

Texas Master Naturalist Program Cradle of Texas Chapter

Minutes of the GENERAL MEETING, WEDNESDAY April 13, 2011 AgriLife® Extension Office, Angleton, Texas

Start Time: 8:58. 38 Members and Interns signed the attendance list. 0 Guests were present.

President Barbara Burkhardt opened the meeting and reviewed the agenda.

Membership Chair Jerry Eppner announced service awards. Recertifying were Laura Brandes, David Brandes, Barbara Burkhardt, Ellis Burkhardt, Rainbo Johnson, Denis Mudderman, Tom Morris, Jim Renfro, and Gerald Forrest. Denis Mudderman and Gerald Forrest received the gold dragonfly pin for reaching 1000 hours of volunteer service.

Ed Barrios reviewed the volunteer assignments for the upcoming 2011 Migration Celebration (MC) and reminded us that a USFWS service agreement form would need to be completed if the volunteer had not already done so for this year. Copies of a new *Migration Celebration Volunteer Handbook* were distributed. MC volunteers are to sign in at a tent located near the MC information booth.

Ruby Lewis, Outreach Chair, requested three TMN-COT volunteers to staff our booth in the Exhibition Hall at Migration Celebration.

Barbara Burkhardt reminded the membership that volunteers will be needed for the summer programs at Brazoria County Libraries in June, which will be a "mini-Coastal Expo" featuring fish printing, sea shells, artifacts (bones, skulls), and live critters. About 1¹/₂ hours volunteer time would be acquired for each session. She reported that typically 30 to 45 kids attend a session, although over 100 children were at the Alvin library last year.

The GCBO "Spring Fling" would appreciate volunteers to be on station at the Quintana Neotropical Bird Sanctuary during April.

Sea Turtle Patrol Training will be conducted by Shane Kasson and Curtis Jones at the San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge on April 21st at 6:00 pm. COT members were encouraged to participate.

There will also be a Beach Fest Coastal Expo, May 12 -13, at the Matagorda Bay Nature Park and COT will be present with our outreach booth. Volunteers are needed. See the chapter calendar for directions and details.

Denis Mudderman reported that 193 photos were entered in the MC11 photo contest; COT participation was once again strong. This year, 100 photos from this contest will be on display at Brazosport Art League during the month of June. This display, "The Art of Photography, A focus on Nature", will begin with a reception, sponsored by BASF, on June 4th. See our calendar for details.

Barbara Burkhardt reaffirmed that certified master naturalists are free to attend intern training classes, but must contact the hostess or host to see if there is space and to ensure that enough materials and equipment are available. AT may be given if the COT member has not received training in the subject in the last two years. The next such program will be a discussion of Brazoria County rivers, followed by kayaking the San Bernard River, on April 27th at Hanson Riverside County Park.

Steve Zilliox announced that there remains one opening for the COT excursion to Matagorda Island on Sunday, May 1st. See the chapter calendar for details.

The Camp Mohawk summer program will be held during the four-day period of June 20 - June 23. Ed Barrios agreed to be the activity leader for this event.

The advanced training topic for this month was the Levi Jordon Plantation, presented by Bryan McAuley, Site Manager.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 am

Submitted by Marty Cornell, Secretary, Texas Master Naturalist, Cradle of Texas Chapter