

# Harlequin Happenings

Newsletter of the Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society (OPAS)

[www.olympicpeninsulaudubon.org](http://www.olympicpeninsulaudubon.org) ([www.olybird.org](http://www.olybird.org))

Clallam County, Washington

A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

Issue 1 January-February 2011

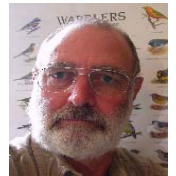
*"Promoting Birding and Conservation  
as Community Educators, Volunteers, and Stewards"*

## OPAS Programs for January and February

by Bill Parker

Wednesday, January 19, 2011, 7 p.m.

**Dr. Mary Sue Brancato presents "A Case for Sherlock Holmes: Mystery of the Largest Seabird Mortality Event Attributable to a Harmful Algal Bloom"**



Dateline: Hobuck Beach, Neah Bay, Clallam County

They died in droves: Common Murres, scoters, loons, and more, in the largest-ever-recorded kill of seabirds on Washington's coast. Bedraggled dead seabirds tangled in sea wrack on this remote, wild beach from a mysterious algae bloom — a death toll that might pass 10,000 — have scientists and researchers worried and mystified.

Come and listen as Dr. Mary Sue Brancato, Resource Protection Specialist, NOAA Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, describes the efforts to identify the cause of this seabird die off in September of 2009.

Wednesday, February 16, 2011, 7 p.m

**Dr. Larry M. Rymon presents "Reintroduction of Endangered Species"**

OPAS' Larry Rymon was the research director of a project that reintroduced River Otters into areas of Pennsylvania where they had become extinct since the early 1900s. This resulted in the reestablishment of viable otter populations across the state. In 1979 a second reintroduction effort was begun to return Ospreys to Pennsylvania's waterways, which had become extinct because of DDT use and other factors. By 2000, Ospreys had recovered, and over 40 pairs are now nesting across the state. In 1986 Larry collaborated in the production of a film, "Return from Forever", depicting his work which led to the first successful reintroduction of Osprey. Produced by Mike Fitch for Commonwealth Media, it has aired several times on ESPN.



Dr. Rymon has a BS and MS from East Stroudsburg University and a PhD from Oregon State University. In 1997, after 34 years of university teaching, he retired and moved to Sequim.

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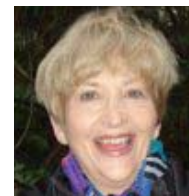
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## President's Message

by Audrey Gift



As we start the New Year we are looking ahead at the exciting field trips that OPAS has planned for the coming months. They are listed elsewhere in this newsletter but I want to personally invite you to join us on local as well as away trips. The highlights of our February trip to Skagit Flats are the many snow geese and trumpeter swans as well as owls and raptors. You will have to plan ahead for that trip as it is a two day trip.

I want to remind each of you that January is the time to renew your OPAS membership, unless of course you are a life member. In addition to an annual membership option we now also have three year, six year and lifetime membership options. The membership form is included in this newsletter. So join us!

I am happy to announce that OPAS has a new board member, Lorretta R. Flanders. She has come aboard as an at-large member which will allow her to learn the many aspects of our organization. Although Loretta was born in Kentucky and attended the University of Kentucky for her undergraduate degree, she spent most of her professional life in Washington DC. She has a PhD in Political Science and Public Administration from the University of Georgia. She met her husband Dick Hahn while they were both working in Washington D.C. When they retired, they moved to Alaska on the Kenai Peninsula. Loretta was a board member for the local hospital for 10 years, serving as President for over 3 years. Loretta and Dick are OPAS life members. Join me in welcoming Loretta to our leadership group.

The good news from our statewide efforts is that the Audubon Chapters of Washington have joined forces and hired a Policy Advocate, Neil Beaver, to represent Audubon chapters in Washington State on statewide conservation issues for the 2011 calendar year. Neil was a former aid to Senator Lisa Brown so he is widely known in Olympia. As former program director for the Land Council he is respected by the environmental community. He understands grassroots advocacy, has a deep passion for the issues, and is a good fit with our culture. We are excited to have once again a presence in Olympia.

I look forward to seeing you at our meetings each third Wednesday of the month. The speakers that Shirley has planned promise to be most interesting.

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## OPAS Field Trips in January and February

by Bob Iddins



### Local Bays and Shores

*Date and Time:* Saturday January 15, 2011, 9:00 a.m.

*Cost:* Free

*Features:* See wintering seabirds and raptors and anything else we can find

*Leaders:* Judy Mullally, Bob Iddins

*Bring:* lunch, water, optics

*Meeting place:* Dungeness Landing County Park (Oyster House)

*Further information:* Bob Iddins 360-681-2840

### Skagit & Snohomish County

*Dates:* Saturday-Sunday February 12 & 13

*Cost:* Free

*Leaders:* Bob Iddins, Judy Mullally

*Features:* A very popular annual weekend trip to the Samish Valley & Skagit Flats. Swans and snow geese will be present in large numbers. A myriad of wintering raptors should be seen scattering huge flocks of shorebirds.

*Meeting place:* Take the 8:35 AM ferry at Kingston for Edmonds. If you don't join us on the bow on the lower car deck, meet at the boardwalk for the Edmonds Marsh. Turn right after exiting ferry (prior to railroad tracks), turn left on Dayton, and make an immediate right. Proceed straight through business area to parking lot for the marsh.

*Bring:* Scopes are helpful. Bring lunch for both days. Dress warmly and be prepared for inclement weather. We will probably do some car pooling on site. Participating cars will need a State Fish & Wildlife parking pass (available at Swains). Participants make own motel reservations at Mt. Vernon or Burlington; also responsible for restaurant meals, Saturday evening and Sunday morning.

*Further information:* Bob Iddins, home phone 360-681-2840, cell phone 360-775-5945.



Photo by Bob Iddins

Peregrine Falcon

## River Center Events

### Wednesday Bird Walks

*Date:* Every Wednesday morning

*Time:* 8:30 a.m.

*Cost:* Free

Meet at the River Center for a weekly walk to see and hear the birds of the lower Dungeness riparian forest. Information from these ongoing walks helps us understand the annual cycle of the birds of Railroad Bridge Park.

*(Continued on next page)*

## Harlequin Happenings

### Last Thursday Work Party

*Dates:* Variable during Winter (contact River Center to be added to contact list)

The volunteers of Railroad Bridge Park and the River Center need help to maintain the beauty of the Park and River Center. Please join us anytime snow removal is necessary.

### Natural Science Study Group

*Dates:* 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon. each month

*Time:* 10 a.m. to noon.

This adult discussion group focuses on the natural world of the north Olympic Peninsula, including climate, weather, rivers, geology, botany, and wildlife. Discussion topics vary with group interests. Come gain some knowledge.

### Winter Birds of the North Olympic Peninsula

*Dates:* Five Thursdays, Jan. 20 to Feb. 24, 9 to 11:30 a.m.

*Cost:* River Center Partners: \$50; non-members: \$75

An intermediate birding class to learn identification, natural history, and ecological preferences of the winter birds of the north Olympic Peninsula. We will include field trips to local habitats; we will be outside nearly every session. Limit 16 people.

### Corvids in Winter

*Date:* Sat. Jan. 29; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

*Cost:* \$10 per person

Ken Wiersema leads this special class to explore the fascinating lives of crows, ravens, and jays in winter. Come learn to identify corvids by behavior, ranges, vocalization, as well as hear anecdotes about these intelligent creatures. The class begins with a presentation at the River Center followed by field trip.

### Raptors in Winter: A Special Presentation with David Drummond


*Dates:* Fri. evening talk, Feb. 11, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.; Sat. field trip, Feb 12, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

*Cost:* \$50 per person

Join Merlin researcher and raptor expert David Drummond for this special two-day class about the eagles, hawks, and falcons of our area, their adaptations for hunting and survival, and their fascinating lives during winter. Please pre-register: Limit 18


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 **“Corvids in Winter” 2011** art by Tony Angell

*Saturday January 29, 2011  
at 9:30 AM  
Dungeness River Audubon Center*

A Seminar on Ravens, Crows, & Jays.  
*Includes an illustrated 90 min seminar  
followed by a 2 hr local field trip*  
An annual favorite • its 5th year,  
*revised and updated.* -- Includes  
insights, new research summaries,  
local observations, and anecdotes.



**Presented by Ken Wiersema**

**Please pre-register at the  
Center or by phone  
681-4076**

Class tuition \$10



## Owl Prowl in the Owllympics

*Date:* Sat. Feb 19, 7 p.m. to after midnight; Sat. March 19, 7 p.m. to after midnight.

*Cost:* \$30 per person

Join Bob Boekelheide on an exploratory journey in the northeastern Olympic foothills to find owls and other night creatures. You must pre-register for this trip at the River Center (681-4076); limited to 10 participants each trip. Dates may change depending on weather.

## Great Backyard Bird Count

*Dates:* Fri., Feb. 18 through Mon. Feb. 21

Every year at President's Day weekend, people are asked to count birds in their backyards and everywhere else, to assess how populations are changing in North America. Be part of the count! Go to [www.birdcount.org](http://www.birdcount.org) for more information.

## Olympic Driftwood Art Show

*Date:* Sat. & Sun, Feb. 26 to 27, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Olympic driftwood sculptors present prize-winning pieces and recent works by members, plus demonstrate sculpture techniques. Driftwood products available by order will also be present.



### **Olympic Birdfest 2011** April 8-10, 2011 in Sequim, WA

A bird watching vacation for beginners to experts, from leisurely strolls to active hikes. Bird for a few hours, or all day ... from the dawn chorus to the evening owl prowl. We will wake you with coffee, nourish you with locally grown organic food, and celebrate a traditional salmon bake.

**Enjoy the show** from guided birding trips, boat tours, a silent auction, banquet, and many other presentations. Our festival has a full slate of extraordinary offerings awaiting you.

**Also this year!** Stay on for a three-day, two-night birding/sightseeing cruise of the San Juan Islands. Register separately at [www.olympicpeninsulaudubon.org](http://www.olympicpeninsulaudubon.org).

**BirdFest program information and registration can be found at** [www.olympicbirdfest.org](http://www.olympicbirdfest.org)

## River Center Endowment - Donating Appreciated Stock is an Attractive Alternative to Cash

*by Sue Chickman, Endowment Committee and Curtis Johnson, Port Angeles Attorney*



The Dungeness River Audubon Center's Endowment was created in 2008 to ensure a sustainable source of funding for its educational programs long into the future. With help from legal and financial professionals in our community, the Endowment Committee is developing ways that friends and supporters can donate tax-advantaged charitable gifts.

While a cash donation is always appreciated, you may also want to consider the benefits of making a gift of appreciated stock to the River Center, a 501c(3) non-profit organization.

If you are contemplating a sale of stock that has increased in value and that you have owned for a minimum of one year, by donating shares to the River Center, 1) you can avoid paying the capital gains tax; and 2) the total stock amount may still be eligible for a tax deduction. Since taxation on this type of gift is avoided, the giver can provide a larger donation to the River Center.

### **Q:How does this work?**

**A:**Say you wish to make a \$5,000 donation to the River Center and you could either give cash or donate stock. Let's assume that you bought stock over one year ago for an original price of \$1,000, but it is

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now worth \$5,000. If sold, it would normally be subject to the capital gains tax of 15% of the stock's appreciation. Selling the shares for cash would net about \$4,400 after capital gains tax [ $\$5,000 - \$1,000 \times 0.15$ ] = \$600. The River Center can receive more benefit from a stock donation, as they will receive a gift valued at \$5,000, instead of the \$4,400 in cash. You may be able to deduct the full \$5,000 from your income tax, depending on your circumstances. The \$4,000 capital gain is not taxed, even though it has "inflated" your charitable donations. Avoiding capital gains makes it possible to give stock at a lower actual cost to you rather than making a cash gift. The River Center would be glad to receive the stock and can sell it immediately for \$5,000 generally with no capital gains consequences because of its tax exempt status.

### Q. How do you make a gift of stock?

A: If the stock is being held in a certificate form, then transferring the physical stock certificate will be required. If the shares are only held as an electronic version stored in your brokerage account, you will need to order an electronic transfer to the River Center. Please feel free to contact us for assistance.

### Q. What if the donor is rebalancing his/her stock portfolio and wants to give stock that has lost its value since purchase?

A: It may be better to sell stock that has lost value and donate the proceeds of the sale to the River Center – because you'd have a capital loss that you may be able to deduct as well as your charitable contribution. If you simply donated the stock that has lost value, you could not deduct the loss.

**A final word to the wise:** Always check with your tax and/or financial advisor before implementing any gift.

*Curtis G. Johnson [curtisjohnson@olympus.net](mailto:curtisjohnson@olympus.net), an attorney in Clallam County for over 30 years, contributed to this article. His Port Angeles practice emphasizes personal injury, estate planning and wills, real estate, and general civil litigation.*



# Wanted!

## Birdfest Silent Auction items

Looking for donations of WONDERFUL ITEMS such as guided trips, art creations, one-of-a-kind items/experiences, time shares, birder/birding-related treasures...

Contact Gretha Davis, [gretha.d@wavecable.com](mailto:gretha.d@wavecable.com), 360-477-5407.



## Sequim-Dungeness Christmas Bird Count

by Bob Boekelheide

The 2010 Sequim-Dungeness Christmas Bird Count (SDCBC), held last December 20th, will best be remembered for its bone-chilling east winds. Conditions were pretty nice until about 6 a.m., with fairly light winds and partly cloudy skies, so owling did quite well. But as soon as the sun came up, east winds started gusting to 40 mph and never let down all day. Our Dungeness Spit party, always a valiant crew, couldn't boat to the spit like usual, so they started walking from the base, but gave up after a few hours of sand-blasting. Amazingly, our boat counters and Protection Island party bravely ventured out on the Strait, reaching their destinations but drenched with spray for their trouble. Overall, birds laid low and our intrepid counters retreated to the shelter of their cars and houses as the day wore on.

We finished the count with 137 species and 37122 birds, the lowest species total since 1997, and the lowest number of individuals since 1987. This is 13 species below our all-time record of 150 species set in 2007, and less than half the record number of individuals seen just last year. Exactly 100 people counted in field parties during the day, and 41 more watched their feeders or backyards.

The two most abundant species this year, as is typical, were American Wigeon (6,591) and Mallard (3,881), followed in the top ten by large pink-legged gulls (Olympic and Glaucous-winged types, 3,219), Dark-eyed Junco (1,461), European Starling (1,288), American Robin (1,128), Double-crested Cormorant (969), Bufflehead (968), and Brant (907). Because of the wind, most of these species numbered significantly less than previous years. These ten species comprised about 55 percent of our total count.

Only a few species set all-time records this year: Greater White-fronted Goose, Double-crested Cormorant, Northern Harrier, Rhinoceros Auklet, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Anna's Hummingbird, and Western Meadowlark. This is an odd assortment, but every species has a story.

Many more white-fronted geese have remained in our area this fall, and Double-crested Cormorants have been increasing throughout their range for years. Northern Harriers had a feeding bonanza on count day, apparently capturing rodents flooded out of coastal marshes by high water. Our party watched seven harriers all hunting at once at the Dungeness River delta. The Rhino Auklets have lingered longer in the Strait this winter, seen on count day by parties at Sequim Bay and Diamond Point. The meadowlarks were at Graysmarsh, Schmuck Road, and Protection Island, all grasslands that provide winter habitat for these birds.



Photo by Bob Rhodes

Male Northern Harrier



Photo by Bob Hutchison

Western Meadowlark

If you've watched birds during the last few years, you know about the population explosions of collared-doves and Anna's Hummingbirds in the Pacific Northwest. The collared-doves are particularly interesting, first seen on our count in 2007 with four birds, then 13 in 2008, 44 in 2009, and now 106 in 2010. The sky's the limit for this species. Anna's Hummingbird first appeared on the SDCBC in 1994, never numbered more than 3 individuals until 2006 when they increased to 10 birds, and now up to 56 seen in 2010. Both species congregate where humans put out feeders, so it's likely their numbers will continue to rise.

Conversely, partly due to the wind and partly due to changes in populations, many species had very low numbers this year.

Troublesome declines in marine species such as loons and grebes

continued, with some of the lowest numbers for the entire history of our count for species such as  
(Continued on next page)

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Red-necked and Western Grebes. Their numbers were undoubtedly affected by the wind as well. Shorebird numbers were also way down, likely due to them hiding out of the wind on Dungeness Spit where we couldn't see them.

One other reason why the species total was so low this year is because we found substantially fewer "rare" species than normal, but we did find a few. Scott Atkinson, while doing a seawatch from Graysmarsh bluff, spotted an interesting passage of tubenoses in the high winds, two Northern Fulmars and two Short-tailed Shearwaters, both species that are likely present in the Strait of Juan de Fuca during winter but not usually seen from shore. Scott also located a Long-billed Dowitcher and a Swamp Sparrow at Graysmarsh. An immature Glaucous Gull, first located at Dungeness Landing Park by Judy Mullally and Bob Norton on 12/11/10, was roosting with other gulls at the mouth of the Dungeness River during the CBC, trying to get out of the wind. The Dungeness Spit party located one Canvasback in Dungeness Bay.

Equally interesting are CW ("count week") species seen between three days before to three days after the CBC, but not on count day. Unfortunately we missed these species on 12/20. The CW species include Redhead, Wilson's Snipe, Cedar Waxwing, a Tundra Swan heard by Denny Van Horn the night before the CBC, a Slaty-backed Gull seen by Denny at Jamestown on 12/22, a Thick-billed Murre seen by Denny at Port Williams on 12/22, and a Western Scrub-Jay visiting backyards before the count on the west side of McDonald Creek. The 2011 Sequim-Dungeness CBC will occur on Monday, December 19, so mark your calendars! If you see any interesting birds or bird activity, please contact Bob Boekelheide at 360-681-4076 or email [rivercenter@olympus.net](mailto:rivercenter@olympus.net). Keep birding!

Special thanks to organizations allowing access to their properties for the count: Dungeness Farms, Olympic Game Farm, Graysmarsh, Nash's Organic Vegetables, Severson Family Farms, WA Maritime National Wildlife Refuges, Battelle PNL, and Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe. And many thanks to our Christmas Count participants:

Dungeness Spit-Jamie Acker, George Gerdt; Dungeness Rec. Area-Ken & Nancy Wiersema, Alan, Elizabeth, and Adam Watkins, Coleman Byrnes, Sue Nattinger, Barb & Norrie Johnson; Dungeness Bay, Game Farm-Bob Boekelheide, Jerry Freilich, Frannie Koski, Margaret Lotzgesell, Carl & Sue Christensen, Marlene Lambert, Shirley Anderson, Dale Erz; Three Crabs, Jamestown-Dan Waggoner, Denny Van Horn, Pat MacRobbie, John & Pat Willets, Bruce Moorhead, Scott Gremel, Mandy Holmgren, Cassidy Gratten, Lee Bowen, Sue Gilleland; Graysmarsh-Scott Atkinson; Port Williams, Washington Harbor-Roger Hoffman, Steve Acker, Bruce Paige, Barbara Mahoney, Marian Matsunaga, Ron Miller, Sharon Paige, Dana Scott, Steven and Nancy Smith, Dan Thomas, Marcia Wesesky; W. Sequim Bay-Bob Norton, Jim & Audrey Gift, Jacob Haverfield, Darcy Stumbaugh, Bruce & Carol Von Borstel; Battelle = Kate, Annette, & Peter Buenau; E. Sequim Bay, Miller Pen.-Dan McDougal-Treacy, Fred Sharpe, Powell Jones, John & Nancy Woolley; Diamond Point, Gardiner-Bob Iddins, Judy Mullally, Dan Froehlich, Luke Jacobson; Offshore Waters-Bruce LaBar, Annie Meyer, Bruce Von Borstel, Durkee Richards – boat owner; Protection Island-Rod Norvell-compiler, Lorenz Sollmann, Sue Thomas, Sue Mayo, MarySue Brancato, Janis Burger, Dow Lambert, Ken & Mary Campbell; Chicken Coop Road-Charlotte Watts, Powell Jones; Palo Alto Rd., Woods Road-Bill & Karen Parker, Quenn Charrier; Happy Valley, Burnt Hill, Bell Hill, SE Sequim-John Bridge, Emily & Kristen Glenn, + 9 friends; John & Diana Anderson, Clare Hatler; Dungeness Fish Hatchery-Elizabeth & Nanette Noyes; Lost Mtn, Olson Rd., Atterbury Rd-Karen & Joe Zook, Terry Martin; W of Dungeness River, McDonald Cr-Phyllis Wenger, Barbara Vanderwerf; Robin Hill Park, Solmar-Sherry Anderson; West of McDonald Creek-Tom Guobis, Joan McDermott, Marti Campbell, Margie Palmer, Sheila Kee; Carlsborg Barb Blackie, Heidi Peterson; Dungeness Greens, golf course-Eftin Strong, Michael Barry, Kris Lether; Kitchen-Dick, Blue Ribbon Farms-Betty Kramp, Pat Schoen, Janet Oja, Mike Cohoon; Central Sequim, E of Dungeness R.-Bob Hutchison, Margaret Levitan, Verla Priest, Carolyn Cooper, Dick Hahn & Loretta Flanders, Kendra Donelson, Marion Rutledge, Dungeness Schoolhouse, E of Dungeness R.-Dave & Julie Jackson, Kate & Grace Goshen, Tom & Diane Marciniac, Hal & Carol Keller, Dave & Patsy Mattingley, Lana Byal, Sandra Schlechter, Jim Bates; Railroad Bridge Park & vicinity-Mary Robson, Hank and Raedell Warren, Jim Castle, Ali El Maallam, Ndeliste Steineor, Nancy Bargar, Karen Holtrop. If I forgot anyone, please accept my apologies.



**San Juan Islands**  
April 10-12, 2011, Sequim, WA

Join the Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society this spring for a three-day cruise through the spectacular San Juan Archipelago. Cruise to Roche Harbor Resort and San Juan Island, whale-watching along the way. Picnic on Sucia Island State Park, and cruise home via dramatic Deception Pass. Contact 360-681-4076, or email [opas.birdfest.info@gmail.com](mailto:opas.birdfest.info@gmail.com). Register at [www.olympicpeninsulaudubon.org](http://www.olympicpeninsulaudubon.org)



## RESULTS OF 2010 SEQUIM-DUNGENESS CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Gr. White-fronted Goose	<u>49</u>	<u>Northern Fulmar</u>	2	Rock Pigeon	386	Orange-crowned Warbler	3
Brant	907	<u>Short-tailed Shearwater</u>	2	Band-tailed Pigeon	2	Yellow-rumped Warbler	12
Cackling Goose	10	Brandt's Cormorant	2	Eur. Collared-Dove	<u>106</u>	Yel-r (Audubon's) Warb	3
Canada Goose	365	Dble-crstd Cormorant	<u>969</u>	Mourning Dove	160	Townsend's Warb.	7
Trumpeter Swan	58	Pelagic Cormorant	84	Barn Owl	4	Spotted Towhee	363
<u>Tundra Swan</u>	cw	cormorant sp.	7	W. Screech-Owl	3	Savannah Sparrow	8
Wood Duck	1	Great Blue Heron	37	Great-horned Owl	9	Fox Sparrow	157
Gadwall	69	Bald Eagle (ad.)	107	N. Pygmy-Owl	2	Song Sparrow	639
Eur. Wigeon	22	Bald Eagle (imm.)	36	Barred Owl	4	Lincoln's Sparrow	3
Am. Wigeon	6591	Northern Harrier	<u>57</u>	N. Saw-whet Owl	3	Swamp Sparrow	1
Mallard	3881	Sharp-shinned Hawk	7	Anna's Hummingbird	<u>56</u>	White-throated Sparrow	2
N. Shoveler	159	Cooper's Hawk	18	Belted Kingfisher	29	White-crownd Sparrow	97
N. Pintail	637	accipiter sp.	3	Red-brsted Sapscker	7	Golden-crownd Sparrow	432
Green-wgd Teal	224	Red-tailed Hawk	58	Downy Woodpecker	43	sparrow sp.	37
Canvasback	1	American Kestrel	7	Hairy Woodpecker	11	Dark-eyed Junco (Or)	1461
<u>Redhead</u>	cw	Merlin	6	N. Flicker (unk type)	52	D-e Junco (Slate-col.)	1
Ring-necked Duck	129	Peregrine Falcon	11	Red-shafted Flicker	97	Red-winged Blackbird	657
Greater Scaup	<u>339</u>	falcon sp.	1	Yellow-shafted Flicker	cw	W. Meadowlark	45
Lesser Scaup	54	Virginia Rail	6	Intergrade RS X YS Flicker	2	Brewer's Blackbird	382
scaup sp.	7	rail sp.	1	Pileated Woodpecker	3	Brown-headed Cowbird	2
Harlequin Duck	93	American Coot	64	woodpecker sp.	1	blackbird sp.	497
Surf Scoter	393	Black-bellied Plover	46	Northern Shrike	3	Purple Finch	17
Wh-winged Scoter	49	Killdeer	19	Hutton's Vireo	8	House Finch	578
Black Scoter	16	Sanderling	569	Steller's Jay	187	finch sp.	45
Long-tailed Duck	94	Dunlin	114	<u>W. Scrub-Jay</u>	cw	Red Crossbill	7
Bufflehead	968	Long-billed Dowitcher	1	crow sp.	955	Pine Siskin	590
Com. Goldeneye	351	Wilson's Snipe	cw	Com. Raven	184	Am. Goldfinch	27
Barrow's Goldeneye	7	Bonaparte's Gull	1	Black-cppd Chickadee	259	Evening Grosbeak	64
goldeneye sp.	1	Mew Gull	389	Chtnt-backd Chickadee	399	House Sparrow	63
Hooded Merganser	38	Ring-billed Gull	26	chickadee sp.	1		
Com. Merganser	<u>65</u>	California Gull	3	Bushtit	253	<b><u>TOTAL INDIVIDUALS</u></b>	<b>37122</b>
Red-Br. Merganser	278	Herring Gull	9	Red-breastd Nuthatch	81	<b><u>NO. OF SPECIES</u></b>	<b>137</b>
Ruddy Duck	1	Thayer's Gull	7	Brown Creeper	18	No. of Observers	100
duck sp.	29	<u>Slaty-backed Gull</u>	cw	Bewick's Wren	13	No. Feeder Watchers	41
Ring-necked Pheasant	14	Western Gull	73	Winter Wren	168	No. of Parties	39 to 43
Ruffed Grouse	5	W. X Glauc-wg Gull	2559	Marsh Wren	25	Miles on foot	120
Wild Turkey	3	Glaucous-wng Gull	660	wren sp.	4	Hours on foot	149.5
California Quail	148	Glaucous Gull	1	American Dipper	9	Miles by car	521.75
Red-throated Loon	11	gull sp.	303	Golden-crwnd Kinglet	769	Hours by car	79.25
Pacific Loon	289	Common Murre	595	Ruby-crwnd Kinglet	150	Miles by boat	10
Common Loon	27	<u>Thick-billed Murre</u>	cw	Hermit Thrush	7	Hrs by boat	3
Pied-Billed Grebe	16	Pigeon Guillemot	193	Am. Robin	1128	Miles bicycle	10
Horned Grebe	96	Marbled Murrelet	7	Varied Thrush	131	Hours bicycle	3
Red-necked Grebe	16	Ancient Murrelet	274	European Starling	1288	Hours owling	14.75
Western Grebe	38	Rhinoceros Auklet	<u>19</u>	Cedar Waxwing	cw	Miles owling	46
						Feeder Hours	104.5

Underlined species = unusual species, recorded infrequently on count

Underlined numbers = extraordinary number of individuals for Sequim-Dungeness CBC, since 1975

CW = Count Week (seen during count week, but not on count day)

## What's in a Name?

by Nina Routh, Denver Field Ornithologists (by permission)

Have you seen any Townsend's Warblers this fall migration? It's a marvelous bird, named by Tom Nuttall for John Kirk Townsend (1809-1851). Mr. T. was known as an "American naturalist", ornithologist, and collector. John Audubon, a birding crony, gave Townsend free reign in naming anything he found – the Solitaire for one and the Bunting for another. Townsend's Junco (aka, Dark-eyed Junco), Townsend's Ptarmigan (aka, Rock Ptarmigan), and Townsend's Sparrow (aka, Fox Sparrow) also carry Mr. T's name, along with one of my favorites – the Solitaire.

Ironically, Mr. Townsend died of arsenic poisoning. It was his secret ingredient in his formula for taxidermy. No wonder they're so careful with the bird skins in our museum's wonderful collection.

Thomas Nuttall (1786-1859), an English botanist and zoologist, collected for Pennsylvania University. He inherited an estate and "had to fulfill his legal requirements" by coming to the US and handling the estate. Mr. Nuttall published a field guide to US and Canadian birds, inexpensive and small – a real field guide. He "collected" and ID'd the American Black Oystercatcher, Western Gull, Townsend's Solitaire (see above), Green-tailed Towhee, Harris' Sparrow, Common Poorwill, Nuttall's Sparrow (aka, White-crowned Sparrow), Anna's Hummingbird, and Tricolored Blackbird, to name a few. And, as we've learned – the birds don't always get named for their discoverer – it's who you know. However, William Gambel did commemorate Mr. Nuttall with his own woodpecker.

Good birding to all,

Nina



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*Photo by Bob Rhodes*

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