

**TMN-COT BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, March 1, 2023 9:02 a.m. – 10:58 a.m.

at Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service, Angleton TX

9:02 Call to Order**Kathy**

- **Welcome visitors (no Visitors)**

Attendance—

Elected Members of Board	Present	Appointed Members of Board/Committees	Present
Kathy Pittman (President)	✓	Mickey Dufilho (Immediate Past President)	N
Jimmy Salinas (Vice-President/Programs)	✓	John Boettiger (Membership Dir.)	N
Open		Melanie Hollenshead (New Class Dir.)	✓
Don Sabathier (Treasurer)	✓	Larry Peterson (Communications Dir.)	✓
		Ruby Lewis (Outreach Dir.)	N
Chapter Advisor(s)		Kristine Rivers (Advanced Training Dir.)	✓
John O'Connell (AgriLIFE Extension)	✓	Oron Atkins (Volunteer Service Dir.)	✓
Jordan Kieffer (TPWD: Sea Center Texas)	✓	Connie Stolte (State Rep.)	✓
Guests/Other		Rose Wagner (Chapter Host)	✓
Luanne Salinas	✓	Kate Harris (Class 2022 Class Rep)	✓
		Quorum	Yes

- **Agenda additions or corrections - none**
- **Approve Previous Board Minutes**—the February 2023 Board and General Meeting minutes were sent via email to the Board for review. There were no corrections, and the minutes were approved.

Minutes Approval—

Motion	Motion to Approve	Motion Seconded	Vote
Approve the February Board minutes	Oron	Rose	Minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote of Board members present



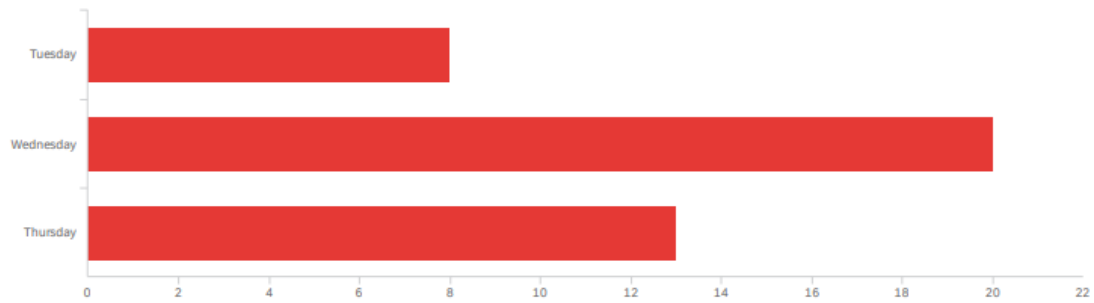
Board Reports

Presidents Report

Kathy

- **Open Secretary position** – Lorna has officially resigned due to health issues. Will need new secretary for the Chapter
- **The next TMN Tuesday will be March 14th.** Subject is Texas Waters: Become an ambassador of our waterways! Webex is new platform and you must register in advance.
- **February Presidents meeting** Tuesday 28th. John O'Connell attended
 - April National Volunteer Month – we need to plan something for April meeting. Rose will plan something
 - Virtual Volunteer Fair – May 2 & 3. Info will be sent shortly on how to engage our partner organizations. We need to reach out to our partners to see if they have anything. Deadline for submissions is 3/24. Kathy will email information from Mary Pearl to Oron.
 - There is a new 25th Anniversary Logo that we can start using
 - Annual Meeting – McAllen Convention Center, Oct 12-15th
 - WordPress Training - Monthly on 1st Tuesday - Starting March 7th. Tutorials online
 - TMN Branding – we must have approval from State office before we order from new outside vendor.
 - Please publicize State Endowment with members - <https://masternaturalistendowment.org>
- **Survey Results** – Survey was emailed to membership. 45 responses which is about 1/3 of our membership. PDF attached. For evening meeting day/times, Wednesday at 6 pm was the preferred time. **Per discussion, we will move future evening meetings to 5:30/6 pm time slot.** Kathy will make a slide and present findings at March 8th General meeting.

Q6 - For evening meetings, which DAY would you prefer to meet on? (Understand that it might not be the second instance of the month, due to other meetings already scheduled.)

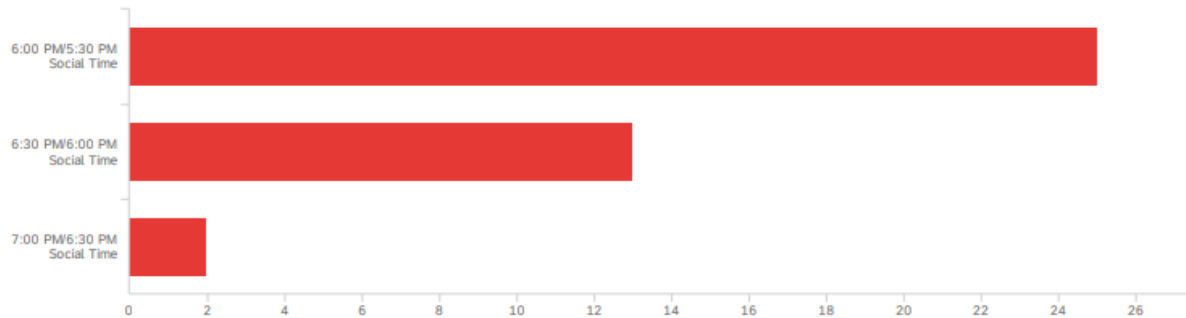


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	For evening meetings, which DAY would you prefer to meet on? (Understand that it might not be the second instance of the month, due to other meetings already scheduled.)	1.00	3.00	2.12	0.71	0.50	41

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Tuesday	19.51% 8
2	Wednesday	48.78% 20
3	Thursday	31.71% 13
		41

Showing rows 1 - 4 of 4

Q7 - For evening meetings, what TIME would you like to start the business portion of the meeting?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	For evening meetings, what TIME would you like to start the business portion of the meeting?	1.00	3.00	1.43	0.59	0.34	40

#	Field	Choice Count
1	6:00 PM/5:30 PM Social Time	62.50% 25
2	6:30 PM/6:00 PM Social Time	32.50% 13
3	7:00 PM/6:30 PM Social Time	5.00% 2
		40

Showing rows 1 - 4 of 4

Past President

No report

Mickey

VP/Programs & Advanced Training

Upcoming speakers

Jimmy

March: Randy Bissell, Texas Professional Geologist & Texas Master Naturalist Volunteer, *"The 10 Biggest Events in Texas' Geological History (and a few Little Ones)"*

April: Jordan Kieffer – Interpretation



May: Kristine Rivers – subject TBD. Kristine was recently selected as a “Coastal Champion” by Galveston Monthly Magazine.

June: Dan O'Reilly, NWS – “Should I go or should I stay?”

Potential Future topic – Shane Bono – Status of Oysters

Beach Sweep will be Monday March 6th.

Treasurer

Don

COT TREASURER REPORT

February 2023

BEGINNING

BALANCE

\$ 9,766.12

Revenue Summary

1,179.58

Expense Summary

28.75

ENDING BALANCE

\$10,916..95

Revenue - dues and intern fees. Expenses – badges. Don received a bill from “Domain Networks”, which Larry said we do not use. Bill will be ignored.

Don received \$75 in cash, which was left at his chair at the last meeting. He is trying to determine who it was from.

Approximately 70 people have paid dues or have lifetime status. Don will send an email reminder to the membership to remind of the March 31st deadline for payment of dues. He will also mention that if a member has a financial hardship, we will work with them on a payment plan, etc. If dues are not paid or other arrangements made, then they will be marked inactive in the VMS system and they can no longer enter hours. They also may not vote. (Current STATE requirement. Current Chapter handbook - privileges are revoked at end of year.) Members do not have to certify each year. To remain current, they need to :

- 1) attend a meeting
- 2) Log 1 hour in VMS
- 3) Pay dues by March 31st.

Membership

John B

No report.

Note: VMS data not available yet

State Representative

Connie

- All Board members need to sign the Conflict of Interest form and if needed disclose if they have any conflicts. Two forms were turned in, and one emailed.



- The Bylaws approved at the December general membership meeting and the December general meeting minutes were submitted to the state office using the form on the TMN state website.
- The Chapter Operating Handbook Revision committee has met several times - we are close to finishing the state COH Framework for our chapter. Meeting again March 8th 2-5 pm. Plan to send to Board for review/comment, and then to Chapter.

Training

Melanie

We currently have 11 interns, with one transfer. All classes are open to membership, as long as they contact Melanie first. Schedule is posted. March 4th – Entomology class.

Volunteer Service

Oron

- We completed a 280 ft boardwalk for BCPD (Patty) at Quintana Xeriscape on 1/18. We started this project the end of 10/22 and ran into all kinds of weather related issues - primarily area flooding.
- On 2/9 we began constructing a new 215 ft boardwalk plus a 10x12 ft end platform on SBNWR Big Tree Trail and completed 2/20.
- On 2/22 to present we began installing a 251 ft extension off of existing Bobcat trail boardwalk which will route through the Native garden to the trailhead entrance.

Goal for the last 2 bullet items is to have them completed by MC.

BCPD Trail work days and Pearland Parks workdays are no longer being scheduled and are dropped from the calendar

Upcoming VT Opportunities – March /April

- **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** – 3/6 & 4/3, 8 AM to 10 AM, Quintana Jetties– contacts Jimmy/Luanne Salinas
- **Nurdle Beach Patrol** – Jace Turnell – self-directed
- **Brazoria County Comprehensive Spider Survey** – Melanie Hollenshead - self directed
- **Adopt a Loop for TMN** – contact Debbie Nance - self directed
- **Boardwalk Maintenance & Construction** – Bobcat Trail – contact Oron Atkins
- **Nest Fest** – 3/14, 8 AM to 1 PM – contact Jo Monday. There are 6 open slots for Folletts Island
- **Online Turtle Patrol training**. 6 hour class. 2 sessions left in March. Required to participate in Turtle stranding and beach patrol. Oron will send info to membership

Outreach

Ruby

- **DEEP at BNWR Discovery Center** – 2/28, 3/2, 3/7, 3/9, 3/21, ~~3/23, 3/28, 3/30 & 4/4~~, 8 AM to 2 PM – contact Ed Barrios March and April dates for Clute Int have been moved to May
- **Brazoria Heritage Celebration** – 3/4, 8 AM to 5 PM – contact Ruby Lewis
- **Discovery Center Spring Open House** – 3/11 thru 3/19, 11 AM to 4 PM – contact Ruby Lewis
- **Introduction to Fishing Basics** – SCT – 3/4, 9 AM to 3 PM – contact Mason Gilfoil



- **Nature Day at SCT** – 3/25, 10 AM to 3 PM – contact Ruby Lewis. Jordan added that they need as many volunteers as possible. Birds of Prey will be at 11 and 2. Lunch will be provided at the Pavilion near the floating pier. Ruby will be bringing reptiles.

Chapter Host**Rose**

Will celebrate “Pi Day” at March meeting. Trivia contest and asking members to bring pies (pizza and desserts)

Communications**Larry**

There was an issue with the calendar this month, which has been resolved.

Website - 569 sessions, down by ~ 100. 1453 page views, 255 users

FB - 1590 followers, 3900 “reach”, 1200 “engagement” (views vs. comments/likes). Feb activity down a bit due to short month. Activity has been steadily going up.

Melanie - 2 of our interns joined because of FB posts that they had viewed

Class 2022 Rep.**Kate**

Discussion on how to find opportunities on the calendar. Need more opportunities for Pearland area. We need to include Manvel and Pearland folks on the “Alvin list” that Dick Schaffhausen uses to advertise opportunities at Resoft and Camp Mohawk Parks

Chapter Advisors**John O, Jordan**

Jordan – They expect ~ 1000 visitors per day over Spring Break. This will be 40% of their visitation for the year. They will be doubling up the volunteers on each shift.

SCT will be redoing the Pollinator Garden and will request help when needed (TBA)

Youth Fishing is booked up – need volunteers to assist. SCT allows fishing on certain days - see calendar

John – Danbury Elementary water fair will be Monday March 6th. Training session will be Friday afternoon March 3rd.

Water Wednesdays starting up – 3rd Wednesday of the month. 6:30 to 8 PM Pre-register on Event Brite

Topics:

- March 15th – CoCoRaHS – Community Collaborative Rain Hail and Snow Network)
- April 19th – Aquaponics
- May 17th –
- June 21st – Severe Weather
- July 19th – water safety



Homeowner Pond Series – March 10^h, 31st, May 5th. \$35 for series, or \$15 per session. 2 to 4:30 at Agrilife offices.

AT Day Update – Kristine Rivers

Annual AT Day will be Saturday May 20th. Next planning meeting is March 7th. Registration will open 1 month before date.

Presenters –

- David Schmidly - Husband/wife Naturalist Team
- Marlon Nation – one of our Interns
- Looking for 2 more speakers – Native Americans, Changes to watersheds, how land use has fractured prairies, windfarms off coast

New business - none

General Meeting Agenda –Next meeting Wednesday April 5th, 9:00 am. Items should be sent to Kathy BY SUNDAY EVENING April 2nd.

President: Kathy Pittman adjourned the Board Meeting at 10:58 am _____

Respectfully submitted,
__Kathy Pittman, President

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

Attendance 2023	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Elected Board Members													
Kathy Pittman - President	x	X	x										
Jimmy Salinas -VP	x	X	x										
Don Sabathier - Treasurer	x	X	x										
Lorna Witt - Secretary	x	N - resig ned											
Advisors													
John O'Connell - AgrLlife	x	X	x										
Jordan Kieffer - TPWD	x	X	x										



Immediate Past President													
Mickey Dufilho	x	x											
Appointed Board/Committee Members													
Oron Atkins – Volunteer Ops	x	X	x										
John Boettiger- Membership	N	X											
Kate Harris – 2022 Intern Rep	x	N	x										
Melanie Hollenshead - Training	x	X	x										
Ruby Lewis - Outreach	N	X											
Larry Peterson - Communications	x	X	x										
Kristine Rivers – Advanced Trng	x	X	x										
Connie Stolte – State Rep	x	X	x										
Rose Wagner, Chapter Host	x	x	x										
Guests													
Luanne Salinas	X	x	x										
Amanda Gabeheart		x											