



**Cradle of Texas Chapter
Texas AgriLife Extension Service
21017 County Road 171
Angleton, TX 77515-8903**

TMN COT September 8, 2010 General Meeting Minutes

President David Brandes called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Announcements

Nominating Committee – The Nominating Committee for 2011 chapter officers was announced by the Board. It consists of members Jerry Krampota and Neal McLain with Ed Barrios, Past President, serving as Chairman.

Xtreme Hummingbird Xtravaganza - will be taking place at Gulf Coast Bird Observatory during the next two weekends.

Dow Woods – Marty Cornell and Neal McLain prepared and presented a brief history and a progress update, with some of the key points being:

- December 2008 - The Dow Chemical Company donated 338 acres along the Old Angleton Road
- November 2009 - FOBWR received a \$200,000 grant for development
- Parking lots have been completed.
- Two trails on the east side of Bastrop Bayou have been GPS routed, Northeast and Southeast Trails.
- The Northeast Trail (John Tveten Trail) is 0.8 miles, basically a six feet wide concrete trail and construction is underway. A few drainage areas will require some sections of board walk to be constructed by volunteers.
- The Southeast Trail is 1.4 miles and will be crushed concrete base topped with granite fines contained within steel side rails.
- A bayou crossing at the north end of the property will require replacement of the current culvert structure for access to the west side of the bayou. A southern crossing may be added in the future.
- The restrooms should be completed within about two weeks.
- A \$69,000 USFWS grant will enable a pavilion to be constructed in the future.

Note: This slide presentation will be put on the website.

Dave Brandes read a note to the chapter from Rik Martinez who has transferred his membership to the Lost Pines Chapter of TMN near Bastrop.

Tom Morris announced two upcoming trips.

(1) Whooping Crane Trip at Rockport will be in January, 2011, on a Saturday to be announced.

(2) Big Bend Trip to be conducted in mid-May, 2011.

Barbara Burkhalter reminded all about the TMN state meeting October, 21-23, 2010.

Tory Tvedt reminded about the FOBWR Member Meeting next weekend, Sunday the 12th at 2:30 pm. The Program Topic is The Central Flyway Migration presented Dick Hickner, a charter member of FOBWR.

Jerry Eppner reminded the group about the fall butterfly counts and that volunteers are always welcome and a great benefit to the count even if one is an amateur.

Membership Chairman

Jerry Eppner said there are 37 certifications or recertifications so far this year. Jerry presented awards.

Awards:

New TMN Certification – Sheila Williams

2010 Recertification – John Marshall
Bill Brown
Bob Woods

1000 Volunteer Hours - Kirby Rapstein

Advanced Training, 9:30 a.m.

Carolyn Schlein introduced the Advanced Training speaker, John Arvin, who has studied birds of southern Texas and their migration systems for 40 years. He has traveled widely throughout Middle and South America in ecotourism and research work and is currently employed as research coordinator for the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory, dedicated to the understanding and conserving of birds and their habitats in the region of the Gulf of Mexico.

Topic: Raptor Migration

Presented by: John Arvin, Research Coordinator, GCBO

Adjourned at 10:30 a.m.