

**Texas Master Naturalists
Cradle of Texas Chapter
General Meeting
Wednesday January 11th, 2023, 7:00 PM**

Agenda

- Welcome and recognize visitors Kathy Pittman
- Volunteer hours, Certifications, Milestones John Boettiger
- AT Presentation – Mel McKey, TMN-COT member Jimmy Salinas
 - “Seashells of Brazoria County” (and beyond!)
- Break
- Announcements
 - 2022 Review Kathy Pittman
 - Financial Report Don Sabathier
 - Volunteer Opportunities Oron Atkins
 - Outreach Opportunities Ruby Lewis
 - Spring Intern Class Update Melanie Hollenshead
 - Annual AT Event Kristine Rivers
 - Final Items Kathy Pittman
 - Meeting AT and VT hours Kristine Rivers
 - Adjourn

Volunteer hours, certifications, milestones – John Boettiger

• **Recertifications CONGRATULATIONS !!!**

Phil Huxford Ruby Lewis

Carolyn May-Monie Tom Morris

Ken Sluis Linda Sluis

• **1000 Hour Milestone *Cindy Goodrum***

• **4000 Hour Milestone --*Lisa Myers* Way to go Lisa! Congratulations**

Impact Data – Through December 2022*

- Hours

	Month	YTD
○ VT -	999	13,317
○ AT -	58	1,923

- Impact Data
 - Adults 117 11,276
 - Youth 194 24,763
 - Total 311 36,039

**Data not considered Final until mid-February*

THANK YOU

Paul Cason, TPWD Chapter Advisor has elected to step down as Chapter Advisor and is “passing the torch” on to Jordan Kieffer, TPWD, Volunteer Coordinator for Sea Center Texas.

We are indebted to Paul for his guidance and leadership and look forward to working with Jordan as our new TPWD Advisor in the future!

Featured Speaker – Mel McKey
“Shells of Brazoria County.”

Mel’s working experiences include 3 years teaching school, 5 years in a Mariculture development project including overseas assignments and 36 years Superintendent of the Velasco Drainage District.

Lifelong natural interests have included farming, bird hunting, birding, all water related avenues - fishing, shells, snorkeling, scuba, boating.

BREAK – 10 Minutes

Thank you to these members who brought refreshments this evening!

Mickey Dufilho Pat Jeffreys Jo Myers Lorna Witt

2022 Highlights - Kathy Pittman

- 15K+ hours VT/AT
- 36K persons impacted.
- 67 members recertified, 5 initial interns
- Staffing various events - Spring Fling, Summer Camps, Fall Festivals, Sea Center Shark Week, GCBO XHX, BNWR & FOBWR Open Houses
- Jim Calvert, 2022 TPWD Distinguished Volunteer
- Spring AT Event in March
- May Field Trip to Nash Prairie with Susan Conaty
- IN PERSON Library programs Returned!
- IN PERSON Fall Intern Training
- Fall AT Day at Texas A&M Galveston Sea Turtle Rescue and Sea Life Facility
- DEEP programs Returned.
- Fall Family Picnic and Birds of Prey Program
- Monthly Beach Sweep at Quintana
- Construction Projects
- Spider Hunts
- Adopt A Loop and Bio Blitzes
- Year 4 Shrike Monitoring Project

- Apple Snail Busting
- State Annual Conference – sponsorship and scholarships

Financial Report – Don Sabathier

December 2022

Beginning Balance	\$ 7,763.76
Revenue Summary	523.93
Expense Summary	81.92
Ending Balance	\$ 8,205.77

Annual Dues of \$25 are now payable – See Kathy after the meeting

Volunteer Opportunities – Oron Atkins

- **Exploration Green Work Day** – every Wed, 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM – contact Christie Taylor
- **Trash Collection/Disposal Analysis Project** – self directed
- **Beach Sweep** – 1/9 & 2/6 - 8 AM to 10 AM, Quintana Fishing Pier– contacts Jimmy/Luanne Salinas
- GCBO Surfside Crab St Wetland Cleanup – 1/14 9am to noon
- **Dunes Day** – 1/21, 9 AM to 12 PM, Stahlman Park – contact Mike Mullenweg
- **BCPD Trail Work Day Hanson Park** –TBA - 8 AM to 12 PM – contact Mike Mullenweg
- **Pearland Parks & Recreation Natural Resources Workday** –day and Locations TBA, 8 AM to 11 AM
- **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.
- **Boardwalk Maintenance & Construction** – TBA – contact Oron Atkins
- **Resoft Park Workday** – 1/28 – see calendar for more details

Outreach Opportunities – Ruby Lewis

- **Sea Center Nature Day** – 3/25 10 am to 3 pm
- **DEEP Sessions @ BNWR**– Contact Ed Barrios at ed77566@Comcast.net

February 28 th	March 23 rd
March 2 nd	March 28 th
March 7 th	March 30 th
March 9 th	April 4 th
March 21 st	

- Ed Barrios and Phil Huxford talked about the Brazoria Palm, and that the next Refuge Walk was going to be Friday Jan 20th at the Palm Unit.

Spring Intern Class Update– Melanie Hollenshead

- Training to start mid-February
- Training will take place throughout the year.
- Appeal for Training Team Members
- Appeal for Intern Mentors
- Schedule by end of January
- Online survey - watch your email !

2023 Advanced Training Day, Saturday February 25th, 2023

- Join us via Zoom for our 6th Annual AT Day!
- Our theme this year is “A Look Back at Texas History” covering a variety of related topics.
- Contact Kristine Rivers at Kristine@birdingforfun if you would like to give a presentation or join the planning committee.

Final Items - Kathy Pittman

- Questions from the floor
- Whooping Crane Trip – get your reservation in to Tom Morris ASAP! Tom Morris - 979-297-4678 or tmorris44@comcast.net

Mail your check to Tom @

321 Linden Ln

Lake Jackson, TX 77566

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.

Meeting AT and VT hours – Kristine Rivers

- VT hours – 1.25
- AT hours - 1

Attendance - 29 in person and 22 virtual

Next Meeting – Wednesday February 8th, 2023 – 9:00 am meeting, 8:30 am social time
Bring a Friend! - *Hope to see you here!!!*

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