



(May 2021)		
Adopt-a-Loop	Mickey Dufilho	Mch2021: Mickey will contact Deb Nance for more information and to present at next week's general meeting Apr: Deb has contacted interested people; plans proceeding; likely starting in May May: Volunteers have started looking at the loops
Survey members regarding their position on resuming in-person meetings (Apr 2021)	Mickey Dufilho, John O'Connell	John will verify how many can fit in auditorium with social distancing; Mickey recommended July as the first in-person meeting; the board will discuss at the May Board Meeting May: Mickey will finish drafting survey this week and will report results at June General Meeting

BOARD REPORTS and OTHER TOPICS

President's Report—Mickey Dufilho reported on the following:

- **Presidents Meeting**—
 - **Pins Update:** The State Office has finally received backordered pins; Mickey will ask members to return to John Boettiger any duplicate pins received
 - **Be the Change:** Third Tuesdays at 12 noon; on diversity/equality/inclusion; Kristine Rivers is chairing the COT committee
 - **TMN License Plate:** Available to order on-line starting June 21
 - **2021 Annual Meeting:** October 21-24; hybrid event with both live and virtual formats: cost not yet set, ~\$300-350 in person; ~\$60 virtual
 - A few board members are considering attending in person; Connie cannot attend and will need a sub to attend the State Rep meeting
 - Video contest deadline 10/1
 - Virtual project fair due 10/12
 - Virtual photo, art, and media contest
 - No vendors
 - Looking for sponsors
 - **Virtual Volunteer Fair:** August/September; call for proposals
 - **Vote on new board member representing 2020 class (to replace Daveyon Edwards):** Mary reached out to a few people, but no one has volunteered
 - **July General Meeting:** Per member survey, we will need to have a hybrid meeting; we are not allowed to ask vaccination status or require masks; regarding drinks/snacks, the easiest option is bring your own; John will determine how many people can fit in the meeting room with reasonable social distancing

Past President—Bill Ahlstrom stated that funding has been secured for Lakeside Park. There will be many and varied opportunities for volunteering in the future.

General Meeting Programs—Vice President Kathy Pittman provided the following status on upcoming, general-meeting speakers:

- **June**—**John O'Connell and Dana Morisse-Arnold** on "Rainwater Conservation and Harvesting," followed by a survey to gauge interest in a COT-only, hands on, build-your-

own-rain-barrel workshop (Stephen Brueggerhoff is considering a public workshop in September; Nature Note, **Lisa Myers** on “Celebrating Historic Whooping Crane Nests in Texas”

- **July—Morgan Ayers**, Natural Resources Specialist, Texas Sea Grant, Corpus Christi, on “Watershed Management and Conservation”; Nature Note TBD
- **August—Tentative; Haille Leija**, Habitat Restoration Manager, Galveston Bay Foundation, and **Bill Rodney**, Coast Ecologist, TPWD, on a joint project with the Nature Conservancy of Texas to complete an oyster reef restoration project in Galveston and Trinity Bays (Connie and John O’Connell had suggestions for an alternate speaker); Nature Note TBD
- **September—Tentative; Deborah January-Bevers**, President, and **Kim Philippi**, Senior Director of Collaborative Grants, Houston Wilderness, on “Use of Native ‘Super Trees’ to Mitigate Pollution, Noise, and Provide Habitat Around Industrial Sites and Other Areas”; Nature Note TBD

Treasurer’s Report—Don Sabathier presented the May 2021 financial information, below. He indicated that a few people have not yet renewed; however, John Minkert has now renewed [see Motion, above], Marlies Greenwood is not renewing; Cindy Vincent is moving; Joycelynn Grigson, Mary Holler, and Karen Leder intend to renew.

1-31 May 2021, COT Treasurer Report

<u>Beginning Balance</u>	\$ 12,119.87
Revenue Summary	\$ 48.92
Expense Summary	\$ 0.00
<u>Ending Balance</u>	\$ 12,168.79

Membership—John Boettiger presented Data Manager Dave Brandes’ May impact and recertification data for inclusion in the minutes.

Impact Data	# Adults	# Youth	Total
YTD Totals—May 31	2108	4614	6722

Period	VT Hours	AT Hours
YTD Totals—May 31*	5357	1117

* May only: 865 VT and 82 AT Hours

2021 Recertifications		250 Hours Milestone*	500 Hours Milestone*	1000 Hours Milestone*
Marty Cornell	Kim Richardson	Rose Wagner Barbara Yoder	Debbie Nance	Regina Tippet
Angela Griffin	Andy Smith			
Brenda Martin	Janet Townsend			
Georgia Monnerat	Rose Wagner			
Kathleen Purvis	Barbara Yoder			
Kyle Purvis				

*These are April milestones (accidentally re-reported); no new May milestones.

State Representative—Connie Stolte reported that Michelle Hagerty in the State Office has a new, 3'x6' chapter banner for us.

Training Director—Mary Schwartz has approximately 12 people interested in the next class; a few work during the day and therefore cannot attend daytime training. Mary has not yet secured a co-director.

Volunteer Service Director—Oron Atkins reported on and/or updated the following opportunities:

- **TCWP at GCBO Workday**—June 17, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.; contact Chris Kneupper
- **Trash Collection/Disposal Analysis Project**—self-directed
- **Beach Sweep Trash Collection/Disposal Analysis Project**—June 8, 8 a.m. at Quintana Fishing Pier; contact Jimmy and Luanne Salinas
- **Nurdle Beach Patrol**—self-directed; contact Jace Turnell
- **Brazoria County Comprehensive Spider Survey**—self-directed; contact Melanie Hollenshead.
- **Adopt-a-Loop for TMN**—self-directed; contact Deb Nance
- **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; it has been a very slow year for turtle-nest sightings along the Gulf
- **Pollinator Citizen Science Project 2021**—(training/testing required); self-directed; <https://txmq.org/bluebonnet/pollinator-citizen-science-project-opens-again-march-22-2021/#:~:text=The%20purpose%20of%20the%20project,USA%2C%20namely%20Texas%20and%20Oklahoma>
- **Exploration Green Nursery, Volunteer Workdays**—June 12, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (must RSVP at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/exploration-green-phase-2-planting-event-tickets-156553115583>; screening form and face mask required); contact Christie Taylor.

Advanced Training Director—Bob Whitmarsh indicated a possible opportunity for a member field trip to the new Cannan Bend Recreation Center in October. Bob said that he will contact Melanie Hollenshead regarding the schedule for Advanced Spider Training and Field Trip.

Outreach Director—Ruby Lewis reported attendance on the following recent events:

- **BC Library System videos in lieu of in-person summer programs**—on-line via BCLS website
- **BCPD Camp Mohawk County Park Nature Camp**—June 7-10; volunteer spaces filled
- **BCPD Quintana Beach Nature Camp**—June 21-24, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.; contact Mike Mullenweg
- **Summerfest** in Pearland—July 3; we are presenting birds and reptiles
- **Kids' Kollege @ Brazosport College**—July 12-16, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., 6-8-year-olds; July 19-23, 9-12-year-olds, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- **Brazos Mall** event—August (date TBD)
- **GCBO Xtreme Hummingbird Xtravaganza**—September 18 and 25 (we will have two booths; need volunteers)
- **Brazoria County Bird Bash** (Northside Elementary School, Angleton)—October 9
- **Friends of Brazoria Wildlife Refuges Open Houses:**
 - September 11 at Hudson Woods Unit of SBNWR
 - October 9 at Cannan Bend Recreation Center

- o November 13 at SBNWR Bobcat Woods Trail
- o December 26 through January 1 at Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge

Chapter Host—Rose Wagner indicated she will announce at the June meeting that refreshments for the July General Meeting will not be provided; members may BYO. The COT 20th anniversary committee is meeting after the board meeting, and Rose will provide an update at next week’s General Meeting.

Communications Director—Larry Peterson said that our Facebook page is getting a lot of hits. He added that Angela Griffin has joined the communications committee.

Chapter Advisor(s)—John O’Connell said that he did not yet have a schedule for “Water Wednesdays” for the Water Specialist Certification.

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 (Feb 2019)	Ruby Lewis	October	Tabled	To share information with the public and for COT PR purposes March 2019: No update (Ruby absent) April: Ruby says BCLS would like to display them at libraries that have space. Ruby will coordinate a schedule and transport by a TMN member June: Ruby will work out details in September Sept/Oct/Nov: no update Feb 2020: No action; Ruby will follow up Apr: Not discussed; libraries are closed May: Libraries still closed Jun/Jul/Aug: Libraries opened for limited hours/access; too soon for the displays
Review and update partners webpage (Aug 2019) (see below also)	Oron Atkins	ASAP	Ongoing	Sept: Oron has updated and will provide Neal with information to post on website Oct: Oron working to finalize changes Nov: 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 Dec: Agreements being worked on Feb2020: Agreements being worked on Apr: Agreements being worked on May: No update; Bill said Angleton Parks & Recreation Department wants to be a VPAR Apr/May/June 2021: No update
Update VPAR agreements (Aug 2019)	Oron Aktins	ASAP	Ongoing	Sept: 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 Oct: Oron working with Pete and Peggy; there was some discussion about putting the planetarium and museum under one VPAR



				<p>Feb 2020: 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</p> <p>May: Bill said Angleton Parks and Recreation Department (APRD) is applying to be a new partner</p> <p>Jun: Bill said that APRD is requesting changes to its VPAR that Bill will send to the board; Oron will follow up</p> <p>Jul: Bill said APRD will respond on/about August 1</p> <p>Aug: No update; Larry asked whether we should pursue a partnership agreement with Flo Hannah Prairie, but this is covered as it will be managed by our VPAR with TPWD NWRs</p> <p>Sep: Bill has been contacted by City of Angleton attorney; he is to meet with him about Angleton Parks and Recreation Dept</p> <p>Apr/May/June 2021: No update</p>
Committee to draft wording for harassment and accommodations for disability policies (May 2020) and... Committee to form action plan on diversity/equality/inclusion per State (May 2021)	Kristine Rivers		Ongoing	
Hold a brief training session on entering hours in VMS via Smart Phone (Mch 2020)	?	TBD	Tabled	<p>To facilitate the capture of more volunteer hours</p> <p>Apr2020: Not discussed</p> <p>May: No update</p> <p>Jun: Tabled pending in-person general meetings</p> <p>Aug: Bill says there are two sessions on this at State Annual Meeting</p>
COT 20 th Anniversary Celebration Committee (Jan 2021)	Rose Wagner, Mickey Dufilho, Lisa Myers, Connie Stolte, John Boettiger	TBD	On-going	<p>Rose will also ask members of the host committee if they also wish to participate</p> <p>Feb: Committee met 2/1; the committee suggested that the anniversary celebration and Hog Wild be combined on Dec.8, and Ed Barrios agreed to offer his house as the venue; however, no alcohol allowed if this is an official TMN event; caterer for appetizers TBD</p> <p>Mch: Meeting today</p> <p>Apr/May/June: Ongoing; Rose will report at the June General Meeting</p>
Determine whether a Co-Director of training should be a board position and if there is any constraint in the Operating Handbook (Apr 2021)	Board, Connie Stolte, Mary Schwartz	ASAP	Ongoing	<p>Mary is also considering moving the training day from Wednesday, and possibly at night, and field trips on Saturday. Mary has a couple of candidates in mind for the Co-Director</p> <p>May: Connie says handbook says there is one chair and committee members; we can amend by vote of membership; we can also have a non-voting vice-chair. Tabled until June meeting</p> <p>Jun: Connie suggests having a vice-chair who is welcome to attend board meetings as adding board members requires amending the Operating Handbook. Lisa added that less than two years ago, we trimmed the size of the board</p>
NEW Action Item(s) Added at June Meeting	Who?	Due date?	Comments	
Set up on-line registration for those wishing to register for one of the in-person slots for the July General	John O'Connell	ASAP	John will determine the number of people who can attend in person with reasonable social distancing We will keep the current agenda of having Nature Notes and	





Meeting			guest speakers at the beginning of meetings
Discuss the option of when/how to have periodic evening/weekend General Meetings in order to accommodate those who work during weekdays	Board	Future	

President: Mickey Dufilho adjourned the Board Meeting at 11:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
 Lisa Ladd Myers, Secretary

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

Attendance List
 Cradle of Texas Master Naturalist
BOARD Meeting – AGRILIFE EXTENSION

COUNTY: Brazoria Time: 9:00 am DATE: June 2, 2021

Name	Name
1. DON SABATHIER	12. Lisa L Myers
2. Bill Ahlstrom	13. Mickey Dufilho
3. Dron ATKINS	14.
4. JOHN P. O'Connell	15.
5. Connie Stoltz	16.
6. Bob Whitmarsh	17.
7. LARRY PETERSON	18.
8. Katy W Pullman	19.
9. Mary Stewart	20.
10. Rosell Wayne	21.
11. Rudy Lewis	22.

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Attendance 2021	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Elected Board Members													
Mickey Dufilho	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Kathy Pittman	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Sabathier, Don	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Myers, Lisa	X		X	X	X	X							
Advisors													
O'Connell, John	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Cason, Paul		X		X									
Immediate Past President													
Bill Ahlstrom	X		X	X	X	X							
Appointed Board Members													
Atkins, Oron	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Boettiger, John	X	X	X										
Edwards, Daveyon	X	X	X										
Lewis, Ruby	X	X	X		X	X							
Peterson, Larry	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Schwartz, Mary	X	X	X	X		X							
Stolte, Connie	X		X	X	X	X							
Wagner, Rose	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Whitmarsh, Bob			X	X		X							
Rivers, Kristine (non-voting)	X		X										
Guests													
Crystal Andalbo				X									
Neal McLain				X									