

# ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year: July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002



## ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR AWARD

Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve was honored with the Organization of the Year Award from the Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce in May 2002 for excellence in bringing together the community to support volunteerism and the successful fund raising for the building of their new Wetlands Education Center.



*Pat Willis, Executive Director of Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve, receiving the Organization of the Year Award from Hillsboro Mayor, Tom Hughes*

## 2002 MILESTONES

- **Education Center groundbreaking**
- **Tweet of Dweams soared**
- **25,000 visitors**
- **Over 260 teachers attended workshops**
- **Offered over 250 education classes**
- **Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce Organization of the Year award**
- **Wetland plant research project initiated**

## INTRODUCTION

Jackson Bottom Wetlands is a 3,000-acre complex of wetlands and uplands located at the southern edge of Hillsboro. The Preserve is located in this complex and contains 710 acres of lowland within the flood plain of the Tualatin River.

It is a geologically unique shallow basin in the Tualatin floodplain, with a huge capacity for flood control and water quality. The Preserve is one of the "connected jewels" that create a vast, connected complex of open space, wildlife corridor and floodplain that stretches 25 miles from Fernhill Wetlands in Forest Grove to the Tualatin River Wildlife Refuge.

The Preserve inspires an interesting mix of partners - ecologists, educators, businesses, CEO's, planners, researchers, economists, and water quality managers. Through dedication of these partners and involvement of the community, Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve is being transformed into a living and working natural laboratory. Our mission; "Connecting Water, Wildlife and People," is working to make Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve a local, regional and national resource.

Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve is more than a wetland with public programs and services. It is a living laboratory, a working field station, a wildlife sanctuary, a training ground for young scientists, a research site, a hiking area, and a recognized community resource.



## **Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve**

2600 SW Hillsboro Hwy.  
P.O. Box 3002  
Hillsboro, OR 97123  
(503) 681-6206  
FAX (503) 681-6277  
www.jacksonbottom.org

### **Honorary Advisory Board**

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U.S. Senator, Retired  
**Jack Ward Thomas,**  
U.S. Forest Service, Retired

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**Tim Erwert,** City of Hillsboro  
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**Chris Thomas,** Waste Management  
**Tom Thornton,**  
Oregon Dept. Fish & Wildlife  
**Tom VanderPlaats,**  
Clean Water Services

### **Staff**

**Patrick Willis,** Executive Director  
**Sandy Crinklaw,**  
Development Director  
**Jan Curry,** Volunteer Coordinator &  
Wetlands Education Specialist  
**Sarah Pinnock,**  
Wetlands Education Specialist  
**Karen Newton,**  
Administrative Services Coordinator  
**Lin Howell,**  
Teacher Education Specialist  
**Scott Hoelscher - AmeriCorps**  
**Jenny McIvor - AmeriCorps**

## **MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

This has been a remarkable year at Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve. We have accomplished many great things. None of them would have been possible without the dedication and hard work of our volunteers, our board and our staff.

I want to say, "Thank You," for your marvelous support. Private donors and corporate partners have stepped up to invest in our programs at a time when the economy is struggling.

Our April 6<sup>th</sup> groundbreaking ceremony kicked off the construction of our new Wetlands Education Center at the Preserve. This building project is a testament to the will and passion of all our partners and the community, particularly our Project Manager, Karl Schulz, and builder Robert Evans Company. This is a visionary building that will further connect water, wildlife and people from throughout the region. Our new home will provide access to the richness of the Preserve, interactive exhibits, a classroom/multipurpose room, offices and wonderful opportunities for students and volunteers of all ages.

Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve continues its innovative approach to education and providing citizens the opportunity to participate and make a difference. By sharing our vision and investing in that vision, you are making a difference in the community and the region. Thank you!



*Pat Willis, Executive Director*

Patrick C. Willis  
Executive Director

### **Jackson Bottom Staff**



*Front row from left: Sarah Pinnock, Jan Curry, Karen Newton  
Back row from left: Jenny McIvor, Pat Willis, Scott Hoelscher*

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Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve  
Annual Report by Peggy J. Day



## CONCEPT MASTER PLAN

### *A Unique Partnership That Works*

**T**he Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve Concept Master Plan was completed in 1989. It integrates wildlife, education, recreation, research and water quality management for Jackson Bottom Wetlands. This plan continues to be used as the basis for policy and program development. Some objectives of the plan include:

- Permanent preservation of open space and agricultural land
- Expanded wildlife populations
- Expanded recreational opportunities
- Expanded educational and research opportunities
- Lower capital & operational costs to meet water quality standards

**Species diversification and increased wildlife populations** - Jackson Bottom has been providing year-round habitat for native species along the Pacific flyway through creation and restoration of wetland and upland habitats.

**Water quality management** - since its development in 1989, the Jackson Bottom Experimental Wetlands examined the use of constructed wetlands to "polish" treated wastewater from sewage treatment plants. Many questions were answered about the use of constructed wetlands for water quality benefits, such as possible groundwater influence, the importance of soil and vegetation characteristics, and the efficiency of constructed wetlands for nutrient removal. Still today, five years after the completion of the research, the Experimental Wetlands have been visited by water quality managers and university researchers from around the globe.

**Public participation** - passive recreational activities include birdwatching, wildlife viewing, photography, art experiences, and hiking.

**Tours** - agency staff, organizations, and local community groups interested in wetland issues are enriched by the benefits derived from enjoying the aesthetics of this large open space close to a busy urban center. Educational opportunities abound for all ages, ranging from pre-school age to university students using the Preserve as an ecological laboratory.

Additional objectives of Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve are:

- Public access to the Tualatin River - both visual and physical
- Streamflow maintenance
- Groundwater recharge
- Wetlands and open space preservation
- Continued utilization of wetlands for tertiary wastewater treatment
- Wetlands for wildlife and habitat enhancement
- Public and education programs serving as a model to be utilized nationwide



*Darlene Greene, Senator Gordon Smith, and Tom Brian at celebration of the funding from the Natural Resource Conservation Service*



*Governor Ted Kulongoski & Jeannette Hamby at the 2002 Tweet of Dreams Banquet*



*Having fun at Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve*



*Nesting Bald Eagles at Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve*

# JACKSON BOTTOM WETLANDS PRESERVE STAFF



**Patrick Willis**, Executive Director of Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve, has a Master of Science in Biology Education from Portland State University, and brings nearly two decades of varied expertise to the Preserve. Since coming to the Preserve in 1991, Mr. Willis has translated the vision of Jack-

son Bottom into a wealth of exciting new projects and programs. His leadership qualities, developed during his ten years as a program manager at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, blend well with his education in the sciences. Willis is an adjunct science instructor at three universities and a frequent speaker at workshops and conferences. Mr. Willis was awarded the 1999 National Wetlands Award from the Environmental Law Institute for Wetlands Education and Outreach.



**Jan Curry**, Wetlands Education Specialist, has a Master of Science in Science Education from the University of Washington. Ms. Curry has been with Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve for six years as a wetlands educator while also taking on program design and evaluation. In addition, she is the Volunteer

Coordinator, establishing programs and special projects for the growing volunteer team. She has lived in Hillsboro for 20 years and taught science for six years at the junior high and high school level.



**Sarah Pinnock**, Wetlands Education Specialist, has a degree in Environmental Science from Marylhurst University. She has been an educator and naturalist in the Northwest for 15 years. She has also worked as a biology technician, conducting surveys and collecting data on both vegetation and birds. Ms.

Pinnock designs and delivers programs for schools and groups, coordinates summer camps and weekend family programs.



**Karen Newton**, Administrative Secretary. Over the last year, Karen has helped us to be organized and efficient! She has been invaluable in maintaining our mailing lists, sending out meeting minutes and assisting us

with the occasional computer problem. She is also coordinating our capital campaign, maintaining the budgets, organizing the committee groups and coordinating cultivation events.



**Lin Howell**, Teacher Education Specialist. Lin brings over 32 years of teaching experience to Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve. His experience and commitment has taken our education programming to new levels provid-

ing resources for teachers from throughout Oregon. Lin has designed and conducted workshops and seminars for teachers at K-12 grade levels.



**Sandy Crinklaw**, Development Director, is our newest staff person. Sandy has over twenty years of fund development experience throughout Oregon. Her skills and expertise will help insure success with our capital campaign. She is

developing our long-range operating funds program, an endowment fund, and annual giving.

**AmeriCorps Volunteers.** Jackson Bottom has partnered with Northwest Service Academy to place two AmeriCorps members to assist in programs at the Preserve. Each AmeriCorps volunteer contributes 1,400 hours of service to "Getting Things Done" in the community. In 2001-2002, the Preserve was fortunate to sponsor two members from Northwest Service Academy, Scott Hoelscher and Jenny Melvor. These enthusiastic and dedicated individuals brought diverse and valuable skills to the programs from Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve.



# MANY THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

## JACKSON BOTTOM WETLANDS EDUCATION CENTER

July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

### Above \$100,000

CleanWater Services (in-kind)  
M. J. Murdock Charitable Trust  
Meyer Memorial Trust

### \$25,000 to \$49,999

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Oregon Plan for Salmon  
& Watersheds

Special thanks to companies  
who provided matching gifts for  
their employees: Bank of  
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Foundation.

Our thanks to employees who  
have given through United Way  
and Earth Share of Oregon  
workplace giving programs.

*We apologize for any oversight  
in acknowledging gifts received  
during the dates specified, or by  
category. Please contact us so  
that we can make any correc-  
tions.*

# 2002 TWEET OF DWEAMS AUCTION

## THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED AN ITEM TO THE MAY 10 TWEET OF DWEAMS AUCTION

**T**he May 10th Tweet of Dweams was a fantastic success. Over \$30,000 was raised with 300 people attending the second annual bird box and bird feed auction at the Cascade Room at the Oregon Zoo. The Tweet of Dweams is more than just an auction, it is a celebration of Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve, a celebration of the volunteers who spend countless hours helping with programs from the Preserve, and a celebration of a community with passion and vision for special places like Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve.

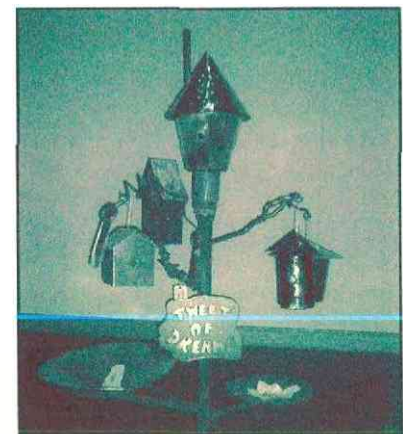
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*The People's Choice Award  
Becky Faber*



*Pioneer Place Award  
Cedric Meeks*



*Bryon Shaver*

# 2002 TWEET OF DWEAMS AUCTION

**May 10, 2002**

## Major Sponsors

Baker Rock Resources  
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## Table Hosts

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**Thank you to everyone who  
purchased an item at the  
auction**

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Joe Williams  
Pat Willis and Julie Cleveland  
Rian Windsheimer  
Amanda and Brian Woodruff  
Dan Wulff  
Bob and Joyce Yakas



*1st place Youth Division  
Chelsea Schriber*



# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

## 2002 Jackson Bottom Program Overview

### Habitat Enhancement

Improving wildlife habitat is one of the key items in the Jackson Bottom Concept Master Plan. Beginning in the late 1970's and continuing today, habitat enhancement is an on-going program in Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve. Vic Madsen and Gene Herb, the first to restore wetlands in the Preserve set the stage for over 25 years of wildlife and water quality improvements at Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve.

### Wildlife Surveys

As in years past, investigating and surveying the wildlife that visit Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve has been a priority project. Several surveys have brought good news about the impacts of the enhancement projects in the Preserve. An increase in nesting Canada geese, waterfowl and other aquatic species has been documented in weekly surveys by volunteers and staff.

### Wildlife Snags, Bird and Bat Boxes

This on going project is a favorite of scout groups, schools and volunteers interested in enhancing wildlife populations in the Preserve. Through partnerships with the Northwest Regional Education Service District, AmeriCorps, and schools throughout the region, the Preserve became the location for over 180 bird boxes, bat boxes and snags installed in 2002.

### School and Group Education Programs

Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve offers a wide range of education programs for children, families, adults and educators. These programs provide active, participatory learning opportunities. In 2002, more than 25,000 people visited Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve or participated in programs offered by the Preserve. In addition, the Preserve offers opportunities for research to professionals in the field, university students and faculty from throughout the Portland metropolitan area.

### Traveling Programs

If a class cannot come to Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve, staff and volunteers bring the Preserve to them! Our enthusiastic instructors present one-hour classroom

programs for grades K through 8. All programs are hands-on, interactive, educational and fun. They are all aligned with the Oregon Common Curriculum Goals for science education. Traveling programs include:

- Beavers: Their Gnawing Effect on Water Quality
- The Wonderful World of Birds
- Frogs – Those Awesome Amphibians
- Nocturnal Animals
- Amphibians and Aquatic Reptiles;
- Watersheds: Where and What are You?
- Wetland Plants: Let's Root for 'em!
- Ethnobotany
- Micro and Macroinvertebrates;

### Field Programs

Thousands of children and adults each year participate in field programs offered at Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve. Schools and groups from throughout the Pacific Northwest register for these exciting, hands-on, educational experiences, in the marshes and meadows of the Preserve. Field programs include:

- Designs in Nature
- Ethnobotany: People and Plants
- Bucket Biology Tours
- Sensory Fun in the Wetlands
- Biodiversity
- Preserve Inquiry

### Teacher Education

The Preserve provides a variety of workshops for educators. Many of these workshops target non-science teachers, increasing their capability by providing tools and methods that will engage their students in active science learning. Education programs and workshops for teachers include:

### Project WET Water Education for Teachers

Project WET is a national curriculum project for K-12 that provides information and resources to infuse water related learning activities into the classroom. Project WET is a partnership between Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve, the Oregon High Desert Museum, the Hatfield Marine Science Center and Southern Oregon State University. The Preserve is the northern Oregon provider of all Project WET workshops and programs.



# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

## Creeks and Kids

In partnership with the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB), Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve staff coordinate this statewide natural resource field based education workshop. Agency staff from Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, OWEB and other resource professionals assist in the program delivery.

## Oregon Department of Education and State Standards

Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve has also forged partnerships with many school districts to assist them to design and connect curriculum with State of Oregon education benchmarks. Staff from the Preserve worked with many school districts including Beaverton, Hillsboro, McMinnville, and Reynolds to design and implement programs that will assist schools in meeting the benchmarks.

## University partnerships

Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve partnered with local colleges and universities to provide science programs for teachers receiving a teaching certificate or updating their credentials or degrees. Currently, the Preserve is working with Portland State University, Lewis and Clark College, Oregon State University, Pacific University, and Marylhurst University.

## Field Natural History for Educators

Staff from the Preserve have designed and lead this week-long teacher in-service program for the past eight years. Forty students from Lewis and Clark College participated in this program to gain skills and knowledge to design and implement a student wetland/watershed citizen involvement program for their school. The program is a required course for all students at Lewis and Clark College going for their masters degree in education.

## Family, Community and Saturday Programs

Throughout the year, Jackson Bottom Wetland Preserve staff offer a variety of community programs to connect people with the natural history and ecology of the Preserve. Animal tracking, bird watching, leisurely nature walks, canoe trips, arts and crafts, geology, water critters, insects, night explorations in the marsh and ethnobotany are a few of the topics covered in these wetland adventures.

One popular program offered every Wednesday at 12:00 noon through the fall, winter and spring is *"Lunch with the Birds."* Volunteers and staff set up spotting scopes, binoculars and field guides at the North Viewing Shelter to invite visitors to watch birds during lunch. From this viewpoint, the bald eagle nest is easily seen.

## Water Quality and Research programs

The Jackson Bottom Experimental Wetland (JBEW) occupies 15 acres on the eastern edge of the Preserve. From 1989 to 1993, researchers from Clean Water Services investigated the use of wetlands to "polish" treated wastewater. Water quality specialists from around the globe continue to contact and visit the Preserve to learn from this research project. Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve serves as a national model for improving water quality and managing multiple goals.

In addition to the JBEW, the Preserve offers opportunities for professionals from Portland State University, Oregon Graduate Institute, Pacific University, Marylhurst University, and Oregon State University to participate in research efforts.

Currently, research programs include:

- Photo documentation to measure successional change of an enhanced marsh
- Geographic Information System project through Portland State University to characterize vegetation zones in the Preserve
- Ground water monitoring
- Turtle monitoring project
- Bird survey program
- Eagle monitoring
- Weather monitoring station (on our web site)
- Capital Center water quality investigation project in the Preserve

## Passive Recreation

Over 25,000 people visited Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve or participated in programs in 2002. The new Education Center will provide even more opportunities for visitors to interact and become involved.

## Volunteers and the Preserve

Volunteers continue to be the backbone of Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve. Jan Curry, Jackson Bottom Volunteer Coordinator, has taken the volunteer program to new and exciting levels. Much of the actual "on-the-ground" work is accomplished through our fantastic volunteers who gave 2,597 hours of service in 2002.

# THE VISION BECOMES A REALITY

## GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY HELD APRIL 6, 2002 FOR OUR NEW WETLANDS EDUCATION CENTER

**T**his year, the Board of Directors voted to begin construction on the 6,000 square-foot Education Center with an eye on completing the building by Spring 2003. The Robert Evans Company was hired to build the center. During the construction process our trails will still be open, and we will continue to offer our programs, so please feel free to stop by and check out why the Preserve is such a special place.

Here's a sneak preview of what to expect. A short trail leading to the Jackson Bottom Wetlands Education Center takes you past a butterfly garden and a Naturescaping exhibit. Traffic and city noises disappear, replaced by the sounds of birds and the wind in the trees. You realize that this is a special place that started out as a vision more than 20 years ago.

The main entrance of the Center opens into a clear, grand view of the Preserve, with interactive exhibits, unique artifacts, and displays which bring the building to life. The building's simple post-and-beam design, with open, natural lighting and fantastic views, creates a warm and inviting atmosphere. An interactive exhibit immediately involves visitors as a computer collects real-time information on the flow of the Tualatin River as it passes through the Preserve. The exhibits and special programs change regularly, offering something new for the visitor on each occasion. A Nature Store provides the visitor with the latest field guides and resources about the natural world. This grand space overlooking the Preserve is the gateway to the experiences offered at Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve.

Next to the exhibit area is the main classroom. In this space, a volunteer helps sixth-grade students use a microscope to examine life in a drop of pond water. A spotting scope, placed at the large windows overlooking the Bottom, is trained on an otter family making their way across Kingfisher Marsh. Meanwhile, a group of students compares pelts and bones from different animals found at the Preserve. You pull away from the activities inside the Center to appreciate the main attraction: Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve.

A large wrap-around covered deck connects the Center with the trails that lead into the Preserve. Interpretive signs lead you past a school group collecting pond water samples from Kingfisher Marsh for use back at the Center with the video-microscope. Still another volunteer

leads a group of visitors along the Tualatin River to count hatchlings at the Great Blue Heron rookery.

The covered deck leads around the outside of the Center to the administration and volunteer work area. The space is filled with resource materials, books, maps, curriculum materials, and information about Jackson Bottom and the Tualatin River Watershed. Here you see a group of teachers working with Jackson Bottom staff to plan a school-based restoration project to improve their area of the watershed. An intern from a nearby university is putting the final touches on the latest Geographic Information System program to evaluate bird population changes in the Preserve. It is easy to see that each person visiting the Preserve can be directly involved in this special place.



*From left: Bob Evans, John Leeper, Mayor Tom Hughes, Jeannette Hamby, Gary Myer, Pat Willis*



# STRATEGIC PLAN

## ENSURING OUR FUTURE

**J**ackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve received funding from the Meyer Memorial Trust to review and update the strategic plan. The plan for the future operations was tied to the original goals of the Jackson Bottom Concept Master Plan of 1989.

With the opening of the education center, Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve enters a new era. The Center represents a tremendous opportunity to enlarge the Preserve's contribution to the community and presents new organizational challenges. Our strategic approach to maximizing the value of this community resource and meeting future challenges organizes our cooperative efforts into five fundamental functional areas. Board members and volunteers from the community contribute their wisdom, time and financial resources to these five functional committees.

### Natural Resource Committee

**Responsibilities:** Wetland Restoration and Protection, Water Quality, Fish & Wildlife Habitat, Land Acquisition, Research, Access, Passive Recreation and Trails, Land Management & Stewardship.

### Education & Programs Committee

**Responsibilities:** Field Programs, Traveling Programs, Teacher Education, Adult and Family Programs, Exhibits, Workshops/Retreats, Professional Training Programs, Coordination with other education groups – School, Agency & Community

### Operations & Management Committee

**Responsibilities:** Education Center Operations, Facilities Management, Community use of the Facility, Bookkeeping, Financial Management, Human Resources, Madsen Property, Legal, Taxes

### Development & Membership Committee

**Responsibilities:** Fundraising, Membership, Volunteers, Newsletter, Campaigns, Events, Endowment, Grants, Marketing, Donor & volunteer Recognition, Donor Updating/Reporting

### Executive Committee

**Responsibilities:** Organizational oversight, Non-Profit Management, Staff Supervision, Board Management



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## JACKSON BOTTOM WETLANDS PRESERVE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Fiscal year July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

### Operating Revenues

Government	\$464,018
Operating Grants	\$55,460

### Fundraising Revenues

Contributions	\$443,979
Cultivation Events	\$60,898
Misc. Income	\$43,008

<u>Total Revenue</u>	<u>\$1,067,363</u>
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### Operating Expenses

Program Services	\$273,143
Office and Facility	\$25,804
Vehicles	\$1,520
Grants/Projects	\$42,562
Education Programs	\$29,598
Restoration	\$5,018
Support Services	\$150,748

### Capital Campaign

Development Activities	\$27,900
Cultivation Events	\$32,051
Exhibits	\$33,370
Insurance	\$1,080
Education Center Construction	\$362,716
Miscellaneous	\$246

<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>\$985,756</u>
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Revenues Over/(Under) Expenses	\$81,607
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