

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST



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

President's Message, Ed Barrios

Hello fellow Naturalists,

Well as you may or may not know, seven of our Master Naturalists went to Australia for three weeks. The wildlife preserves and national parks we all went to were magnificent. The naturalists and docents that we met were great. It felt good to know that people around the world are involved in teaching Environmental Education (EE). Like many of our members involved in EE, they were passionate and knowledgeable.

It appears that our partners (Mid-Coast Wildlife Refuges, Sea Center Texas, INEOS & ConocoPhillips) all did well in the first month of EE programs for local school districts. I was fortunate since I've been back to be involved in three school visits and it is such a rewarding experience to teach about the natural elements in our area.

Finally, I would like to encourage you to turn in your volunteer hours to Tom Morris before the end of the year. We turn in our annual report to State in early January and we would like to show at least the same amount of hours as we submitted last year (~13,000). Since our activity levels have increased this year, this should be an easy milestone to make, but thus far we are far below the pace to make this milestone. So please turn in your hours. I've been trying to get the latest annual State reports, but have not been successful, but the last report I reviewed a few years ago, our chapter was #3 in total hours. This is an incredible achievement since we were about #10 in membership. If we are volunteering way above average we should at least get credit for it.

November Meeting and '07 Class Graduation Wednesday, November 14, 2007

**Coffee: 8:00, Business: 8:30, Class Projects: 9:00 a.m.
Program: 10:30**

Program:

**"Bird Brains: an Introduction to Bird Intelligence"
Gary and Kathy Adams Clark**

Reminder: Lunch will be served after the program. Menu: Nana's Taco Soup/Salad/Desert \$5.00 for members. Please RSVP to Barbara Burkhardt by Monday, November 12, if you plan to join us. bburkhardt@sbcglobal.net

Reminder from Chapter Host, Jerry Krampota

The following members signed up to bring refreshments to the November meeting are George and Mary Zacharias and Neal McLain. 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 October 2007

Certification – 8 hrs AT and 40 hrs VT

Pam West*

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

Rich Jespersen* Georgia Monnerat

Ramah O’Gorman Carole Wenny

Robert Woods

Bronze Award – 250 hrs

Susan Severance

Silver Award – 500 hrs

Jim Calvert Ramah O’Gorman

Carole Wenny

Platinum Award – 2500 hrs

Carolyn May-Monie

*Absent previously

COT Treasurer's Report, Jerry Eppner

The COT checking account finished October with a balance of \$5092.14. November will be a month with higher than normal expenditures as the intern class expenses ramp up near the end. Over \$1000 in expenses have already been submitted for payment.

Also, in November, we will begin to collect 2008 dues (\$10 individual, \$15 family, \$25 supporting and \$225 lifetime). A separate communication will be out soon detailing what forms need to be submitted with your dues.

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)