

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST



CRADLE OF TEXAS CHAPTER Chapter News – June 2008 Editor, Mary Helen Israel

President's Message, Dave Brandes

Well, May has come and gone, but what a month. School was coming to an end, so they were all trying to fit in last minute field trips. This created a crazy month at Sea Center Texas.



A couple dozen of our members had a wonderful day on the R. V. Karma, the Floating Classroom. She was docked at the Houston Yacht Club. The captain and crew gave us a great time on the water trawling for Galveston Bay life, and helped us understand what they teach the public and how they do it in a shore-side session. The yacht club allowed us to use their pavilion for the session and for a great shrimp and sausage boil prepared by Chef Rich Tillman. What a day. Rich also helped make the day possible for us. Thanks Rich!

Coastal Expo is coming up July 4 & 5 at the Freeport Municipal Park. We'll be inside this time, so the heat shouldn't bother us. We'll need help, so put the dates on your calendar. Both days will be 12:00-6:00. I'd like for us to work 2 hour shifts, with at least 2 per shift. A sign-up sheet will be circulated at our June meeting. If you can't make the meeting, please let me know when you can help. This is one of our best opportunities to meet folks and help them understand what we do and how to get involved.

June Meeting
Wednesday, June 11, 2008

8:30 a.m. - Coffee, Snacks, & Social Time

9:00 a.m. - General Meeting

9:30 a.m. - Advanced Training - Animal Rescue with
Sandy Henderson

Reminder from Chapter Hosts,
Jerry Krampota and Justina Dent

The following folks signed up to bring refreshments for the May meeting: Billy Heck, Carl Dodson, and Torry Tvedt. If for some reason you have a conflict, please call Jerry Krampota at 281-585-3249 or email at jkrampota@hotmail.com.

Treasurer's Report, Jerry Eppner

At the end of May, the chapter had \$5262.37 in our checking account. Set up expenses for the fall intern class should start coming in over the next couple of months, which will lower this balance somewhat. We still have a few "active" members that have not paid their 2008 dues yet, but I got one more payment at the last general meeting so there is still hope.

Environmental Assessments for Seismic Operations

Neal McLain on behalf of Jennifer Sanchez

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Texas Mid-Coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex has announced that Environmental Assessments on proposed 3D seismic surveys across the portions of San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge are available for public review and comment until June 18, 2008.

Two areas of the Refuge are covered by these assessments:

- **The eastern side of San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge.**

This assessment relates to an application for a Special Use Permit that would allow Geokinetics USA, Inc. access surface lands of the Refuge for the purpose of conducting a 3D seismic survey of subsurface geological features. Data gathered from this survey will allow Geokinetics to effectively evaluate the hydrocarbon reserves underlying the project area. (Source: *Draft Operational Plan and Environmental Assessment of Geokinetics USA, Inc. May 2008*)

- **Dance Bayou Unit of San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge.**

This assessment relates to an application for a Special Use Permit that would allow Hawkeye Stratigraphic, Inc. and Eagle Geophysical, Inc. access to the surface lands of the Dance Bayou Unit (DBU) for the purpose of conducting a 3D seismic survey of subsurface geological features. Data gathered from this survey will allow HS, Inc. to effectively evaluate the hydrocarbon reserves adjacent to and underlying the DBU, while keeping the disruption of DBU at an absolute minimum. (Source: *Operations Plan and Environmental Assessment For A Proposed 3-D Seismic Program on the San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge Dance Bayou Unit Brazoria County, Texas, May 2008*)

TMN-COT members are invited to submit written comments in connection with these proposed surveys. Written comments regarding the EA and Operations Plan will be received at the Texas Mid-Coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex Office at 2547 County Road 316, Brazoria, TX 77422-7703 until June 18, 2008.

Further information about these assessments is available on the Home Page of the Cradle of Texas Website at <http://grovesite.com/tamu/tmn> .

CRADLE OF TEXAS OFFICERS

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