

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST



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

President's Message, Ed Barrios

Hello Naturalists! Well for many of us, volunteer work has slowed down with schools being out for the summer. We impacted the lives of thousands of young people and hopefully some of what we try and teach will make an impact. A huge thanks to the project leaders and the volunteers and hope that we'll see ya'll back next fall.

There are two exciting citizen science projects that we have just started – the Red Tide monitoring and the Cactus Moth monitoring. Carl Dodson reported today that during one of his first samplings of Christmas Bay he discovered an ongoing algae bloom. The project sponsors from NOAA were thrilled to get the data and that our chapter has started monitoring. If you wish to join in on this, please contact Dave Brandes. Ellis Burkhardt gave us an update on the recent Cactus Moth training so we can monitor for this destructive insect. Ellis will give a short update on this project at the General Meeting next week. And speaking of citizen science, the turtle patrol project that our chapter supports continues to get publicity as several Kemp's Ridley Turtle nests were found on Bryan Beach this year. These are only a few of the many opportunities we have in our area.

Our first social is scheduled for this Friday the 8th. I hope to see you there to enjoy good food and good company.

June Meeting, COT TMN

Wednesday, June 13, 2007

Social time at 8:30 and a brief general meeting will begin at 9:00. Following this, at 9:30, Flo Hannah, will present a program on Grasses of the Texas Gulf Coast. Flo is with the Audubon Society and sells local native grasses. If possible, bring a magnifying loop and your favorite grass book. AT hours will be announced after her presentation.

Reminder from Chapter Host, Jerry Krampota

The following members signed up to bring refreshments to the April meeting: Pam Peltier, Ruby Lewis, and Jerry Eppner. If for some reason you are unable to provide refreshments this month; please contact me at 281-585-3249 or jkrapota@hotmail.com.

COT Texas Master Naturalist Awards
May 2007

Re-Certification – 8hrs AT and 40 hrs VT

2007

John Boettiger
Bill Brown
Ellis Burkhardt
Gardner Campbell
Mary Helen Israel
Jerry Krampota

Bronze Award – 250 hrs

Mickey Dufilho

Silver Award – 500 hrs

Kermit Schlameous*

*Absent previously

In addition to awards, I think a few numbers might be of interest to some:

As of end of March 2007 YTD:

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|------------------------------|--------|
| Certifications: | 0 |
| Re-Certifications: | 18 |
| No. of Members reporting hrs | 30 |
| No. of Volunteer hrs: | 2,032 |
| No. of AT hrs: | 252 |
| Active Members: | 79 |
| Members Trained to Date: | 118 |
| No. of VT Hrs from Inception | 48,278 |
| No. of AT Hrs from Inception | 5,696 |

Tom Morris, Membership Chair

COT Treasurer's Report, Jerry Eppner

As of the end of May, the chapter had a checking account balance of \$3729.45. Although we have collected some additional 2007 dues since the last report, almost 15% of our active members have not paid their dues. Those members are encouraged to do so as soon as possible.

Fun, Food and Fellowship #1

Don't forget the first ever Fun, Food and Fellowship for COT Texas Master Naturalist to be held at GCBO, Friday, June 8th 6:00-8:00. All the information is in the flyer you received and the reminder of our general meeting which was sent out Wednesday. If you have any questions, or to RSVP, call:

Ed Barrios, (979) 297-1815, evbarrios@houston.rr.com,
Barbara Burkhardt, (979) 297-4386, bburkhardt@sbcglobal.net, or
Jerry Eppner, (979) 297-6320, jeppner@houston.rr.com

Reminder from Training Chairmen, Laura and Dave Brandes

Time is getting closer for our 2007 training class to begin. As of June 6, we have 3 new trainees signed up. Now is when we need to get out there and recruit! Without a better response, we may not have a class for 2007, so everyone talk it up among your friends and acquaintances.

Statewide Annual Meeting & Advanced Training

You should have all received the notice from Michelle Haggerty about the upcoming statewide annual meeting of Texas Master Naturalist. As a reminder, I am enclosing the first couple of paragraphs of her notice:

"I am pleased to announce the Texas Master Naturalist Statewide Annual Meeting & Advanced Training is headed to San Antonio October 12-14, 2007!!!

2007 is the 10th Anniversary of our founding Texas Master Naturalist Chapter--The Alamo Area Chapter! So come on out for a TX Master Naturalist Fiesta to help celebrate this special milestone for this chapter and our state program... And just for you skeptics out there, San Antonio has more natural areas to see and Advanced Training field sessions than we can offer through just one weekend! You won't be disappointed! This year's annual meeting will be hosted by the Alamo Area Chapter and sponsored in part by the San Antonio Parks & Recreation Department. "

If you didn't receive this notice from Michelle, let Ellis Burkhardt (979) 297-4386, eburkhardt@sbcglobal.net know and he can forward the message on to you.

CRADLE OF TEXAS OFFICERS

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|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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 (TPWD) and Rich Tillman (Texas Cooperative Extension) |

Attachments:

- Attachment #1 - Minutes of General Membership Meeting of May 9, 2007
- Attachment #2 - Advanced Training Opportunities - June-July 2007