



**Cradle of Texas Chapter**  
Texas AgriLife Extension Service  
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## **TMN COT March 12, 2008 General Meeting Minutes**

8:50 a.m. **Marty Cornell** presented an excellent, colorful PowerPoint overview of **Migration Celebration** which is April 11-13, 2008 at San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge. On display, also, was a preview of information for the COT booth which will be at the park entrance.

Activities are already in progress for this big event. Twenty presentations of Birds of Prey are being given in 16 area schools at a cost of \$8,000. Last year's Migration Celebration netted \$21,000 in cash with \$3,500 given to the Refuge programs.

Marty asked for volunteers and donations of goodies for the upcoming bake sales April 4 at Angleton's Wal-Mart, April 10 at Lake Jackson's Wal-Mart, and April 12 at SBNWR. Additional volunteers, also, will be needed to help with the various activities including early risers at the bird banding booth, assistants in the entrance TMNCOT booth, drivers for the vans for the Moccasin Pond Van and the Marsh Buggy Tours, guides for the forest walk to the Largest Texas Live Oak, and assistants for embarking Kayaking passengers on Cedar Lake Creek. A sign up sheet was circulated for members to choose their involvement.

The event will be kicked off Friday evening, April 11 with a \$20 fund raising dinner at RiverPlace in Freeport. Speaker for the evening will be Dr. Andre Landry, Jr. from the Dept. of Marine Biology, TAMU,

He plans to inform guests about saving sea turtles particularly of the recovery of the Kemp's Ridley Turtle. All money collected will be to benefit wildlife refuges.

Additional activities are scheduled. Saturday evening there will be a night walk and night time banding of rails. The Discovery Center at Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge plans sessions with the micro-world, pond critters and van tours. Quintana will feature Neotropical birding. Pre-registration is needed for Sunday's amazing adventures of birding by ear, a more detailed look at Moccasin Pond and kayaking. This can be done at 888-477-2505 or signing up Friday or Saturday.

**President Dave Brandes** called the March General meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

**John Marshall** presented TMNCOT 2008 recertification awards to-

Dave Brandes

Laura Brandes

Jim Calvert

Ellis Burkhardt

Denis James

Tom Morris

Susan Severance

John Marshall

500 VT hour award – Sandy Henderson

1000 VT hour award – John Marshall

**President Dave Brandes** made these announcements:

\***The ConocoPhillips Wetlands** planting project is scheduled for Friday, March 14.

\***Carolyn May-Monie** has had to resign as head of the ConocoPhillips Education project due to family commitments. Help with this project is needed. It would be a soft start for a COT member to overview as activity dates are already set-up to go.

\***The April General Meeting will be the third Wednesday, April 16**, with AT hour by Bryan Adams presenting Connecting People to Nature.

\***Envirofest** is April 19 at the Lake Jackson Mall.

\***Volunteer Fair** at Brazosport College is Tuesday, April 22.

**Additional Floor Announcements were made:**

**Torry Tvedt** reported there would be a kick-off luncheon by Reliant Energy announcing a partnership to preserve and restore the Columbia Bottomlands at Hudson Woods, March 27. A tent will be set up for serving, and members were asked to e-mail their response to Reliant Energy. Reliant Energy, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation will partner for the **Columbia Bottomlands project.**

**John Boettiger** announced AT class for GPS will be July 9. The course will be one hour following the July General Meeting and one hour of field training at Angleton Park.

**Laura Brandes** showed the group pictures of MNCOT activities which were featured in area newspapers. April or May articles will be placed announcing MN fall intern training.

**April 19 Master Gardeners** will have their native plant sale. Members were urged to get there early for the best selections.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m. and was followed by AT with David Abrego's presentation of the TPWD Coastal Fisheries Stock Enhancement Program and Flounder Stock Enhancement. David is The Facility Director of Sea Center Texas.

Respectively submitted,  
Joan Simonsen  
Secretary

