



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

TMN-COT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, September 14, 2016, 10:00 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.
Lake Jackson Civic Center
Lake Jackson, Texas

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

Attendance:

Seventy nine members and fourteen guests were in attendance: Donna Schaffhausen, Marilyn Osborn, Vic Wade, Jay Simonsen, Maria Atkins, Mike Lange, Danna Johnson, Jim Renfro, Mary Rapstein, Trish Mullins, Don West, Ron Bisbee, Tom Schneider, Johnny Dwyer.

President's Report:

Dave welcomed everyone to the 15th year celebration and thanked everyone who had made this celebration possible. Special thanks went out to Roy Morgan, Marty Cornell, and Ellis Burkhardt for cooking the barbecue and to Pam West for creating the table and room decorations and for organizing the food for the event.

Dave also announced that the Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge 50th Anniversary at Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge would be held on November 12.

Treasurer's Report:

Don Sabathier presented the financial report for August.

August 1 – August 31, 2016

<u>Beginning Balance</u>	\$ 8,036.00
Revenue Summary	860.00
Interest	1.38
Expense Summary	2,462.89
 <u>Ending Balance</u>	 \$ 6,434.49

Don also said that if anyone wanted to purchase a new curriculum book to please see him. The cost is \$40 if purchased through the chapter but will go to \$70 if purchased individually.

Awards/VMS Profiles/VMS Updates:

Dave Brandes presented the following certifying interns with a certificate and a pin:

Jimmy Salinas
Chip Sweet

Jerry Eppner recognized the following members who have recertified for 2016:

Marty Cornell
Kristine Rivers
Larry Ruhr



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The Bronze Service Award: Mel McKey and Don Sabathier were recognized for achieving 250 Volunteer Hours.

The Polished Silver Service Award: Ed Johnson was recognized for achieving 2500 Volunteer Hours.

Philip Huxford was recognized for achieving 10,000 Volunteer Hours-the highest number of hours award received.

Jerry Eppner, Pam West, and Dave Brandes presented Connie Stolte a plaque and a gift for her years of service from 2001-2016. In addition, the Board of Directors presented her with the gift of a paid Life Time Dues Membership.

Volunteer Time (Service Projects) Pete Romfh stated to please check the calendar for updates as there are many volunteer opportunities.

Outreach: Ruby Lewis announced that there are several opportunities to volunteer.

- KBR Kids' Day at Buffalo Bayou- October 15 11a.m.-3:00 p.m.
- Spooktacular at Sea Center Texas- October 30 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge 50th anniversary at the Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge-November 12
- Festival of Lights at Lake Jackson- November 19, 10 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Ruby advised members to check the calendar for further details. She also stated that the DEEP and HWEEP programs have volunteer opportunities.

Anniversary Celebration:

Peggy Romfh presented a 'Chapter Recognition" slide show over the last 15 years. She also recognized our chapter's contribution of service as indicated by our volunteer service awards amounting to 175,000 total hours of service. These significant contributions from our members as well as those members who held leadership positions, advisors, trainers, outreach programs, publications, and chapter hosts have all contributed to the success of the Texas Master Naturalists-Cradle of Texas chapter.

Justina Dent and Rich Tillman spoke of interesting stories from previous years. Pam West recited Chief Seattle's speech which encouraged everyone to help take care of our environment. Jim Renfro was recognized for his many hours of service and contributions, and Neal McLain was recognized for his contributions to the web site. Oliver Osborn, COT member emeritus, spoke of the early days of the chapter and his memories as a master naturalist. Mike Mullins announced that there was a gift for active members.



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The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m. Time codes allocated for the general meeting and presentations are

- Chapter business meeting: Code "CB: Chapter Meetings and Admin," 1.25 Hours + travel time

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Britt, Secretary, TMN-COT