

Texas Master Naturalists Cradle of Texas Chapter

General Meeting

Wednesday February 9, 2022



WELCOME

The meeting will start at 9 am

- ▶ In person - please mute your cell phones
- ▶ **Online - When you enter the meeting:**
 - ▶ Please place your microphones on mute
 - ▶ Please turn off your video to save on bandwidth
 - ▶ For questions use chat box.
 - ▶ Chat room will be monitored, and questions will be answered at end of the presentation
 - ▶ **If you want closed captions, turn it on - click on ... at top of screen - click on enable closed caption**
- ▶ This presentation will be recorded

Agenda

- ▶ **Welcome - Kathy Pittman**
- ▶ **Recognize visitors**
- ▶ **Volunteer hours, Certifications and Milestones - John Boettiger**
- ▶ **AT Presentation - Jeff Bayer, TPWD Hatchery Biologist at Sea Center Texas - “Management and Stock Enhancement of Southern Flounder in Texas”**
- ▶ **Break**
- ▶ **Nature Notes - Brenda Stitt - Erosion at San Luis Pass**
- ▶ **Announcements**
 - ▶ AT Day Update - Bob Whitmarsh and Kristine Rivers
 - ▶ Outreach Update - Ruby Lewis
 - ▶ Volunteer Opportunities - Oron Atkins
 - ▶ Intern Class Update- Mary Schwartz
 - ▶ Financial Report - Don Sabathier
 - ▶ Refreshments Committee- Rose Wagner
 - ▶ Meeting AT and VT hours - Bob Whitmarsh
- ▶ **Adjourn**

URGENT!!!

Open Board Position - Secretary

We are now heading in to our second month with an open Secretary position.

We've talked to several members with some interest, but as of yet we do not have a volunteer. Please email me at pittman@tmn-cot.org if you would be willing to assist the Board with this important role!!!

Volunteer hours, certifications, milestones - John Boettiger

- ▶ Initial certifications - none for January
- ▶ Recertifications - none

- ▶ Milestones -
 - ▶ 250 Hours - Lisa Martinez
 - ▶ 1000 hours - Larry Peterson

 - ▶ From 2021 - Chris Kneupper, 4000 hours, PCTSA



Volunteer hours, certifications, milestones - *cont.*

- ▶ Total Hours January 2022 December
 - ▶ VT - 755.0 hours
 - ▶ AT - 126.3 hours



Featured Speaker - Jeff Bayer

“Management and Stock Enhancement of Southern Flounder in Texas”

- ▶ Biology Degree, Univ. Southern Mississippi, 1994
- ▶ 13+ years as biologist, manager, and owner Small Fry Fish Farm and Bayou Self Bass
- ▶ Joined Sea Center Texas in 2011
- ▶ Works with red drum, spotted seatrout and Southern flounder



Jeff Bayer

BREAK - 5 Minutes

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. The shapes are primarily triangles and polygons, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The overall composition is clean and modern, with the text positioned in the upper left quadrant.

Nature Note - Brenda Stitt “Erosion at San Luis Pass”



Photos : San Luis Pass County Park Website

Update on 2022 AT Day - Bob Whitmarsh

- ▶ Saturday March 19th - to be held VIRTUALLY
- ▶ Free for Chapter Members, \$10 for non members
- ▶ Five presenters on various topics
- ▶ Zoom platform/registration details will follow
- ▶ Our Theme is “Animal Behaviors” and here’s how YOU can be involved.....

Call for 2022 AT Day Contributions!

Our theme is Animal Behavior, and we're seeking fun facts to be included in a slideshow during the event.

Its easy to participate! Just follow these guidelines:

- ▶ Choose an animal that can be seen in the Brazoria County area.
- ▶ Come up with a fun fact about that animal's behavior.
- ▶ Send your contribution to Bob Whitmarsh in the following format:
 - Title (up to 25 characters)
 - Fun Fact (up to 125 characters)
 - Original Photo (optional)

Fun Fact example

Title - “CLEANING WITH DIRT????”

FACT - Like many species of birds, Northern Crested Caracaras clean their feathers by taking dust baths to absorb excess oil.



Public Outreach Opportunities

- Ruby Lewis

Upcoming Opportunities

Volunteer Opportunities – Oron Atkins

Upcoming VT Opportunities - Feb/Mar 2022

- ▶ **Exploration Green Work Day** - every Wed/Thur, 8 AM to 11 AM - contact Christie Taylor
- ▶ **GCBO Nursery Garden Work Day** - every Thursday, 8 AM to 12 PM - contact Chris Kneupper
- ▶ **Trash Collection/Disposal Analysis Project** - self directed
- ▶ **Beach Sweep** - 3/7, 8 AM Quintana Jetties- contacts Jimmy/Luanne Salinas
- ▶ **USF&W Refuge Trail Maintenance** - 2/14 Cedar Lake Plantation, 8 AM to 12 PM - contact Lisa Myers
- ▶ **BCPD Trail Work Day Hanson Park** - 2/17, 8 AM to 12 PM - contact Mike Mullenweg

Volunteer Opportunities – Oron Atkins

- ▶ **Pearland Parks & Recreation Natural Resources Workday** - first Thursday of every month, locations TBA, 8 AM to 11 AM **THURSDAY 2/10!!!!**
- ▶ **TP&WD Fishing Gear Maintenance** - 2/19, 10 AM to 2 PM - contact Greg Akins
- ▶ **Nurdle Beach Patrol** - Jace Turnell - self directed
- ▶ **Brazoria County Comprehensive Spider Survey** - Melanie Hollinshead - self directed
- ▶ **Adopt a Loop for TMN** - contact Debbie Nance - self directed
- ▶ **Pollinator Citizen Science Project 2022** (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>

Intern Class Update– Mary Schwartz

- ▶ Spring Class - cancelled
- ▶ Consider how YOU can help publicize and increase interest in our Program with friends, family, and at public events!!!
- ▶ Training director position working with Mary for the Fall class

Financial Report – Don Sabathier

January 2022

Beginning Balance	\$ 9,936.34
Revenue Summary	2,207.35
Expense Summary	734.76
Ending Balance	\$11,409.53

Annual Dues of \$25 are now payable

Refreshments Committee - Rose Wagner

Thank you to everyone who brought snacks today, and please sign up for a future meeting if you haven't volunteered yet!!

Odds and Ends and Special Recognitions-

Kathy Pittman

- ▶ Phishing attempts - Many Chapters have reports “phishing” emails going to their members. We have seen some going to various Board members. Please know that we will never ask for account numbers, favors, or solicit money, etc. Check for bogus email addresses as the sender (ie, pres45678@gmail.com)
- ▶ Send your pictures and news items for our newsletter to Lisa Myers - news@tmn-cot.org Submission deadline is 5:00 PM on Thursday before the General Meeting. Submissions may be edited for clarity and spacing.
- ▶ **Special Recognitions**

HUGE *THANK YOU*S to

Mickey Dulfilho - Past President, Vice President and resident Mushroom Expert!

Lisa Myers - Five Years as Secretary, and Newsletter Editor Extraordinaire!

We are indebted to them for their guidance and leadership, and look forward to working with them on various projects for years to come!!!



Meeting AT and VT hours – Bob Whitmarsh

Next Meeting - Wednesday
March 9th, 2022 - 7:00 pm
meeting , 6:30 pm social time

*March Speaker: Doug Hiser,
Wildlife Conservation Artist*

Hope to see you here!!!