



TMN-COT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, September 8, 2021, 9:00 a.m. – 11:29 a.m.

In Person and Via Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service’s Microsoft Teams Meeting License

Mickey Dufilho, President, called the meeting to order.

Attendance—15 members in person; approximately 51 virtually; and four guests

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—**John Boettiger**, Membership Director, announced the following data for August, as provided by Dave Brandes. John reminded members to pick up their pins at the front table and afterwards, at AgriLIFE.

Impact Data	# Adults	# Youth	Total
YTD Totals—August 31	3486	5417	8903

Period	VT Hours	AT Hours
YTD Totals—August 31	7409	1395

* August only: 646 VT and 41 AT Hours

2021 Recertifications
Anne Bettinger

Wintering Loggerhead Shrike Project, Year Two—**Sue Heath**, GCBO Director of Conservation Research, provided an overview of the birds and the project and indicated that volunteers were needed starting in November. Contact her at sheath@gcbo.org.

FEATURED SPEAKER—**Deborah January-Bevers**, President and CEO, Houston Wilderness, spoke on “Use of Native ‘Super Trees’ to Mitigate Pollution, Noise, and Provide Habitat Around Industrial Sites and Other Areas.”

Nature Note—**Richard Schaffhausen** spoke on “2021 Birds of Resoft County Park Rookery.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Mickey Dufilho—The two scholarship winners for the virtual, TMN Annual Meeting are Angela Griffin and Cynthia Grandjean.



Chapter Host—Rose Wagner reported the following regarding the COT 20th Anniversary Celebration:

- December 8 lunchtime with On the River catering at First Presbyterian Church in Angleton
- Historical photos are needed (send to Mickey Dufilho)
- Adopt-a-table, table decorating contest prize is a marsh buggy ride for eight people at San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge
- Registration and t-shirt orders will be electronic via Eventbrite
- Photographers are needed for the event.

Outreach Director—On behalf of **Ruby Lewis**, Mickey Dufilho reported the following, upcoming events:

- **Surfside Beach Nature Fest**—September 9, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; contact Ruby Lewis
- **Refuge Saturday at Hudson Woods Unit**—September 11, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; volunteers needed at 10 a.m., contact Ruby Lewis
- **GCBO's Xtreme Hummingbird Extravaganza**—September 18 and 25; contact GCBO
- **Brazoria County Bird Bash** (Northside Elementary School, Angleton)—October 9
- **Refuge Saturday and Grand Opening, Cannan Bend Recreation Area**—October 16, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; volunteers needed at 10 a.m.; contact Phil Huxford
- **KBR Kids Day**—October 23, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; contact Ruby Lewis
- **Halloween Spooktacular at Sea Center Texas**—October 24, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.; contact Ruby Lewis.

Contact Ruby Lewis rublewis77515@ymail.com or 979-583-7903.

VT Opportunities—Oron Atkins highlighted a few of the following opportunities:

- **GCBO Nursery Garden Work Day**—Every Thursday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and Saturday; contact Chris Kneupper
- **Trash Collection/Disposal Analysis Project**—self-directed
- **Beach Sweep Trash Collection/Disposal Analysis Project**—September 13, 8 a.m. at Quintana Fishing Pier via 8th Street; contact Jimmy and Luanne Salinas (bring trash grabbers, 5-gallon bucket, gloves, mosquito repellent, comfortable clothing/hat, closed-toe shoes, sunscreen, water/refreshments, sunglasses, face mask, Clean Swell app); lunch at Sweet T's Diner afterwards
- **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**—September 10; Contact David Heinicke
- **Pollinator Citizen Science Project 2021**—(training/testing required); self-directed; <https://txmg.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**—September date TBD, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.; see their website (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
- **Brazoria County Parks Department Cleanup**—Third Thursday; contact Mike Mullenweg.



Intern Training—Mary Schwartz introduced the 14 COT new class interns via a PowerPoint presentation. She added that there will be a spring class as well.

TMN Tuesdays—Mickey Dufilho reminded members of the September 14 topic: “The Secret Life of Squirrels”; register via the State website.

Be The Change Committee Chair—Kristine Rivers asked members interested in joining the committee to contact her.

President’s Update—Mickey noted the following:

- Evening General Meetings: Odd-numbered month date and time to be determined according to the member-survey results
- Water Wednesdays on third Wednesday; contact John O’Connell
- COT Member AT Field Day at Cannan Bend Recreation Center, October 13, 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Sea Center Texas Events: September 4, Public Youth Fishing; September 11, Boater Education Training; September 18, Angler Education Instructor Training

Treasurer’s Report—Don Sabathier presented the August financial statement, below.

1-31 August 2021, COT Treasurer Report

<u>Beginning Balance</u>	\$ 12,341.88
Revenue Summary	\$ 1,023.72
Expense Summary	\$ 372.45
<u>Ending Balance</u>	\$ 12,993.15

President—Mickey Dufilho Indicated that hybrid General Meetings will continue as long as needed. She adjourned the General Meeting at 11:29 a.m. Time codes allocated were:

- Presentation Code “AT: I Received Training,” **1.5 hour**
- Chapter Business Meetings Code “CB: Chapter Meetings and Admin,” **1 hour** plus travel time not to exceed 1.0 hour.

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

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