

Minutes of the GENERAL MEETING of the
Texas Master Naturalist Cradle of Texas Chapter
WEDNESDAY January 11, 2012
AgriLIFE Extension Building, Angleton, Texas

Draft of 13Jan12

Attendance: 44 Active Members, guests: Anne and George Bettinger and Gabriela McCrae (new interns)

Start Time: President Barbara Burkhardt opened the meeting at 9:00 am.

Policies & Procedures (P&P): Barbara Burkhardt reviewed a recommendation by the Board of Directors to clarify requirements for voting by modifying the chapter's P&P to include the phrase "Current dues must be paid to vote in any election." Kerry McGee moved and Steve Zilliox seconded to accept this wording. The general membership voted by voice to accept this motion with no objection.

Membership Chair Jerry Eppner presented recertification pins to Phyllis Gerdes, Billy Heck, Candace Novak, Louis Peltier, and Carolyn Schlein. Jean Manry was recognized for achieving her initial certification and Kathy Speights for surpassing 250 volunteer hours.

Jerry noted that 68 chapter members (one more than last year) reported 961 hours of advanced training and 13,717 hours of volunteer time for 2011. For the ten years of the Cradle of Texas Chapter, 107,923 hours of VT have been recorded. For 2011, 46 members recertified and eight certified for their first time. Nine members reported over 500 hours of VT, led by Phil Huxford with 815 hours.

Jerry gave a quick tutorial on the use of our 2012 time sheet.

Outreach: In the absence of Outreach chair Ruby Lewis, Barbara Burkhardt reviewed a plethora of outside activities that will occur in the first quarter of this year. These events can be reviewed on our chapter web site.

Advanced Training topics were solicited from the membership by Barbara Burkhardt.

Training Chair Ed Johnson reported that he has received 6 completed applications for our winter intern classes which start in February and will run through May 2nd. Ed will be including class projects as part of the course requirements, and he solicited membership help in mentoring these projects. The training schedule is posted on our web site.

Announcements: Tom Morris thanked the chapter for their strong support of the Christmas Bird counts held around Brazoria county.

The general meeting was followed by a presentation from Dave Brandes on Oceanic Plankton. This talk ended a little after 12:00 noon.

Submitted by Marty Cornell, Secretary, Texas Master Naturalist, Cradle of Texas Chapter