

TMN-COT GENERAL MEETING Wednesday, December 14, 2016, 10:00 a.m. – 10:25 a.m. AgriLife Extension Building Angleton, Texas

Dave Brandes, **President** called the meeting to order and presented the agenda at 10:00 am.

Attendance:

Forty seven members and four guests were in attendance: Bill Mitchell, Joyce Mitchell, Mike Mullenweg, and Vic Wade.

President's Report:

Dave thanked the 2017 Nominating Committee, Mike Mullins, Neal McLain, and Carolyn May-Monie, for their recommendations for the Executive Board:

President: Kristine Rivers Vice President: Jill Carroll Secretary: Lisa Myers Treasurer: Don Sabathier

Motion	Motion to Approve	Motion Seconded by	Vote
To approve the recommendations for the Executive Board	Tom Morris	Larry Ruhr	Motion approved by voice vote.

Dave also reminded us about the 'Hog Wild Party' which follows the General Meeting on December 14. In addition, he stated that the 2017 Intern class will begin on January 18, 2017. The application is on-line. Dave announced that we will test trial Yahoo for our emails.

Treasurer's Report:

Don Sabathier presented the financial report for November.

November 1 – November 30, 2016

Beginning Balance	\$ 5,317.64
Revenue Summary	.00
Interest	.52
Expense Summary	64.99
Ending Balance	\$ 5253.17



Membership Report: Awards/VMS Profiles/VMS Updates:

Jerry Eppner recognized the following members who have certified for 2016: Caylie Harris Susan Safely

Jerry Eppner also recognized the following members who have recertified for 2016:					
Elaine Crews	Marlies Greenwood	Christina Hartman			
Mary Helen Israel	Rainbo Johnson	David Plunkett			
Joan Simonsen					

<u>The Bronze Service Award</u> for the completion of 250 Volunteer Hours was presented to: Marlies Greenwood Karen Leder

<u>The Gold Service Award</u> for the completion of 1000 Volunteer Hours was presented to: Rainbo Johnson

Jerry announced that 109 members have submitted 14,339 Volunteer hours and 1,569 Advanced Training hours as of December 13, 2016. He also mentioned that any member, who is still not receiving emails on a Comcast account, might try to remove the filter as a possible solution.

<u>Volunteer Time (Service Projects)</u> Tom Morris announced VT opportunities: He explained another VT opportunity-the "Audubon Christmas Bird Count". This is the nation's longest-running citizen science bird project: 117 years. These counts are scheduled for dates in December 2016. Tom is one of the leaders of these counts and will be leading the San Bernard Count on December 16, the Freeport Count on December 18, and the Brazoria Count on December 30th. Tom advises us to check the TMN-COT website and/or the Audubon website. Check the TMN-COT calendar for details at <u>http://www.tmn-cot.org/Calendar/index.html</u>

Tom reported that there is a Whooping Crane Tour on February 14th. Tickets are \$65. A signup sheet was passed around. Please contact Tom Morris for further details.

Jackie Hicks announced that GCBO is having a fund raising event, Birds on the Bayou, on February 26, 2017. Tickets are \$75. Please see Jackie for further details.

Mike Mullins stated that he has purple American Beauty Berry seeds and Red Turk's Cap seeds that he will give to interested members after the next General Meeting.

Outreach: In Ruby Lewis' absence, there was no report.



Vice President:

<u>Nature Notes Update</u>: Jill Carroll stated that one can earn up to 2 hours of AT for preparing and presenting at a general monthly meeting. She encouraged future presentations. Contact Jill Carroll for more information. 281-384-4244 jillcarroll725@gmail.com

Time codes allocated for the general meeting and presentations are

• Chapter business meeting: Code "CB: Chapter Meetings and Admin," 1.0 + travel time (up to 1 hr.)

Dave Brandes adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

After the adjournment of the General Meeting, Kristine Rivers chaired the committee to review the nominations for the non-elected positions of the Board, as follows:

- VT: Oron Atkins
- AT: Larry Ruhr
- Membership: Pete and Peggy Romfh
- Outreach: Ruby Lewis
- Training Co-Chairs: Carolyn May-Monie/Laurel Owen
- Host: Pam West
- Publications: Neal McLain
- Publicity: Dick Schaffhausen
- State Representative: Ed Barrios
- 2016 Class Representative: Judy Green
- Past President: Dave Brandes

Motion	Motion to Approve	Motion Seconded by	Vote
To approve the appointments for the non-elected positions on the Board	Dave Brandes	Lisa Myers	Motion approved by voice vote.

Seven people were present at this meeting: Dave Brandes, Lisa Myers, Don Sabathier, Jill Carroll, Kristine Rivers, Jean Britt, and John O'Connell.

Respectfully submitted, Jean Britt, Secretary, TMN-COT