



TMN-COT GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday, March 14, 2018, 9:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
AgriLife® Extension Building, Angleton, Texas

Kristine Rivers, President, called the meeting to order, presented the agenda at 9:00 a.m., and reminded attendees to silence their phones and to sign in.

Attendance: 62 members were in attendance and one guest.

Host’s Report: Pam West thanked today’s snack team: Oron Atkins, Becky McClendon Huff, Mel McKey, Jo Myers, and Jimmy Salinas.

Treasurer’s Report: Don Sabathier presented the financial report for February.

1 February – 28 February 2018, COT Treasurer Report

<u>Beginning Balance</u>	\$ 6,820.42
Revenue Summary	\$ 231.97
Interest	\$ 0.63
Expense Summary	(\$ 36.99)
<u>Ending Balance</u>	\$ 7,016.03

Don reminded members that he is still collecting membership dues for 2018 and members could also pay dues or contribute online by clicking on the “Donate” button on the homepage of the Chapter website, tmn-cot.org. He also reminded members that many companies make matching contributions to for monetary donations and/or volunteer hours.

Membership—Pete and Peggy Romfh presented the following impact data, VT and AT information, and award recipients. They noted that those working on the Bobcat Woods Trail construction and working at the Brazosport Museum of Natural Science had logged many, many hours and added that March saw 12 recertifications versus five for the same month last year.

Pete and Peggy announced that there were several openings for host-station volunteers at GCBO’s Quintana Neotropical Bird Sanctuary during Spring Fling and reminded members of the clean-up day at the sanctuary on March 18 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Finally, they recognized Mike Mullins for earning a Certificate of Completion for Wildlife and Fisheries Specialist training.

Impact Data	# Adults	# Youth	Total
1 February – 28 February 2018	703	1153	1856
YTD Totals	919	1362	2281



Period	VT Hours	AT Hours	# of Volunteers
1 February – 28 February 2018	1144	217.5	71
YTD Totals	2138	661.5	87

Recertification 2018 (Ocelot Pin)			250-Hour Milestone (Bronze Dragonfly Pin)
Marty Cornell	Roy Morgan	Peggy Romfh	Mike Bettorf
Phil Huxford	Lisa Myers	Pete Romfh	
Carolyn May-Monie	Kim Richardson	Larry Ruhr	
Neal McLain	Kristine Rivers	Don Sabathier	

Outreach—Ruby Lewis noted upcoming volunteer opportunities. The DEEP schedule, she said, is still being confirmed and dates added by Tom Schneider. She added that there will be many volunteer opportunities announced next month—including the Brazoria County Summer Library Programs and Nature Camp at Quintana Beach County Park and Nature Camp at Camp Mohawk County Park, and an event at Epiphany Lutheran Church in Pearland. Ruby circulated sign-up sheets for March and April DEEP dates (see below).

Volunteer Project, Public Outreach, and Activity Request Review—Oron Atkins shared the following, upcoming projects, outreach and/or status updates. See detailed and updated information via <http://tmn-cot.org/Calendar/Calendar.html>.

Oron noted that there was still a great deal of work to be done on the Bobcat Woods Trail to complete it by Migration Celebration and help was welcome.

- **Bobcat Woods Trail at SBNWR**—Installation of new boardwalk: stage materials along trail, drill ground holes for posts, attach sub-structure, install TanDeck deck boards. Many volunteers needed. See Calendar for scheduled work days (dependent on the weather)
- **GCBO Native Plant Work Day**—Every Saturday until further notice, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; contact Chris Kneupper kneupper@brazoriainet.com
- **TCWP at GCBO (Gulf Coast Bird Observatory) Work Day**—March 22, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; contact Chris Kneupper kneupper@brazoriainet.com
- **Exploration Green Nursery/Wetland Work Day in Clear Lake area**—March 15 (third Thursday), 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; contact Mary Carol Edwards
- **Exploration Green Tree Planting**—March 17, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; contact Jerry Hamby jhamby4@comcast.net
- **DEEP at BNWR**—March 20, 22, 27, 29; April 3, 5
- **Migration Celebration at SBNWR**—April 21 and 22; additional, related volunteer opportunities on April 4, 13, 20, 23



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- **Water Fairs**—April 5, 6, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24, 25
- **GCBO Spring Fling at Quintana Neotropical Bird Sanctuary**—April 7 through May 6
- **Epiphany Lutheran Church Pearland Spring Event**—April 14.

Migration Celebration: Ed Barrios, head of the Migration Celebration committee, provided historical data on the event including number of volunteers and attendees. He appealed to members to volunteer as much as possible. This year's volunteer coordinator, Lisa Myers, noted that sign-up sheets were available at the meeting and she would be reaching out to members via e-mail as well. She added that John O'Connell would need at least six volunteers on Saturday and five on Sunday for the Stream Trailer.

Water Fairs: John O'Connell announced that volunteers would be needed for Water Fairs at three schools (and possibly a March 28 date in Pearland) and at Migration Celebration. Water Fairs, he said, consists of five stations, and the next training will be held on March 21 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Members who have been trained were welcome to attend the training as a refresher.

John then announced an upcoming Water Well Testing Team opportunity, and he will provide information in the near future.

Advanced Training Opportunities: On behalf of Larry Ruhr, Kristine displayed a slide showing the following, upcoming AT opportunities and invited members to attend her presentation at the Galveston Rosenberg Library. She directed members to the COT Calendar for additional information and registration links, as required.

- **"It's Time for a Makeover! Understanding Plumage" at Galveston Rosenberg Library**—March 15, 7:00-8:00 p.m.
- **Project SOAR Program Orientation at GCBO**—March 16, 5:30-6:30 p.m.; March 17, 9:00-10:00 a.m.; March 18, 9:00-10:00 a.m.
- **iNaturalist Training Workshop at Houston Zoo**—March 17, 9:00-11:30 a.m.
- **Water Fair Training at AgriLIFE, Angleton**—March 21, 2:00-4:00 p.m.
- **Introduction to Native Landscapes at Armand Bayou Nature Center, Pasadena**—March 24, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- **Spring Fling Host Training for Quintana Neotropical Bird Sanctuary**—April 3, 4:00-5:00 p.m., or April 4, 1:00-2:00 p.m.; or April 14, 9:00-10:00 a.m. or 1:00-2:00 p.m.
- **Guadalupe Bass / Small Mouth Bass Webinar**—April 10.

Phil Huxford announced public Birds of Prey programs scheduled for March 17, 24, 31, April 7, 14, 21, and 22. See birdsofpreytexas.org for details.

Intern Training—Carolyn May-Monie reported that the training committee had finalized the 2018 Intern Training Schedule and presenters, noting that six presenters are COT members and for the first time, the archeology field trip location would be the Levi Jordan Plantation State Historic Site. Members, she said, are welcome to attend class sessions (please contact Carolyn prior to the class date) but not field trips as there is not enough room.



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She asked that members get the word out about the next class starting on September 5 and urge prospective members to register via the TMN-COT intern-training webpage, http://tmn-cot.org/intern_Training/index.html.

Nature Notes: Pete Romfh spoke on the topic, “Oxygen and Salinity in Tidal Rivers.”

Kristine announced a 15-minute break.

Guest Speaker: James Glover of the Brazoria County Parks Department—“The Intracoastal Water Way—The Early Years.”

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m. Time codes allocated for the presentations and general meeting were:

- Presentations Code: "AT: I Received Training," 1.50 hours
- Chapter Business Meetings Code: "CB: Chapter Meetings and Admin," one hour + travel time.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Ladd Myers, Secretary, TMN-COT