

TMN-COT BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, June 7, 2023, 9:08 a.m. – 11:20 a.m. (HYBRID)
at Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service, Angleton TX

9:08 a.m. Call to Order

Kathy

- Welcome to visitors

Attendance —

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

- Agenda additions or corrections - None presented.
- Approve Previous Board Minutes - The minutes of the May 3, 2023 Board meeting were sent via e-mail to the Board members for review. One correction was made per the request of John O'Connell in the spelling of Dr. Pigg's name.

Minutes Approval —

Motion	Motion to Approve	Motion Seconded	Vote
Approve the May Board minutes	Mickey	Oron	The Minutes were approved with the noted correction by unanimous voice vote of Board members present

Follow up - May AT Day Update

Kristine (and all)

- There was a total of 63 attendees, including the speakers and 26 virtual participants. We got great feedback about the program from the attendees and presenters alike.
- Program expenses totaled \$567.20, with a \$150 donation to the church for use of its facility, meals and supplies. Dave Schmidly, a speaker, declined reimbursement for his travel expenses.

COH Adoption – Member comments

Connie

- Board members approved the draft revisions to the Chapter Operating Handbook by e-mail held, with 11 in favor and 3 abstaining. Connie e-mailed the proposed revisions to the Chapter on May 24 for their review, with comments or feedback to be submitted by June 7. Members were also invited to attend the June 7

Board meeting if they wished to voice concerns. The Chapter vote will be held at the July General Meeting, with the 10-day notice to be given as required.

VPAR/VPAL Update on Chapter Website

- Melanie would like to have a Volunteer Fair with our partners and intern class, but old information on the website is difficult to wade through. Lengthy discussion ensued as per the Action Item Register, with review of the VPALS and partners page listings. Oron will revise the list and website information will be updated as appropriate.
- Kristine reported the Fall Field Day will be held at the Planetarium.

K. Pittman noted these items were on the Action Item Register. The group paused to review and update the actionables as needed.

President's Report

Kathy

- The next TMN Tuesday will be July 11. Jason Singhurst and Tim Siegmund will present "Plants 201".
- July: A joint presidents' meeting will be held with the TMN Tuesday event on July 11.
- Kathy reported she had been asked to have a TMN booth at the Brookside Village Farmer's Market held the second Sunday of every month in Pearland. She noted this would provide a TMN outreach opportunity for the northern part of the county, and indicated she would follow up on this and report back.
- The May Presidents' meeting was held Tuesday, May 30.
 - New TMN items are being stocked and there will be another "pop up" store over the summer.
 - Annual Meeting – McAllen Convention Center, Oct 12 -15: Registration will open in August. Hotel registration remains open, with several hotels to choose from within walking/short drive distance to the McAllen Convention center. Saturday sessions will be offsite in a location where attendees can have a better view of the solar eclipse.

Kathy mentioned we have a van available for transport to and from the Annual Meeting site. She asked that attending members let her know if they would like to ride as a group so this can be coordinated.

- Members are encouraged to attend the Storytelling Project.
- More activities will be provided on Thursday and Sunday.
- TMN is still looking for old T-shirts for use in sewing one or more quilts with designs including Chapter logos, anniversaries and other events.
- to be made into a quilt (or 2 or more) with Chapter Logos, anniversaries, events.
- The new 25th Anniversary Logo is available for chapters to use if they wish.
- Please publicize the State Endowment, <https://masternaturalistendowment.org>

Past President

Mickey

- Mickey addressed the Ice Cream Social to be held during the Chapter meeting on the evening of July 12. She will make homemade ice cream. K. Purvis volunteered to bring brownies.

Vice President /Programs

Jimmy

Upcoming speakers:

June 14: Lance Wood, Science and Operations Officer at the National Weather Service in League City - "The 2023 Hurricane Season: What You Need to Know".

- July 12: Sarah Weller, Senior Manager, International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) Ocean Conservancy - worldwide beach and shoreline clean-up (virtual presentation)
August 9: Paige Breon, Nesting Program Manager Gulf Center for Research Management Texas A&M University. This should be an interesting talk, as they are looking for help in patrolling the area from Follett's Beach to Surfside.

Treasurer

Don

COT TREASURER REPORT

May 2023

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$11,813.72
Revenue Summary	2,020.64
Expense Summary	855.30
ENDING BALANCE	\$12,979.06

The full income statement is attached (see the report at Attachment 2). L. Salinas complimented Don on the report he prepared in response to the request made at the general meeting for detailed budget data history.

Membership

John B.

Initial Certifications

Recertifications

Milestones

None reported

Janet Townsend
Kate Harris
Jimmy Salinas
LuAnne Salinas

Kathy Purvis (250 hrs.)

LuAnne raised a question as to why hers and J. Salinas' recertifications were not listed. She noted the information was visible on their dashboards. K. Pittman requested the information be e-mailed to D. Brandes for further follow-up. Following his research, Dave submitted an amended report and requested their names be added to the recertifications list as reported.

VMS Data

VMS DATA

		May	Year to Date
Hours*	VT	1,002	7,704
	AT	<u>273</u>	<u>1,097</u>
	Total	1,275	8,801
Impact Data*	Adults	165	3,746
	Youth	<u>837</u>	<u>14,376</u>
	Total	1,002	18,122

* will not be considered final until mid-July

State Representative

Connie

Connie stated there was nothing to report beyond that covered earlier.

Training

Melanie

Melanie requested permission from the Board to use portions of the AT Day presentations in Intern training. We had a wonderful lineup that gave insight into the history of our area.

Intern Graduation will be held on Saturday, June 17, from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the AgriLife Conference Room. We should have 7 people graduate. They will get their T-shirts and badges, and present their projects:

- Shadow Creek Ranch Nature Park
- Hudson Woods
- Bobcat Trail

K. Pittman requested Melanie send out a notice to the Chapter membership now so they can make plans for the program. Melanie also mentioned she will undergo knee replacement surgery on June 20, but will be back for Intern Training, which begins the second week of July. She is developing the training schedule but expects to use Zoom for training during the week in the evenings and a Field Trip every other Saturday. The times for Field Trips will be adjusted to minimize heat stress.

Mentor Program

Kate

Kate reported mentor assignments have been made for this intern class; however, additional mentors will be needed as we continue training. She also reported she is beginning to get some information and feedback from participants.

Volunteer Service

Oron

Upcoming VT Opportunities – June/July

- Exploration Green Workday – every Wed., 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; contact Christie Taylor
- Trash Collection/Disposal Analysis Project – self-directed
- Beach Sweep – Thursday, June 8 and July 6, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Quintana Jetties; contact Jimmy or Luanne Salinas
- Nurdle Beach Patrol – self-directed; contact Jace Turnell
- Brazoria County Comprehensive Spider Survey – self-directed; contact Melanie Hollinshead
- Adopt a Loop for TMN – self-directed; contact Debbie Nance
- Boardwalk Maintenance & Construction – Bobcat Trail; contact Oron Atkins

Oron commented he met with Curtis Young at San Bernard to follow-up and learned those two (2) projects are on hold. As an aside, he also reported 126 Kemp's Ridley eggs were found and removed on Monday, June 5, at Matagorda Bend.

Outreach

Ruby

Rose Wagner presented the following report for Ruby Lewis:

- BCLS Summer Reading Club – June 1, 9, 15, 20, 21, 27 and 29; contact Ruby Lewis (see Attachment 3)
- Camp Mohawk – June 5 - 8, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; contact Mike Mullenweg
- GCBO Summer Bird Camp – June 12 - 15; contact Celeste Silling
- Sea Center Shark Celebration – July 15, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.; contact Ruby Lewis

J. Kieffer reported the opening had been delayed. About 1,800 people are interested in attending. Cool-down misters will be available to help with the heat. They are also working with local businesses to obtain permission to use parking spaces for overflow parking. In addition, the orientation was changed from that of last year. There will be three (3) different experts this year. He noted TMN can have a booth as well. There are opportunities for volunteers to help with set up.

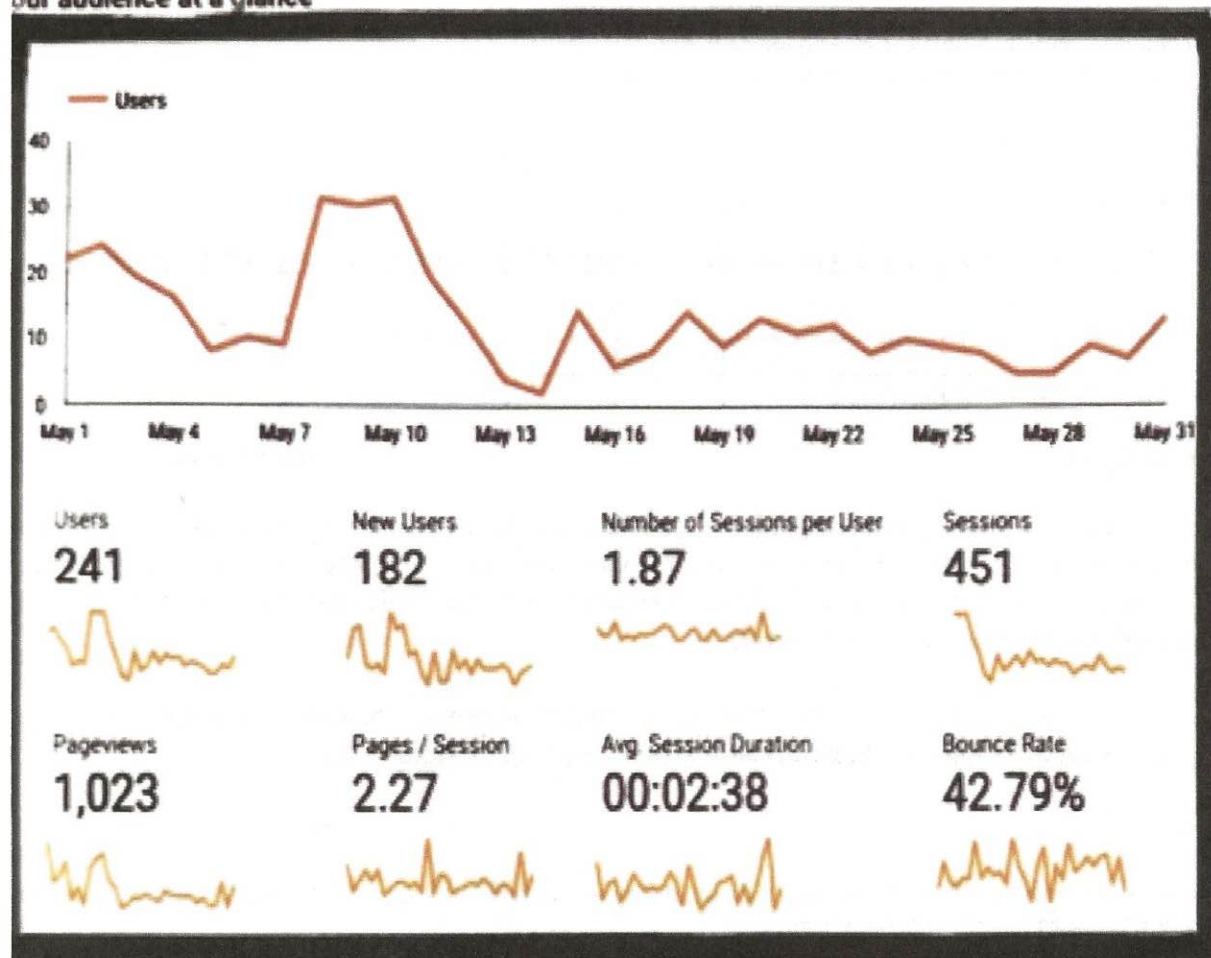
**Chapter Host****Rose**

Rose reported four (4) individuals are needed to bring snacks for the General meetings, and that one more was needed for the upcoming meeting on June 14. O. Atkins volunteered to bring a snack. Rose will be a virtual attendee at that meeting. D. Sabathier and M. Dufilho volunteered to help with set-up and clean-up.

Communications**Larry**

Larry reported that May statistics were in line with what we have seen over the past six to eight months. There appeared to be more activity in the earlier part of the month, perhaps due to meetings and the newsletter. He also covered Facebook activity and noted our reach is pretty good. We seem to average about 50 posts per month.

May Website Analytics Report:

Our audience at a glance

ANALYTICS 2023

Website Sessions, PageViews, Users

May: 451 sessions, 1023 pages, 241 users

April: 444sessions 1229pages 234users

March: 634sns 1319pageviews 325users

FEB 569sns 1403pageviews 225users

JAN 659sns 1759pvs 260usrs

Dec 330sns 677pvs 192usrs

Nov 405sns 714pvs 242usrs

Oct 459sns 891pvs 272usrs

Sep 438sns 819pvs 251usrs

Facebook:

May: Followers 1619 (net 8), Reach 1288, Engagement 634 (50 posts)

April - Followers 1611, Reach 2.3K, Engagement 703 (50 posts)

Mar - Followers 1595, PostReach 2.1K, Engagement 743

Feb - Followers 1590 (15), 3.9K post reach, 1.2K engagement

AT Director

Kristine

Kristine had exited the meeting. There was no further report beyond the follow-up given early in the meeting.

Class 2022 Rep.

Kate

There was nothing to report.

Chapter Advisors

John O/Jordan

John O. announced pre-registration will be required for virtual participation in the June meeting. He also sent a notice to K. Pittman that the Director of Sea Grant created a brochure for jetty anglers and others about what to do in the event they hook a sea turtle. John also mentioned the Agri-Life office had a new assistant, Donna, who is working with the Family Health Program.

Jordan also mentioned the Sea Center is finishing its springtime fishing. They have some opportunities due to increased visitation numbers, and particularly with fishing help for Ages 8 - 17.

New Business

All

Volunteers are needed for the public plant class in July at the pollinator garden. K. Pittman indicated she would reach out to the Master Gardeners tomorrow.

General Meeting Agenda

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 14 at 9:00 a.m. Please send K. Pittman any items to be included by SUNDAY EVENING, June 11.

The next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, AUGUST 2 at 9:00 a.m. There will be no July meeting.

President: K. Pittman adjourned the Board Meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy Purvis, Secretary

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	x	x	x							
Jimmy Salinas -VP	x	x	x	v	x	x							
Don Sabathier - Treas.	x	x	x	x	x	x							
Kathy Purvis - Secretary				x	x	x							
Loma Witt - Secretary	x	resigned											
Advisors													
John O'Connell - AgrLife	x	x	x	x	x	x							
Jordan Kieffer - TPWD	x	x	x	v	v	v							

Attendance 2023	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Immediate Past President													
Mickey Dufilho	x	x	N	x	x	x							
Appointed Board/Committee Members													
Oron Atkins – Volunteer Ops	x	x	x	x	x	x							
John Boettiger- Membership	N	x	N	x	N	N							
Kate Harris – 2022 Intern Rep	x	N	x	x	v	x							
Melanie Hollenshead - Training	x	x	x	N	x	v							
Ruby Lewis - Outreach	N	x	N	x	N	N							
Larry Peterson - Communications	x	x	x	x	x	v							
Kristine Rivers – AT	x	x	x	v	v	v							
Attendance 2023 (cont.)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total



Connie Stolte – State Rep	x	x	x	x	v	v							
Rose Wagner, Chapter Host	x	x	x	v	N	x							
Guests													
Luanne Salinas	x	x	x		x	x							
Amanda Gabeheart		x		x									
Kathy (guest)						x							

Attachment 1 – Chapter Operating Handbook – Board Adoption Vote

Board Activity outside of a Board Meeting

The TMN-COT Board held a vote on approving the Updated Chapter Operating Handbook, based on the new framework document from the State Office. The email documentation is copied below.

On Monday, May 8, 2023 at 11:28:17 AM UTC-5 Connie Stolte wrote:
Dear board members,

Attached is the Draft Chapter Operating Handbook (COH) with the corrections and changes recommended at the May Board Meeting.

If the board approves the attached proposal, anyone from the general membership with concerns about the changes will be invited to the next board meeting (June) so their concerns can be discussed. (We must give the general membership at least a 10 day notice before the board meeting)

Kathy, I move that the board approve the attached proposed changes and amendments to the Cradle of Texas Chapter Operating Handbook.

Sincerely,

Connie Stolte

On Monday, May 8, 2023 at 02:20:07 PM CDT, Larry F Peterson <lfpete@swbell.net> wrote:

I second Connie's motion to approve the COH update.

On Monday, May 8, 2023, 8:37 PM, 'Kathy Pittman' via TMN-COT Board <TMN-board@googlegroups.com> wrote:

Ok, Board - Connie has made the motion, and we have a second.

Does anyone have any discussion on the updates? Please reply back by Wednesday am if you have something you want to bring up. (and I apologize if I haven't gotten to your email yet. I'm working my way through the list)

I will call for a Vote on Wednesday morning, assuming we are done with any discussions.

Thanks!!!

Kathy Pittman
President, Cradle of Texas Chapter
Texas Master Naturalist™

713-569-1665

On Sunday, May 14, 2023 at 10:45:27 AM CDT, 'Kathy Pittman' via TMN-COT Board <tmn-board@googlegroups.com> wrote:

Good morning and Happy Mothers Day to all you Moms!!!

There being no comments by anyone, I am now calling for a vote - yes to approve the updated Chapter Operating Handbook and No if you don't wish to approve.

Please send your vote by Wed May 17th. Thank you !

Kathy Pittman
President, Cradle of Texas Chapter
Texas Master Naturalist™

[713-569-1665](tel:713-569-1665)

Sunday May 21st –

All - I have tallied the votes, and the motion passes, 11 in favor and 3 abstaining (ie, I can't find an email with a specific vote) .

Connie, you may forward to the Chapter this week (no later than Wednesday May 24th.)

Connie made the motion, Larry seconded.

In favor to approve

Kathy Pittman
Kathy Purvis
Rose Wagner
Melanie Hollenshead
Mickey Dufilho
Jimmy/Luanne Salinas
Kristine Rivers
Don Sabathier
Oron Atkins
John Boettiger
Larry Peterson

No Response

Connie Stolte (Connie made the motion, so I assume she wants to approve, but I can't find an email)
Ruby Lewis
Kate Harris

Thank you all for your help!!!!

Kathy Pittman
President, Cradle of Texas Chapter
Texas Master Naturalist™

713-569-1665

Attachment 2 – Income Statement

COT MASTER NATURALIST INCOME STATEMENT for 2023

	2023											Budget Delta			
Budget		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Totals	
Opening Balance		\$8,205.77	\$3,766.12	\$10,917.11	\$11,837.74	\$11,813.72	\$12,379.06								
INCOME ITEMS															
Membership Dues	2,650	820.19	981.80	699.30		75.00								2,576.29	73.71
Interest Income	2.15	0.15	0.16	0.19		0.22								0.91	1.24
Member Donations	287.64	25.00	47.58		23.79									96.37	191.27
Sponsor/Non-member Donations	1,000													0.00	1,000.00
Member Payments for New Shirts				75.00		273.45								348.45	-348.45
Special AT event- Non&Member fee	100				84.31	1,146.97								1,231.28	-1,131.28
Sale of extra TMN Books/Food														0.00	0.00
Sub Total	4,040	845.34	1,029.54	774.49	108.29	1,495.64									
New Intern Class Receipts	2,250	751.00	150.20	150.20		525.00								1,576.40	673.60
INCOME TOTALS	6,290	1,596.34	1,179.74	924.69	108.29	2,020.64						0.00		4,253.30	2,036.49
EXPENSE ITEMS															
Approved Donations	500					150.00								150.00	350.00
Speakers Bureau														0.00	0.00
Speaker Travel Mileage/Motel/Tolls	250													0.00	250.00
Membership Director Expenses	50													0.00	50.00
Office Supplies, Postage Etc.	30													0.00	30.00
Special Annual AT Event/Fall Field	2,000					557.20								557.20	1,442.80
Fall Family Event	1,000													0.00	1,000.00
Member Shirt Purchases	40													0.00	40.00
Special Recognition	400													0.00	400.00
Travelers D&O Insurance Premium (Paid 3 years in 2022)														0.00	0.00
Godaddy Website maintenance	175.00													0.00	175.00
New Officer/Member Name Tags	40													0.00	40.00
State Annual Conference														0.00	0.00
Registration & Expenses	1,600.00													0.00	1,600.00
State Meeting Sponsorship & Scholarships	750.00													0.00	750.00
Materials	500													0.00	500.00
EcoFund Projects														0.00	0.00
Chapter Host-Meeting/Party Supp	500			4.06	132.31	33.95								170.32	329.68
Chapter Host- Recognition Party/C	200	35.99												0.00	200.00
Sub Total	8035	35.99	0.00	4.06	132.31	741.15						0.00		913.51	7,121.49
TMN Text Book Order	700													0.00	700.00
Vanner Hogg Fees	300													0.00	300.00
Ann's Monogramming - Intern Polc	260													0.00	260.00
Zeiglers-Intern T-Shirts	200					114.15								114.15	85.85
Intern Name Tags	60		28.75											28.75	31.25
Intern Class Marketing	200													0.00	200.00
Intern Class - Zoom Annual fees	160													0.00	160.00
Intern Class Supplies	300													0.00	300.00
Intern Class Scholarships-2	300													0.00	300.00
Intern Registration Reimbursement														0.00	0.00
Sub Total	2480	0	28.75	0	0	114.15						0		0.00	0.00
EXPENSE TOTALS	10,515.00	35.99	28.75	4.06	132.31	855.30						0.00			
	(4,225)														
Ending Balance		#####	10,917.11	11,837.74	11,813.72	12,379.06	12,379.06	0.00	#	#	###	#	0.00		
COT Chapter Lifetime membership Dues \$400.00															
COT 2023 Annual Dues \$25.00															
2023 Intern Class fee: \$150.00															
Members attaining 4,000, 5,000 or 10,000 VT hours are exempt from dues the next calendar year															
Travel reimbursement: < .56/mile															

Attachment 3 –BCLS Summer Reading Calendar

Summer Reading Club 2023

TMN-COT programs at BCLS

Texas Reptiles

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			June 1 WES 10am, 2 pm	2
Not available 5	Not available 6	Not available 7	Not available 8	DAN 10:30 9
12	13	Morning not available 14	FRE 2 pm 15	16
19	ALV 12 & 2 PM 20	LAK 12, 2 & 4pm 21	22	23
26	MAN 12 & 2 PM 27	28	SWE 2 PM 29	30
July 3	CLOSED 4	Morning not available 5	6	7
10	ANG 10 am 2 & 4 pm 11	Morning not available 12	CLU 12 p.m. & 2 p.m. 13	14
17	BRA 12 & 2 PM 18	PEA 12, 2, & 4 PM 19	20	21
24	25	PWS 2:30 p.m. & 4:30 p.m. 26	27	28

Alvin Library
105 South Gordon
Alvin, TX 77511
(281) 388-4300

Clute Library
215 North Shanks
Clute, TX 77531
(979) 265-4582

Lake Jackson Library
250 Circle Way
Lake Jackson, TX 77566
(979) 415-2590

West Pearland
11801 Shadow Creek PWY
Pearland, TX 77584
(713) 436-0995

Angleton Library
401 E Cedar
Angleton, TX 77515
(979) 864-1519

Danbury Library
1702 North Main
Danbury, TX 77534
(979) 922-1905

Manvel Library
20514B Hwy 6
Manvel, TX 77578
(281) 489-7596

Sweeny Library
205 W. Ashley Wilson
Sweeny, TX 77480
(979) 548-2567

Brazoria Library
620 S. Brooks
Brazoria, TX 77422
(979) 798-2372

Freeport Library
410 Brazosport Blvd.
Freeport, TX 77541
(979) 233-3622

Pearland Library
3522 Liberty Drive
Pearland, TX 77581
(281) 652-1677

West Columbia Library
518 E Brazos
West Columbia, TX 77486
(979) 345-3394