

East Texas Chapter Master Naturalist
Membership and Chapter Meeting
January 22, 2026
Tyler Nature Center

Call to Order

Incoming President Carol Lanthrum called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

President's Update – Carol welcomed members, trainees and guests. She thanked Wanda Rauscher for her service as Chapter President for the last four years. She reminded members that dues (\$20/person; \$35/couple) are due on January 31st. Dues can be mailed to P. O. Box 131184, Tyler, TX 75707-1184.

Vice President, Dawn Bahr, is working toward getting a speaker for the February chapter meeting.

The December Board and Meeting Minutes were presented for approval. Lindsey Smith made a motion to approve the minutes and Karen Rueb-Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed with membership vote.

The next Board meeting will be on February 1st at the Tyler Nature Center. 2-3:00 pm will be Board/Director duties, turnover and discussion. From 3-4:30 pm will be a Board of Directors meeting. Please bring list of your area's 2025 accomplishments (printed) and plans for 2026.

New Training Class Mentors – Karen Rueb-Hall distributed a sign-up list and job description for mentors for the upcoming training class. She briefly explained what is expected as a mentor. She introduced new trainees attending their first chapter meeting tonight: Ginger Wick, Pam Boyd and Bruce Williams.

Membership – Donna Smith – Donna presented the following: Initial Certification – Dennis Minor, Zachary Woods; 2025 Recertification –Anton Yastrebov.

Volunteer Management System – Lindsey Smith reiterated that chapter meetings can be counted as Advanced Training (no travel time) **or** as Volunteer Service (plus travel time equal to the length of the meeting). There will be a new category added to the Volunteer Management System entitled iNaturalist/ID for Texas Organisms.

The meeting concluded at 7:13 pm and Past President Wanda Rauscher gave a presentation on Lady Beetles.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Reynolds
Secretary