

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST



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

President's Message, Ed Barrios

Hello Master Naturalists! After concern about not having enough trainees, our 2007 class wound up with a whopping 16 members. I am excited about our new interns; seems like a great bunch of folks that will be an asset to our organization. Please make them feel welcome to our group as you see them during upcoming training or volunteer events. We have gotten positive feedback for being a friendly, inclusive group – let us live up to that reputation.

I sent an e-mail last month about the 44 environmental education sessions scheduled for the next school year. Please contact the coordinators (Carl Dodson, Carolyn May-Monie and Bryan Adams) if you wish to volunteer. Educating young students on the joys of nature is so rewarding and so important to the future generations. Please look at your busy schedules and see if you can spare some time to make a difference in a child's life.

Finally, the State Master Naturalist meeting is in October in San Antonio this year. You need to register now if you want the lower rates and to be sure you can get enrolled. (See our website for details.) If you have not been to a State meeting, you really should go. This includes you new interns! I have been to three state meetings and have found them rewarding in terms of the advanced training opportunities and the people you meet. It is a great way to get to know members from other chapters and learn the good aspects of how they run their chapters. After interfacing with chapters from all over the state, I feel we are fortunate to have dedicated sponsors that are involved and members that are more interested in helping our fellow Brazoria county citizens than getting involved in personal politics. I think you will find the State meetings worthwhile and it will be a benefit to our chapter to have a significant presence. Please contact our sponsor and consummate Aggie, Rich Tillman, if you are interested in car pooling and getting lost.

September Meeting, COT TMN
Wednesday, September 12, 2007

Social time at 8:00 and a brief general meeting will begin at 8:30. Following this, at 9:00, Dr Wayne McAlister will present training on Earth Science, Geological Development of Texas Ecosystems/Soils/Water/Weather. Dr. McAlister is a retired Environmental Education Specialist, US Fish & Wildlife Service at Matagorda Island NWR and has a PhD in Zoology from the University of Texas. **Reminder: This is a joint meeting with the 2007 MN Class. Come meet the new interns.**

Reminder from Chapter Host, Jerry Krampota

The following members signed up to bring refreshments to the July meeting Carole Wenny, Susan Severance, and Barbara Bruyere. 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
August 2007

Certification – 8 hrs AT and 40 hrs VT

Phyllis Gerdes*

Tom Johnson*

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

Marty Cornell*

Kerry Magee

Bronze Award – 250 hrs.

Dave Brandes

*Absent Previously

COT Treasurer's Report, Jerry Eppner

The chapter bank account ended the month with \$4934.79. We have collected checks from all 16 fall interns. Three of these checks still need to be deposited. Expenses for the intern class are beginning to come in, but with a class of 16 we should be in good shape from a cash flow standpoint.

Advanced Training Opportunities 2007

The following are the advanced training opportunities from area Master Naturalist Chapters.

DATE/TIME	EVENT	AT HOURS
Galveston Bay Chapter		
First Monday of the month 10am-Noon Carbide Park	<p>Historical Perspectives of Naturalists Study Group The Master Naturalist Book Study Group has chosen its slate of books to read in 2007! The first book we are going to read is: Galveston Bay by Sally Antrobus. This is a short and very informative book about items of interest to Master Naturalists in and around Galveston Bay.</p> <p>Subsequent books we have chosen to read in 2007 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Undaunted Courage: Meriwether Lewis Thomas Jefferson and the Opening of the American West</i>, (paperback) by Stephen Ambrose (Simon & Schuster, reprint 1997). • <i>Walden, Or Life in the Woods</i>, by H. Thoreau (Dover Thrift Editions unabridged 1995) • <i>Voice of the Coyote</i>, by J. Frank Dobie • <i>Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder</i>, by Richard Louv (Algonquin 2006) 	2
Gulf Coast Chapter		
	<p>Native Plant Society of Texas Houston Chapter – Houston Arboretum and Nature Center, 4501 Woodway <u>Meetings</u> are third Thursdays; February-November. Meeting Time: 7 pm – 8:45 pm</p> <p>***September 20, 2007 – The Quiet Beauty of our Coastal Prairie by Carolyn Fannon ***October 18, 2007 – Prairie Assessment and Restoration at Brazos Bend State Park by Al Childs For more information, contact Glenn Olsen at Houston@npsot.org or call 281-345-4151.</p>	<p>NOTE: This Web Site does not list AT hours</p>

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)