



**TMN-COT GENERAL MEETING**  
Wednesday, November 11, 2020, 9:00 a.m. – 10:56 a.m.  
via Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service’s Microsoft Teams Meeting license

**Bill Ahlstrom, President**, called the meeting to order.

**Attendance**—Approximately 47 members and interns joined the virtual meeting and one guest speaker.

**Format of the Meeting**—**John O’Connell** displayed and reviewed the following reminders to attendees:

- Turn off microphone and turn off video to save on bandwidth
- The meeting will be recorded
- How to ask a question using the chat box
- The chat room will be monitored; hold questions until the end of each presentation.

**Nature Note**—**Mickey Dufilho** spoke on “Chagas’ Disease: What Every Master Naturalist Should Know.”

**Speaker**—**Brian Roberts**, Wildlife Habitat Federation, spoke on “Restoring Coastal Prairies.”  
Contact: [brian.robert@whf-texas.org](mailto:brian.robert@whf-texas.org); 254-749-2237

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**President’s Update**—**Bill Ahlstrom** presented the following information:

- Procedure for electing 2021 officers; voting will take place during December General Meeting; virtual voting specifics TBD
- Additional pin to be awarded for 2020 service of at least one-hour AT and eight-hours VT
- Sideoats Gramma is recertification pin for 2021
- Chapter award winners at State Meeting
- 2021 Annual Meeting in Irving (near Dallas); likely a combination of live and virtual
- Two virtual volunteer fairs in 2021.

**Treasurer’s Report**—**Don Sabathier** presented the October financial statement:

**October 1-31, 2020, COT Treasurer Report**

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	\$ 11,762.10
Revenue Summary	\$ .20 <sup>1</sup>
Expense Summary	(\$ 0.00) <sup>2</sup>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	\$ 11,762.30

<sup>1</sup> PayPal did not send notice of the monthly contribution of 23.97; therefore, the November financials will show two contributions.

<sup>2</sup> There will be a couple of large expenses in November: State text/field books and field communications system for intern classes.



**2021 EcoFund Grants—Kristine Rivers** presented information on the 2021 grant, the application for which is on the website. Kristine will also send the information via email to all members. The deadline for submission is December 31.

**Volunteer Hours and Awards—John Boettiger**, Membership Director, provided the following data through October 31.

Impact Data	# Adults	# Youth	Total
<b>YTD Totals—October 31</b>	2,318	6,411	8,729
<b>October 1-31</b>	200	140	340

Period	VT Hours	AT Hours
<b>YTD Totals—October 31</b>	9,657	1,764
<b>October 1-31</b>	778	338

250 VT Hours Milestone	1,000 VT Hours Milestone
Debbie Nance    Kathy Pittman Jim Nance        Connie Stolte	Jo Myers

**Ideas for Volunteer Service—Oron Atkins**, Volunteer Service Director, noted the following opportunities.

- **Survey of the Spiders of Southern Brazoria County**—Contact Melanie Hollinshead (will begin sometime in January or February)
- **Hudson Woods Apple Snail Removal via Kayak**—two trips weekly; contact Thomas Adams, [thomas\\_p\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:thomas_p_adams@fws.gov)
- **TCWP at GCBO Workday**—November 19, 9a to 12p; contact Chris Kneupper
- **GCBO Native Plant Workday**—every Thursday until further notice; 8:30a to 11:30a; contact Chris Kneupper
- **BCPD Trail Day**—third Thursday of the month; 8a to 12p; contact Mike Mullenweg
- **Nurdle Beach Patrol**—self directed
- **Trash Collection/Analysis Project**—self-directed or monthly at the beach by contacting Luanne and Jimmy Salinas; see calendar.

**Fall New Intern Training Class—Mary Schwartz** provided an update on the fall class:

- In the final month of this training class
- Intern project presentations at the December General Meeting
- Spring training class will begin in February (Thursday evenings virtual training; Saturday field trips)
- Need volunteers for spring training team; contact Mary Schwartz.



**CRADLE OF TEXAS CHAPTER**  
AGRILIFE EXTENSION BLDG.  
21017 CR 171, Angleton, TX 77515-8903  
<https://txmn.org/tmncot/>

**President: Bill Ahlstrom** adjourned the General Meeting at 10:56 a.m. Time codes allocated were:

- Presentation Code "AT: I Received Training," 1.5 hours
- Chapter Business Meetings Code "CB: Chapter Meetings and Admin," .5 hour.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Ladd Myers, Secretary, TMN-COT

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