



**Cradle of Texas Chapter**  
Texas AgriLife Extension Service  
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<http://grovesite.com/tamu/tmn>

### **Minutes: Board Meeting, September 3, 2008**

**President Dave Brandes** called the meeting to order at Sea Center Texas at 3:05 p.m. with a review of the meeting agenda.

**Present:** Dave Brandes, Laura Brandes, John Boettiger, Joan Simonsen, Jerry Eppner, Ellis Burkhardt, John Marshall, Ed Barrios, Rich Tillman, Sandy Henderson, Earl Roberts, Neal McLain, and Mary Helen Israel.

#### **Agenda:**

**Culture Moments** accounts were given by:

\*John B - The summer COT Advanced Training GPS class created so much interest that nine GPS classes have been scheduled within the county in September. These will be given in six 1 ½ hour sessions to 4-H, church, Boy Scout, and Geo-Caching groups.

\*Joan - Her eight-year-old granddaughter took nature digital pictures, printed them with grandma's help, and then scrapbooked her own pictures including dictated journaling of her feelings and reasons for selecting her nature selections.

\*Mary Helen Israel - Her eight and ten year old grandchildren became so fascinated with Ruby's reptile presentation, they became her assistants by passing around the snake and baby alligators to the audiences.

\*Rich Tillman - Children have expressed an interest in the upcoming Rainwater Harvesting presentation to be held October 3.

#### **Review Action Register:**

\* John Marshall is planning on sending the updated roster to Mary Helen for newsletter, but not Web site, publications to COT members.

\* Ed - The Bylaws and Liability actions items will be reviewed in September. The Volunteer Policy Insurance Renewal was discussed. TPWD requires that certified COT members annually sign a waiver of liability for approved chapter projects. The wording of the form was discussed and modified to meet COT chapter needs. The revised waiver forms will include the supplemental insurance protection information concerning personal injury, auto or liability benefits to COT volunteers.

### **General Meeting Schedule for the remainder of 2008:**

Due to the cancellation of the Fall Intern classes a new Advanced Training scheduled will need to be addressed for the General Meetings. It was decided to make September a Pizza Brainstorming Session. It was noted that volunteers sought from the northern part of the county need serving opportunities in that area, also. At the September General meeting volunteers will be able to give their recruitment ideas for next year and future desires for Advanced Training and presenters.

### **Re-visit 501(c)(3):**

President Dave informed the board that having 501(c)(3) status would have given the COT chapter some help with advertising costs and additional leverage for newspaper articles. The motion was made by Ed and seconded by Jerry E. to pursue incorporation 501(c) (3) status for the chapter. Laura volunteered to head this endeavor.

### **2008 Intern Update:**

Laura provided information concerning the left over Intern Training materials. These can be used for future classes. She also made recommendations for the next Intern Class which would cut the costs for the COT Chapter and give information to prospective members about materials they would need to provide.

### **Action List:**

- \* Dave- clean up approved project forms for volunteers
- \* Laura - pursue COT 501(c) (3) status.
- \* Ed - create revised liability insurance forms for COT members

\* All- contribute brainstorming AT ideas for the September General Meeting. Ideas suggested thus far included meteorology, Red Tide and the Dead Zone, and Radar tracking of Birds.

Respectively submitted,  
Joan Simonsen  
Secretary

Jhs:Mn\_Min\_Sept\_Board\_Final