

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST



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



President's Message, Ed Barrios

Hello fellow Naturalists,

The school season is starting out with a **bang** in terms of environmental education! Currently on our website calendar for October we have 7 DEEP (Discovery Environmental Education Program) field trips scheduled for USFWS, 3 EE sessions at INEOS and 1 EE session scheduled for ConocoPhillips. This does not include the school programs at Sea Center Texas – they are going to send us those sessions so they can be added to the calendar. Plus this month is the Brazoria County Fair and the TMN State meeting in San Antonio. In case you're wondering, October is normally the busiest month followed by April – it isn't this hectic the entire school year.

I hope you can make some time in your busy schedules to support our partner organizations to kick off the EE sessions for the new school year. Remember that even if you have not been involved in these sessions before, the various sponsors will help you get trained and you will be welcomed!

Finally, this year my annual wine vacation has been scheduled for October in Australia. I will not be able to attend an EE field trip until the very end of the month. So do not interpret my absence (or the other winos in our chapter) as lack of support for these important sessions.

October Meeting, COT TMN

Thursday, October 11, 2007

Social time at 8:30 and a brief general meeting will begin at 9:00. From 9:30-10:30: Charlie and Olivia Brower, licensed bird banders from West Columbia, will give a program on Hummingbird Banding. From 10:45-11:45, Hummingbirds of Texas will be presented by Mark Klym, Information Specialist, TPWD. Mark coordinates the Texas Hummingbird Roundup and edits the "Texas Hummer" newsletter. Mark is also the author of *Hummingbirds of Texas*.

This will be the first time the new interns will have a chance to meet with the other members of Master Naturalist and get additional Advanced Training towards their certification.

Changing this month's A.T. to Thursday was approved by the board. I hope to continue this in next years Interns class.

Justina Dent, Vice President

Reminder from Chapter Host, Jerry Krampota

The following members signed up to bring refreshments to the October meeting are Ramah O'Gorman, Denis James and John Thayer. 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 September 2007

Certification – 8 hrs AT and 40 hrs VT

Pam West

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

Rich Jespersen

Marty Cornell*

Silver Award – 500 hrs

Laura Brandes

*Absent previously

The following is additional information from our Membership Chair, Tom Morris.

COT statistics as of Sept 2007 YTD:

Certifications	3
Re-Certifications	36
No. of Members Reporting hrs	48
No. of Volunteer Hrs	6,481
No. of Advance Training Hrs	612
Active Members	77

Since Inception:

Members Trained	118
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Members Certified	97
New Class	16
No. of VT Hrs	53,117
No. of AT Hrs	6,418

COT Treasurer's Report, Jerry Eppner

As of the end of September, the COT chapter account had \$5159.64 in it. We continue to be in good shape financially and prepared for the increased spending associated with the fall intern class.

Brazos Bend Butterfly Count, September 23, 2007 Rich Jespersen

The 12th Annual Brazos Bend Butterfly Count was held in September for the second time, after 10 years of counting in July. It turned out to be a great day. The weather was perfect, there was an outstanding turnout of participants, and 49 species of butterflies were sighted, including several surprises.

We had noted throughout the summer that numbers of many butterfly species seemed lower than usual. This turned out to be true for a few species—seven regulars were not seen this year. On the other hand, we were surprised by record numbers of eight species and by the sighting of three species never before seen on this count. New species were the Julia Heliconian, Southern Pearly-eye and Little Glassywing. The Southern Pearly-eye will be a new record for Fort Bend County, if our report is accepted.

Our 27 observers divided into six parties and spent the day scouring the various habitats within and near the park. Here are the results.

SWALLOWTAILS

2	Pipevine Swallowtail
6	Black Swallowtail
19	Giant Swallowtail
3	Eastern Tiger Swallowtail

WHITES & SULPHURS

147	Cloudless Sulphur
136	Little Yellow
1	Sleepy Orange

HAIRSTREAKS

11	Gray Hairstreak
5	Red-banded Hairstreak
1	Dusky-blue Groundstreak
1	Ceraunus Blue

BRUSH-FOOTED

201	Gulf Fritillary
1	Julia Heliconian
10	Phaon Crescent
21	Pearl Crescent
5	Question Mark
3	Painted Lady
14	Red Admiral
78	Common Buckeye
8	Viceroy
1	Goatweed Leafwing
12	Hackberry Emperor
14	Tawny Emperor
749	Carolina Satyr
1	Southern Pearly-eye

14 Monarch
2 Queen

Skippers

76 White-striped Longtail
26 Long-tailed Skipper
17 Dorantes Longtail
4 Southern Cloudywing
4 Horace's Duskywing
15 Common Checkered-skipper
64 Tropical Checkered-skipper
30 Checkered-skipper species
2 Turk's-cap White- Skipper
10 Swarthy Skipper

149 Clouded Skipper
6 Least Skipper
26 Southern Skipperling
38 Fiery Skipper
5 Whirlabout
14 Southern Broken-Dash
2 Little Glassywing
2 Sachem
1 Broad-winged Skipper
1 Poanes species
41 Dun Skipper
4 Eufala Skipper
1 Brazilian Skipper
30 Ocola Skipper

Total 2034 individuals / 49 species

Observers were Kurt Bundy, Gardner Campbell, Carlton Collier, Chuck Duplant, Bill Godley, David Henderson, Ednelza Henderson, Staci Hobbet, Rich Jespersen, Sandy Jespersen, Carol Jones, Mimi Lawrence, Candy McNamee, Diane Milano, Jane Minard, Tom Prentiss, Warren Pruess, Lynne Ray, Carrie Sample, Gloria Scheel, Susan Severance, James Smith, Pam Tatgie, Walter Ulrich, Kelly Walker, Hugh Wedgeworth and Jerry Zona.

CRADLE OF TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST SHIRTS

ORDERS MUST BE PLACED NO LATER THAN MONDAY OCTOBER 22, 2007.

PLEASE PLACE YOUR ORDERS BY E-MAIL SO THAT I WILL HAVE A COPY OF YOUR ORDER. bburkhardt@sbcglobal.net

Shirt orders for the Master Naturalist interns will be placed on **October 23, 2007**. I will be accepting orders for shirts from the general membership as well. If you would like to order a shirt, the information is listed below. The styles are the same as last year, but please note that the ladies denim shirts are not the light blue, stone washed shirts. If you would like this style, you must order a man's shirt. The prices of the shirts shown are based on an order quantity of 12 to 19. If greater than 19, of a specific type, are ordered, the price of the shirts will be reduced by \$2.00 each. There is no tax. **All checks should be made out to the Cradle of Texas Master Naturalist Chapter (COTMN).**

At the last board meeting, the board voted to look into having a silk screen logo, exactly like the current shirt logo, that we will be able to use on a standard type T-shirt. I do not have this information at the present time, but will notify the membership as soon as I do.

✂ Denotes dark green jersey or denim "official" shirts

✧JERZEES: 100% Solid Pique Sport Shirt –100% Cotton- Style Multi colors to choose from. **Style J100**, S to XL \$14 – 2 XL to 3 XL \$16
Page 92 in catalog **MEN'S SIZED ONLY SO ORDER ACCORDINGLY**

✧JERZEES: Jersey Sport Shirt –50% Cotton/50% Polyester- **Style J300** – Forest green, Light Blue, Maroon, Navy, Red, Royal Blue
S to XL - \$14 – 2 XL to 3 XL \$16
Page 92 in catalog **MEN'S SIZED ONLY SO ORDER ACCORDINGLY**

✧JERZEES – Medium stonewash Denim
Style J10 Men's Long Sleeve
Style J16 Men's Short sleeve denim –
S to XL \$16 – 2XL to 3XL \$18
Page 101 in catalog

✧- **WOMEN**—Sierra Pacific
Style 5211—Light Denim-- Women's long sleeve
Style 5203SP—Light Denim-- Women's short sleeve
Style 5205—Light Denim—Women's sleeveless
S to XL \$18 ---2XL \$20
Page 16 and 17 in catalog
There may be some differences in the color from the light washed denim we have previously gotten.

Outer Banks – Long and short sleeve fine “Featherlite” Twill Shirts, with Teflon Fabric Protector
Multi colors to choose from.
Style 3281SP-Men's Long Sleeve
Style 0281-Men's Short Sleeve
Style 5283-Ladies Long Sleeve
Style 5281-Ladies Short Sleeve
Colors: Safari Yellow, Glacier Blue, Brilliant Green, Soft Pink, Majestic Purple, Pacific Blue, American Red, Stone/Sandalwood
S to XL \$26 – 2XL to 3XL \$28
Pages 10 and 11 in catalog

2008 Great Texas Birding Classic
Carol Jones, GCBO, Tournament Coordinator

Yep, it's already time to get your plans in motion for next year's Birding Classic. The dates are April 26 - May 4, 2008. We're putting together a tool kit to help you obtain sponsorship and soon as we have the information together, I'll let you know. All the information will be available on the GCBO website and you may download it for your use. If every team was sponsored, there would be a significant increase in money for the Conservation Grant fund, so we are encouraging everyone to go out and pursue sponsorship.

And...

We are considering a new GREEN tournament category to reward a less consumptive approach to the GTBC. Here are the basic criteria and I am looking for additional thoughts, ideas, and concerns to determine if this is feasible for 2008.

- the team has to travel a minimum of 'x' miles (odometer readings required)
- transportation is by street legal vehicle
- all sections of the coast compete against each other
- the team with the most species per mile wins
- teams comprised of 3-5 birders
- teams may be Gliders, Adults or a mix of Gliders and Adults
- 24 hour, midnight to midnight, tournament

There will be a conservation grant for this tournament. It could be great fun - a strategy challenge for sure. What would you name it? Let me know what you think! I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

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)