



## TMN-COT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, March 10, 2021, 9:00 a.m. – 11:03 a.m.

via Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service's Microsoft Teams Meeting license

**Mickey Dufilho, President**, called the meeting to order.

**Attendance**—Approximately 75 members joined the virtual meeting.

**Format of the Meeting**—**John O'Connell** displayed 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.

**FEATURED SPEAKER**—**Melanie Hollenshead**, COT Member, spoke on “Basic Spider Biology.”

**Nature Note**—**Bob Whitmarsh**, COT Member, spoke on “Side Oats Grama.”

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**President's Update**—**Mickey Dufilho** shared the following:

- **#TMNTuesdays** presented by the State Office on the second Tuesday of each month. Can count AT time if attending live or listening afterwards. Link is on the State website

**VT Opportunities**—**Oron Atkins** provided the following after reminding members that Brazoria remains a red county; therefore, volunteers must maintain social distance, wear masks, and work in family groups.

- **Harvest for the Hungry**—Possible restoration project; more information later
- **GCBO's Spring Fling at Quintana Neotropical Bird Sanctuary**—April 3 through May 8; Regina Tippettt coordinating; planning underway (\*John O'Connell noted that he has not yet received new volunteer guidelines based on the governor's announcement yesterday. He requested a small committee to determine COT's preparedness plan); Mickey will contact Regina for latest information
- **Adopt-a-Loop**—Possible citizen science opportunity for COT from TPWD's Great Texas Wildlife Trails program. Oron explained the requirements for participation; Deb Nance has offered to coordinate and procure volunteers; we need to decide which trail loops to support; the Board agreed to support participation
- **Trash Collection/Disposal Analysis Project**—self-directed
- **Nurdle Beach Patrol**—self-directed
- **Brazoria County Comprehensive Spider Survey**—(upcoming) self-directed; contact Melanie Hollenshead.

**Outreach Director**—Ruby Lewis provided the following:

- **Brazoria Heritage Day**—March 6. FOBWR is attending and will hand out TMN literature



- **Sea Center Texas Nature Day**—April 17; scaled down, outdoor event; socially distanced.

**Speakers Bureau Coordinator**—Kristine Rivers said that Osher Lifelong Learning Institute needs presenters for their summer program.

**Treasurer’s Report**—**Don Sabathier** presented the February financial statement and reminded members to pay their COT \$25 dues for 2021 (COT website, mail to Don, or via TDECU).

**February 1-28, 2021, COT Treasurer Report**

<b><u>Beginning Balance</u></b>	\$ 11,370.69
Revenue Summary	\$ 808.55
Expense Summary	\$ 399.38
<b><u>Ending Balance</u></b>	\$ 11,779.86

**Volunteer Hours and Awards**—**John Boettiger**, Membership Director, announced the following data for February, as provided by Dave Brandes.

Impact Data	# Adults	# Youth	Total
<b>YTD Totals—February 28</b>	169	43	212

Period	VT Hours	AT Hours
<b>YTD Totals—February 28</b>	2,168	534

2021 Recertifications	1000 VT Hours Milestone
John Boettiger Dave Brandes Melanie Hollenshead Larry Kirby	Vicki Kirby Lisa Myers Debbie Nance Larry Peterson  Chip Sweet

John reviewed the plan to distribute 2020 certification, recertification, and milestone pins. **The following “City Czars” have volunteered to coordinate distribution with members after all pins are received from State.** Also reported was the number of recipients per milestone for 2020. He has all the milestone pins needed for 2020 except for 15,000 hours, and he has not been told when he will receive special 2020 pins or how quickly he will receive 2021 pins after requesting them.



**CRADLE OF TEXAS CHAPTER**  
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<https://txmn.org/tmncot/>

CITY CZAR	# OF 2020 RECERTIFICATIONS	CITIES IN BRAZORIA COUNTY	2020 Hours	# of Recipients
John Boettiger	15	Part of Lake Jackson and others	250	8
Oron Atkins	12	Part of Lake Jackson	500	7
Bob Whitmarsh	12	Part of Lake Jackson		
Daveyon Edwards	3	Angleton	1000	4
Kathy Pittman	11	Alvin and Rosharon	2500	2
Mickey Dufilho	7	Brazoria, West Columbia & Sweeny	4000	2
Mary Schwatz	4 plus 1	Freeport, Clute & Initial Certification	5000	1
Larry Peterson	2	Manvel	10,000	0
Don Sabathier	1	Pearland		
	67 plus 1		15,000	1

**President: Mickey Dufilho** adjourned the General Meeting at 11:03 a.m. Time codes allocated were:

- Presentation Code “AT: I Received Training,” 1.5 hours
- Chapter Business Meetings Code “CB: Chapter Meetings and Admin,” 0.5 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)