



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

TMN-COT GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday, September 9, 2015, 9:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.
AgriLife® Extension Building
Angleton, Texas

Attendance:

Sixty-three members and ~~two~~ ~~one~~ guests, Tom Schneider and Susan Brown, were in attendance.

President's Report:

Dave Brandes, President called the meeting to order and presented the agenda at 9:00 a.m.

Awards: Jerry Eppner presented certificates to 2015 interns who certified: Mike Bettorf, Anna King, and Vicky Kirby.

AT & VT: Advanced and Volunteer Training opportunities are posted on the calendar on the website. Also opportunities will be emailed to the membership
<http://tmn-cot.org/Calendar/index.html>.

Outreach: See calendar.

Tom Schneider/Susan Brown (~~Deep/Whoop~~)= (DEEP/HWEEP): Tom Schneider introduced guest, Susan Brown, who is the new Education Coordinator for Discovery Environmental Education Program (DEEP) and Hudson Woods Environmental Education Program (HWEEP). ~~She will be working with Student Conservation.~~ **She is part of the Student Conservation Association (SCA).**

State Meeting Photo Contest: Ed Barrios, State Representative, pointed out that we have been running the Photo Contest at the annual state meeting. Michelle Haggerty, State Master Naturalist Coordinator, has asked that we again bring the easels. Volunteers are also needed. Ed will send an email to the membership.

Ed also pointed out that background checks are required annually by Brazosport I.S.D. The first event requiring background checks is September 22.

Mel McKey announced that on September 19, the planetarium will be open to the public from 4:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Christina Hartman requested volunteers for the "Fall Kids Fish Fest," to be held October 17 from 8:00-12:00 a.m. at Challenger **Seven** Memorial Park.



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VMS Training: The VMS Implementation Team: Dave Brandes, Ed Barrios, Jerry Eppner, Peggy Romfh, Pete Romfh, and Connie Stolte explained the process for setting up the individual login. A handout of the initial user ids and passwords was provided to the membership.

They explained the process for using the new online system for reporting volunteer and advanced training hours. Jerry reminded members that the deadline for utilizing the spreadsheet for reporting hours is September 30. After that all hours must be input into the VMS system. Also, travel time can be reported only for VT.

The new system can be accessed directly from <http://txmn.org> or from a link on the TMN-COT website.

Leo Novak, Vice President/Programs, introduced the speaker, Ted Nugent, President of the Brazoria County Beekeepers Association. His program on "Bees and Beekeeping" pointed out the importance of the bee on our environment and of the honey bee on the American food supply.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m. with credit awarded for 1 1/2 hours + travel VT and 1 1/2 hours AT.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Sluis
Secretary, TMN-COT