

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**Speaker: Bart Rulon**

**Friday, May 5, 7:30 pm**

**Hoquiam High School Little Theater**

*Dessert Reception prior to talk begins at 6:45pm*

*Tickets may be purchased in advance (see page 13) or at the door for \$20*

### **From the Field to the Studio—Experience Birds Through the eyes of a Wildlife Artist**

Experience the adventure of watching birds and wildlife through the eyes of a professional wildlife artist and photographer. This colorful slide show features the award winning artwork and photography of wildlife artist Bart Rulon from Whidbey Island, WA. It's a behind the scenes journey showing how Rulon creates his realistic paintings of birds and animals starting with the time he spends sketching and photographing in the field. You'll learn techniques Bart uses to research his subjects in the wild as you see pictures of local birds taken from the vantage point of a kayak, Custom-made photo boat, and a camouflaged floating

blind. Bart will share stories about encounters with wildlife he's had on some of these adventures. Slides demonstrating the progression of a few of his paintings will give you insight on the painting process and birdwatchers interested in photography will appreciate learning some techniques for getting better photos. The slide show has something for everybody that loves birds and wildlife.



**Bart Rulon** is a wildlife artist, photographer, author and natural science illustrator. He has written and illustrated five books which focus on painting and photographing birds, wildlife, and landscapes and he taught at the University of Washington for 15 years. His award winning paintings and photographs have been featured in many international exhibitions, museums and publications. Travels to research wildlife have taken him on long trips to Africa, India, South America, Alaska, and Costa Rica, and in recent years Bart has started leading wildlife photography tours to some of his favorite spots, both local and exotic! You can see more of his art and photography at [www.BartRulon.com](http://www.BartRulon.com) or on Instagram@BartRulon.

## ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER AND SPEAKER

**Saturday, May 6, 5:30pm**

**Elks Lodge, Hoquiam**

**Advance reservations are required by April 4th, 2023**

5:30pm Social & No-host Bar; 6:30pm Dinner; ~ 7:00 Fundraiser; 7:30 Speaker

**Dinner:** This year's dinner is catered by Librairie Gourmande located in Hoquiam. The buffet style dinner offers a choice of chicken piccata or eggplant lasagna, for vegan and gluten-free diners,, with mixed green salad with fresh strawberries and house vanilla citrus vinaigrette, focaccia, rolls, and cookies and bars for dessert.

**Fundraising:** After dinner, *Raise the Paddle* fundraiser to support the environmental education program at Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge will take place. Help us reach our goal of \$4000.00 to provide bus transportation for student field trips to the refuge.

### **Adventures with Gyrfalcons in Washington and Norway**

Speaker: Dan Varland

The Gyrfalcon is the largest and most powerful of 19 falcon species. They nest in arctic and subarctic zones around the world. While most remain in the far north for winter, some migrate south to Washington and other northern states.



Dan Varland has captured and color banded eight Gyrfalcons during 27 years of surveying raptors on the Washington coast. Last June Dan traveled to Arctic Norway to join a research team monitoring Gyrfalcon nesting success in what was their 35<sup>th</sup> year for this effort. In this presentation, Dan will share his adventures with Gyrfalcons in Washington and Norway.

**Dan Varland** was born and raised in Rockford, Illinois. He has Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Zoology from Eastern Illinois University and a Ph.D. in Animal Ecology from Iowa State University. He is the founder and Executive Director of Coastal Raptors, a not-for-profit organization focused on research and education programs on raptors in coastal environments

([www.coastalraptors.com](http://www.coastalraptors.com)). Dan enjoys giving presentations on raptors to the public and at science-focused meetings. He has 20 scientific publications, two book chapters and an edited book to his name. He and his wife Sue live between Ocean Shores and Hoquiam on Grays Harbor.

