



Chapter News

Editor: Mary Helen Israel

AUGUST CALENDAR

August 10: *General Meeting Avian Research through Bird Banding* by Robert and Kay Lookingbill

August 20: *Monthly Bird Banding at GCBO*

August 29: *Nature Night at the Library, "Hummingbirds"* by Barbara Burkhardt

September 14: *TMN-COT Tenth Anniversary Party. See page 5 for details.*

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The 10th Anniversary Committee is hard at work planning our celebration at the September meeting. Please give Ed Barrios a call and join in the fun of making preparations. I know Susan Severance would love some help with the table decorations—nothing fancy, but very appropriate for a Master Naturalist party.

Also, if you know anyone who might need help getting there; let one of the committee folks know so that we can arrange transportation. We hope to have as many of the original class members present, as possible. Guests are welcome.

Members of the committee are: Chair: Ed Barrios, Mary Helen Israel, Susan Severance, Charlie Clements, Marty Cornell, Mary Holler, Jerry Krampota, Pam West, and Pam Peltier



Planning Committee at Work

MARK YOUR CALENDAR for CRADLE of TEXAS TENTH ANNIVERSARY PARTY

DATE: Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2011
(regular meeting date)

TIME: 10:30 am
GUEST SPEAKER: Michelle Haggerty
State TMN Coordinator

12:00 pm: Catered Luncheon

LOCATION: Lake Jackson Civic Center
Lake Jackson, Texas

TICKETS: \$15.00 per person
Tickets must be purchased in advance. See Ticker Order form - Appendix #2.

DETAILS: Page 5



We are also offering a **10th anniversary commemorative T-shirt** to the membership. See T-Shirt and Ticket Order Form (Appendix #2) for details.

! HOURS !

WE ARE ALMOST THERE!

Jerry Eppner, Membership Chairman, reported at the board meeting that we only need about 600 more hours to meet out 100,000 hour goal by September. **So please get your hours into Jerry.**

Library Programs: Ruby and her great helpers had a very successful summer season with our two library programs—over 2000 children and adults were served. The programs were so successful that the COT board has voted to increase the number of libraries we visit next year to include West Columbia and Lake Jackson. We may also visit a library more than once so that we can accommodate all of the kids without violating fire codes.

Our COT chapter is the only sponsor for these programs. USFWS gives some support, but it is funded and manned by COT members. We hope you will make plans to participate with us next summer. It's great fun.

Fall Training Class: There will not be a fall class this year, but one is being planned for next spring. We already have three persons who have shown interest in becoming TMN-COT interns. It is never too soon to start talking with friends who might be interested in becoming Master Naturalist. **Please, encourage folks** you know, to come join us in learning about Brazoria County's varied habitats and having a good time. The board has voted that we will need a minimum of ten interns to hold a class. The cut off number will be 18-20.

2012 COT Officers: It is also time to start thinking about who will lead the chapter in 2012. The nominating committee will be appointed at the September board meeting. As usual, our past president is the nominating committee chairman. If you would be interested in serving on the board next year, or have someone you would like to suggest, please submit your/their names and information to Dave Brandes. This is your opportunity to help make the next 10 years as productive as our first 10 years.

THANKS

My thanks to everyone for their contributions in making COT such a great chapter. I hope everyone will be able to join in our tenth Anniversary Celebration next month. It's going to be a great party!!

"The Prez"

Time to put up the Hummingbird feeders:

It is time for *Selasphorus rufus* #39260 (a.k.a. Big Mamma) to come home and the garden has very few flowers to welcome her. I was visiting with friends in the Davis Mountains and they commented that the migration out there was late starting this year. We have begun to see a few ruby throats in the garden, but they seem to be fewer this year. We have put up 4 feeders and will keep adding more as needed, to accommodate the migrating birds.. This takes real dedication this time of year to keep the feeders fresh and clean, but the reward is well worth the effort.



Photo by Kathy Adams Clark

This will be "Big Mamma's" eighth year to winter in our garden (if we are lucky enough to have her return). She was a second year bird when she was first banded in December 2003. She now holds the record for the longest lived Rufus ever recorded in Texas. She usually returns by August 15. If/when she returns, we plan to throw a welcome home party.

Everyone is invited!!!

Report from Membership Chairman Jerry Eppner

To date 47 COT members have submitted timesheets. Total volunteer time submitted in 2011 is 5978 hours. Great job! And the good news is this gets us to our 100,000-hour milestone for our upcoming 10th anniversary. Congratulations to current active members and to those who came before us.

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

Certification

- Bob Long.
- Donna Graham
- Pam West

Recertification

- Archie Pratt
- Carole Wenny
- Jerry Eppner
- John Boettiger
- Justina Dent
- Pam West

Archie Pratt also reached the 500-hour Volunteer Hour milestone. Congratulations to all!

SPECIAL REQUEST – We are still missing a lot of hours from some of our most productive members. If you have unreported hours, please try to submit them at your earliest convenience.

Reminder from Chapter Host, Jerry Krampota

Those members who signed up to bring refreshments for the August meeting are Marty Cornell, Mary Holler, Bill Brown and Sheila Williams. . If for some reason you have a conflict, please call Jerry Krampota at 281-585-3249 or jkrampota@hotmail.com

Vision Conference Report Neal McLain

Ed Barrios and I recently attended the *Conserving the Future* conference in Madison, Wisconsin, sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. On the day before the conference began, we were invited to join a bus tour to the Aldo Leopold Center, in Sauk County, an hour's drive from Madison. See Appendix #3 for a report on our adventures!

Volunteer Help Wanted

NEWSLETTER EDITOR. Friends of Brazoria Wildlife Refuges (FOBWR) needs an editor for its monthly newsletter *Wing Beats*. Duties include gathering information, writing, editing, and publishing a monthly newsletter. Each monthly issue must be in PDF format. Duties also include mailing the newsletter to the FOBWR membership. Experience required: ability to write and edit, including ability to include photographs or graphics, using Microsoft Word, Microsoft Publisher, or similar software. Applicant must have access to a computer with internet access. This is a voluntary activity. This activity has been approved for Volunteer Hours credit by the TMN-COT Chapter. For further information, please contact Ed Barrios, President, FOBWR, at 979-297-1815 or president@refugefriends.org.

CALENDAR ASSISTANT. The TMN-COT webmaster needs help compiling the monthly Google calendar. This calendar appears on two websites: the TMN-COT website (<http://tmn-cot.org/calendar/>) and the Friends of Brazoria Wildlife Refuges website (<http://refugefriends.org/calendar.html>). Applicant will be expected to compile information about upcoming events and post them on the calendar. Experience required: ability to research upcoming events; ability to compile information into a standardized format; and ability to use a computer. Applicant must have access to a computer with internet access. This is a voluntary activity. This activity has been approved for Volunteer Hours credit by the TMN-COT Chapter. For further information, please contact Neal McLain, Webmaster, at 979-798-2284 or tmn.cot@gamil.com.

Upcoming events

Tuesday, August 9, 10:00 am

Friends of Brazoria Wildlife Refuges General Meeting
Dow Woods Unit of San Bernard NWR
Program: Junior Naturalist Program. Junior Naturalists will be collecting plants at the refuge under supervision of USFWS staff.

Approved for Volunteer Hours by TMN-COT

Tuesday, August 9, 7:30 pm

Brazosport Archaeological Society Meeting
Brazosport Museum of Natural Sciences.
Program: "Waters 1840 Plantation and Sugar Barn Preservation"
Speakers: Fred R. Beeler and John Walker

Wednesday, August 10, 8:30 am

TMN-COT
General Meeting and Advanced Training
Approved for Advanced Training
Agrilife Extension Auditorium, Angleton

Saturday, August 20, 8:00 am

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

Monday, August 29, 6:30 am

Nature Night at the Library
Angleton Public Library
Speaker: Barbara Burkhardt
Topic: Hummingbirds
Approved for Volunteer Hours (if you help)
401 East Cedar Street, Angleton, TX 77515

Saturday, September 3, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.

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

Wednesday, September 7, 3:00 pm

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

Wednesday, September 14, 10:30 am

TMN-COT Tenth Anniversary Party
Lake Jackson Civic Center
Approved for Volunteer Hours
All TMN-COT members are invited to attend
See page 5 in this newsletter for details

General Meeting and Advanced Training August 10, 2011 Texas Agrilife Extension Office

8:30 am Meet and Greet
9:00 am General Meeting
9:30 am Advanced Training

Topic: Avian Research Through Bird Banding
Speakers: Robert and Kay Lookingbill

Robert and Kay conduct monthly bird banding demonstrations at GCBO (third Saturday) and at Migration Celebration.



**Bird banding demonstration
Migration Celebration, April 2011**

**TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM
CRADLE OF TEXAS CHAPTER
TENTH ANNIVERSARY PARTY
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2011**

TIME:

10:30 - Fun and Fellowship

11:00 - Program

12:00 - Luncheon catered by *Affairs to Remember*.



**Guest speaker
Michelle Haggerty
Coordinator
Texas Master Naturalist Program**



**Honored Guest
Sonny Arnold
Assistant Coordinator
Texas Master Naturalist Program**

LOCATION - Lake Jackson Civic Center, Lake Jackson, Texas

Map: <http://bit.ly/LJCC-77566>

LUNCH TICKETS - \$15.00 per person. See Order Form (Attachment #2).

Ticket order deadline: September 7, 2011, 5:00 pm.

T-SHIRTS - See Order Form (Attachment #2).

T-shirt order deadline: August 17, 2011, 5:00 pm.

Or you can buy tickets at the General Meeting on August 10, or from Stephanie Taylor at the AgriLIFE building.

Attachments

There are three attachments to this newsletter:

Attachment 1 – Report on the General Meeting of July 13, 2011

[August2011_Appendix-1_Meeting-Report.doc](#)

Attachment 2 – Tenth Anniversary Party Ticket and T-shirt Order Form

[August2011_Appendix-2_Order-Form.pdf](#)

Attachment 3 – Cultural History: A Sand County Visit

[August2011_Appendix-3_Sand-County-Visit.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
Volunteer Service Chair	Neal McLain
Advanced Training Chair	Tom Morris
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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