



Cradle of Texas Chapter
Texas AgriLife Extension Service
21017 County Road 171
Angleton, TX 77515-8903
<http://grovesite.com/tamu/tmn>

TMN COT March 14, 2008 General Meeting Minutes

President Dave Brandes opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. with Laura Brandes introducing the COT interns present.

Jerry Eppner awarded the following: (the red salamander)

2009 Recertification... Dave Brandes

Bill Brown

Barbara Burkhardt

Gerald Forrest

Denis James

Ruby Lewis

Tom Morris

Jim Renfro

250 VT Hours (Bronze)

Bob Woods

500 VT Hours (Silver)

Bill Brown

Gerald Forrest

1000 VT Hours (Gold)

Laura Brandes

2500 BT Hours (Platinum)

Marty Cornell

Jerry Eppner announced that so far 20 members have submitted time sheets reporting 1400 VT and 169 AT hours.

Dave Brandes reported that Joan Simonsen won the Garmin GPS for being the first team member of the COT Invaders of Texas group to have 50 observations entered and validated by the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center biologists.

John Boettiger discussed upcoming AT topics. Several options are available such as Bill Brown concerning the Endangered Species Act, Brazoria County decisions concerning Hurricane Ike with problems like 250,000 cubic yards of mulch, FEMA, and how cities helped. Members were encouraged to talk to John about their interests.

Carl Dodson gave an INEOS update reminding members that the third session of classes will start March 27. Interns can receive AT for attending these sessions.

Bastrop Bayou Trash Bash

This event has been approved for VT. Don West announced the 1st Annual Bastrop Bayou Trash Bash will be held March 28 at Bastrop Marina. Volunteers may register on line at trashbash.org. The hours for helping are 8:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. with a lunch being served at 11:30 a.m. Volunteers are asked to bring gloves and will receive t-shirts and awards. Marty Cornell informed COT members that Bastrop Bayou is one of the few bayous in the area that is generally clean. This event gives us an opportunity to help keep it clean.

Camp Mohawk Summer Day Camp Pilot

Laura Brandes provided the TMN members with an update on the plans for the project. Sessions will be held the weeks of June 15 and June 22. Classes will be held Monday through Thursday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with a wrap-up Family Day on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. until noon. Thirty children entering second, third and fourth grade will be served the first week while fifth and sixth graders may attend the second session. A volunteer sheet was circulated to help to staff the program.

Migration Celebration

Ed Barrios presented a colorful, informative visual promoting the 15th Migration Celebration which is being held April 17- 19 at SBNWR. Last year over 100 volunteers, one-third of them COT TMNers, assisted the Friends of Brazoria Wildlife Refuges with the event. Earth Quest's "Birds of Prey" show will return again this year. Last year 20 schools, involving 8,375 students were enriched by Earth Quest's program which costs \$400 per program.

Bake sales will be held April 9 at the Lake Jackson Wal-Mart and April 18 and 19 at SBNWR. Last year almost \$1400 was brought in by the bake sales with a \$1000 donation from Lake Jackson Wal-Mart. Volunteer sheets were circulated for the bake sale and Migration Celebration assistance.

In 2008 the Photography Contest had 60 photographers who submitted 74 photos in numerous categories. The Celebration had 1000 visitors on Saturday when 172 kids went crabbing, 200 people took the Forest Walk and 32 the Kayak adventure. Last year's total profit of almost \$9000 was used to support the wildlife refuges.

This year's Friday, April 17, Kick-Off Dinner will cost \$20 and be held at the RiverPlace in Freeport. The Keynote speaker will be Dr. Matt Wagner, Ph. D., Wildlife Diversity Program Director for TPWD, on "Conserving Biological Diversity in the Lone Star State."

Rich Tillman announced that Richard Hurd, BCPD Director, wants to develop a grant for Brazoria County beaches to have grasses planted to build up the dunes. A planning meeting would be held in April for the grant to be submitted in July.

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m. for AT with Robert Vega, Enhancement Director CCA/CPL Marine Development Center, TPWD, Corpus Christi, concerning Hurricane Ike Impact on the Texas Coast and a review of the progress of the TPWD Southern Flounder Program at Sea Center Texas and the Marine Development Center in Corpus Christi.

Respectively submitted by,
Joan Simonsen
Secretary

Jhs.MN_Min_Mar_Gen_Final