

**Texas Master Naturalist Program
Cradle of Texas Chapter
General Meeting and Advanced Training
Wednesday, June 14, 2017
Texas AgriLife Extension Building
21017 County Road 171
Angleton, Texas 77515-8903**



8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	Fun and Fellowship Snack Team: Jerry Krampota, Cindy Goodrum, Denise Kaplan, Judy Green, Oron Atkins, Mike Bettorf
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	General Meeting and Nature Notes Nature Notes: Lisa Myers "Opossums" <i>This meeting is approved for 1.00 hour volunteer time</i>
10:15 AM – 12:00 PM	Program: <i>Echinoderms</i> Speaker: John O'Connell, Extension Agent, Brazoria County



John O'Connell is the Coastal and Marine Resources Extension Agent for Brazoria County. He was appointed to this position in February 2012 by the Brazoria County Commissioner's Court.

O'Connell earned a Master of Science Degree and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from Texas A&M University. His course work focused on aquaculture, fisheries management and fish nutrition. His thesis focused on "Effects of Dietary Calcium and Vitamin D3 on

Weight Gain and Mineral Composition of Blue Tilapia in Low-Calcium Water."

Prior to assuming this position in Brazoria County, O'Connell had served as the Matagorda County Extension Agent – Coastal and Marine Resources.

Major responsibilities for this position include:

- Conduct front-end analysis to determine community needs and establish partnerships for the purpose of planning, designing, implementing, evaluating and interpreting Extension educational programs to address coastal and marine issues
- Develop and foster a corps of trained Master Naturalist volunteers to assist in dissemination of unbiased, research based information through workshops, seminars, classroom instruction, tours, mass media, result demonstrations, and one-on-one contacts.
- Serve as a resource for commercial and recreational fisheries, coastal community development, coastal hazards, water quality, nature tourism, 4-H youth programs and K-12 students and faculty.

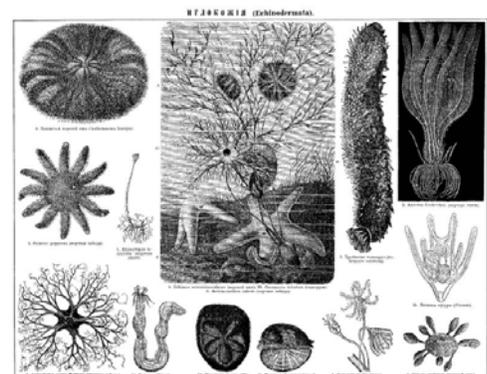
Source: Press Release, Southeast Extension District 9 Office, March 12, 2012,

<http://tinyurl.com/News-O'Connell>

Echinoderm is the common name given to any member of phylum **Echinodermata** of marine animals. The adults are recognizable by their (usually five-point) radial symmetry, and include such well-known animals as sea stars, sea urchins, sand dollars, and sea cucumbers, as well as the sea lilies or "stone lilies". Echinoderms are found at every ocean depth, from the intertidal zone to the abyssal zone. The phylum contains about 7000 living species, making it the second-largest grouping of deuterostomes (a superphylum), after the chordates (which include the vertebrates, such as birds, fishes, mammals, and reptiles). Echinoderms are also the largest phylum that has no freshwater or terrestrial (land-based) representatives.

Source: Wikipedia: Echinoderm

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Echinoderm>



*Illustration from Brockhaus and Efron Encyclopedic Dictionary (1890—1907)
Wikipedia <http://tinyurl.com/ld4yhrs>*