EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S NOTES—Powell Jones

“Summer Camps you support change lives!”

Summer is a great time for kids to relax and enjoy the warm weather, but it is also an excellent time for children to participate in summer camps and develop in ways that a formal school setting does not provide. Summer camps allow kids the freedom of not having academic or sports related pressures, which in turn allows them to have more freedom to explore interests, ask random questions, and just plain have fun. This summer we offered a variety of camps including Girls in Science, a preschool camp called Dungeness Adventures, Nature Ninjas, Builders Camp, Bike Camp, and Nature Camp. Overall, our sessions went well with many happy campers and parents speaking of the value of having their kids come home every day dirty, wet, smiling, tired, and asking for more.

One of my favorite camps is combining my love of

Dungeness River Festival + Driftwood Show...See inside!

FROM THE PRESIDENT—“Highlights of Summer”
—Hansi Hals

We have shared a wonderful summer and these early autumn rains are welcome. I am very much looking forward to the school program activity at the River Center and the River Festival, and more. But, here are some of my highlights from the summer—

We hosted the first ‘Dine on the Dungeness.’ I do hope you made it; the food prepared by Kokopelli’s was very good and the setting and company were outstanding. We hope to repeat this event next summer. Also, Wind Rose Cellars released a red table wine named Railroad Bridge Red to commemorate the Dungeness Railroad Bridge 100th anniversary, with a percentage of the proceeds donated to the Dungeness River Audubon Center. I had a tasting event with several friends. I thought maybe I was just buying it for the label, but turns out I really enjoyed the wine itself. Thank you everyone who put energy into this label and fundraiser. It’s a fun way to showcase the historic bridge and the Dungeness.

The summer science camps brought lots of budding builders, scientists, and nature (Continued on page 7)
Dungeness River Audubon Center

**OUR MISSION**
To inspire understanding, enjoyment, and stewardship of the Olympic Peninsula’s unique natural and cultural resources, with emphasis on birds, rivers, fish, and people.

**Visit Our Updated Website!**
www.dungenessrivercenter.org

**Railroad Bridge Red — Limited Edition — Available Now**

Railroad Bridge Red, a newly-released wine by Wind Rose Cellars in Sequim to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of the Dungeness Railroad Bridge, is getting rave reviews. Wine lovers snapped up 98 bottles of the red table wine at the recent tasting and release party. Wind Rose collaborated with the Dungeness River Audubon Center in Railroad Bridge Park to release the wine and also donates $3 for each bottle sold to support the Center.

Award-winning wine maker David Volmut blended six classic Italian grape varieties grown in the Yakima Valley to produce Railroad Bridge Red and let it mature for 22 months in French oak barrels. The fruity wine has aromas of blackberry, fig, and black tea; and flavors of plum, blackberry and mulberry. The finish has robust flavors of cherry and more blackberry.

So, while treating your friends or family to a memorable bottle of delicious, locally-made wine, give a toast to the first 100 years of the iconic Railroad Bridge and to the next 100, and know your purchase will benefit the River Center and its educational programs.

The wine is available at Wind Rose Cellars, 143 W. Washington Street in Sequim, as well as at several local wine sellers, including Agnew Grocery, Country Aire Market, the Longhouse Deli & Market, Nash’s Farm Store, and several restaurants.
Dungeness River Festival Celebrates Railroad Bridge’s Centennial — Julie Jackson

The 16th Dungeness River Festival, Sept. 25-26, in Railroad Bridge Park will mark the 100th anniversary of our iconic railroad bridge. Model trains and a giant 1913 County Assessor’s map of the Milwaukee Road railroad right of way will help you envision days when log and passenger trains regularly crossed the bridge.

The community celebration to commemorate the bridge’s first 100 years will begin at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday at the River Stage amphitheater. The festivities will include unveiling a plaque proclaiming the inclusion of the bridge on National Register of Historic Places, remarks by local leaders, followed by refreshments and music.

The two-day River Festival is a time to view salmon in the river and construction of the new trestle. In addition, the Festival is an opportunity to spread your wings with the Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society, print a fish on paper or cloth (bring a t-shirt, pillow case, etc.), jump like a frog doing the Animal Olympics and sample the music, exhibits, walks, talks, food, and festivities each day. The festival hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and admission is free.

The interactive nature exhibits and activities on Friday and Saturday will feature nearly all the local, state, federal, tribal and non-profit entities active on the north Olympic Peninsula including several that are also celebrating their 100th anniversary.

In conjunction with the River Festival, the Olympic Driftwood Sculptors will hold its 7th Anniversary Art Show on Saturday and Sunday, September 26-27, in the River Center.

Many volunteers are needed for an event this large. If you’d like to help with set-up on Thursday afternoon (Sept. 24) or during the Festival, please contact Tom Butler at rceducation@olympus.net or call him at the River Center, 681-4076.

Philanthropy etymologically means "love of humanity" in the sense of caring, nourishing, developing and enhancing what it is to be human on both the benefactors' and beneficiaries' parts.

—Wikipedia
3-day San Juan Islands Cruise, Sept. 22-24

To sign up, go to PugetSoundExpress.com and click RESERVE ONLINE or call (360) 385-5288. Enter code “RIVERCENTER” as you order and Puget Sound Express will give a portion of the proceeds to the River Center!

“Winter Landscaping for Birds”
Saturday, Oct. 3, featuring Joe Holtrop
10:00 a.m. - 12:00, Cost is $5 per session and free to anyone under 18.

The first class in this year’s Backyard Birding Series. Joe Holtrop, Executive Director of the Clallam County Conservation District will present important aspects of a bird friendly yard, including food, water and shelter, with emphasis on the use of plants native to this area. An optional trip to see native plants in the field follows the class.

Backyard Birding classes can be taken individually or as a full series. After the completion of five sessions, participants are offered free membership in the Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society for one year.
100th Anniversary

RAILROAD BRIDGE 1915-2015

16th Dungeness River Festival

Friday & Saturday • Sept. 25-26 • 10-4
Exhibits, Music, Model Trains, Fish Printing, Food, & more...

Bridge Celebration
Saturday, Sept. 26, 2 p.m.

OLYMPIC DRIFTWOOD SCULPTORS’ SHOW
Saturday - Sunday • September 26-27 • 10-4

Dungeness River Audubon Center at Railroad Bridge Park
2151 West Hendrickson Road • Sequim, WA (360) 681-4076

www.DungenessRiverCenter.org
Come enjoy the 16th Dungeness River Festival celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the namesake for Railroad Bridge Park. The Festival, sponsored by the River Center partners and First Federal, includes 100th Anniversary activities, model trains, and the Olympic Driftwood Sculptors 7th Anniversary Show!

- Sample the music, walks, talks, food, and festivities and enjoy the exhibits.
- Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the historic Dungeness Railroad Bridge.
- Visit the display of sculptures and demonstrations at the Olympic Driftwood Sculptors 7th Anniversary Art Show in the River Center.
- Buy a commemorative item or pick up a coupon at the information table for a complimentary tasting of Railroad Bridge Red wine at Wind Rose Cellars.

**Schedule at a Glance**

**Friday, Sept. 25, 10:00-4:00**
- Nature activities and exhibits including fish printing on paper (or fabric, bring a white t-shirt or pillow case).
- Food: Wraps, Sandwiches, Soups, Salads, Fry bread, and more....

**SPECIAL EVENTS**
- 10:30 a.m. *Sound Waves* (Five Acre School) – Marimba music that makes you wanna MOVE!) River Stage.
- 11:00 a.m. *River/Salmon Walk*, Bob Boekelheide. Meet at Information Table.
- 12:00 p.m. *Sound Waves* (Five Acre School) – Marimba band, River Stage.
- 2:30 p.m. *How They Built the Bridge* – Ken Wiersema. River Center.

**Saturday, Sept. 26, 10:00-4:00**
- Nature activities and exhibits including fish printing on paper (or fabric, bring a white t-shirt or pillow case).
- Food: Wraps, Sandwiches, Soups, Salads, Fry bread, and more....

**SPECIAL EVENTS**
- 11:00 a.m. *Aspire Dance Academy* performs on the River Stage.
- 12:00 noon. *River/Salmon Walk*, Bob Boekelheide. Meet at Information Table.
- 1:00 p.m. *Klahhane Hiking Club* 100th Anniversary presentation. River Center.
- 1:30 p.m. *Jamestown S’Klallam Drummers & Singers* traditional welcome ceremony.
- 2:00 p.m. *100th Anniversary Celebration*: remarks, unveiling plaque, & refreshments.
- 3:00 p.m. Join the *Railroad Song Singalong* led by Brian Grad. River Stage.

**Saturday and Sunday**
**Sept. 26-27, 10:00-4:00**
**Olympic Driftwood Sculptors 7th Anniversary Art Show**
**Drawing for raffle on Sunday at close.**
Volunteers & Education News

— Tom Butler

This year the River Festival will be held on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 25 and 26. Our beautiful Railroad Bridge was built 100 years ago this year, and it’s time to celebrate the amazing environmental and community changes since. It’s a big year, as the Dungeness Wildlife Refuge, Clallam County Courthouse and Klahhane Hiking Club all reach the century mark this year as well. A special celebration of the Bridge’s milestone will be held during the festival on Saturday, Sept. 26.

Many hands make light work, and if you would like to help with setup, running and/or breakdown of this amazing community event, please contact Tom Butler at rceducation@olympus.net or call 360-681-4076 to schedule a slot. Thank you!

Call for Volunteers

With the enormous Pink Salmon run already started, the Chinook and Chum runs on their way, and the much-anticipated repair work on our bridge trestle underway, September and October will be especially interesting months on the Dungeness. We can always use new volunteers! Thank you!

Summer Camps

The Girls in Science Camp was a big success this year, with future scientists and students of nature learning a lot of science things, even conducting their own mini-research projects and having a lot of fun too.

Future architects and engineers had a lot of fun during Builder’s Camp with a bunch of projects, including improving river channels, trail barriers, towers, bridges, and of course, forts in the woods.

Young Builders create their own fort in the woods.
The Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe is pleased to announce that all required permits were obtained, and construction of the new Railroad Bridge Trestle began on Aug. 31. Nordland Construction NW is the contractor for the replacement of the trestle using the design and engineering done by Otak.

Total replacement of the trestle will remove the 38 creosote timber pile bent supports from the river bed to allow the river to move more naturally through this reach and create high quality salmon habitat. It will also restore the Olympic Discovery Trail Dungeness River bike/pedestrian crossing with a trestle of modern materials that is structurally sound.

Funding of $1.53 million for the replacement project came from a Recreation and Conservation Office Salmon Recovery Funding Board (RCO-SRFB) grant. Several other sources of funding will also be used to build the project including Tribal insurance proceeds, Tribal transportation funding, a Bureau of Indian Affairs grant, a Floodplains by Design grant and a contribution from the Peninsula Trails Coalition. Additionally, a First Federal Community Foundation grant of $100,000 will be used to re-deck the Howe truss bridge portion of the crossing.

Throughout the project, the Olympic Discovery Trail from Runnion Road to the trestle will be closed. Access to the site from other directions is also prohibited for safety reasons. Park users may still go to the river to the south of the project area using the river trail from the gazebo, but they should not wade into river adjacent to bridge and trestle area from east or north.

Railroad Bridge Park will remain open during most of the construction. The contractor will work to accommodate safe viewing of the work from the Howe Truss Railroad Bridge. The park will be open for the River Festival on Sept. 25-26.

The trail, trestle and bridge are anticipated to be reopened in late December 2015.

Background:
Since February, the Tribe, which owns Railroad Bridge Park, the Howe Bridge Truss, and trestle, has sought funding and worked with design engineers to determine the best fix for the trestle, which was built in the 1960s.
Total replacement was determined to be the best fix. This option addresses Tribal transportation infrastructure goals and provides for river processes, meeting important salmon habitat goals as well. Along with the engineering firm Otak, an Advisory Group consisting of representatives of the Tribe, the Dungeness River Audubon Center, the River Center Board, the Peninsula Trails Coalition, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the North Olympic Salmon Coalition, the North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity for Salmon and Clallam County, chose the preferred alternative. This design and engineering work was paid for with a $172,000 grant from the Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office Salmon Recovery Fund Board (RCO-SRFB).

Annette Nesse
Chief Operations Officer, Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe

“Additionally, a First Federal Community Foundation grant of $100,000 will be used to re-deck the Howe truss bridge portion of the crossing...
The trail, trestle and bridge are anticipated to be reopened in late December.”
—Annette Nesse
Newest member of the River Center Family to arrive soon!

Vanessa, our Administrative Services and Development Coordinator, and husband Silas are expecting the arrival of their first child, Savannah Jo Fuller in late October! She will be out on maternity leave from when the baby is born through the end of February.

New RR Brochure features self-guided Tour—Julie Jackson

The release of the ‘Bridges, Trestles, Rails and Trails’ brochure marks another milestone in the Dungeness River Audubon Center’s year-long celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Dungeness River bridge in Railroad Bridge Park. A grant from the Olympic Peninsula Visitors Bureau made production of the brochure possible.

It features a self-guided tour of historic stops along the former Milwaukee Road railroad and a timeline from the 1890s, when the first train tracks were laid on the North Olympic Peninsula, to the present. The tour map highlights 12 stops from Port Townsend, where freight cars were loaded onto a barge for transit to Seattle, to Forks. In Forks, Stops 11 and 12 are the Shay steam engine in Tillicum Park and the Forks Timber Museum. Most of the tour stops are on the popular Olympic Discovery Trail and all are readily accessible by car.

Free copies of the brochure are available at the Dungeness River Audubon Center, 2151 W. Hendrickson Road, in Sequim, as well as other outlets including the Visitor Centers in Sequim, Port Angeles, and Port Townsend.

“The Bridge 100th Anniversary Committee created the brochure as a lasting way to encourage Olympic Peninsula visitors and residents to explore the rich history of our area.”

—Lyn Muench

A Special Message From Kathy Steichen ...

River Center Friends,

I wanted to share with you that I’ve headed to Mount Rainier National Park as their new Chief of Interpretation and Education. No need to say goodbye though because Gailen and I are living the dream of working in the mountains and having a place in the rain shadow!

While I still hope to volunteer for the RiverFest and BirdFest, I need to step down from my agency representative position on the Board. I’ve really enjoyed the time I’ve spent on the Board!

See you out and about in Sequim! If you are ever at Mount Rainier, please stop by my office in Longmire and say hello.

Editor’s Note: Kathy served as Chief of Interpretation, Education & Volunteers in Olympic National Park and as its representative to our Board for many years. “We will miss you, Kathy!”
MEMBERSHIP FORM: DUNGENESS RIVER AUDUBON CENTER AND RAILROAD BRIDGE PARK

Name___________________________________________ Date_____________________

Mailing Address_________________________________________ City ____________________________

State_______ Zip___________ Phone_____________________________ Cell ____________________________

Email address ___________________________________________ Signature __________________________

Please circle your membership dues category below. Is this a new membership ____or a renewal____?

$25 Individual $35 Household $50 Friend $100 Sustaining

$250 Supporting $500 Patron $1000 Benefactor Other $______________

☐ Here’s my additional gift to support the Center and Park $ _________ and/or the Endowment $ _________

☐ My check for $____________ made out to Dungeness River Audubon Center (or DRAC) is enclosed.

☐ I prefer to charge my membership/donation to:  ___ MasterCard  ___ VISA  Amount $____________________

Acct# ___________________________ Exp. Date _______  3 Digit Security Code ___________

☐ Our quarterly newsletter, the River Current, is delivered via email (as a pdf) whenever possible. To receive a hard copy by mail, please check this box.

☐ I would like information about volunteer opportunities for the Center and Railroad Bridge Park.

Please send your completed form with payment to:
Dungeness River Audubon Center, P.O. Box 2450, Sequim, WA 98382

THANK YOU!! Your contributions to the Dungeness River Audubon Center are tax-deductible to the extent of the law.

Rev. 04-14-2014