

ABOUT OUR PRESENTERS - 2013

Glen Alexander, "Alex" is the Education Coordinator at Padilla Bay Reserve since 1990,

Jude Apple Ph.D., Jude is a biological oceanographer and marine scientist at Western Washington University's Shannon Point Marine Center and adjunct research faculty at Northwest Indian College. His research explores the role of plankton communities in ecological processes and how these change in response to climate change and ocean acidification.

Jane Billingham, Jane has been a Master Gardener since 2005. In 2012, she was named Master Gardener of the Year for Washington State. She is currently leading the WSU Skagit County Extension Master Gardeners' rain garden outreach program as part of the 12,000 Rain Gardens initiative. To find out more about 12,000 Rain Gardens, visit www.12000raingardens.org. Jane is the author of six books. Her latest, *The Armchair Book of Gardens*, is an anthology that looks at how people have used and enjoyed their gardens through geography and time.

Dave Blackinton, Dave is a member of the Samish Tribal Council, Samish Education Program Manager.

John Bower, John Bower, is a professor Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies, Western Washington University. John has spent 25 years studying the natural world. Getting his start as a birdwatcher, his research includes acoustic communication in bowhead whales and song sparrows, as well as population ecology of Pacific Northwest marine birds. Most recently, John and his family lived on Isla Robinson Crusoe, 500 miles off the coast of Chile, where he studied competition for flowers between the endangered and endemic Juan Fernandez firecrown hummingbird and the green firecrown, a recent arrival from the South American mainland.

Betty Carteret, Betty is a retired engineer, graduate of the Beach Watcher class of 2005, and has served as the president of the non-profit, Friends of Skagit Beaches since 2007. She created and leads the Trail Tales shoreline interpretive program funded under a grant from the WA Dept. of Ecology.

Howard Garrett Howard received his degree in Sociology from Colorado College in 1980, and began working with the Center for Whale Research in 1981. In 1996 Garrett wrote *Orcas In Our Midst*, a booklet oriented toward middle-school students. Volume 2 of *Orcas In Our Midst* was published in 2005. Volume 3, *Residents and Transients – How Did That Happen?* was published in 2011. Garrett also wrote the entry under "Animal Culture" for the *Encyclopedia of Animal Behavior* (Greenwood Publishing Group, 2005) and a chapter about the rescue of the solitary orca A73 (Springer), in *Between Species*. He co-founded Orca Network in November 2001 with Susan Berta.

Ron Lindsay, Ron has been studying Arctic weather and climate for over 30 years through field work, data analysis, and modeling. Most of his research efforts are centered on sea ice, what its thickness is, how to model its behavior, how it is changing, and how to predict its future. His graduate work was at the University of Washington. He is a member of the Polar Science Center at the Applied Physics Laboratory, University of Washington.

Doug McKeever, Doug is a Professor of Geology and Oceanography at Whatcom Community College, where he has taught since 1971. Among his interests are natural hazards, including volcanic hazards. He is a board member of Mount Baker Volcano Research Center and is an active participant in ongoing research to better understand the history and current status of the Mount Baker volcanic center. Doug knows the mountain very well, having reached its summit 70 times. In 1977 Doug completed the first-ever Master's thesis on Mount Baker volcanic history and geology.

Nancy Olsen, Nancy is an Interpretive Naturalist, Certified Interpretive Trainer, and Coordinator of the Trail Tales docent program Interpretive Naturalist Trail Tales docent.

Dan Penttila, Dan has been involved in marine forage fish investigations and conservation of their habitats with the WA Dept. of Fisheries/Fish and Wildlife for 39 years, retiring in 2010. Now operating as "Salish Sea Biological", he is currently involved in a number of forage fish-related projects within the Salish Sea region, including spawning habitat studies, public outreach, and forage fish habitat conservation and restoration.

Trail Tails Docents; The Docents extensive training was made possible by a grant from Washington State Department of Ecology Public Participation Program under the direction of Betty Carteret and Nancy Olsen the Docent Coordinator