

# Manatee County Audubon Society Inc.



## SUMMARY

### Mission

Our mission is to protect, preserve, restore and enjoy the natural environment by creating an awareness and appreciation of birds, other wildlife, and our native habitat through access to our nature preserve and field trips and providing educational opportunities, especially to young people, in Manatee County and the surrounding areas.

### Contact Information

<b>Primary Address</b>	PO Box 14550 Bradenton, FL 34280-
<b>Alternate Address</b>	PO Box 14550 Bradenton FL 34280
<b>Phone</b>	941 729-2222
<b>Email</b>	manateeaudubon@gmail.com
<b>Website</b>	www.manateeaudubon.org
<b>Facebook</b>	ManateeCountyAudubonSociety

### General Information

<b>Nonprofit</b>	Manatee County Audubon Society Inc.
<b>Organization Does Business As (DBA)</b>	
Manatee County Audubon Society, Inc.	
<b>Tax Exempt Status</b>	Public Supported Charity
<b>Incorporation Year</b>	1986
<b>State Charitable Solicitations Permit</b>	Yes Aug 2017



# BACKGROUND & NEEDS

## Impact Statement

### Accomplishments

- Ongoing development of Felts Audubon Preserve 28 acre property for the protection of the birds, other wildlife populations and restoration of their wildlife habitats . Created an endowment which will lead to the permanent maintenance of Felts Audubon Preserve. Helped Eagles Scout candidates provided a handicapped access gate to the preserve and a moveable bridge on a trail through a seasonally wet area as well as informational signs and a bee hotel.
- Gave 1600 Children from Manatee County Schools a day at Felts Preserve, our 'Give a Child a Ride to the Wild!' Program. Raised funds to give nearly the entire third grade of Manatee County a Ride to the Wild!
- Worked with Junior Audubon, even more Boy Scouts earning Environmental Science, Photography and Bird Study merit badges and assisted a young birder achieve his dream of attending Cornell University.
- Continued and grew the Beach Nesting Bird Stewardship Program in conjunction with Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch to educate the general public on the importance of undisturbed nesting sites for shorebirds.

### Goals:

- Create more ADA accessible areas and pathways in the Felts Audubon Preserve. \$5,000
- Give the rest of the third grade a 'Ride to the Wild' \$20,000
- Grow the Barbara Singer Felts Preserve Memorial Fund to eventually make Felts Preserve self-sustaining \$10,000
- Provide better sanitary facilities for adults and children visiting Felts Preserve" \$5000.

## Needs Statement

### Funding for:

1. Give a Child a Ride to the Wild. Pay for school buses to transport Manatee County Primary School Students for a conservation oriented field trip to Felts Audubon Preserve. \$20,000.
- 2.Improve sanitary facilities for adults and children visiting Felts Preserve" \$5000
- 3.Grow the Barbara Singer Memorial Felts Preserve Endowment Fund to an Amount that will Guarantee the Proper Maintenance of the Preserve. \$100,000
- 4.Create more ADA accessible areas and pathways in the Felts Audubon Preserve. \$5,000
- 5.Mount a concentrated attacking on removing invasive plants \$2000

## Background Statement

Manatee Audubon Society was incorporated in 1953.

In 2002 Otis and Anita Felts bequeathed a 28 acre parcel of land, some of which had been farmed or used for dairy cattle, to the Manatee County Audubon Society. Their dream was that it would never be developed residentially or commercially. As land in Southwest Florida is rapidly being consumed by development, this land is becoming more important than ever as a safe haven for wildlife of many kinds. We are returning the land to a more natural condition using a long-term management plan. In harmony with the natural wildlife habitat, Felts Audubon Preserve is a wonderful place where we are able to provide environmental education for people of all ages. We provide opportunities for the public to reach a better level of awareness of sensitive environmental issues. The Preserve is being used by an abundance of different animals including many migratory birds. Well over 100 species have been seen on the property.

## Statement from the Board Chair

There are many challenges that face all volunteer organizations and we at Manatee County Audubon Society

continue to strive to give 110%. Many of our volunteers give over 500 hours yearly to various projects. Right now in August 2017 we are meeting with other environmentally concerned organizations and individuals to demonstrate to the County Council and Florida Fish and Game the huge dangers in the "Aqua by the Bay" (Long Bar Pointe) development proposal. We have reached out to other Audubon chapters in Florida for help in this effort. Our work with young people is expanding 5 fold increase of children attending our Jr. Audubon Programs in addition to the huge growth of the "Give a Child a Ride to the Wild" Program. We believe that the future of the environment lies in the hands of our children and we're striving mightily to show the importance of a balance between the needs of people and those of the environment

Past president Barbara Singer saw the organization transition from a group of birdwatchers to a vibrant group maintaining a 28 acre Preserve, protecting beach nesting birds, offering classes for Boy Scouts to obtain their environmental badges, developing a program to bring inner city children out to the Preserve and maintaining a Junior Audubon program for children to learn all aspects of the environment. We are now striving to utilize the full educational potential of our members and our preserve.

We have begun the steps to create the financial vehicle needed to assure that Felts Audubon Preserve will have the funds needed to maintain it for all wildlife and the enjoyment of the public.

## Statement from the CEO/Executive Director

Manatee County Audubon Society is an all volunteer organization dedicated to the preservation of wildlife and it's habitat through the creation of Felts Audubon Preserve and by developing various environmentally conscious educational programs for both children and adults. We have partnered with Manatee County Natural Resources Dept., Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch, Around the Bend Nature Tours, Anna Maria Island Elementary School and Keep Manatee Beautiful to bring together the educational elements needed to create caretakers of the land going forward. We are ever vigilant in conservation issues and have taken a firm stand in opposition to the Long Bar Pointe Development and Land Trades at Rattlesnake Key and Terra Ceia

## Areas Served

FL

FL- Manatee

We serve Bradenton, Palmetto, Parrish, Anna Maria Island(which includes Bradenton Beach, Anna Maria and Holmes Beach, and the other towns in Manatee County including but not limited to the zipcodes of 34219, 34217,34215, 34209, 34208, 34205, 34221 and 34281. In a general coordinated effort, we in Manatee also serve with the adjacent Audubon chapter in Sarasota County and surrounding areas.

## Service Categories

**Primary Organization Type**

Environment

**Secondary Organization Type**

Youth Development

**Tertiary Organization Type**

Animal Related

# PROGRAMS

## Felts Audubon Preserve

<b>Description</b>	Land given to the Audubon Society for preservation of an avian/ wildlife habitat in an area of the country which is rapidly being developed by commercial and residential land developers. 28 acres which were originally farmland include woods, ponds, scrub grassland and mixed areas that provide a safe haven for year-round groups and migratory species of birds and other animals. Progress toward changing the farm land to habitat is ongoing and being performed by a volunteer group .
<b>Budget</b>	\$15,000.00
<b>Category</b>	Environment, General/Other Environmental Education
<b>Program Linked to Organizational Strategy</b>	Yes
<b>Population Served</b>	Adults Children and Youth (0 - 19 years) Children Only (5 - 14 years)
<b>Short Term Success</b>	Development of more essential projects to enhance the preserve like the bird blind, walkways over creeks. Creation of more nesting areas, replacement of invasive plant species with native flora that are best suited to the native animals.
<b>Long Term Success</b>	Our hope is that the Preserve will be a stable environment for birds and wildlife and will become a location where the community will be able to see and be instructed in the importance of protecting our wildlife and their habitats.
<b>Program Success Monitoring</b>	Records may be kept of the number of persons that are taking tours, the number of and types of birds seen ,the amount of nesting boxes used , the quantity of persons taking educational classes relating to the animals and their environment.
<b>Program Success Examples</b>	Increases in bird population of specific species like the Buntings, painted and indigo. Sightings of birds and animals who have never been seen in this location before.

## Junior Audubon

<b>Description</b>	Education of young people in the Manatee County area developing awareness of the need for protection and enhancement of birds, wildlife and the environment
<b>Budget</b>	\$2,000.00
<b>Category</b>	Animal-Related, General/Other Bird Preservation & Protection
<b>Program Linked to Organizational Strategy</b>	Yes
<b>Population Served</b>	Children and Youth (0 - 19 years)
<b>Short Term Success</b>	Adolescent provided the leadership for field trip at Felts audubon Preserve identifying birds and teaching environmental awareness.
<b>Long Term Success</b>	Awareness will be built in the minds of the next generation of the importance of the preservation of habitat for wildlife.
<b>Program Success Monitoring</b>	monitored and mentored by the adult population of the chapter and as indicated by ongoing interest and participation.
<b>Program Success Examples</b>	heightened awareness shown by participation in fall migration field trips

## Beach-Nesting Steward Program

<b>Description</b>	Nesting shorebirds return annually to Anna Maria Island. Manatee County Audubon partners with the Anna Maria Turtle Watch in monitoring and protecting these vulnerable nesting sites and chicks from the public by maintaining a presence on the beaches. We provide information and long-distance viewing through scopes thus heightening awareness of the presence of the nesting birds. The goal is for the public to become more aware and sensitive to the needs of this threatened population. This is all volunteer staffing; needing a minimum of 24 people each weekend around holidays and ongoing staffing throughout the nesting season.
<b>Budget</b>	\$2,000.00
<b>Category</b>	Environment, General/Other Environment, General/Other
<b>Program Linked to Organizational Strategy</b>	Yes
<b>Population Served</b>	Adults Children and Youth (0 - 19 years) Families
<b>Short Term Success</b>	This spring Tropical Storm Debby decimated the populations of nesting chicks and fledglings along the gulf coast beaches. Some parents did renest but certainly, after this destruction of so many baby birds it will be doubly important to protect the 2013 spring nesting population.
<b>Long Term Success</b>	The long-term goal is to have a stable, undisturbed nesting haven for the birds who come to Anna Maria Island surviving in proximity to an increasingly educated population of beach-goers.
<b>Program Success Monitoring</b>	The success of this program will be measurable by the number of nesting sites which produce fledglings that survive to maturity. This will be observed by Manatee Audubon and Anna Maria Turtle Watch jointly.
<b>Program Success Examples</b>	Last year over 200 people stopped during their beach experience to view the nesting birds through the distance viewing scopes we made available. Education about the birds was provided and this (safe) close encounter did engage many in the mission to protect the vulnerable chicks and nesting.

## Give a Child a Ride to the Wild

<b>Description</b>	Using school buses and guides, transport primary school children to Felts Audubon Preserve for exposure to ecology, the environment and the wild life. See the birds and wild life on nature walks. Play games structured to induce empathy and understanding of animals in the preserve. Target schools having a high percentage of students receiving free and reduce meals.
<b>Budget</b>	\$10,000.00
<b>Category</b>	Education, General/Other Afterschool Enrichment
<b>Program Linked to Organizational Strategy</b>	Yes
<b>Population Served</b>	Children Only (5 - 14 years) At-Risk Populations Poor,Economically Disadvantaged,Indigent
<b>Short Term Success</b>	We will seek feedback from both pupils and teachers who attend the outings. The degree of anticipation of students scheduled to take future trips based on the stories told by the children who have already been will be key. We'll work closely with teacher to assess the impact.
<b>Long Term Success</b>	Very difficult to assess. We all hope to keep Florida green and wet, but it's a tough battle!
<b>Program Success Monitoring</b>	Sarasota program currently operates a similar program. Guides have already gained significant experience in this type of endeavor. We plan on using the same guides and similar methods . Again, we'll be working closely with teachers and soliciting feed back on how to improve the trips.
<b>Program Success Examples</b>	Student trip reports should provide meaningful feed back as to what was learned, the level of enjoyment and willingness or desire to attend a similar session.

## Boy Scout Merit Badges

<b>Description</b>	Act as Bird Study, Photography and Environmental Science Merit Badge Counselors to the local Boy Scout Districts. Participate in their Merit Badge Weekend Programs. Binoculars are needed for the program.
<b>Budget</b>	\$2,500.00
<b>Category</b>	Education, General/Other Afterschool Enrichment
<b>Program Linked to Organizational Strategy</b>	Yes
<b>Population Served</b>	Adolescents Only (13-19 years) Children Only (5 - 14 years) Children Only (5 - 14 years)
<b>Short Term Success</b>	By the end of the sessions 90% of the attendees will have completed the requirements to earn their respective merit badges.
<b>Long Term Success</b>	Boys that earn these merit badges will have a greater appreciation for nature and the environment. With enough youth education eventually the general degradation of the environment will be reduced. We cite the anti litter campaigns of the 60's and 70's of the proof of success of this type of educational efforts.
<b>Program Success Monitoring</b>	Annual assessments of boys completing Merit Badge Requirements coupled with feed back from Scout Masters and event organizers on the effectiveness of the presentations.
<b>Program Success Examples</b>	In the two years that this program has been in operation, we've grown the number of boys attending sessions by more than 20% and raise the level of completions from 82% to 90%

## Comments

### **Program Comments by Organization**

As evidenced by the ongoing destruction of the rookeries at the Oaks in Osprey and Carlos Beruff's lawsuit to put a marina in Long Bar Pointe, conservation is a very difficult battle to fight. Our goal is provide a haven for those who enjoy the outdoors as well as the birds and animals around us and to carry that love for nature to every person we can reach. It is much easier to encourage the love of nature inherent in most children, than it is to try to stop the destruction of habitats once the corporations and profit seeking individuals have their engines in high gear. We strive to promote conservation and education. We worry about the fact that the springs of Florida are flowing at a slower rate every year. We have a deep concern that technology may not be able to overcome bad decisions concerning the world we live in being made every day by local, state and federal governments as well as by individuals. Most of us had an individual in our lives who, by their actions, or their words challenged us to leave each place we visit better than we found it. That is our mission, to leave the Manatee/Sarasota area better than we found it through conservation, preservation and education.

# MANAGEMENT

## CEO/Executive Director

**CEO/Executive Director**

No Executive Director

**CEO Email**

President@manateeaudubon.org

## Staff & Volunteer Statistics

<b>Full Time Staff</b>	0
<b>Part Time Staff</b>	0
<b>Staff Retention Rate %</b>	N/A
<b>Professional Development</b>	No
<b>Contractors</b>	0
<b>Volunteers</b>	75
<b>Management Reports to Board</b>	N/A
<b>CEO/Executive Director Formal Evaluation</b>	N/A
<b>Senior Management Formal Evaluation</b>	N/A
<b>NonManagement Formal Evaluation</b>	N/A

## Collaborations

This Chapter has collaborated with other Audubon Chapters such as Sarasota Audubon and Audubon of Florida. Also have worked in conjunction with Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch, Florida Native Plant Society, National Wildlife Federation, the Christmas Bird Count and the Great Backyard Bird Count

## Comments

### **Management Comments by Organization**

Our organization is 100% volunteer . There are no salaries or monetary compensations.

# GOVERNANCE

## Board Chair

<b>Board Chair</b>	Mr. Kim Jones
<b>Company Affiliation</b>	Community Volunteer
<b>Board Term</b>	Apr 2017 to Apr 2020
<b>Board Chair Email</b>	president@manateeaudubon.org

## Board Co-Chair

<b>Board Co-Chair</b>	vice president Deborah Hutchinson Comeau
<b>Company Affiliation</b>	retired
<b>Board Term</b>	Apr 2015 to Apr 2018
<b>Board Co-Chair Email</b>	vicepres@manateeaudubon.org

## Board Members

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Status</b>
Mr Steve Black	Community Volunteer	Voting
Mrs. Deborah Hutchinson Comeau	Community Volunteer	Voting
Mr. Dee Hanny	None	
Mr Kim Jones	retired	Voting
Mr. Ray Jusseaume	Community Volunteer	Voting
Mrs. Karen Jusseaume	Community Volunteer	Voting
Ms Lori Roberts	Community Volunteer	Voting
Mr. John Schneider	Community Volunteer	Voting
Mr Jim Stephenson	Community Volunteer	Voting
Mrs. Julie Teofilak	Community Volunteer	Voting
Mrs Lucette Wombacher	Community Volunteer	Voting
Ms. Deborah Yodock	Community Volunteer	Voting

## Board Demographics - Ethnicity

<b>African American/Black</b>	0
<b>Asian American/Pacific Islander</b>	0
<b>Caucasian</b>	12
<b>Hispanic/Latino</b>	0
<b>Native American/American Indian</b>	0
<b>Other</b>	0 0

## Board Demographics - Gender

<b>Male</b>	6
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<b>Female</b>	6
<b>Not Specified</b>	0

## Governance

<b>Board Term Lengths</b>	3
<b>Board Term Limits</b>	99
<b>Board Orientation</b>	No
<b>Number of Full Board Meetings Annually</b>	11
<b>Board Meeting Attendance %</b>	72
<b>Board Self-Evaluation</b>	Yes
<b>Written Board Selection Criteria</b>	No
<b>Percentage of Board Making Monetary Contributions</b>	70
<b>Percentage of Board Making In-Kind Contributions</b>	100
<b>Constituency Includes Client Representation</b>	No

## Standing Committees

Education  
 Communications / Promotion / Publicity / Public Relations  
 Special Events (Golf Tournament, Walk / Run, Silent Auction, Dinner / Gala)  
 Program / Program Planning  
 Membership

## Comments

### **Governance Comments by Organization**

One of our greatest challenges is finding younger members that will grow with the organization. Our average age is quite high. We, like many organizations have many more things to be done by volunteers than we have volunteers. If we can grow our endowment sufficiently, we can purchase services and, thereby, free volunteers from routine maintenance and use their talents more for conservation efforts and community education.

# FINANCIALS

## Current Financial Info

<b>Fiscal Year Begins</b>	2017
<b>Fiscal Year Ends</b>	2018
<b>Projected Revenue</b>	\$34,496.00
<b>Projected Expenses</b>	\$41,660.00
<b>Total Projected Revenue includes "in-kind" contributions/ donations</b>	No
<b>Endowment Value</b>	\$99,000.00
<b>Spending Policy</b>	Income Only
<b>Spending Policy Percentage</b>	0
<b>Tax Credits</b>	No

## Capital Campaign

<b>In a Capital Campaign</b>	No
<b>Campaign Goal</b>	0

## IRS Form 990s

- Form 990
- Form 990
- Form 990
- Form 990
- IRS 990 EZ
- IRS 990 EZ
- IRS 990 EZ
- IRS 990 EZ
- IRS 990EZ
- Form 990

## Solvency

### Short Term Solvency

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>Current Ratio: Current Assets/Current Liabilities</b>	--	1375.48	--

### Long Term Solvency

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>Long-Term Liabilities/Total Assets</b>	0%	0%	0%

## Historical Financial Review

### Revenue and Expenses

Fiscal Year	2017	2016	2015
Total Revenue	\$60,554	\$64,333	\$66,012
Total Expenses	\$59,095	\$36,296	\$60,112

#### Revenue Sources

Fiscal Year	2017	2016	2015
Foundation and Corporation Contributions	\$16,580	\$32,500	\$0
Government Contributions	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal	\$0	\$0	\$0
State	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local	\$0	\$0	\$0
Unspecified	\$0	\$0	\$0
Individual Contributions	\$16,573	\$19,588	\$49,997
Indirect Public Support	\$0	\$0	\$0
Earned Revenue	\$1,715	\$3	\$1,711
Investment Income, Net of Losses	\$20,935	\$6,336	\$9,699
Membership Dues	\$4,435	\$4,115	\$4,605
Special Events	\$0	\$1,452	\$0
Revenue In-Kind	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$316	\$339	\$0

#### Expense Allocation

Fiscal Year	2017	2016	2015
Program Expense	\$53,350	\$31,800	\$58,112
Administration Expense	\$5,745	\$4,376	\$2,000
Fundraising Expense	\$0	\$120	\$0
Payments to Affiliates	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue/Total Expenses	1.02	1.77	1.10
Program Expense/Total Expenses	90%	88%	97%
Fundraising Expense/Contributed Revenue	0%	0%	0%

#### Assets and Liabilities

Fiscal Year	2017	2016	2015
Total Assets	\$525,183	\$517,693	\$494,769
Current Assets	\$280,341	\$273,720	\$251,422
Long-Term Liabilities	\$0	\$0	\$0
Current Liabilities	\$0	\$199	\$0
Total Net Assets	\$525,183	\$517,494	\$494,769

#### Top Funding Sources

Fiscal Year	2017	2016	2015
Top Funding Source & Dollar Amount	Foundation and Corporate Support \$16,580	Federated Campaigns \$32,500	Contributions, gifts, grants \$49,997
Second Highest Funding Source & Dollar Amount	Contributions, gifts, grants \$16,573	Contributions, gifts, grants \$19,588	Investment Income \$9,699
Third Highest Funding Source & Dollar Amount	Program Service Revenue \$1,690	Investment Income \$6,336	Membership Dues \$4,605

## Comments

### Financial Comments by Organization

We have raised our sights on both the endowment and our education initiative. We are actively seeking business partners to help us achieve our goals. Our members have been extremely supportive this last year. As with any non-profit, money raising is a real challenge!

**Financial Comments by Foundation**

Foundations and corporations are included with individual contributions as they are not separated in the 990s. Financial figures were taken from the 990s as no audits were provided.

# PLANS, POLICIES & LICENSES

## Plans

<b>Fundraising Plan</b>	No
<b>Communication Plan</b>	No
<b>Strategic Plan</b>	No
<b>Management Succession Plan</b>	No
<b>Continuity of Operations Plan</b>	No

## Policies

<b>Organizational Policies and Procedures</b>	No
<b>Written Conflict of Interest Policy</b>	Yes
<b>Nondiscrimination Policy</b>	No
<b>Directors and Officers Insurance Policy</b>	No
<b>Whistle Blower Policy</b>	No
<b>Document Destruction Policy</b>	No

## Awards & Recognition

<b>Award/Recognition</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Year</b>
Monarch Waystation #04505	Monarch Watch	2009
Certified Wildlife Habitat #154255	National Wildlife Federation	2012
Ecosystem Restoration	Florida Native Plant Society	2007
Keep America Beautiful Award	Waste Management & Waste Pro	2009
Earth Defender Award for Wetlands Watch Coalition	National Audubon Society	2008
Best Chapter Conservation Project	Audubon of Florida	2006
The Great Horned Owl Award	Great Backyard Bird Count	2010
Great Egret Award	National Audubon Society	2014
Callison Award	National Audubon Society	2014
Great Egret Award	National Audubon Society	2015

## Government Licenses

**Is your organization licensed by the Government?** No

## Planning & Policies Comments

**Planning & Policies Comments by Organization**

**Planning & Policies Comments by Foundation**