

**TMN-COT BOARD MEETING**  
**Wednesday, August 2, 2023, 9:10 a.m. – 11:11 a.m. (HYBRID)**  
**at Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service, Angleton TX**

**9:10 a.m. Call to Order**

**Kathy Pittman**

- Welcome to visitors. Kathy reported a death had occurred in Ruby & Larry Lewis' family and extended condolences. She also mentioned Ruby was forwarding a list of activities to Kathy.

**Attendance —**

<b>Elected Members of Board</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Appointed Members of Board/Committees</b>	<b>Present</b>
Kathy Pittman (President)	✓	Mickey Dufilho (Immediate Past President)	✓
Jimmy Salinas (Vice-President/Programs)	✓	John Boettiger (Membership Dir.)	✓
Kathy Purvis (Secretary)	✓	Melanie Hollenshead (New Class Dir.)	V
Don Sabathier (Treasurer)	V	Larry Peterson (Communications Dir.)	✓
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)	N	Oron Atkins (Volunteer Service Dir.)	✓
Guests/Other		Connie Stolte (State Rep.)	N
Luanne Salinas	✓	Rose Wagner (Chapter Host)	N
Amanda Gabeheart	N	Kate Harris (Class 2022 Class Rep)	✓
		<b>Quorum</b>	<b>Yes</b>

- Agenda additions or corrections - None presented.
- Approve Previous Board Minutes - The minutes of the June 7, 2023, Board meeting were sent via e-mail to Board members for review. Changes/corrections were made as requested.
- Minutes Approval —**

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Motion to Approve</b>	<b>Motion Seconded</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Approve the June Board minutes	Mickey	Oron	The Minutes were approved by vote of the Board members

**President's Report**

**Kathy Pittman**

- Members approved the revisions to the Chapter Operating Handbook; Kathy notified the State and the revised COH was given final approval.
- The next TMN Tuesday (August 8) will be presented by Todd Sink, "Management and Educational Activities for Community Ponds".
- Brookside Village Farmer's Market – There is outreach potential for the Chapter in the Pearland area. Kathy scheduled a brainstorming session for Thursday (August 3) at the Pearland East Library, 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Other potential opportunities will also be considered.
- Kathy reported she would like to purchase an additional TMN tablecloth at a cost of \$93.00, as the Chapter has only one (1) tablecloth for use. Discussion considered the budget source and affirmed the request. M. Hollenshead noted she would like to pre-order two (2) boxes of textbooks to be picked up at the upcoming State meeting as well.
- Reminder that the Annual Meeting will be held at the McAllen Convention Center, October 12 - 15, 2023, with registration opening August 3.

- Scholarships – The Chapter budgeted \$450.00 for scholarship purposes. We will award one (1) full scholarship to a member for whom attending the Annual Meeting would be financially difficult. Such need would be based on the honor system, with no documentation required. The State has also provided each Chapter with a \$100.00 discount on the cost of registration for a member. Names will be drawn from a hat if multiple applications are received. The scholarship payment can be made directly to State. The amount will be refunded if the member does not attend. J. O'Connell mentioned that either the van or truck is available if needed for carpooling to the Annual Meeting. Kathy will notify members of the award via email.
- Carpooling for members who need transportation to monthly meetings was also discussed. Members can reach out via the Chapter email account. Kathy will send out an email notice and K. Purvis will include the announcement in the upcoming newsletter as well.
- Nominating Committee – Kathy canvassed the officers to identify those planning to seek re-election; all declared they would run again. M. Dufilho indicated she would not need the help of a nominating committee in that case, although other members may seek election as well. Kathy encouraged everyone to look for and to advocate for others to consider office in 2025 to keep the Chapter moving forward.
- Directors – Kathy canvassed attending directors in the same manner as she did with officers; it appeared all would like to continue. K. Purvis mentioned it was necessary for someone to take over the newsletter editor duties, as the secretary duties kept her busy and the newsletter timeframe conflicted with outside volunteer responsibilities. Ensuing discussion agreed the newsletter publication date could be adjusted. L. Peterson noted newsletter hits were down. Kathy stated she would raise this for discussion at the General Meeting.
- New Class Rep – Kathy reported Kate will continue working with Melanie and the training team on Mentor assignments. We need to see if anyone in the recent graduating class would be interested in serving as the New Class Representative.

#### Past President

#### Mickey Dufilho

Mickey addressed the success of the ice cream social and raised discussion about the Board providing breakfast at the upcoming Chapter meeting. She also mentioned some outing ideas that might be of interest to members, including the Lake Jackson planetarium.

#### Vice-President/Programs

#### Jimmy Salinas

Paige Breon, Nesting Program Manager Gulf Center for Research Management Texas A&M University, will present this month's AT. Jimmy noted it should be interesting, as they are looking for help in patrolling the area from Follett's Beach to Surfside. No speaker has been scheduled for September yet.

J. O'Connell mentioned a wildlife specialist with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service might be available to speak about chronic wasting disease. J. Salinas will follow up on this. Shane Bonnot, Advocacy Director for the Coastal Conservation Association may present a program at the October meeting, but this has not been confirmed.

#### Treasurer

#### Don Sabathier

#### COT TREASURER REPORT

July 2023

<b>BEGINNING BALANCE</b>	\$12,511.57
Revenue Summary	82.97
Expense Summary	0.00
<b>ENDING BALANCE</b>	<b>\$12,594.54</b>

Don addressed components of the treasurer report and the full income statement (see attached report), noting end of year expenses will include items such as intern expenses, including books, the December meeting, annual convention and Fall Field Day lunches.



## Membership

**John Boettiger**

### Initial Certifications

None reported

### Recertifications

Paula Hanson  
 Denis James  
 Sherry Summers

### Milestones

Amanda Gabehart (4,000 hrs.)

John reported a total of 40 recertifications this year, with 19 of those occurring in May and tied to AT Day. He recognized Amanda Gabehart's achievement. M. Hollenshead volunteered to compose background information for her President's Award recognition.

## VMS Data

**Kathy Pittman**

### VMS DATA

		July	Year to Date
Hours*	VT	703	10,081
	AT	64	1,425
	Total	767	11,506
Impact Data*	Adults	20	3,883
	Youth	33	14,640
	Total	53	18,523

\* data not considered final until mid-September

J. Boettiger reported that roughly one-half (1/2) of the members who turn in Volunteer Time aren't recertified. Discussion noted challenges with members recording and submitting volunteer hours. Ideas for volunteer opportunities were discussed. J. Salinas asked about claiming impact data for events where our members work, such as Shark Week at Sea Center. Kathy explained we do not report such data because Sea Center does.

## State Representative

**Connie Stolte**

No report was given in Connie's absence.

## Training

**Melanie Hollenshead**

Melanie stated she had not scheduled the date for the fall intern training to begin, but it would probably be early September. Several people have expressed interest and she hopes to begin with a class of seven (7).

## Mentor Program

**Kate Harris**

Kate stated there was nothing to report.

## Volunteer Service

**Oron Atkins**

Oron reported he and his team were caught up on their construction projects at this point. Other upcoming VT opportunities include the following:

- 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 – August 8 and September 5, 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.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 Hollenshead.
- Adopt-a-Loop for TMN – self-directed, contact Debbie Nance.

- Collect Butterflies for Science (Citizen Science FR) - self-directed, now thru November 1, 2023.

## Outreach

**Ruby Lewis (absent)**

K. Pittman gave the following report for Ruby:

- Family Fishing Derby - August 5, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; contact Mike Mullenweg. No volunteers are needed at present.
- Xtreme Hummingbird Xtravaganza at GCBO - September 16 and 23, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; more information - [www.gcbo.org](http://www.gcbo.org).

## Chapter Host

**Rose Wagner (absent)**

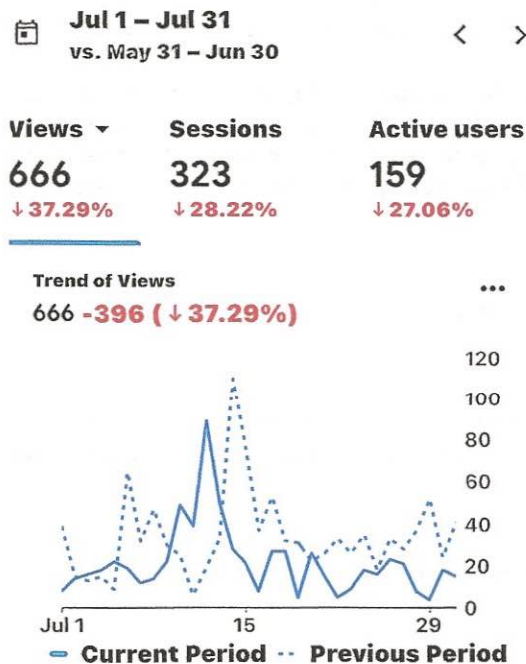
Discussion noted some volunteers had signed up to provide refreshments for the upcoming General Meeting. M. Dufilho volunteered to send Rose a note about what the Board will provide so we can coordinate our efforts.

## Communications

**Larry Peterson**

Larry reported July statistics indicated website sessions were down about 30% overall. Page views were down 36%, with 25 - 30% less use generally. He noted there were eight (8) new followers on the Chapter Facebook page.

Website Analytics Report:



## AT Director

**Kristine Rivers**

Kristine stated she was currently working on the trip for the Annual Meeting. She will get with Mickey about the Fall Field Day schedule as discussed earlier in the meeting. It is presently scheduled for the same week as the Annual Meeting.

**Class 2022 Rep.**

**Kate Harris**

There was nothing to report.

**Chapter Advisors**

**John O'Connell /Jordan Kieffer**

John reported he talked with someone who had worked with Brian Frazier and would be working on a project that involved planting a 50-yard plot on Follett's Island along Beach Access Road 5 in October. Volunteers may be needed for planting or for monitoring the site.

**New Business**

**All**

General Meeting Agenda - The next meeting will be held Wednesday, August 9, at 9:00 a.m. Please send K. Pittman any items to be included by SUNDAY EVENING, August 6.

The next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 6, at 9:00 a.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy Purvis, Secretary

cc: Board Members  
Crystal Andablo, AgriLIFE Secretary ([Crystal.Andablo@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Crystal.Andablo@ag.tamu.edu))



Attendance 2023	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
<b>Elected Board Members</b>													
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												

<b>Advisors</b>													
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
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<b>Immediate Past President</b>													
Mickey Dufilho	x	x	N	x	x	x							

<b>Appointed Board/Committee Members</b>													
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							

<b>Guests</b>													
Luanne Salinas	x	x	x		x	x							
Amanda Gabeheart		x		x									
Kathy (guest)						x							

Attachment 1 – Income Statement

COT MASTER NATURALIST INCOME STATEMENT for 2023											
2023											
Budget	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	Totals	Budget Delta
Opening Balance	\$8,205.77	\$ 9,766.12	\$10,917.11	\$11,837.74	\$11,813.72	\$12,979.06	\$12,511.57	##			
<b>INCOME ITEMS</b>											
Membership Dues	2,650	820.19	981.80	699.30	75.00	49.90	48.97			2,675.16	-25.16
Interest Income	2.15	0.15	0.16	0.19	0.22	0.21	0.21			1.33	0.82
Member Donations	287.64	25.00	47.58	23.79		23.79	23.79			143.95	143.69
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	47.58	10.00		1,288.86	-1,188.86
Sale of extra TMN Books/Food						33.04				33.04	-33.04
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>4,040</b>	<b>845.34</b>	<b>1,029.54</b>	<b>774.49</b>	<b>1,495.64</b>	<b>154.52</b>	<b>82.97</b>				
New Intern Class Receipts	2,250	751.00	150.20	150.20	525.00					1,576.40	673.60
<b>INCOME TOTALS</b>	<b>6,290</b>	<b>1,596.34</b>	<b>1,179.74</b>	<b>924.69</b>	<b>2,020.64</b>	<b>154.52</b>	<b>82.97</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4,457.75</b>	<b>1,832.04</b>	
<b>EXPENSE ITEMS</b>											
Approved Donations	500				150.00	300.00				450.00	50.00
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					10.71				10.71	19.29
Special Annual AT Event/Fall Field D:	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											
Registration & Expenses	1,600.00									0.00	1,600.00
State Meeting Sponsorship &											
Scholarships	750.00										750.00
Materials	500									0.00	500.00
EcoFund Projects										0.00	0.00
Chapter Host-Meeting/Party Supplie	500			4.06	132.31	33.95	64.41			234.73	265.27
Chapter Host- Recognition Party/Cak	200	35.99								0.00	200.00
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>8035</b>	<b>35.99</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4.06</b>	<b>132.31</b>	<b>741.15</b>	<b>375.12</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,288.63</b>	<b>6,746.37</b>	

**Attachment 1 – Income Statement (cont'd.)**

	2023											
	Budget	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	Totals	Budget Delta
TMN Text Book Order	700										0.00	700.00
Varner Hogg Fees	300										0.00	300.00
Ann's Monogramming - Intern Polo S	260										0.00	260.00
Zeiglers-Intern T-Shirts	200					114.15	114.15				228.30	-28.30
Intern Name Tags	60		28.75				97.75				126.50	-66.50
Intern Class Marketing	200										0.00	200.00
Intern Class - Zoom Annual fees	160										0.00	160.00
Intern Class Supplies	300						34.99				34.99	265.01
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	246.89				0	
EXPENSE TOTALS	10,515.00	35.99	28.75	4.06	132.31	855.30	622.01	0.00			0.00	
	(4,225)											
Ending Balance		\$ 9,766.12	10,917.11	11,837.74	11,813.72	12,979.06	12,511.57	12,594.54	###	###	###	0.00