

Cradle of Texas Chapter
Brazoria County Extension Office
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<http://grovesite.com/tamu/tmn>



Minutes: Board Meeting, November 7, 2007

President Ed Barrios called the meeting to order at 3:11 p.m.

Present: Ed Barrios, Carl Dodson, Tom Morris, John Marshall, Marty Cornell, Jerry Eppner, Justina Dent, Roy Morgan, Neal McLain, Ellis Burkhardt, Barbara Burkhardt, Mary Helen Israel

Agenda:

Topic	Desired Outcome	Lead
Financial Report	Review current financial reports	Jerry Eppner
New Training Class Update	Review latest information regarding the new class	David / Laura Brandes
Board members for 2008	Update from nomination committee	Carl Dodson
Review hours and active member count	Estimate how many volunteer hours we are going to have for the year	Tom Morris
GCBO Work Day	Communication of work needed	John Marshall
Graduation Lunch	Finalize plans	Barbara Burkhardt
4th Annual Hog Wild Party	Agreement that we should continue and discuss any changes that should be made	Ed Barrios Marty Cornell
Prairie Restoration, Wetland Construction	Update on project status	Ed Barrios
State Meeting Update	Understanding of any issues discussed at State meeting	Ellis Burkhardt
Report from other board members & committee chairs	Discuss any issues / projects that the board should be aware of	All

Financial Report: Jerry reported a balance of \$5092.14. Jerry will send out a notice to the general membership reminding them that 2008 dues are payable, beginning Nov. 1 and delinquent after Jan. 31, 2008.

Training Class Update: Dave and Laura were not present at the meeting because of the location (San Bernard NWR) of today's class. Everything appears to be going well. Shirts and nametags are here and ready for graduation.

Nominating Committee: Carl reported on the progress of the nominating committee in identifying persons willing to serve as officers in 2008. The committee is still trying to fill some offices. Pres.--Dave Landes, V.Pres.-- John Boettiger, Tres.—Jerry Eppner, State Pre.—Ellis Burkhardt, Training—Laura Brandes, Vol. Service—John Marshall, Chapter Host—Jerry Krampota/Justina Dent, Webmaster—Neal McLain, Newsletter—Mary Helen Israel
 Offices to be filled: Secretary, Membership Chair, Advanced Training and Outreach. The committee will continue to work on filling these offices.

Membership: Tom reported that the chapter reported over 13,000 hours in 2006. So far this year, members have turned in only 7300 hours. The membership needs to be reminded that hours are important for the Extension Service and TPWD. These sponsors receive money for these hours in their budget or from grants. Tom also requests that everyone turn their hours in so that he can complete the Annual Report which is due Jan. 31, 2008.

GCBO Gardens/Work Days: John reported that he and Barbara met with Cecilia Riley, Susan Heath and Carol Jones about the projects COT would be involved with. Two projects were identified for the Nov. 27th work day: (1) Identify/remove invasive species in two areas of woods and (2) plant trees in a deforested area at the back of the GCBO property. GCBO will furnish implements, herbicides and sprayers and get the holes dug for the trees. John will ask members to sign up for a project at the Nov. meeting. The third possible project is to begin removal of large Ligustrum shrubs at the entrance to the GCBO headquarters. The objectives of these projects are will defined. Other work days will be scheduled for 2008.

It was brought to our attention that Tuesday or Thursday work days conflict with the DEEP classes. John will notify GCBO staff and try to change the day to Mon. 11/16. GCBO will give all participants at the work day, a book about invasive species.

GCBO is also willing to let us place a small sign giving TMN/COT credit for their projects. We will need to make sure that we keep areas well maintained so that it will be positive advertisement and not negative.

Graduation Lunch: The menu for the lunch is Taco Soup, salad, chips and desert. The general membership will be asked to contribute \$5.00 to cover the cost of the meal. There is no charge for the interns. Mary Helen, Tom

Morris and John Marshall agreed to help with desserts. Marty and Jerry will take care of the salad. Barbara will provide the soup and all the hardware.

"Hog Wild" Christmas Celebration: The 4th Annual Hog Wild party will be held at Ed's after the Dec. 12th meeting. Marty will be chief hog cooker. Folks will be asked to donate \$5.00 (or what they feel like) to offset the cost of the wine and meat. A brisket will be prepared for those who cannot eat pork. Barbara will do spinach/apple salad.

Prairie Restoration/Wetland Construction at Master Gardeners' Education Station: Ed reported that there is a meeting on Nov. 12th to discuss the plans for the prairie restoration. John Thayer, Susan Severance, Marty Cornell, Justina and Ed have agreed to help with the project. Justina will supply a list of native plants from the Native Plant Society. The MG have money to construct a wetland from grants they have received. Ed will send out an e-mail to the membership to see if others would like to help with the project.

State Meeting: Ellis reported that the major topics at the executive committee meeting were how to count travel time hours versus volunteer hours. The committee decided to leave it up to the individual chapters. Two new chapters were also discussed.

The Hilton Hotel was a very nice venue, but offered some challenges. The pictures of all the chapter projects, along with what they won, are on the web-site. The date and location of the 2008 meeting has not been determined.

MN Shirts: Barbara reported that the shirt order was in and would be distributed at the Nov. meeting. She will send out notification to the membership. She has also gotten the design for the silk screen logo to be used on the standard T-shirts. These have a blue or green background. The board requested that the colored background be left out. Barbara will check to see if this can be done.

Barbara also showed the board a tote bag, with the MN/COT logo which she had made up and suggested that these would make good speaker gifts for the 2008 class presenters. It was agreed to order 30 bags. Cost of the bags is \$8.00.

Committee Chair Reports:

Buffalo Creek Banding: Marty talked about the bird banding project at Buffalo Creek. This is similar to, and will replace the Hall's Bayou project from last year. The first trip is Tues. 11/13. Roy will send out information and a map to the membership.

INEOS: Carl said that the INEOS project went okay even with the reduced number of participants from COT. The first session for 2008 is on Friday, 2/29.

Cactus Moth Training: Barron Rector has agreed to conduct a class on monitoring the cactus moth on Tues. 2/5/08, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., at the Extension service building in Angleton. Surrounding chapters will be invited.

Service Awards: Recertification: Ed Barrios, Neal McLain,
Gold Award: 1000 hours Ed Barrios, John Boettiger

To Do List:

- *Ed will locate copy of electronic release form.
- *Jerry will send out notice to the general membership reminding that 2008 dues are payable, beginning Nov. 1
- *Barbara will calculate cost of shirts for Jerry so that the total outlay is known. (done)
- *Ed will get information on the hours turned in by other chapter so that we can compare our chapter's performance with others.
- *Barbara will send out notice to pick up shirts and the information on the new t-shirt with silk screen logo. (Done)
- *Barbara will order tote bags from EDP. (Done)
- *Barbara will check on modification of silk screen logo design. (Done)
- *Ed will send out an e-mail to the membership to see if others would like to help with the project.
- * Roy will send out information and a map on the Buffalo Creek Banding to the membership.

There being no further business Ellis moved, Jerry seconded that the meeting be adjourned.
Meeting adjourned 4:30 p.m.

Respectively submitted,
Barbara Burkhardt
Secretary