



# 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 2 Mar-Apr 2016

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

## OPAS Programs in March and April

by Bob Boekelheide & Tom Butler

**March 16, 2016, Program** — “Tribal Conservation Efforts in the Dungeness Area”, 7 p.m. at Dungeness River Audubon Center. Presented by Hilton Turnbull.



Join Hilton Turnbull, Habitat Biologist for the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe’s Natural Resources Department to learn about the tribe’s conservation efforts to protect and restore tribal resources in the Dungeness area.

Hilton has been involved in multiple projects to enhance tribal salmon recovery efforts in the Dungeness River and local creeks, and in many other restoration projects, including driftcell conservation, invasive species control and floodplain revegetation.

**April 20, 2016, Program** — “The first 4 years: wildlife responses to removal of the Elwha dams”, 7 p.m., at the Dungeness River Audubon Center. Presented by Kim Sager.

Kim Sager will discuss research on river otter and American dipper responses to the Elwha dam removal, salmon recolonization, and marine-derived



nutrient influxes to the Elwha ecosystem. She will also describe her research to document wildlife recolonization of the former Elwha reservoirs, with a specific focus on small mammals, birds, and ungulates.

Kim is a wildlife biologist for the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe in Port Angeles, and has been with the tribe since 2007. Prior to going to work for the Tribe, Kim worked for Olympic National Park and the USGS Olympic Field Station, studying everything from Marbled Murrelets to black bears. She grew up in Montana and has a Bachelor of Science degree in wildlife biology from Humboldt State University, and a Master’s degree in wildlife biology from the University of Idaho. She spends her free time exploring the wilds of the Olympic Peninsula with her family.

## OPAS Field Trips in March and April

by Bob Iddins



### Bird Walks

*Date: Every Wed. morning; Time: 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.*

Meet at the River Center for a lovely walk to see and hear the birds of the Dungeness riparian forest. Information from walks helps us understand the annual cycle of birds in RR Bridge Park.

*[Editor’s Note: The only field trip scheduled for March was Nisqually NWR on March 4, which was included and described in the Jan-Feb Harlequin Happenings newsletter. For April, all field trips are part of Olympic Birdfest, and are described in detail at [www.olympicbirdfest.org](http://www.olympicbirdfest.org).]*

*Harlequin Happenings* is published six times a year. Consider “going green”. Receive your newsletter electronically, in living color, by contacting the OPAS Membership Chair, Audrey Gift, at 360-681-2989, or email [agift@q.com](mailto:agift@q.com).

The *Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society* meets monthly (except July, August, and December) on the third Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Dungeness River Audubon Center, 2151 Hendrickson Road, Sequim, WA. The public is welcome.

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## President's Notes

By Ken Wiersema

BirdFest '16... This year promises to be a special and fun event. Shirley and Marion have been leading the planning while Vanessa was out on maternity leave, and now Vanessa is back and the leadership is at full strength. Please go to the BirdFest web site [<http://www.olympicbirdfest.org/>] and see the great array of events prepared for your enjoyment. You can readily access the BirdFest site by clicking on the poster on the OPAS home page, too. Note that many of the popular events are filling fast. Owl prowls are full, Banquet is over 70% filled, and several field trips are near capacity. So sign up now! Don't wait and be disappointed. Big thanks to Chris Perry for his superb work on putting the website graphics together. Well done!

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Migratory Bird treaty Act (MBTA). The MBTA provides that it is unlawful to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, possess, sell, purchase, barter, import, export, or transport any migratory bird, or any part, nest, or egg or any such bird, unless authorized under a permit issued by the Secretary of the Interior. The 1<sup>st</sup> parts of the act were negotiated in 1916 with Canada, and later included Mexico, Japan and Russia. To commemorate this landmark treaty and US law, the USFWS has selected 2 interns to travel the Pacific Flyway from Mexico to Alaska. They will be traveling through State, Federal, Provincial, and NGO refuges starting in March and ending on the Arctic Ocean in May. They will be visiting our BirdFest on Sat Apr 16<sup>th</sup>, and will share some highlights of their trip with us. Watch the BirdFest web site for more information on this trip. We are coordinating their visit with our Audubon WA State office, and the DNWR staff. Expect it to be an interesting addition to our programs.

Colombian Birding Trails On 19 & 20 Feb we hosted 4 Bird Guides from Colombia. With our Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and Dungeness River Audubon Center partners we toured the Tribal Campus, local birding sites, and Bob Boekelheide treated them to a trip to the Elwha River delta. – Big thanks Bob! -- These visitors, including one from an indigenous Colombian Tribe, have been participating in a yearlong birding and English language training program, to establish birding trails and tour destinations in Colombia. The program has been partially supported by National Audubon and by NGOs in Colombia. It was an opportunity to expand life lists for the Colombians and good practice for Bob's Spanish! We'll stay in contact with the Colombians and perhaps, if there is sufficient interest, consider organizing an OPAS/DRAC trip to unique and exciting birding spots in Colombia? Let y'all know as things develop.

Nest Boxes '16 We had 24 folks participate in our nest box building class on Feb 20<sup>th</sup>. We built an array of Swallow, Chickadee, Nuthatch, and Screech Owl boxes. Fun time! Thanks to those who attended and to those tool guys who helped!

DRAC revegetation work Party On Feb 26<sup>th</sup> Tom Butler organized a hardy team of 19 folks to replant native vegetation along the west end of the Park's trail, which had been disturbed by the recent Bridge work. Great work. And watch for the bridge to be reopened after replacing the deck on the truss bridge. Maybe by mid-Mar?

Spay-Neuter offer Peninsula Friends of Animals (PFOA) are offering low income families the service of free spaying and neutering for their pets. OPAS supports controlling our domestic pet populations. Recall, just one uncontrolled or feral cat can kill and injure hundreds of songbirds. Sharon Palmer, volunteer for PFOA, is the contact. PFOA will offer 40 free spay and neuter operations for dogs and cats in March. Low-income candidates may contact Sharon directly for more information -- 360-683-4697.

## Olympic Birdfest 2016 is Coming in April

by Bob Hutchison

Grab your binoculars and join the 12<sup>th</sup> annual **Olympic BirdFest 2016** celebration at the Dungeness River Audubon Center, April 15-17, 2016.



The stage is set... quiet bays and estuaries, sandy beaches, a five-mile-long sand spit, and a protected island bird sanctuary on the Strait of Juan de Fuca; wetlands, tide pools, rainforests, and lush river val-

leys. The players are ready ... Marbled Murrelets, Rhinoceros Auklets, Harlequin Ducks, Black Oystercatchers, Peregrine Falcons, Barred and Pygmy owls will be sporting their finest spring plumage for this celebration. Enjoy guided birding trips, boat tour, and a gala banquet. Our featured speaker this year is noted artist Tony Angell, "Revealing the Secret Lives of Owls". Come bird with us and experience with others the spectacular landscapes of the Olympic Peninsula ... you just might go home with a new bird for your life list! Check out the offerings by going online ([www.olympicbirdfest.org](http://www.olympicbirdfest.org)).

Precede your BirdFest weekend with a three-day, two night birding cruise of the spectacular **San Juan Islands** on April 12-14, 2016. Visit San Juan and Sucia Islands, and more. Stay at the historic Roche Harbor Resort. Get cruise information and register online at: [www.pugetsoundexpress.com/audubon](http://www.pugetsoundexpress.com/audubon).

## Conservation Matters

by Bob Phreaner

As I write this column on February 12<sup>th</sup>, our Indian Plum is just coming into bloom and there are reports that the first Rufous Hummingbirds are arriving. Charles Darwin and Abraham Lincoln were both born on February 12, 1809, so I am writing about Evolution and Freedom as they relate to landscaping for birds and insects.



Punxsutawney Phil didn't see his shadow, which means Spring is just around the corner. Now is the time to begin


planting so let's consider the benefits for birds of landscaping with native vegetation.

Because they co-evolved, native plants, native insects and native birds complement each other in bird friendly communities. According to the research of University of Delaware Entomologist, Doug Tallamy, who wrote *Bringing Nature Home*, native plants support 35 times the caterpillar biomass of non-natives. As you may know, developing birds thrive on the protein and fat obtained from being fed insects, mostly caterpillars. Evolving together, our native plants are more resistant to damage from native insects than are exotic plants.

How about a new birth of freedom from lawn care? I was stunned to learn that lawns cover forty-five million acres in the U.S. That is an area of equivalent size to Washington. We use large amounts of resources to saturate lawns with water and pesticides. Statistics show we use seventy million pounds of pesticides per year, in a nation that should be concerned about depleting our sources of irrigation water and polluting our environment with storm water runoff. Consider the gradual replacement of your lawn and exotic plantings with a bird friendly landscape of native plants.

The Dungeness River Audubon Center is setting a great example by revegetating, under the Native Plants Project, the land adjacent to the Olympic Discovery Trail that was used for access in the miraculous reconstruction of the Railroad Bridge trestle. Native plants were obtained through the Clallam County Conservation District, and include: Pacific Crabapple, Blue and Red Elderberry, Mock Orange, Nootka Rose, Red-flowering Currant, Oceanspray, Tall Oregon Grape, Pacific Ninebark, Serviceberry, Snowberry, Thimbleberry, and Twinberry.

If you would like to learn more about incorporating native plants into your "birdscape", consider attending "Spring Landscaping for Birds", presented by Joe Holtrop, Executive Director of Clallam Conservation District. This Backyard Birding Class is offered April 9 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Dungeness River Audubon Center.



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## Harlequin Happenings

# OPAS Swan Study Update—February 2016

By Mary Porter-Solberg



A new record count for the Sequim area of 162 Trumpeter Swans, 132 adults and 30 juveniles, was recorded by one of our swan study volunteers on February 18<sup>th</sup>. The higher count numbers could be a result of swans moving around now by flying north to stage for migration after wintering in the south. The Sequim area appears to be a good stop-over for these majestic birds.

Thanks to an early morning report from an OPAS member on February 10th, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Biologist Shelly Ament was alerted to an adult Trumpeter Swan mortality in a field not far from power lines near Schmuck Road. By all appearances, the swan died from a power line collision. Clallam County PUD responded immediately by installing 21 bird diverters on those power lines. OPAS and WDFW are very appreciative of PUD's quick action to prevent further swan deaths.

Please call if you observe sick, injured, or dead swans. Contact numbers are Shelly Ament, cell phone (360) 477-0123, or Anita McMillan at WDFW District Office (360) 457-4601. You can also call Martha Jordan at cell phone (206) 713-3684, or home/office (425) 787-0258.

## Other Events

### Spring Birding Classes

by Dave Jackson

#### Birding by Ear

*Dates:* Eight Thursday mornings — first class on Mar 10; subsequent classes on Mar 24; Apr 7 & 21; May 5 & 19; Jun 2 & 16.

*Times:* All sessions 8:30 am to 11:30 am

*Meeting place:* Dungeness River Audubon Center (first session).

*Leader:* Dave Jackson

*Features:* This eight-session class is designed for **intermediate birders**. Master the principles of birding by ear, mostly birding outdoors at Railroad Bridge Park and trips elsewhere. In early sessions, become familiar with the sounds of local residents and winter visitors before the arrival of spring migrants. In later sessions, we focus on the songs of spring migrants. Extensive use of mobile bird apps (smartphone or tablet) and recordings.

*Limit:* 16 people.

*Costs:* \$60.00 for River Center partners; \$80.00 for non-

partners.

*Pre-registration:* Please register with the River Center at 360-681-4076 or e-mail [rceeducation@olympus.net](mailto:rceeducation@olympus.net).

*For further information:* E-mail Dave Jackson ([djackson@wavecable.com](mailto:djackson@wavecable.com)) or call 360-683-1355.

#### Introduction to Birds and Birding

*Dates:* Six Tuesday evenings — first class on March 29; subsequent classes on Apr 5, 12, 19, and 26; May 3.

*Times:* All sessions from 7 to 9 p.m.

*Meeting place:* Dungeness River Audubon Center.

*Leader:* Dave Jackson

*Features:* This six-week class is designed for **beginning birders**, new residents who wish to learn and recognize our local birds, and anyone wanting to better understand birds. Classes include bird identification, feeders, houses, field guides, and optics. Two field trips.

*Limit:* 16 people.

*Costs:* \$50.00 for River Center partners; \$70.00 for non-partners.

*Pre-registration:* Please register with the River Center at 360-681-4076 or e-mail [rceeducation@olympus.net](mailto:rceeducation@olympus.net).

*For further information:* E-mail Dave Jackson ([djackson@wavecable.com](mailto:djackson@wavecable.com)) or call 360-683-1355.

## Backyard Birder Series

“**Bird Migration: Why, Where, When, and How Birds Migrate**”, the sixth in the series of nine classes for backyard birders, will be the topic Saturday, March 5, from 10 a.m. until noon at the Dungeness River Audubon Center, Railroad Bridge Park.

Ken Leuthold will lead an exploration of the astonishing world of long-distance flying without any stopovers to rest or refuel! Imagine an 8-day, 7000-mile, non-stop flight every autumn to New Zealand for the Alaska Bar-tailed Godwits, compared to the 3 1/2 day record of an unmanned solar-powered aircraft!

Even though the Godwits may not stop over in Sequim, we will be seeing hummingbirds and swallows returning from their winters in the south, while most of the swans which have spent their winter with us have left for the north.

“**Spring Landscaping for Birds**”, the seventh in the series of nine classes for Backyard Birders, will be the topic Saturday, April 9, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Dungeness River Audubon Center, Railroad Bridge Park.

Joe Holtrop, Executive Director of the Clallam 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. Following the class, there will be an





*Sandhill Cranes in Migration*  
Photo by Bob Boekelheide

optional field trip (a two-mile hike at the Dungeness Recreation Area) to see native plants and where they are growing,

The series of classes, hosted by members of the Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society, is intended for residents of this area who are interested in knowing more about birds seen locally each season of the year and learning how to develop good habitats for wild birds.

“Backyard Birding” can be taken either as individual classes or in a series. The cost of each session is \$5 and is free for anyone under 18. After the completion of five sessions, participants will be offered free membership in OPAS for one year.

The remaining classes in the Backyard Birding Series are: May 14, “Enjoying Spring Sounds”; June 11, “Out of the Nest”.

## Student Art Show

by Gretha Davis

The Olympic Peninsula Art Association (formerly Sequim Arts) is pleased to present the **2016 Student Art Show**, which is celebrating its 22nd year, and is the only county wide student art show with cash awards. High school students from Sequim to Neah Bay to Forks have impressed viewers with their artistic talents, and this year's show is no exception. Student entries include visual arts in many forms, including acrylics, watercolors, oils, scratch board, collage, and ceramics.

The Show runs from March 9<sup>th</sup> thru April 2<sup>nd</sup> in the first floor atrium of the Landing Mall, 115 E. Railroad Ave, Port Angeles. Viewing hours are from 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily.

The public is invited to the Student Artist's Reception on Saturday, March 12, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. An awards presentation will take place at 5:00 p.m. at the Landing Mall. Light refreshments will be served.

The Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society will be awarding 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and honorable mention for the category “BIRD ART”. The Dungeness River Audubon Center will be awarding 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and honorable mention for the category “CONNECTIONS WITH NATURE”.

Following the art show, during the month of April at Sunshine Café, 145 W. Washington Street, Sequim ([www.facebook.com/seqsunshinecafe](http://www.facebook.com/seqsunshinecafe)), you can view a display of the Student Art award winners during business hours, 7a.m.-3p.m., Wednesday-Sunday.

## April 1st BirdFest-BirdQuest

by Gretha Davis

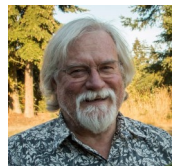
During First Friday Art Walk on April 1, 2016, 5:00 to 8:00p.m., play **BirdFest-BirdQuest** by finding the birds, created by Jake Reichner's Sequim High School ceramic's class, in eleven of Sequim's downtown businesses. Pick up your game cards at That Takes the Cake or any other of the eleven downtown businesses. Turn in your game cards at That Takes the Cake, and at 8:00p.m., the Grand Prize drawing of the correct **BirdFest-BirdQuest** game card and the announcement of the top three vote-getters for People's Choice awards will take place at That Takes the Cake. You need not be present to win. Then, these beautiful birds will be on display inside the Dungeness River Audubon Center until the afternoon of April 17<sup>th</sup>.

BirdFest BirdQuest is organized by the Sequim Merchants group, [www.SequimChamber.com](http://www.SequimChamber.com), [www.sequimartwalk.com](http://www.sequimartwalk.com) & [www.OlympicBirdFest.org](http://www.OlympicBirdFest.org).

## Intermediate Photography Classes

### Photographing Birds in Flight

with Chris Perry



Join Chris Perry for this class in intermediate photography of birds in flight, Saturday, April 16 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Log Cabin, Hwy 101 and W. Sequim Bay Rd., Sequim. Learn “shooting” techniques, camera settings, and *(Continued on next page)*

## Harlequin Happenings

equipment needed. Share photos and get answers to your questions. Cost for the class is \$45.00. Register online at: [www.olympicbirdfest.org](http://www.olympicbirdfest.org) , or call 360-681-4076.



### Nature and Landscape Photography with John Greengo

On Sunday, April 17, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., well-known instructor John Greengo will teach Nature and Landscape Photography at the Dungeness River Audubon Center, 2151 W. Hendrickson Rd., Sequim. The cost for this intermediate-level class is \$160.00. Register online at [www.olympicbirdfest.org](http://www.olympicbirdfest.org) , or call 360-681 4076.

## Bird Sightings

by Bob Boekelheide

The drought of the last two years appears to be reversed, with lots of rain in the lowlands this winter and adequate snowpack in the mountains. In fact, winter 2015-16 may rank in the top five for rainfall in western WA, despite the fact that El Nino years are supposed to be drier in the Pac NW. SnoTel measurements in the Olympics right now are above average, registering about 125% of normal at the Waterhole at 5000 ft on Hurricane Ridge, in comparison to last year's 5% of normal. It feels good to return to an old-fashioned Northwest winter... overcast and rainy!



Rufous Hummingbird  
Photo by Bob Rhodes

Just like last year, many early spring migrants have already appeared this February. Stacey Fradkin and Christie Lassen at Wild Birds Unlimited won the first Rufous Hummingbird award, photographing a male Rufous on 2/5 coming to their

shop's hummingbird feeder. The hummer stuck around, visiting the feeder through at least 2/21. Bruce Paige won the first Turkey Vulture award on 2/16, seeing one lone vulture circling northeast of Sequim, followed by another lone TV seen by Judy Collins on 2/22. The other harbinger of spring is the first swallow, but that, too, has already been seen by Denny Van Horn, with one unidentified swallow circling high over Dungeness on 2/9.



Willet and Marbled Godwit  
Photo by Dow Lambert

Many unusual species that were here earlier in the winter continue to be seen. One Willet still hangs out with the Marbled Godwit flock in Dungeness Bay, possibly the same Willet that was first seen on the OPAS Purple Martin field trip last 7/31/15. Ruddy Turnstones have again spent the winter in Port Angeles harbor, with up to 3 reported by Judy Collins at Ediz Hook on 2/7. Two and likely three Black-crowned Night Herons continue to roost in Dungeness. The Rough-legged Hawk first spotted last October still graces the area



Rough-legged Hawk  
Photo by Chris Perry

near West Sequim Bay Rd and Keeler Rd. Denny Van Horn spotted all four of our local Zonotrichia species on New Year's Day in the Dungeness Greens area south of Hogback Rd, including the Harris's Sparrow seen on the Sequim CBC and a White-throated Sparrow. Denny also spotted a Swamp Sparrow near the end of Palmer Rd in Dungeness on 1/2.

It's been a superb year for Trumpeter Swans, with record counts for the Sequim-Dungeness Valley. Bruce Paige counted 162 Trumpeters along Schmuck Rd on 1/2, the same exact number that Bill Jensen counted at Schmuck Rd and other locations on 2/18. One lone Tundra Swan has occasionally shown up, seen by Bruce Paige at Schmuck Rd on 1/8, and by Denny Van Horn and Mike Crim at Dungeness on 1/22.

Michael Barry recorded a high number of 4 Canvasbacks at Kitchen-Dick Ponds on 2/9, along with 2 Ruddy Ducks and one Lesser Scaup. Bruce Paige found the first Redhead of the year on 1/21 at a pond off Schmuck Rd.

The rare bird madness continued at Neah Bay. Bruce Paige found 7 Snow Geese there on New Year's Day, along with the continuing Tufted Duck in the Waatch Valley. Also on New Year's Day, Andrew Schepers watched an Osprey fly over his car near Shipwreck Point, a very unusual winter sighting.



Western Grebe  
Photo by Robert Hutchison

Denny Van Horn rediscovered the Hooded Warbler and one Palm Warbler in town on 1/10. Roger Hoffman refound one Palm Warbler there on 1/18. Bruce found a Yellow-billed Loon in Neah Bay on 1/31, along with 5 Black-legged Kittiwakes. Denny Van Horn found another YB loon at Sekiu on 1/10, and Bruce located another in Neah Bay on 2/23.

Of interest, Bruce Paige counted 755 Western Grebes in Neah Bay on 1/31, then Bob Boekelheide counted 515 Western Grebes in Port Angeles Harbor on 2/16. These are the highest number of Western Grebes seen around here in many years. Western Grebes have declined precipitously in the Salish Sea over several decades, so it is very good to see decent flocks in local waters.

Following last year's Brown Booby and Elegant Terns, more El Nino wanderers showed up in the form of Brown Pelicans in early January. Iris Sutcliffe found two adult pelicans in PA harbor on New Year's Day, and the next day they fortunately got counted on the Port Angeles Christmas Count. At least one stuck around until 1/10, last seen by Eric Guzman near the Ediz Hook CG station.

In banded bird news, Bob Boekelheide spotted a banded Double-crested Cormorant at Ediz Hook on 1/2, during the Port Angeles Christmas Bird Count. The USGS Bird Banding Lab reported back that the bird was banded as a chick at East Sand Island near the Columbia River mouth in July 2013. This is the same colony where Wildlife Services, a branch of the USDA, began their ignorant program of shooting cormorants last year because they eat Columbia River salmon. Koyaanisqutsi. [Ed.: a Hopi word that means "life out of balance".]

Bruce Paige heard one Sora calling near Holland Rd on 2/7, in an area where he heard one last year. Forest Koehler watched two Soras cross Green Valley Lane on 2/25, in the wet depression south of Hogback Rd. Always nice to see these secretive birds.

How many spots on a Spotted Sandpiper? Sarah Peden spotted a Spotted Sandpiper at John Wayne Marina on 1/2, then spotted another Spotted Sandpiper at the end of Miller Peninsula on 2/6. She says the first bird she spotted was not spotted, but the second bird she spotted had spots, maybe already molted into its spotted alternate plumage. Could she have spotted the same Spotted Sandpiper, with new spots?

In unusual gull news, a likely Kumlien's Iceland Gull roosted with other gulls at the Elwha River mouth on 2/20, seen by Bob Boekelheide and a group of birding guides from Colombia, along with their National Audubon escorts. Kumlien's Gull is the western-most subspecies of Iceland Gull, whose nesting areas overlap somewhat with Thayer's Gull in the Canadian Arctic. Some experts think that Kumlien's Gull is a subspecies of Iceland Gull, and some say that Thayer's-Kumlien's-Iceland Gulls are all the same species. Michael Barry found one adult and one immature Black-legged Kittiwake at Ediz Hook on 1/9. Michael along with Bob Boekelheide saw a big immature Glaucous Gull at the Elwha River mouth on 2/25.

Short-eared Owls continued this winter in Dungeness, with one bird seen multiple times by multiple people in early Jan. (Continued on next page)

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Unfortunately Denny Van Horn found a SE Owl injured in 3 Crabs Rd on 1/21, which he took to the NW Raptor Center for rehab. Valerie Wolcott, who lives up Palo Alto Rd, says she heard her first W. Screech Owl hoots on 2/19, along with regular Barred Owls in a different direction. Look out little screech owl!



Snow Bunting  
Photo by Robert Hutchison

Another species that stuck around after the PACBC was Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch. At least 4 and possibly 5 showed up at Ediz Hook in January, seen by many. Based on plumage, some of the Rosy-Finches may have been the interior subspecies and some may have been the coastal subspecies. Eric Guzman found at least 7 Snow Buntings near the Dungeness Spit Lighthouse on 1/9, a nice showing. In other passerine news, Bruce Paige spotted a House Wren near Schmuck Rd on 1/10, following one seen on the Sequim CBC. It's been a fairly good winter for Northern Shrikes, including one in the fields SW of the Sequim Post Office seen by Pete Walker on 2/9.

All those spring migrants will be flapping north very soon, so get ready. Who will hear the first Orange-crowned Warblers and Common Yellowthroats? Lots of wintering species are singing right now, so this is the time to tune up your listening skills. Clean out your bird boxes. Take a

spring bird class at the Dungeness River Audubon Center. Please call Bob Boekelheide at 360-808-0196 or email bboek@olympus.net when you see something interesting or unusual. Thank you very much for your sightings.

## Raptor!



Photo by Chris Perry



Photo by Dow Lambert

Mark your calendars -- March 12<sup>th</sup> 2016

An introductory class focused on local Birds of Prey

**Eagles •• Hawks •• Falcons**

Class includes -- identification, nesting, migration, behavior

10 AM – 2PM

90 min class begins at 10 AM in the Audubon Center followed by a short field trip to view local wintering Raptors

Presented by Ken Wiersema




Please call 681-4076 to preregister  
Class Tuition \$10, proceeds support programs of Dungeness River Audubon Center

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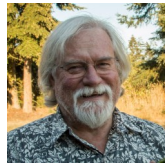


John L. Scott  
REAL ESTATE



**Chris Perry** will teach  
**Photographing Birds in Flight**

For Intermediate Photographers



**Saturday, April 16**  
**1-5 p.m.**

at the **Log Cabin**  
Hwy 101  
& W. Sequim Bay Rd  
Sequim

**Cost: \$45**

- Shooting techniques
- Equipment
- Camera settings
- Share your Photo
- Q&A



Register online at  
[www.olympicbirdfest.org](http://www.olympicbirdfest.org)  
or call 360 681-4076

**John Greengo** will teach **Nature**  
and **Landscape Photography**



For Intermediate Photographers



**Sunday, April 17, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.**  
Dungeness River Audubon Center  
2151 W Hendrickson, Sequim

**Cost: \$160**

Register online at

[www.olympicbirdfest.org](http://www.olympicbirdfest.org)

or call **360 681-4076**

*"...presented and explained in a way  
that anyone could understand, and  
never got boring."*

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Very well done."*



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Home-made, hand-crafted dog treats  
Lovingly made with the freshest ingredients  
No preservatives  
\$5.00 per ½ lb. bag

The perfect treat for your favorite dogs!



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Order by April 7, 2016; pre-payment required  
Contact [juliejackson@wavecable.com](mailto:juliejackson@wavecable.com) or call 683-1355  
Orders may be picked up at the River Center, April, 14

**OUR 2ND**  
**SPRING TEA**

CELEBRATE THE RETURN  
OF SPRING  
WHILE BUILDING  
THE RIVER CENTER  
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**FRIDAY, APRIL 1,**

1:00-3:00 P.M.

AT THE HOME OF

DAVE AND JULIE JACKSON,  
93 LIGHTHOUSE VIEW DRIVE, SEQUIM

INDULGE IN AN ARRAY OF SWEET AND SAVORY  
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# Harlequin Happenings

Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 502  
Sequim, WA 98382-0502

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## Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society

P.O. Box 502  
Sequim, WA 98382-0502

NAS Code Y08

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Local OPAS Membership**, includes subscription to the *Harlequin Happenings* bi-monthly newsletter and other programs and birding trips. For more information see our website at <http://www.olybird.org>. To join, complete application below and **mail to address above**.

\_\_\_ Annual Membership (\$20.00)

\_\_\_ 3 Year Membership (\$50.00, saves \$10.00)

\_\_\_ 6 Year Membership (\$90.00, saves \$30)

\_\_\_ Lifetime Membership (\$250.00)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Harlequin Happenings Newsletter: You will receive an e-mail notice when posted in full color on our website. If you wish a black and white printed copy instead, check box here:  Send printed copy

### Payment Options:

1. **Credit Card** Master Card or Visa Payment

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

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2. **For Checks:** Make payable to OPAS and mail with this form to address above

*OPAS is an Internal Revenue Service Section 501(c)(3) organization (membership gifts are tax deductible)*

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