not include draws that have been made from the Legacy fund.



Membership in the River Center is an easy and effective way to show that you support and appreciate the Center and Park. Because membership entitles you to vote, you can have an important role in shaping its course. Members elect our Board members and vote on major policy changes. Your vote counts and your contributions are vital to the continued success of the River Center.

Thank You to our 2017 Donors

The Dungeness River Audubon Center 'family' remains solid 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 for their commitment to supporting our mission. Your gifts enable us to operate the Center, maintain the Park, and provide many free and low-cost programs.

Legacy Circle & Members

Membership in the Legacy Circle, which the River Center established in 2013, is open to those 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 enjoying and protecting our natural places.

Members are:

*Gretha and Doug Davis
Tuttie and Richard Peetz
David and Julie Jackson
Carolyn Z. Muench
Jim and Joanne Hallett
Annette Hanson and Gary Poor
Sue Chickman and Bob Lynette
Bob & Enid Phreaner
Shirley Anderson
Donald and Clare Hatler*

*Jack and Pat Fletcher
Wanda Schneider*

Capital Campaign

A Capital Campaign Committee was established in 2016 and early gifts anchored the beginning of a visionary plan to expand and enhance the current River Center building. Members, River Center partners, donors, businesses, foundations, and the greater community all have an important role to play in creating a welcoming destination for learning, enjoyment, and stewardship of our natural places.

The list of 2017 donors includes memorial and honorary gifts as well as donations of \$100 or more. In 2017, the River Center received donations in memory of June & Red Malott, Bob Sheridan, Nancy Wiersema, and Wade Jurgensen.

\$5,000 & Above

Shirley Anderson
Bob & Barb Boekelheide
Beatrice & William Booth
Estate of Doris Cromwell
Dennis Dickson
Laura Dubois
Dungeness Farms, Inc.
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\$1,000 - \$4,999

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\$200 - \$499

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Gretha & Doug Davis
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Powell Jones,
 Director



Jenna Ziogas,
 Education &
 Volunteer
 Coordinator



Vanessa Fuller,
 Administrative
 Services and
 Development
 Coordinator



Roger Magee,
 Visitor Services
 Specialist

Under \$100

211 valued supporters

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