



TMN-COT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, December 11, 2019, 11:00 a.m. – 12:54 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church, 130 South Arcola Street, Angleton, Texas

Kristine Rivers, President, called the meeting to order and reminded attendees to sign in and silence their phones. She announced that the January meeting will be at the AgriLIFE building, and the Bonus AT Day on January 25 will be here at the church.

Attendance—55 members were in attendance and four guests.

Host's Report—**Pam West** thanked this month's snack team: Mike Bettorf, John Boettiger, Neal McLain, John O'Connell, Krissy Plunkett, and Don Sabathier. Pam announced that Rose Wagner will be next year's Chapter Host and again distributed signup sheets for next year's snack teams as there are still openings.

Treasurer's Report—**Don Sabathier** presented the November 2019 financial information, below.

1 November – 30 November 2019, COT Treasurer Report

<u>Beginning Balance</u>	\$ 9,479.30
Revenue Summary	\$ 24.12 ¹
Expense Summary	(\$ 488.84) ²
<u>Ending Balance</u>	\$ 9,014.58

¹ Primarily an ongoing, anonymous donation of \$23 per month

² \$200 donation to First Presbyterian Church for use of their facility; \$250 travel expense for president to the State Meeting

Don reminded members that he will begin collecting 2020 dues in January. Dues are \$25; lifetime dues are \$400; dues are tax deductible.

Outreach—**Ruby Lewis** presented the following information and circulated sign-up sheets as applicable.

- **DEEP at BNWR**—December 17 (cancelled), January 9, 14, 16, 23, 28, 30, 8:30 a.m. to ~2:00 p.m.; contact Tom Schneider or Ruby Lewis
- **Bobcat Woods Trail**—the refuge is ready to resume building; Oron will post dates
- **Apple Snail Removal**—dates TBD; need trained kayak leaders.

Volunteer Project, Public Outreach and Activity Request Review—**Oron Atkins** provided the following activities via a PowerPoint slide. See detailed and updated information at <http://tmn-cot.org/Calendar/Calendar.html>.

- **Exploration Green Nursery / Wetland Workday**—December 12, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.; contact Christie Taylor
- **TCWP at GCBO Workday**—December 19, 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; contact Chris Kneupper



- **GCBO Native Plant Workdays**—Every Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; contact Chris Kneupper
- **Pearland Natural Resources Workday**—First Thursday this month; contact Cullen Ondracek
- **BCPD Trail Day**—Third Thursday each month, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.; contact Mike Mullenweg
- **Apple Snail Removal, Hudson Woods**—Dates TBD (Oron will send info when known), 8:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; contact Jennifer Sanchez
- **Christmas Bird Counts**—6:30 a.m. to ~6:30 p.m.
 - 12/14 Brazos Bend; contact Justin Bower
 - 12/15 Freeport; contact Mike Austin
 - 12/16 Matagorda Mad Island; contact Brent Ortego
 - 12/17 Galveston; contact Richard Mayfield
 - 12/18 Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR; contact Sumita Prasad
 - 12/19 Bolivar Peninsula; contact Steve Mayes
 - 12/20 San Bernard NWR; contact Ron Weeks or Jennifer Wilson
 - 1/4/20 Brazoria-Columbia Bottomlands; contact Martin Hagne
 - 1/5/20 Galveston West End.

AT Opportunities and Bonus AT Day—**Bob Whitmarsh** indicated that he will be adding new items to the calendar as he becomes aware of them. He reminded members to register for the Bonus AT Day no later than December 15; after that date, registration will be open to other TMN chapters. Speaker topics for the Bonus AT Day (the focus is Fauna of the Upper Coast) include: insects (Ed Barrios), bats (Diana Foss) frogs (Candace Novak), lizards (Phil Huxford), and jellies (John O’Connell).

Friends of Brazoria Wildlife Refuges (FOBWR)—**Mickey Dufilho**, FOBWR Membership Director, provided a brief overview of this COT partner organization and solicited memberships. Annual membership fees are: \$10 single; \$15 family; and \$25 lifetime. The fees support outreach, lobbying, and monthly field trips to areas of the refuges not generally open to the public. Mickey added that this month’s trip is at the Beal Unit at 11 a.m.

2019 Intern Presentations—**Mary Schwartz** introduced the following intern project teams, each of which made a presentation.

Team A: Riparian Forests—What are they and why are they important, as observed along Chocolate Bayou	Team B: Assessment of Wildlife Supported by the Ecosystem at Brazoria County Parks’ Quintana Beach County Park	Team C: Nash Prairie Burn Study
Kathy Pittman Beth Reeves Brenda Stitt Janet Townsend Cindy Vincent	Joel Cobb Susan Falcone-Potts Hunter Gibson Kathleen Purvis Kyle Purvis Luanne Salinas	Cynthia Grandjean Paula Hanson Melanie Hollenshead Dwight Steffler Beverly Walton Barbara Yoder

John O’Connell, Interim New Class Director, thanked those involved in the recent presentation to the Commissioners’ Court. He then thanked the training team: Mary Schwartz, Herb Myers, Jo Myers, Regina Tippet, and Jimmy Salinas.



John announced that the team is trying to launch a spring training class (in addition to the fall training class) that will run from February to May on a weekday evening and Saturday morning in order to accommodate working people. Volunteers are needed for the training team.

Mary then presented a poster containing the names and photos of the 2019 intern class and she presented initial certification pins to the graduates. A celebration of graduates will take place during the January general meeting.

Membership—John Boettiger reminded members to pick up their chapter T-shirts and 2019 recertification pins and mentioned that there were still a few T-shirts available for purchase at \$7 each. He then presented the following impact data, VT and AT information, and award recipients, which Pete and Peggy Romfh provided.

Impact Data	# Adults	# Youth	Total
YTD Totals—November 30	15,411	32,877	48,288

Period	VT Hours	AT Hours	# of Volunteers
YTD Totals—November 30	15,398	1,738	118 (of 123 active members and interns)

Initial Certification 2019	Recertification 2019	500 VT Hours	Entomology Specialist Certification
Paula Hanson Luanne Salinas Barbara Yoder	Donna Graham Marlies Greenwood Mary Holler	Regina Tippett	Lisa Myers

Election of Officers for 2020—Dave Brandes thanked Kristine for her service as president and Pam’s service as chapter host and then presented the following slate of candidates recommended by the board:

President	Bill Ahlstrom
Vice President	Mickey Dufilho
Secretary	Lisa Myers
Treasurer	Don Sabathier

Dave asked for any additional nominees from the floor; there being none, he called for a vote. Mike Mullins made a motion to accept the slate by acclamation and Rose Wagner seconded the motion. The motion passed by a majority voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. Time codes allocated for the presentations and general meeting were:

- Presentations Code: "AT: I Received Training," 1.25 hours
- Chapter Business Meetings Code: "CB: Chapter Meetings and Admin," 1.0 hour + travel time.



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

CC: Board Members
 Crystal Andablo, AgriLIFE Secretary, Crystal.Andablo@ag.tamu.edu

Addenda: Sign-in sheets; slate of 2020 directors

Immediately after the meeting adjourned, president elect Bill Ahlstrom presented the following slate of directors, which was unanimously approved by the executive board:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| State Representative | Connie Stolte |
| Immediate Past President | Kristine Rivers |
| New Class Director | Mary Schwartz |
| Membership Director | John Boettiger |
| Advanced Training Director | Bob Whitmarsh |
| Volunteer Service Director | Oron Atkins |
| Outreach Director | Ruby Lewis |
| Chapter Host | Rose Wagner |
| Communications Director | Larry Peterson |
| Class of 2019 Representative | Kathy Pittman |

He presented the following non-board position:

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| Speakers Bureau Coordinator | Kristine Rivers |
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TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION
 Date: Dec
 Meeting Title: Dec. General Meeting
 TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST—CRADLE OF TEXAS CHAPTER

Name	Name
1. Lisa Myers	23. Jayclynn Grigson
2. Dick Schaffhausen	24. Lorna Witt
3. Kim Richardson	25. Philip T. Stanford
4. Mary Helen Garret	26. Gary Dent
5. Edward Leake	27. Mike Mullin
6. Cheryl Breyer <i>chapter</i>	28. J. McDaniel
7. Dan SABATHIA	29. Larry Kirby
8. Dan Brand	30. Bob Whitmarsh
9. NEAL McLAIR	31. Pam Pollen
10. Deborah Nance	32. Tom Moeis
11. Jim Nance	33. Susan Conaty
12. Candace Nant	34. CHRIS KNEUFER
13. MARY SCHWARTZ	35. Kim Richardson
14. Jackie Hicks	36. LARRY KUHR
15. Regine Tippett	37. Herb Myers
16. Ruby Lewis	38. Jo Myers
17. Kathy Hunter	39. Rose Wagner
18. Mike Purvis	40. LARRY PETERSON
19. Jerry Krampota	41. Joel Call
20. Dan GEISLER	42. Patti Brinkmeyer
21. Anna Harlan	43. Peggy Runk
22. Mickey Lupello	44. Pete Runk

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION
 Date: Dec
 Meeting Title: Dec. Genl. Mtg
 TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST—CRADLE OF TEXAS CHAPTER

Name	Name
45. John Boettiger	67.
46. Barbara Breyer	68.
47. Cheryl Breyer	69.
48. Mike Murphy	70.
49. Ken Stuis	71.
50. Michael Hasseler	72.
51. Ellen Hasseler	73.
52. Bill Ahlstrom	74.
53. Jerry Sporer	75.
54. Pam West	76.
55. Janet Townsend	77.
56. Cynthia Anderson	78.
57.	79.
58.	80.
59.	81.
60.	82.
61.	83.
62.	84.
63.	85.
64.	86.
65.	87.
66.	88.