

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST



CRADLE OF TEXAS CHAPTER Chapter News – December 2004 Editor, Mary Helen Israel

DECEMBER 8TH – LAST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF THE YEAR AND SOCIAL EVENT

The last general membership meeting for the year will be in two parts.

- *Part 1*: will be held at the Extension Office from 11 a.m. till 1:00 p.m. We will review this year's activities, give out certification awards, have door prizes and other thank you gifts, elect the board of directors for 2005, and socialize with fellow TMN. Please plan to bring one dish of your favorite finger food. The chapter will provide all coffee and soft drinks. Spouses are invited.
- *Part 2*: A field trip to Ed Barrios' home will follow the above starting at 2 p.m. until ? We will conduct a field investigation of the flora and fauna plus lake critters, etc. and prepare a list of our findings – a mini mucker's event. After the field investigation Ed Barrios and Marty Cornell will provide turkey and drinks. All those attending are asked to bring a side dish to compliment the turkey.

PLEASE RSVP IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND PART 1, PART 2, OR BOTH TO CAROLYN MAY-MONIE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. We want to be sure we have enough drinks for all attendees.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Friday Dec. 3, 2004 – Gulf Coast Bird Observatory – 10:00 am – 6:00 pm
Annual Open House & Holiday Sale!!

Come join the staff for Holiday Cheer including cookies and snacks. It is also a Tax Free day and a 10% discount day for all sales in the Nature Store! Great time to get those gifts for the Master Naturalist on your list.

Saturday Dec. 4, 2004 – Gulf Coast Bird Observatory – 9:00 am
Field Trip – Birds of the Area and those expected on local Christmas Counts (2 hrs AT)

Cecilia Riley will give a presentation on local birds with a focus on birds expected on local Christmas Bird Counts. Will include a field identification session.

Friday Dec. 17, 2004 – All Day
San Bernard Christmas Bird Count

Participate in this Christmas Bird Count and enjoy a day in the field helping with an annual citizen science project and get an opportunity to see lots of local birds!! Cost \$5. Various Chapter members have assigned areas and host groups. Contact John Thayer if interested.

Saturday Dec. 18, 2004 – All Day
Brazos Bend Christmas Bird Count

Same as San Bernard Christmas Bird Count – Cost \$5, Contact John Thayer if interested.

Sunday Dec. 19, 2004 – All Day
Freeport Christmas Bird Count

Same as previous Bird Counts, Cost \$5, Contact John Thayer if interested.

Wednesday Dec. 22, 2004 – All Day
Attwater Christmas Bird Count – Eagle Lake

Same as previous Bird Counts, Cost \$5, Contact Phil Huxford if interested.

Treasurer's Report from Al Brushwood

Shown below is the Treasurer's report for year to date activities through Dec. 1st.

Beginning Bank Balance:	<u>\$1,908.84</u>
Interest Income	9.89
Student Fees	2,600.00
Cash Available	4,518.73
Expenditures:	
Scrapbook	108.04
Supplies/Expenses - Display Board	1,434.11
All Other Expenditures	175.11
Total Expenses	2,112.26
Bank Balance, Dec. 1	<u>2,406.47</u>

CRADLE OF TEXAS OFFICERS

President	Carolyn May-Monie
Vice President/Program	Denis James
Secretary	Rainbo Johnson
Treasurer	Al Brushwood
State Representative	Tracie Teague
Past President	Kirby Rapstein
Training	Barbara Burkhardt
Vol. Service Projects	John Thayer
Membership	Tommie Holt
Outreach	Paula Jacobs
Class Host	Justina Dent
Historian	Rita Pruitt
Resource Library	Jim Renfro
Newsletter	Mary Helen Israel
Sponsors:	Connie Stolte (TP&W) and Rich Tillman (Extension)