



**CRADLE OF TEXAS CHAPTER**  
AGRI LIFE EXTENSION BLDG.  
21017 CR 171, Angleton, TX 77515-8903  
<http://tmn-cot.org>

**TMN-COT GENERAL MEETING**  
Wednesday, August 13, 2014, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
AgriLife® Extension Building  
Angleton, Texas

**Attendance:**

57 Members were in attendance for the August 2014 General Meeting.

**President's Report:**

**Mike Mullins, President**, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am and presented the agenda. Mike introduced guests: Jesse Vilisana??, Jim Calvert, and Joe ???, fiancé of ???

- The TMN-COT display in the entry way in the Extension Building is completed thanks to Barbara Burkhardt and Jane Eppner.
- The Board is exploring the option of becoming tax exempt.
- Be sure to mark your calendars for October 18 - Kids Day at Buffalo Bayou.
- Overflow parking at the Extension Building should be along the grassy fence line – NOT against the building.

**Treasurer's Report:**

**Treasurer Gerald Forrest** gave the treasurer's report:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>BEGINNING BALANCE</u>	<u>ENDING BALANCE</u>
7/1/14 THRU 7/31/14	\$6,587.92	\$6,589.32
<b>Revenue Summary</b>		
Dues Payments		0
Interest		\$1.40
		<b>Total \$1.40</b>
<b>Expense Summary</b>		
No activity for July		<b>Total \$0</b>

**Outreach:**

**Ruby Lewis, Outreach Coordinator**, thanked members for helping with the summer programs. **38** different volunteers helped with the **32** summer library programs in June and July. Public attendance for the Reptile Programs was **1737** and **418** attended the Wild in the City Programs for a total of **2155** participants. There were **9** other events in the last two months with a total of **48 events in 61 days** where TMN-COT provided volunteers.



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### **Upcoming Events:**

The following dates will provide more volunteer opportunities:

- ✓ September 13 & 20 – XHX or Xtreme Hummingbird Xtravaganza
- ✓ October 18 – Urban Initiative at Buffalo Bayou
- ✓ David Plunkett will address the September General Meeting with information about Kids Day at Buffalo Bayou.

**Volunteer Coordinator, Pete Romfh** reported that GCBO (Gulf Coast Bird Observatory) will need TMN-COT volunteers both Saturdays of XHX as well as the 6 volunteers to man the TMN-COT booth. The upcoming Wetlands Projects will also provide multiple volunteer opportunities. The initial surveys for these projects have been completed.

### **Programs:**

**Vice President Peggy Romfh** lined out the upcoming speakers as follows:

- September 10 – Teri MacArthur, Horticultural coordinator, Jesse H. Jones Park & Nature Center, will speak about Mushrooms.
- September 17 - Cathy Downs, *MonarchWatch* Conservation Specialist, will do a workshop on Monarch Butterflies. Program is scheduled from 9 a.m. – 12 noon and represents extra advanced training.
- October 8 – Mary Carol Edwards with the Texas Coastal Watershed Program will speak about the Stormwater Wetlands Project.

The **Nature Quiz** was presented by Becky McClendon. The quiz was titled “Sounds of Southern Brazoria County.”

Volunteers for future quizzes are:

- September – Marty Cornell
- October – Leo Novak
- November – Roy Morgan

### **Invasive Species by Dave Brandes – “Exotic, Invasive, Noxious”**

Dave outlined the training to become a Citizen Scientist and the reporting of invaders of Texas. For online information go to [TEXASINVASIVES.org](http://TEXASINVASIVES.org).

### **Membership:**

**Jerry Eppner, Membership Coordinator**, reported that to date 55 members have turned in their volunteer and advanced training times with 5 of the 2014 Interns reaching certification level. They are: Denise Apgar, Garry Ellis, Janet Jackson-Ellis, Mel McKey, and John Minkert. The following members have recertified for 2014: Roger Allen, Neeta Allen, John Boettiger, Phyllis Gerdes, Joycelynn Grigson, Mary Helen Israel, and Carole Wenny.

Two members have reached the 4000 volunteer hour milestone. Dave Brandes and Barbara Burkhardt were awarded the Presidents Call to Service Award.



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**Before the break, President Mike Mullins** revisited TMN-COT volunteer efforts. To date in 2014, there have been 59 events (1194 hours) in which members have volunteered their expertise and time. We have touched the lives of 13,780 youth and 6,913 adults for a total of 18,418 **(these numbers do not compute!)**. There were two other sets of numbers 4838 – indirect and 133 – direct that I did not clarify in my notes and can't make sense of. **HELP!**

**(Break – 10 minutes)**

**Peggy Romfh** introduced the guest speaker, **Peter Woods, Extension Fisheries Program Specialist II**. The title of his presentation was “**Aquatic Ecology and a Little Bit of Pond Management.**”

Mr. Woods explained the different water systems – Lentic (standing water) and Lotic (flowing water).

The definition of a watershed is land area that water drains from into a common water course. His point was that ALL LAND is part of a watershed.

Some Texas water statistics covered were:

- 15 major rivers
- 191,000 miles of rivers
- 212 major reservoirs
- 7 major bay systems
- 1.1 million ponds

**President Mike Mullins** stated that today's meeting has been approved for 3 hours of Advanced Training for the quiz and program and 1 hour of Volunteer Time for the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Submitted by Becky McClendon, Secretary TMN-COT