

Chapter News

Editor: Mary Helen Israel

JUNE CALENDAR

June 9: Regular Meeting:
"Parasites" by Dr. Candice Novak

June Summer Library Programs -
see page 7 for details

June 16: Training for
ConocoPhillips LEEP Staff - see
page 8 for details

June 20-23: Camp Mohawk - see
page 9 for details.

July 1-2: Costal Expo, Freeport
Fishin' Fiesta

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Library Program Schedule

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Contact us at
Brazoria County AgriLife
21017 County Road 171
Angleton, TX 77515-8903

979-864-1558 (Angleton)
979-388-1558 (Brazosport)
281-756-1558 (Alvin)
979-388-1566 (Fax)

<http://tmn-cot.org>

A MESSAGE FROM "the PREZ"

I hope everyone is doing their share to make sure that it rains soon. Perhaps we could have a MN community rain dance or sponsor a community car washing. Whatever it takes, we need to encourage a good downpour.



I had a lovely trip to the Napa Valley of California. And as promised, I toasted everyone a time or two. I had my first hot air balloon ride and it was a really great experience. What a way to see the countryside.

We have a busy month coming up. I hope everyone has signed up to help with the summer library programs. They are a real treat for the kids.

Have a look at page 3 to see all the volunteer opportunities that are available in June.

There was a good turnout for the spring work day at Dow Woods. Good progress was made on re-doing several of the trails.

Marty and "the Friends" organization send a special "thank-you" to the nineteen MN who participated. We installed about 1000 yards of metal edging. But the best part is that the volunteer time equates to \$1250.00 of value toward the 20% match required for the Texas Parks and Wildlife grant. Kirby Rapstein and his crew of Gerald Forrest, Billy Heck, Archie Pratt, Don Rosebury and Don VanDragt have already completed five boardwalks and an observation deck. This work added another \$4000.00 of in-kind value.



Jerry Krampoda and his 12 lb.??? hammer?

Refuge staff and volunteers will be completing the southeast trail over the summer. This will include a crossing over Bastrop Bayou. Also, construction will start on a 40-foot wide, octagonal pavilion, paid for by a separate grant from USF&WS.

At the board meeting on May 1, several volunteer opportunities were presented. You will be asked to sign up for these at the meeting on Wednesday.

Continues on page 3.

*Master Naturalist at Work and Play,
Right Here at here at home.*



Chief Chef and Sous Chef



The well fed personnel



Dow Woods has been chosen as our ***chapter project***, to be presented at the State Meeting in October. The winners of these projects receive a cash award. We have won second place (\$250.00) several times over the years. Let's make an effort to be the "bride" this year and win the state award. We have a good start with photographs and lots of hardscape to show for our efforts. If anyone is good at organizing a poster presentation, please step forward and help us present our message in a winning way.

Last year, during the recruitment for the 2011 Master Naturalist interns, brochures were distributed to the membership. Because of the changes in AgriLife and the retirement of Rich Tillman, the address, telephone and e-mail information need to be updated. If you have not distributed all the brochures you received, please return them to me or another board member so that we can update this information.

Volunteer Opportunities

#1—Ruby Lewis needs help with the *Summer Library Programs*. She will be passing around the sign-up sheet at the meeting on Wednesday OR you can contact Ruby at rubylewis77515@ymail.com. See page 7 for more information.

2—Ed Barrios is heading up our participation in the Brazoria County Parks Department's, *Camp Mohawk Nature Camp*. (You may have noticed the ads in the paper.) The camp is June 20-23, from 9:00 am to 11:30 am. Ed will be needing help with some of the programs sessions. See page 9 for more information.

#3—*Costal Expo*: Ruby is co-coordinating the MN booth at the Costal Expo exhibition during the Freeport Fishing Fiesta, July 1 and Saturday, July 2. We get a break this year and will be inside the River Place building. **TTGLFAC** (Thank the good Lord for air conditioning!!)

#4—*Nature Night at the Library*: Ruby Lewis and Mary Helen Israel are heading up our new joint project with the Brazoria County Library System. Our members have presented several programs at the Angleton Library, and they were such a success, that the Library System wants to make the programs available county wide.

Several of us are signed up for future programs, but we would like to broaden our subjects. If you have a presentation already prepared or would be willing to prepare a presentation on topic, please let Ruby or Mary Helen know.

Hours,
we NEED hours!!!

We are trying to achieve the milestone of 100,000 hours this year to celebrate our 10 year anniversary. We have approximately 97000 hours at the present time. Please turn in your hours to Jerry Eppner so that we will have another "something special" to celebrate!

It's time to start thinking about next year and the 2012 intern class. If you know someone who might be interested in becoming a MN, invite them to a meeting or one of our activities.

Again, my thanks go out to the greatest, hard working group of folks in Brazoria County, the Cradle of Texas Master Naturalist. Great work!!

"The Prez"

Wednesday, June 8, 2011

Intern Training and Advanced Training

8:30 a.m. – Coffee and Social Time

9:00 a.m. – Business Meeting

9:30 a.m. - Program: **Parasites**
Presented by Candace Novak DVM and TMN-COT member

Membership Report

Jerry Eppner

To date 31 COT members have submitted timesheets. Total volunteer time submitted in 2011 is 3287 hours. Great job!

At the June general meeting, the following people will be recognized for their service:

- Certification – Marlies Greenwood
- Recertification – Betty Bouley, Mary Holler, Mary Helen Israel, John Marshall, Neal McLain, Don Rosebury, Susan Severance and Joan Simonsen.

Mary Holler has reached the 250 hour VT milestone, while Jane Eppner has reached the 500 hour volunteer time milestone. Barbara Burkhardt has volunteered more than 2500 hour of her time on COT activities. Congratulations!

SPECIAL REQUEST – Many of you are aware that the Cradle of Texas chapter will celebrate the tenth anniversary in September of its founding. This will be a special milestone for our chapter. Since inception, chapter members have volunteered 97,406 hours of their time. An amazing effort! We are almost to a major milestone for the chapter of 100,000 hours of volunteer time. Wouldn't it be great to be able to celebrate that achievement in September along with the chapter anniversary? But we need your help. We need everyone to submit all of your volunteer hours monthly as you accrue them. Many people normally wait until the end of the year to do that, but this is a special time, and it would be nice to reach 100,000 by September. If you do not normally submit time (shame!), this would be an excellent time to start the habit. The state TMN organization benefits financially (we all know how important that is in this fiscally trying time), and this year your chapter could particularly benefit. So please everyone, submit your VT promptly this summer.

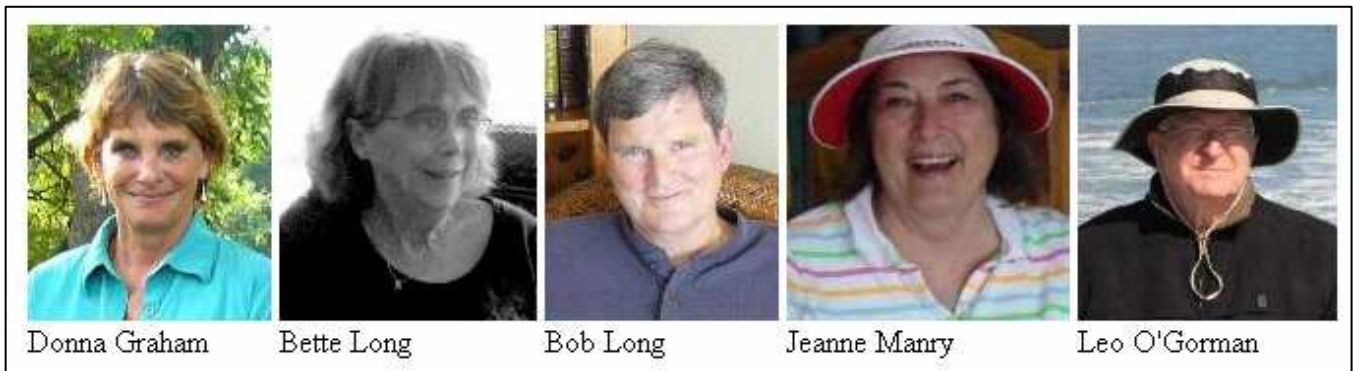
Reminder from Chapter Host, Jerry Krampota

Those members who signed up to bring refreshments for the June 8 meeting are Marty Cornell, Torry Tvedt, and Clyde and Steve Zilliox. If for some reason you have a problem, please notify Jerry Krampota at 281-585-3249 or email at jkrampota@hotmail.com.

Training Report Laura Brandes

CONGRATULATIONS to our new Texas Master Naturalists!! DONNA GRAHAM, a retired school counselor who returned to her Brazoria County roots, successfully completed her Internship and is nearly finished with her 1st Year Certification. BETTE LONG, a registered nurse, and her husband BOB LONG, a retired engineer, did their Intern Training together and are becoming TMNs together. LEO O'GORMAN, the retired County Health Director, wanted to keep up with his wife, Ramah, who has been a TMN for some time; now Leo can call himself a Texas Master Naturalist. These four persons will be recognized at the June meeting and receive their Name Tags and polo shirt.

Also, JEANNE MANRY, who completed her Internship in April, will be recognized.



NOTICE TO COT MEMBERS:

IF ANY MEMBER HAS AN ACQUAINTANCE THAT IS INTERESTED IN JOINING THE FALL "SEMESTER", please give Laura their Name and Contact Information at Wednesday's meeting.

If any Member has COT BROCHURES that have not been distributed, please return these to Laura at Wednesday's meeting.

This information and material are important to recruit new Enrollees. At present, there is one person with an extended Intern Training period and two people who will be requesting an extension due to health problems. In short, we have NO PARTICIPANTS in training. We scheduled June and July as "off" months and planned to do a heavy recruitment in August. The Fall classes start after Labor Day—only if we have ten Enrollees. If you have any recruitment ideas, please share them with Laura AND be willing to follow through if necessary.

Upcoming events

June 1 - July 10, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

The Art of Photography Exhibit
 Migration Celebration Photo Contest Entries
 Art League, Center for Arts and Sciences
 400 College Boulevard, Clute, TX 77531
<http://www.bcfas.org/index.php?p=28>

June 7 - July 28, various times

Brazoria County Library System
 Summer Reading Club 2011
 Mini-Coastal Expo at County Libraries
See page 7 in this newsletter for schedule
<http://tinyurl.com/BCLS-2011>

June 8, 8:30 am

TMN-COT
 General Meeting and Advanced Training
 Agrilife Extension Auditorium, Angleton
 "Parasites" presented by Candace Novak
<http://tinyurl.com/3fzrnez>

June 16, 7:00 am - 5:00 pm

Training for ConocoPhillips LEEP staff
 ConocoPhillips Refinery, Old Ocean
See Page 8 in this newsletter for details

June 18, 8:00 am

Monthly Bird Banding at GCBO
 Gulf Coast Bird Observatory
<http://tinyurl.com/MBB-GCBO>

June 20-23, 9:00 am

Camp Mohawk Nature Camp
 Camp Mohawk County Park
See Page 9 in this newsletter for details

July 2, all day

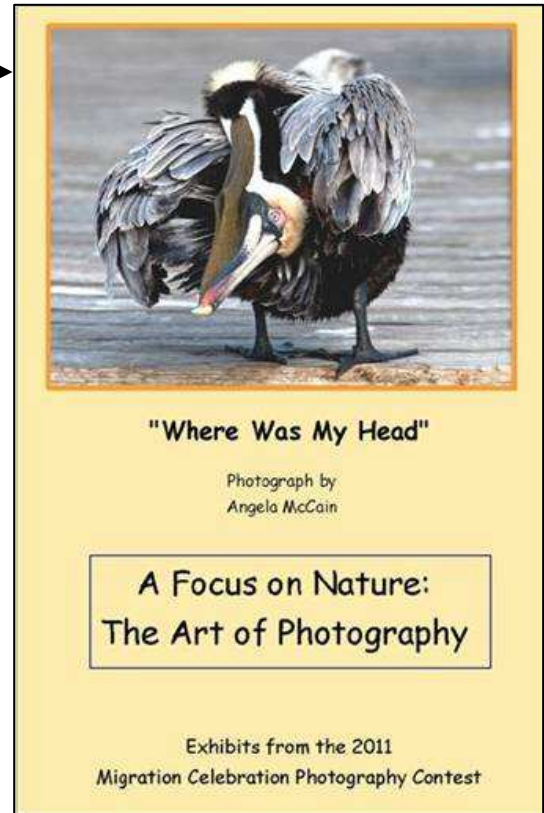
Coastal Expo at Fishin' Fiesta
 Freeport RiverPlace
<http://tinyurl.com/3pwkebd>

July 2, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.

Levi Jordan Plantation SHS Open House
<http://tinyurl.com/LJ-Plantation-SHS>
<http://www.visitlevijordanplantation.com/>

July 6, 3:00 pm

TMN-COT Board Meeting
 Agrilife Extension Building, Angleton
 All TMN-COT members are invited to attend



**Volunteers are needed for the
 TMN-COT Exhibit Booth at
 Coastal Expo. Contact
 Ruby Lewis at 979-549-0940 or
rublewis77515@ymail.com**

MASTER NATURALIST OUTREACH

BCLS SUMMER READING CLUB 2011

Reptiles and Mini-Coastal Expo



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June 5	6	7 ANG 2:00 pm	8	9 FRE 2:00 pm	10	11
June 12	13	14	15 DAN 11:00 am	16 SWE 2:00 pm	17	18
June 19	20	21 ALV 2:00 pm	22	23 PEA 2:00 pm	24	25
June 26	27	28 BRA 2:00 pm	29 PWS 2:00 pm	30 CLU 1:30 pm	1	2
July 3	4	5 FRE 10:30 am	6	7 PEA 2:00 pm	8	9
July 10	11	12 ANG 10:00 am 2:00 pm	13 MAN 10:30 am	14 SWE 2:00 pm	15	16 LAK 2:00 pm
July 17	18	19 ALV 2:00 pm	20 PWS 2:00 pm	21 CLU 10:30 am 1:30 pm	22 DAN 10:30 am	23
July 24	25	26 WES 10:30 am	27	28 BRA 2 pm 6 pm	29	30

For maps to libraries, see: <http://tinyurl.com/BCLS-2011> and scroll down.

Participation in this event has been approved for Volunteer Time by TMN-COT Chapter. You may claim:

- Volunteer Time = actual hours spent.
- Travel Time = actual drive time spent OR amount of VT, whichever is less.

Please code your timesheet "BCLS"

LEEP Environmental Team Training

Mary Holler

I will be facilitating the Project WILD and Aquatic WILD workshop at ConocoPhillips ADM building on Thursday June 16 from 7am-5pm. This workshop is for their environmental team and James Ashton is the representative for LEEP. There are a few openings available if any TMN-COT member would like to attend, but please call and confirm with me. This workshop is free and sponsored by USFWS and TPWD.

For more information contact me at maryh5152@embarqmail.com

Location:

ConocoPhillips ADM Building
 ConocoPhillips Sweeny Refinery
 FM524 0.5 mile southeast of Loop 419
 Old Ocean, Texas

Interactive Google Map: <http://tinyurl.com/5v15pz5>



Participation in this event has been approved for Volunteer Time by TMN-COT Chapter. You may claim:

- Volunteer Time = actual hours spent.
- Travel Time = actual drive time spent OR amount of VT, whichever is less.

Please code your timesheet "LEEP"

Camp Mohawk Nature Camp

Ed Barrios

On June 20th to June 23rd the Brazoria County Parks Department will sponsor a Nature Camp at Camp Mohawk county park.

The event is open for 30 children between the ages of 7 and 12. Currently, 25 children have signed up.

Each day the children will be divided into 3 groups and will go to 3 different activities. The activities start at 9 am, 10am and 11am with 10 minutes between sessions.

Monday: The theme is Birds and the sessions include Bird Rehab, Owl Pellets, and the Migration Game.

Tuesday The theme is water and the sessions include Pond Life, Fishing and Fish Printing.

Wednesday The theme is Creepy Crawlers and the sessions include Snakes, Gators & Turtles, Bug Sweeping and Animal Tracks.

Thursday The theme is Indians and the sessions include Indian History, Camp Mohawk Trail Walk and Archery.

We still need a few more volunteers. I will talk more at the General Meeting on June 8th and pass out volunteer sheets.

If you are interested in helping out, please contact me for more details.

Ed Barrios

979-297-1815 home

949-415-4998 cell

ed77566@comcast.net

Participation in this event has been approved for Volunteer Time by TMN-COT Chapter. You may claim:

- Volunteer Time = actual hours spent.
- Travel Time = actual drive time spent OR amount of VT, whichever is less.

Please code your timesheet "BCPD"

Attachments

There are three attachments to this newsletter:

Attachment 1 – Minutes of the May April 11, 2011 General Meeting

[June2011-Attach-1_May_GenMtg.pdf](#)

Attachment 2 – Intern Training Field Trip on San Bernard River

[June2011-Attach-2_Intern-Field-Trip.doc](#)

Attachment 3 – USFWS National Awards

[June2011-Attach-3_National-Awards.pdf](#)

CRADLE OF TEXAS CHAPTER OFFICERS

President	Barbara Burkhart
Vice President/Program	Mary Holler
Secretary	Marty Cornell
Treasurer	Sandy Henderson
State Representative	Ed Barrios
Past President	Dave Brandes
Membership Director	Jerry Eppner
Training Director	Laura Brandes
Volunteer Service Chair	Neal McLain
Advanced Training Chair	Candace Novak
Outreach Chair	Ruby Lewis
Chapter Host	Jerry Krampota
Webmaster	Neal McLain
Newsletter Editor	Mary Helen Israel
Chapter Advisors	Connie Stolte (Texas Parks & Wildlife Department) Corrie Bowen (AgriLife Extension Service)

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