



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

TMN-COT GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday, December 10, 2014, 10 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.
AgriLife® Extension Building
Angleton, Texas

Attendance:

39 Members were in attendance for the December 2014 General Meeting.

President's Report:

Mike Mullins, President, called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and presented the agenda.

- Maggie Schakez was introduced as a guest and as a new intern.
- Neal McLain donated the latest addition to the library, the book *Lower Brazos River Canals* by Lora-Marie Bernard.
- A note was received by Jerry Krampota indicating that plants from Gerhart Prairie will be taken to Eagle Nest Lake Prairie sometime in January. He will provide updated information.
- Mike Mullins showed a picture of the 10 ft. x 10 ft. canopy, the cost to be shared with Friends of Brazoria Wildlife Refuges (Friends). The Board approved an expenditure of up to \$1,000 for the purchase of a 10 ft. x 15 ft. canopy. The proposal for the new canopy was sent to Friends. If approved, the new canopy will provide for a better setup for Outreach activities.
- Jim Renfro provided information for the six December Bird Counts to be held December 15th – January 3rd:
 - Matagorda Co. - Mad Island Marsh – Monday, December 15th
 - Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR – Wednesday, December 17th
 - San Bernard NWR – Friday, December 19th
 - Brazos Bend State Park – Saturday, December 20th
 - Freeport - Sunday, December 21st
 - Brazoria – Saturday, January 3rd

It was pointed out that the bird count has been conducted since 1900, and the data collected is very important for the Audubon Society's big data base as well as for providing accurate range maps. Additional contact information is located on the website. There is also a free app, "Count Circle," to help with birding locations.

- Jerry Eppner reported that seven plus members have achieved over 4,000 hours of service. He pointed out that those hours not only enrich your life, but that each hour is appreciated by someone.
- Jerry Krampota requested volunteers to provide snacks for 2015. The signup sheet was passed around. Also, Jerry Krampota is asking for relief after ten years from his hosting duties.



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Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Gerald Forrest gave the following treasurer's report:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>BEGINNING BALANCE</u>	<u>ENDING BALANCE</u>
11/1/14 THRU 11/30/14	\$6,249.30	\$6,250.60

Revenue Summary

Interest	\$1.30
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Expense Summary

None for this period

Programs:

Peggy Romfh, Vice President, reported the January program will be a multi-faceted program, and Neal McLain will present the January Nature Quiz. Additional volunteers are needed for the nature quizzes.

Membership:

Jerry Eppner, Membership Coordinator, reported that we are three-fourths of the way to meeting and exceeding last year's volunteer hours. Currently 81 timesheets have been turned in for a total of 10,300 hours. Last year we had 88 timesheets for a total of 15,000 hours. Members were encouraged to get the timesheets turned in. Twenty-one interns have turned in timesheets. There are 25 timesheets that are not turned in. He reminded members that the report has to be in by January 7th.

He announced that the following members have recertified for 2014:

Howard Allen, Justina Dent, Michelle Hague, Phil Huxford, Ed Johnson,
Jerry Krampota, Georgia Monnerat, Sheila Williams, and Lorna Witt.

Other members receiving recognition were:

1,000 Hours of VT Gold – Georgia Monnerat
250 Hours of VT Bronze – Neeta Allen, Leo O'Gorman, Michelle Hague, and
Jeanne Manry.

Barbara Burkhardt, Past President and Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the following proposed slate of officers for the 2015 TMN-COT Board:



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President	Dave Brandes
Vice President	Leo Novak
Secretary	Linda Sluis
Treasurer	Gerald Forrest
Training Coordinator	Roy Morgan
Membership Coordinator	Jerry Eppner

Additional nominations from the floor were asked. There being none, Neeta Allen moved, seconded by Joycelynn Grigson, to accept the proposed slate of officers by acclamation. The motion carried.

President Mike Mullins approved today's meeting for 1.5 hours of Volunteer Time plus travel.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Submitted by Linda Sluis for Becky McClendon, Secretary TMN-COT