



Texas Master Naturalist™ - Cradle of Texas Chapter
Minutes of the General Meeting
Wednesday, February 14, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – 10:42 a.m. (HYBRID)
Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service, Angleton TX

9:00 a.m. Call to Order

Kathy Pittman

- K. Pittman welcomed everyone attending or participating online and noted we were especially glad to see our interns attending.

Approval of the General Meeting Minutes

Kathy Pittman

Draft copies of the minutes of the January 10, 2024, General Meeting were sent via e-mail to the TMN-COT member distribution list for review prior to the meeting. Kathy Purvis reported one (1) change was made as requested. Marty Cornell and Ed Barrios made motions for a vote and the minutes were approved as presented.

Volunteer Hours, Certifications & Milestones

John Boettiger

Recertifications*: Hugo Martinez (2023)

Milestones:

250 Hours

Mike Hampy
 Kate Harris
 Brenda Stitt
 Cris Tobola

500 Hours

Janet Townsend

Richard Schaffhausen (not present) **5,000 Hours**

CONGRATULATIONS TO THEM ALL!!!

John will deliver the 2024 TMN recertification pins (the Western Diamondback Rattlesnake, aka Texas Diamondback), which are not yet available, when he receives them.

Impact Data

Kathy Pittman

VMS DATA

		January 2024	Year to Date
Hours*	VT	401	401
	AT	<u>137</u>	<u>137</u>
	Total	538	538
Impact Data*	Adults	35	35
	Youth	<u>547</u>	<u>547</u>
	Total	582	582

* Will not be considered final until mid-March 2024



Outreach Opportunities

Ruby Lewis

R. Lewis reported there will be an event for home schoolers held at the Stephen F. Austin-Munson County Park (41885 SH 288 Angleton, TX 77515) on March 1. She needs only two (2) or three (3) volunteers for to help present furs for this event. Other activities coming up include:

- BNWR Discovery Center Spring Open House - March 9 - 17, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; eight (8) to ten (10) volunteers are needed for each day, so please sign up!
- DEEP - February 13 and 15, March 26 and 28, April 2 and 4, and May 14 and 16, 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.; contact Ed Barrios (ed77566@comcast.net). Volunteers are needed only for the March, April and May dates.
- Brazoria Heritage Day, March 2, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Eight (8) volunteers are needed for this.
- Nature Day, Sea Center, April 6; more details will be available at a later date.
- Market Days have not been confirmed.
- Migration Celebration, April 27 - 28, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.- The Kickoff Lunch will be held Sunday, April 14, from 12:00 Noon - 2:00 p.m. at MacLean Park in Lake Jackson. Volunteers are needed. Contact Barbara Whaley, Volunteer Coordinator, for information (babswhaley@gmail.com).

Ruby passed out the sign-up sheets/clipboard for volunteers to sign up. Please also contact her for more information or to volunteer (rubylewis77515@ymail.com).

Featured Speaker - Luanne Salinas introduced our very own Barbara Whaley, a graduate of our Spring 2023 Intern Class, and who holds a certification in Advanced Entomology. Barbara is also a member of Friends of Brazoria Wildlife Refuges, Gulf Coast Bird Observatory, Houston Audubon Society and Texas Ornithological Society. She presented "Introduction to IPM - Integrated Pest Management", including information from Molly Keck and Wizzie Brown.

BREAK (10 minutes) - Thank you to members who brought refreshments!

Secret Valentines - Thank you for being you!

Kathy Pittman presented a slide presentation recognizing members' thanks to numerous members for their work with various TMN volunteer activities.

Treasurer

Don Sabathier

January 2024*

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$10,700.59
Revenue Summary	2,700.30
Expense Summary	<u>94.88</u>
ENDING BALANCE	\$13,306.01

* Refer to the full Income Statement that follows on the next page.

D. Sabathier noted that most of the January revenue came from intern fees and member dues. He noted that the cost for lifetime membership is \$400.00.



Income Statement

COT MASTER NATURALIST INCOME STATEMENT for 2024

	2024												Totals	Budget Delta			
	Budget	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November			December		
Opening Balance		\$10,700.59															
INCOME ITEMS																	
Membership Dues	2,900	1,126.29														1,126.29	1,773.71
Interest Income	10.00	0.22														0.22	9.78
Member Donations	300	23.79														23.79	276.21
Sponsor/Non-member Donations																0.00	0.00
Member Payments for New Shirts	40															0.00	0.00
Special AT event- Non Member fees	100															0.00	100.00
Sale of extra TMN Books/Food																0.00	0.00
Sub Total	3,350	1,150.30														1,150.30	2,199.70
New Intern Class Receipts	4,500	\$1,550.00														1,550.00	2,950.00
INCOME TOTALS	7,850	\$2,700.30													0.00	\$2,700.30	5,149.70

COT MASTER NATURALIST INCOME STATEMENT for 2024

	2024												Totals	Budget Delta			
	Budget	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November			December		
EXPENSE ITEMS																	
Approved Donations	300															0.00	300.00
Speakers Bureau																0.00	0.00
Speaker Travel Mileage/Motel/Tolls	200															0.00	200.00
Membership Director Expenses	50															0.00	50.00
Office Supplies, Postage Etc.	30	7.12														0.00	30.00
Special Annual AT Event/Fall Field D	1,750															0.00	1,750.00
Member Shirt Purchases (if any)	40															0.00	40.00
Special Recognition	200															0.00	200.00
Travelers D&O Ins. Premium (Paid 3 years in 2022)																0.00	0.00
Godaddy Website maintenance	200															0.00	200.00
New Officer/Member Name Tags	40															0.00	40.00
State Annual Conference																	
Registration & Expenses	1,500.00															0.00	1,500.00
State Meeting Sponsorship & Scholarships	750.00																750.00
Materials	500															0.00	500.00
EcoFund Projects	500															0.00	500.00
Chapter Host-Meeting/Party Supplie	400	12.76														12.76	387.24
Chapter Host- Recognition Party/Cak	175															0.00	175.00
Sub Total	6635	19.88	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.88	6,615.12	

(continued, next page)



Income Statement (continued)

COT MASTER NATURALIST INCOME STATEMENT for 2024															
	2024												Totals	Budget Delta	
	Budget	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November			December
TMN Text Book Order	1500													0.00	1,500.00
Zeiglers-Intern T-Shirts	1200													0.00	1,200.00
Intern Name Tags	150													0.00	150.00
Intern Class Marketing	100													0.00	100.00
Intern Class - Zoom Annual fees	250													0.00	250.00
Intern Class Supplies	200													0.00	200.00
Intern Class Scholarships-2	150													0.00	150.00
Intern Registration Reimbursement		75.00												75.00	-75.00
Sub Total	3550	75.00												0	75.00 3,475.00
			0												
EXPENSE TOTALS	10,185.00	94.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	94.88	10,090.12
	(2,335)														
Ending Balance		13,306.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,306.01	
COT Chapter Lifetime membership Dues \$400.00															
COT 2024 Annual Dues \$25.00															
2024 Intern Class fee: \$150.00															
Members attaining 4,000, 5,000 or 10,000 VT hours are exempt from dues the next calendar year															
2024 Travel reimbursement: c67/mile															

Volunteer Opportunities

Oron Atkins

- 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 – March 4 (weather permitting), 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.; 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.
- Approx. 1 mile of granite fine edge guard removal at the Dow Woods south trail, TBA; contact Oron Atkins.
- Great Backyard Bird Count - February 16 - 19, self-directed Citizen Science Project; can Google "backyard bird count" and get information.
- Abandoned Crab Trap Removal Project (TPWD) - February 17; sponsored by the Christmas Bay Foundation; more information to follow.
- Sea grass/Dunes Restoration at Kelly Hamby Park on Follets Island - San Luis Pass - February 19, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; volunteers can come and go; contact Brenda Stitt.
- NestFest - March 12, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., contact Celeste Silling at csilling@gcbo.org.

Discussion noted 25 volunteers have signed up to participate in the Bat Project. Recorded training is online, and Craig Hensley will speak about this in our April meeting. Oron also mentioned he has the names of eight (8) volunteers for the Urban Wildlife Monitoring project.



Annual AT Day

Kristine Rivers

K. Rivers reported the theme of the Spring 2024 AT Day will be Micro Beasts: Small but Mighty Insects, and will be held Saturday, June 15 at First Presbyterian Church in Angleton. The Chapter will provide lunch and there will be no event charge for members. There will be a charge for non-members who wish to attend.

Several presentations have already been scheduled/confirmed:

- "I Love Bugs" - Patty Brinkmeyer
- Creating a Pollinator Habitat
- Monarch Stewardship/Testing for OE - Mickey Dufilho
- Presentation by Darrin Griffith from the Brazoria County Mosquito Control District

An optional mothing event has also been scheduled for the evening of Thursday, June 13 at Brazos Woods (West Columbia area), hosted by Susan Conaty.

Final Items

Kathy Pittman

- General Meeting Agenda - The next meeting will be held Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., with social time at 5:30 p.m.
- Ed Barrios addressed the group to announce the Friends' walk at the BNWR may have to be cancelled on Friday. He also reminded members to please sign up for the Migration Celebration event at San Bernard.

Meeting AT and VT hours

- AT - 0.75 hour
- VT - 1.0 hours

Attendance:	In-person	57
	Virtual	<u>13</u>
	Total	70

President: Kathy Pittman adjourned at approximately 10:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Purvis, Secretary

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