

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST



CRADLE OF TEXAS CHAPTER Chapter News – December 2007 Editor, Mary Helen Israel

President's Message, Ed Barrios

Howdy fellow Naturalists!! Well, at the December general meeting, I will be turning over the reins as President. I've been in that role for two years and it has been a blast! I have enjoyed meeting so many of you and volunteering with you – it's been a rewarding experience. We should all be proud that we have such an impact on our community; helping educate them on the natural wonders of our county. Plus we perform so many citizen science projects that help protect or gather data on the local flora and fauna. I think we moved the chapter forward during the last two years and I know we'll be in good hands with Dave Brandes at the helm.

As the year comes to an end, I'd like to request again that you turn in your hours. Hours are important to our partners, either for matching funds or record keeping, and they are important for our State organization to continue to get support and funding from our sponsors.

Finally I hope we see you and your guests at the 4th Annual Hog Wild Feast – it's a great party and such fun to socialize. I hope all of you have a happy and safe holiday season.

December Meeting

Wednesday, December 12, 2007

10:30--Coffee

11:00 BUSINESS MEETING

Election of Officers for 2008

11:30--DRAWING FOR DOOR PRIZES

If you wish, please bring a small gift (\$10.00 or less). There will be a drawing for the door prizes after the election of officers.

Following the drawing for the door prizes, we will adjourn to Ed's house for the "Hog Wild" Christmas Party.

Reminder from Chapter Host, Jerry Krampota

The following members signed up to bring refreshments to the December meeting are Dianne Richmond and Tom Morris. If for some reason you are unable to provide refreshments this month; please contact me at 281-585-3249 or jkrampota@hotmail.com.

COT Texas Master Naturalist Awards November 2007

Certification – 8 hrs AT and 40 hrs VT

Sandy Henderson

Re-Certification – 8hrs AT and 40 hrs VT 2007

Ed Barrios

Neal McLain

John Thayer

Rich Jespersen*

Georgia Monnerat*

Ramah O’Gorman*

Carole Wenny*

Bronze Award – 250 hrs

Susan Severance*

Silver Award – 500 hrs

Ruby Lewis

Ramah O’Gorman*

Carole Wenny*

Gold Award – 1000 hrs

Ed Barrios

John Boettiger

*Absent previously

Nov 2007 YTD

Certifications - 2007	6
Re-Certifications	45
No. of Members Reporting hrs	54
No. of Volunteer Hrs	8,295

No. of Advance Training Hrs	794
Active Members	93

Since Inception:

Members Trained	134
Members Certified	100
No. of VT Hrs	54,931
No. of AT Hrs	6,238

There are 3 members from the class of 2006 who have not turned in hours and Dec is the last month for you to certify!

Only about half of the 100 certified members have turned in hours this year. As President Ed Barrios stated in the last newsletter, it is important to report your hours so that our sponsors/partners can get credit to receive budget monies and grants.

Highlights from our 2007 Class:

Jean Northington is our 100th Certified Master Naturalist in the COT-TMN chapter!

Sandy Henderson achieved well over the required hours by the graduation date in November setting a new record and has already qualified for re-certification in 2007 by achieving well over 16 hrs AT and 80 hrs VT.

Join me in congratulating them,

Tom Morris
Membership Chair

COT Treasurer's Report, Jerry Eppner

The COT checking account finished November with a balance of \$5308.71. Training expenses are complete and reimbursed leaving only the \$45 tuition refund liability for 2007 COT interns that certify within one year. We have a couple of invoices to arrive in December, but we will finish the year in good fiscal shape.

We started collecting 2008 dues in November and have received dues money from 43 active members, which is around 60% of the active roster not counting the recent intern graduates. If you have not paid your dues, the chapter treasurer will be accepting money at the general meeting, December 12. Dues are \$10 individual, \$15 family, \$25 supporting and \$225 lifetime.

CRADLE OF TEXAS OFFICERS

President	Ed Barrios
Vice President/Program	Justina Dent
Secretary	Barbara Burkhardt
Treasurer	Jerry Eppner
State Representative	Ellis Burkhardt
Past President	Carl Dodson
Membership Chair	Tom Morris
Training Co-Chairs	David & Laura Brandes
Volunteer Service Chair	John Marshall
Advanced Training Chair	Roy Morgan
Outreach Chair	Marty Cornell
Chapter Host	Jerry Krampota
Webmaster	Neal McLain
Newsletter Chair	Mary Helen Israel
Sponsors:	Connie Stolte (TP&W) and Rich Tillman (Texas Cooperative Extension)