



TMN-COT GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday, May 12, 2021, 9:00 a.m. – 10:48 a.m.
via Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service’s Microsoft Teams Meeting license

Mickey Dufilho, President, called the meeting to order.

Attendance—Approximately 71 members and one guest joined the virtual meeting.

Format of the Meeting—**Mickey Dufilho** 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.

Volunteer Hours and recertifications—On behalf of **John Boettinger**, Membership Director, Mickey announced the following data for April, as provided by Dave Brandes. Mickey also reminded members to pick up their pins at the AgriLIFE office in Angleton or Sea Center Texas in Lake Jackson.

Impact Data	# Adults	# Youth	Total
YTD Totals—April 30	1708	2504	4212

Period	VT Hours	AT Hours
YTD Totals—April 30*	4246	998

* April only: 1177 VT and 192 AT Hours

2021 Recertifications		250 Hours Milestones	500 Hours Milestone	1000 Hours Milestone
James Calvert	Don Sabathier	Barbera Yoder Rose Wagner	Debbie Nance	Regina Tippett
Jerry Eppner	Jimmy Salinas			
Jackie Hicks	Luanne Salinas			
Phil Huxford	Mary Schwartz			
Karen Mosis	Chip Sweet			
Malcolm Mosis	Anna Tobias			

Nature Note—**Chris Kneupper**, COT Member, spoke on “Some Old Maps of Texas, 1727-1822.”

FEATURED SPEAKER—**Kristine Rivers**, Birding for Fun, COT member, spoke on “A Bird’s Eye View on Behavior.”

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 for each month is on the State TMN website under #TMNTuesdays
- **Be the Change initiative by Texas Parks and Wildlife:** Exploring diversity, equity and inclusion opportunities in our natural resource and conservation community. May 18, 12 p.m. CST, is the next installment in this mini-webinar series. The speaker is Alex Bailey or Black Outside, Inc. More information will be sent via the State email listserve and at <https://txmn.tamu.edu/bethechange/#may>. You must register in advance, and it counts as AT.
- **Nature Reflections:** One year later; upload short videos or other content by June 15
- **2021 Annual Meeting:** October 21-24 will be a hybrid event with both live and virtual formats
- **Virtual Plant Party:** June 23, 10-11:30 a.m.; subject is invasives; must register
- **Chapter Survey to Determine Readiness to Return to In-person Meetings:** Tentative plan is July but depends on survey results; please respond to survey.

Outreach Director—On behalf of Ruby Lewis, Mickey reported attendance on the following recent events and reported on upcoming events:

- **Sea Center Texas Nature Day—**April 17; attendance 949
- **Surfside World Migratory Bird Day—**April 24; attendance 50
- **City of Clute Earth Day—**April 24; attendance 50

Upcoming:

- **Summer Fest** in Pearland—July 3
- **Brazos Mall** event—August ?
- **GCB0 Xtreme Hummingbird Xtravaganza—**September 18 and 25
- **Brazoria County Bird Bash** (Angleton)—October 9

VT Opportunities—Oron Atkins provided the following VT-related opportunities.

- **Adopt-a-Loop—**TPWD's Great Texas Wildlife Trails program; still looking for more volunteers; initial list of entries should be done by late May; Deb Nance coordinating
- **Beach Sweep Trash Collection/Disposal Analysis Project—**self-directed; monthly group meets at 8 a.m. at Quintana Fishing Pier; contact Jimmy and Luanne Salinas
- **Nurdle Beach Patrol—**self-directed
- **Brazoria County Comprehensive Spider Survey—**(upcoming) self-directed; contact Melanie Hollenshead
- **Apple Snail Removal at Hudson Woods—**Contact is David Heinicke, but contact Oron first if interested
- **Sea Turtle Patrol—**(training required and has occurred) contact Roland Davis; so far, the turtles are very late in nesting this year; juvenile green turtles may have been impacted by the cold snap; contact Roland David



- **Pollinator Citizen Science Project 2021**—(training/testing required); self-directed
- **Exploration Green Nursery, Volunteer Workdays**—May 15, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (must RSVP; screening form and face mask required); potting plants May 13; contact Christie Taylor.

Kristine Rivers added that the Big Sit birding event at Heritage Park in League City needs volunteer birders on May 15; the kickoff event with food trucks and a video starring Jack Black is on May 14.

Treasurer’s Report—Don Sabathier presented the March financial statement.

April 1-30, 2021, COT Treasurer Report

<u>Beginning Balance</u>	\$ 11,970.80
Revenue Summary	\$ 149.07
Expense Summary	\$ 0.00
<u>Ending Balance</u>	\$ 12,119.87

President: Mickey Dufilho adjourned the General Meeting at 10:48 a.m. Time codes allocated were:

- Presentation Code “AT: I Received Training,” **1.25 hours**
- Chapter Business Meetings Code “CB: Chapter Meetings and Admin,” **1 hour.**

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

Cc: Board Members
Crystal Andablo, AgriLIFE Secretary, Crystal.Andablo@ag.tamu.edu

Immediately following the meeting, Jimmy Salinas provided brief information on House Bill 2711, that reinstates the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality’s ability to attend hearings. At this point, the bill appears to be dead in the senate and cannot be reintroduced for another two years. Jimmy has additional information to share with those who are interested. You may also contact your representatives to provide your input.