



Contact all members via phone to do a “welfare check” to see if they are doing alright and if they need anything	John Boettiger	All members were contacted by committee; members are okay at this point
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**Treasurer’s Report**—Don Sabathier presented the April 2020 financial information, below.

**1 April – 30 April 2019, COT Treasurer Report**

<b><u>Beginning Balance</u></b>	\$ 11,083.45
Revenue Summary	\$ 599.14 <sup>1</sup>
Expense Summary	(\$ 716.17) <sup>2</sup>
<b><u>Ending Balance</u></b>	\$ 10,966.42

<sup>1</sup> Revenue reflects \$500 payment from Conoco for matching volunteer hours and \$75 in 2020 dues

<sup>2</sup> Primarily TMN new member textbooks and field notebooks

**2020 TMN Annual State Meeting**—Bill Ahlstrom stated that the State Office is planning to move forward at this point and may offer virtual presentations as well.

**May General Meeting**—[See Motion regarding cancellation of May General Meeting.] Bill Ahlstrom suggested that we cancel the May General Meeting and send out the May Board Meeting minutes to members. For June, he will poll members on whether to hold a live meeting. Later, it was decided to hold a virtual-only June General Meeting. Bob Whitmarsh will work with John O’Connell to coordinate setting up and getting members familiar with Microsoft Teams Meeting interface.

**BOARD REPORTS and OTHER TOPICS**

**Past President and Speakers Bureau Coordinator**—Kristine Rivers had no new information on the Speakers Bureau but she is planning for the future. She added that OLLIE is postponed until the fall.

**General Meeting Programs**—Mickey Dufilho provided the following status on upcoming general-meeting speakers:

- **May**—speaker Ruby Lewis on “Safety for Outreach Events”; Nature Notes TBD;  
**CANCELLED**
- **June (VIRTUAL MEETING)**—speaker Mike Lange on “Columbia Bottomlands Acquisitions; Nature Notes, Mickey Dufilho
- **July**—speaker Susan Heath, Director of Conservation Research, GCBO, on “Eastern Willet Migration and Nesting”; Nature Notes TBD
- **August**—TBD (Note: It was reported later that August speakers are Jim and Deb Nance and Neal McLain on “Geology and Paleontology”)
- **September**—Bryan Frazier, Director of Brazoria County Parks, on “Brazoria County Parks Update and Vision for the Future”; Nature Notes, Jackie Hicks on her Ecofund Grant

**Membership**—John Boettiger reported the following year-to-date impact data and awards and stated that 40% of members reported hours in April and hours reported were 40% of “normal.”

Impact Data	# Adults	# Youth	Total
YTD Totals—April 30	1622	5340	6962

Period	VT Hours	AT Hours
YTD Totals—April 20	5145	973

Recertification 2020		Initial Certification
James Calvert	Jimmy Salinas	Joel Cobb
Carolyn May-Monie	Luanne Salinas	
Debbie Nance	Brenda Stitt	
Jim Nance	Cindy Vincent	

**Training Director**—Mary Schwartz said that she is still planning the fall, new member training with a start date moved one week earlier: August 26 for introduction session; September 2 for first class.

**Advanced Training Director**—Bob Whitmarsh indicated that there were no new opportunities.

**Outreach Director**—Ruby Lewis announced that most events have been cancelled or postponed and provided the following updates:

- **Brazoria County Library System**, COT Summer Reptile Program—June; virtual via recorded presentations
- **Brazoria County Library System**, COT Wild in the City Program—July; virtual via recorded presentations
- **Nature Camp at Camp Mohawk County Park**—June 15 through 18; still planned at this point
- **Nature Camp at Quintana Beach County Park**—July 13 through 16; still planned at this point.

**Communications Director**—Larry Peterson stated that there was no substantial activity. The State Office has provided dates for web software updates.

**Chapter Advisor(s)**—Paul Cason said that Sea Center Texas is working on a plan to reopen on a limited basis (and with staff only) at the end of May.

John O’Connell said that Brazoria County announced the option of bringing staff back as of May 4 and fully opening on May 11. AgriLIFE Extension Service is reviewing in-person meeting policy on May 8. He added that the TMN Coastal Prairie and Galveston Bay Area Chapters have been holding new member training virtually.

**Conference Call with TMN Presidents**—Bill Ahlstrom said that State indicated there will likely be no face to face meetings through the summer.



Cradle of Texas Board Action Register				
Open Action Item	Who?	Due Date?	Complete/Ongoing	Comments
Ask local libraries if they are interested in showing the displays prepared for the Bonus AT Day	Ruby Lewis	October	Ongoing	To share information with the public and for COT PR purposes <b>March:</b> No update (Ruby absent) <b>April:</b> Ruby contacted the library system and they would like to display them at libraries that have space starting in August. Ruby will coordinate a schedule and transport by a TMN member <b>June:</b> Ruby said libraries said fall would be best; they need a container to hold the presentation boards for transport between libraries or we can transport; Ruby will work out details in September <b>Sept:</b> no update <b>Oct, Nov:</b> Ruby not present <b>Dec:</b> Ruby not present <b>Feb:</b> No action; Ruby will follow up <b>Apr:</b> Not discussed; libraries are closed <b>May:</b> Libraries still closed
Review and update partners webpage (see below)	Oron Atkins	ASAP	Ongoing	<b>Sept:</b> Oron has updated and will provide Neal with information to post on website <b>Oct:</b> Oron working to finalize changes <b>Nov:</b> Oron said that there will likely be 6 partners: USFWS Texas Mid-Coast Refuge Complex; GCBO; arts center complex at Brazosport College; Brazoria County Library System; Brazos Bend State Park; Brazoria County Parks Department Dave expressed concern that these relationships should be reciprocal <b>Dec:</b> Agreements being worked on <b>Feb:</b> Agreements being worked on <b>Apr:</b> Agreements being worked on <b>May:</b> No update; Bill said Angleton Parks & Recreation wants to be a VPAR
Update VPAR agreements	Oron Aktins	ASAP	Ongoing	<b>Sept:</b> We have 16 partners; some paperwork is missing; Peggy Romfh checking to see if there is VT logged or not; the board agreed that agreements will be auto-renew with a 30-day cancellation clause and agreement contact information will be updated every two years <b>Oct:</b> Oron working with Pete and Peggy; there was some discussion about putting the planetarium and museum under one VPAR <b>Nov:</b> Oron is working to finalize <b>Dec:</b> Oron continuing to work on <b>Feb:</b> Oron spoke with the Center for Arts and Sciences, which is in the process of consolidating all its entities; Oron will coordinate a meeting with them to discuss our relationship <b>Apr:</b> Oron is working to finalize <b>May:</b> Bill said Angleton Parks and Recreation Department is applying to be a new partner
Find the portable loudspeaker system; possibly buy a new system for intern training (need cost	Larry Peterson	Jan.	Ongoing	Location of COT's system is unknown but was not acceptable; need to investigate intern-class needs <b>Dec:</b> speaker system has been found; Larry will test it but likely is not adequate for our training needs <b>Feb:</b> Larry will determine training class needs and cost to meet them;



information)				Kathy suggested individual earphones for participants <b>Apr:</b> Larry has found one in the \$150-200 range that he thinks will meet our needs <b>May:</b> Larry asked to table this until late summer
Executive Committee to meet and draft wording for harassment and accommodations for disability policies	Kristine Rivers		ASAP	State suggested that chapters provide a “welcoming atmosphere”; Peggy Romfh requested that accommodations for impairments be included <b>Feb:</b> The Executive Board has not yet met <b>Apr:</b> Not discussed <b>May:</b> Connie has collected some wording; John O’Connell will provide the 4H volunteer policy
2020 State Meeting Planning	Preliminary State Mtng Comm: Kristine, Lisa, Bob, Bill, Rose, Connie, John O., Kim Richardson	Oct.	Ongoing	Need photo contest committee and volunteers; find/create easels for display; Field Trip Committee Liaison and trip ideas; session ideas; vendor ideas; silent auction items <b>Feb:</b> Committee meeting to be set up <b>Apr:</b> Not discussed <b>May:</b> As of now, the meeting is still on; Bill needs volunteers to help with the photo contest (Kim has offered). Connie will coordinate a May 13 virtual meeting with committee members
Spotlight a different COT member each month on Facebook and in the newsletter	Kathy Pittman	Mar.	Ongoing	In order to honor the efforts of our membership and help us get to know each other <b>Apr:</b> Kathy requested information from several members; none has yet replied <b>May:</b> Kathy has put on hold
Hold a brief training session on how to enter hours in VMS via Smart Phone	?	TBD	TBD	To facilitate the capture of more volunteer hours <b>Apr:</b> Not discussed <b>May:</b> No update
<b>NEW Action Item(s) Added at May Meeting</b>	<b>Who?</b>		<b>Due date?</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Contact Bryan Frasier regarding help needed at County Parks	Bill Ahlstrom		ASAP	
Contact members regarding cancellation of May General Meeting	Bill Ahlstrom		ASAP	
Coordinate use of Microsoft Teams Meeting application to set up a virtual June General Meeting	Bob Whitmarsh		Ongoing	
Send May Board Meeting minutes to membership for information purposes	Bill Ahlstrom		When available	

**President:** Bill Ahlstrom adjourned the Board Meeting at 10:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Ladd Myers, Secretary

cc: Board Members  
 Crystal Andablo, AgriLIFE Secretary [Crystal.Andablo@aq.tamu.edu](mailto:Crystal.Andablo@aq.tamu.edu)



Attendance 2020	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
<b>Elected Board Members</b>													
Bill Ahlstrom	X	X	X	X	X								
Mickey Dulilho	X	X	X	X	X								
Sabathier, Don	X	X	X	X	X								
Myers, Lisa	X	X		X	X								
<b>Advisors</b>													
O'Connell, John	X	X	X	X	X								
Cason, Paul		X		X	X								
<b>Immediate Past President</b>													
Rivers, Kristine	X	X	X	X	X								
<b>Appointed Board Members</b>													
Atkins, Oron	X	X	X	X									
Boettiger, John	X		X	X	X								
Lewis, Ruby		X		X	X								
Peterson, Larry	X	X	X	X	X								
Pittman, Kathy		X	X	X	X								
Schwartz, Mary	X	X	X	X	X								
Stolte, Connie	X		X	X	X								
Wagner, Rose		X			X								
Whitmarsh, Bob	X	X	X	X	X								
<b>Guests</b>													
McLain, Neal	X	X	X	X	X								