



July 2024

Chapter News

The July 10 General Meeting will be a hybrid: attend in person at the Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service, 21017 County Road 171, Angleton, TX, or virtually via e-mail invite. Visitors and guests are welcome.

5:30 – 6:00 p.m.	Social Time and Refreshments (Potluck Supper, in person)
6:00 – 6:15 p.m.	Welcome, Awards and Outreach
6:15 – 7:15 .m.	Advanced Training: Recent graduates of the Early Spring class will present their intern projects. [Hours for Advanced Training (AT) TBD at close of meeting]
7:30 – 8:00 p.m.	General Membership Meeting [Hours for Volunteer Time (VT) TBD at close of meeting]

CONTENTS

Vol. 24 No. 7

Page 1
Upcoming General Meeting
President’s Message

Page 2
AT Day Photos

Page 3
Volunteer Opportunities
Outreach Opportunities

Page 4
Volunteer Hours, Certifications,
Milestones & Impact Data

Page 5
“Where Are You in Your TMN
Journey?” by Barbara Whaley

Page 6
Welcome to our Summer Interns!!

Page 7
June Beach Sweep

Page 8
Camp Mohawk Day Camp Photos

President’s Message



“If you want to touch the past, touch a rock. If you want to touch the present, touch a flower. If you want to touch the future, touch a life.” - Unknown

“Without volunteers, we’d be a nation without a soul.” — Rosalynn Carter

Welcome to Summer 2024! Members have been very active during June and thank you for your support of many events!



<https://facebook.com/TMN.COT>

Website <https://txmn.org/tmncot/>

Chapter News is published by Texas Master Naturalist Cradle of Texas Chapter. Contact us at:

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The Texas Master Naturalist program is coordinated by Texas A&M AgriLIFE Extension Service and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

TMN programs serve all people without regard to socio-economic level, race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin.

Masthead image by Charles Jesse Miller Jr., in Oyster Creek.

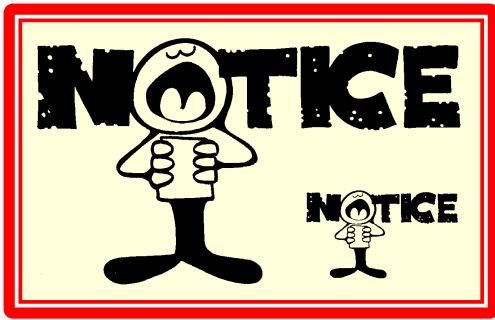
Texas Master Naturalist Program
Cradle of Texas Chapter
Chapter News – July 2024

First of all, a **“shout out”** to everyone who attended our AT Day events on June 13th and 15th! We had over 90 who registered and ended up with 82 attendees and speakers. There were about 25 attendees at the Mothing event at Brazos Woods. Both were great events, and the presenters and facilitators did an awesome job. One of the biggest eye-openers for me was the high number of mosquito species in our area (10), how far some of them can range and all the activities to monitor and control them. We also had several TMNs from other chapters and they were very enthusiastic and complementary of the presentations. Thank you for making them feel welcome! *(continued, Page 2)*

REMINDERS

BCLS Summer Reading Club – 18 remaining sessions! Please check the Volunteer Calendar for dates, times & locations you might be able to help or contact Ruby Lewis @ rublewis77515@gmail.com.

Beach Sweep, Quintana Jetties – Monday, July 8 (weather permitting), 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.; contact Jimmy or Luanne Salinas.



John O’Connell will be collaborating on a coastal ecology unit as part of a project and is soliciting images/photos that reflect coastal ecology. Anyone interested in submitting their photos should contact him for a release form. Please e-mail him at john.oconnell@ag.tamu.edu.

(President’s Message, continued from Page 1)

Kudos to **Kristine Rivers and the AT Day Committee** for putting together another awesome event! Thank you to **Rose Wagner** and her volunteers who made sure we had plenty of snacks and drinks readily available. Smiling faces and many hands made things flow. We weren’t without the ever-present technical glitches, but Kristine and crew persevered through it. Thank you for being patient while they worked through the issues.

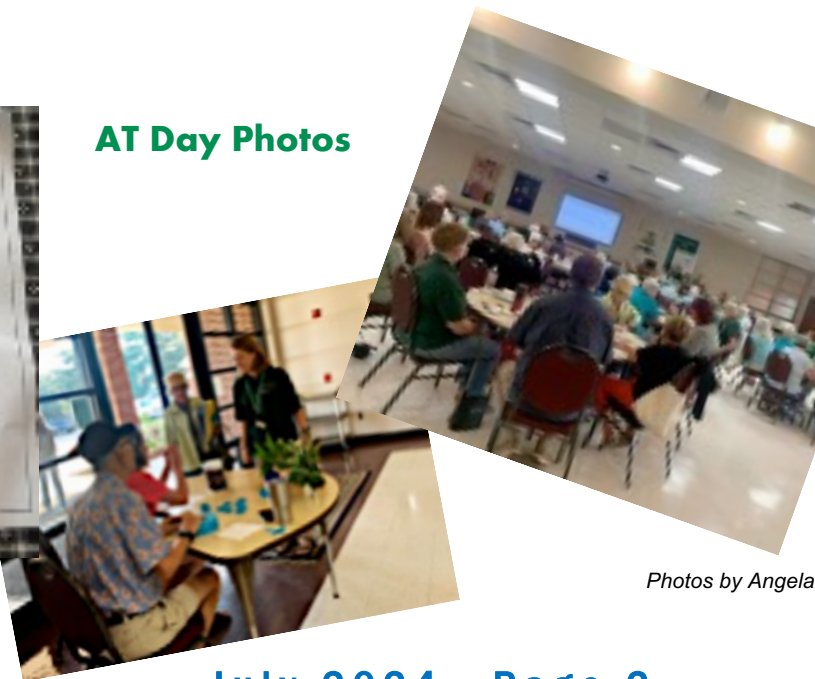
Volunteer events have been happening at a furious pace, and a big “thank you” to all who are participating. We had a large group assisting with the Brazoria County Parks Department’s Nature Camp held at Camp Mohawk in Alvin, which began June 17th. Thirty-five campers ages 7-12 and a few older helpers had a blast with crafts, hiking, kayaking, fishing, archery, fossils, archaeology, learning about American Indian culture, reptiles and having fun! The Camp culminated with a Birds of Prey demonstration and a hot dog lunch on Thursday. Visit our Facebook page and the BCPD page for pictures of the campers and their activities. BCPD holds archery and kayaking sessions each month, so sign up your family members or yourself!


The Bat Monitoring project is winding down the recording phase this week. Next will be to analyze the recordings. Many thanks to **Mickey Dufilho** and crew for working through the process and figuring out how to use the equipment and software. Being the “guinea pig” on a new project is never easy! We are all anxiously waiting to learn what bat species we’ve recorded at our properties. Stay tuned!

The Summer Library programs will start back this week – many thanks to Ruby Lewis and Cris Tobola for keeping these sessions organized. We have 18 sessions remaining from now to the end of July, and we can always use more help. We need LOTS of hands across the county to make these sessions successful, so please help if you can. Check the website calendar for all events and **please email Ruby Lewis at rublewis77515@ymail.com** if you can help out.

(continued, Page 3)

AT Day Photos



Photos by Angela Griffin, courtesy of Facebook 

(President's Message, continued from Page 2)

Our Summer Training class started on June 8th and meets on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings. Classroom sessions are held at the Angleton Library, with field trips at several locations across our area. Members who want a “refresher” are welcome to attend sessions (contact Melanie Hollenshead at theladyspath@hotmail.com to make sure there is space!) - check out the **training schedule** on our website. We have a great group of interns and I know you will make them feel welcome!

Please plan to attend our next Chapter meeting on Wednesday, July 10th at 5:30 pm. We will have a potluck dinner, so start digging out those yummy recipes and get your ingredient list together! We will have presentations from our Spring training class. **BRING A FRIEND!!!**

Reminder, if you need a ride or can give a ride, send a note to the Chapter members at tmn-cot@googlegroups.com

Thank you for all you do for our area. See you soon, OUTSIDE!!!!
Kathy Pittman

Ours is not the task of fixing the entire world all at once, but of stretching out to mend the part of the world that is within our reach. - Clarissa Pinkola Estes

Volunteer Opportunities – Oron Atkins

Exploration Green Workday – every Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; contact Christie Taylor.

Trash Collection/Disposal Analysis Project – self-directed.

Beach Sweep, Quintana Jetties – Monday, July 8 (weather permitting), 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.; contact Jimmy or Luanne Salinas (jimmy.salinas217@gmail.com; mshluhu@gmail.com).

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.

Sea Turtle Patrol (PAIS & local training required) - daily, April 1 - July 14, contact Roland Davis.

Bat Monitoring Project - contact Mickey Dufilho (dufilhos@hotmail.com).

Outreach Opportunities – Ruby Lewis

Summer Reading Series – “Texas Reptiles” see the website calendar or the 4/7 email from Ruby via the TMN google group and **SIGN UP!!!** Text, phone, or email Ruby at rbylewis77515@ymail.com; phone 979.583.7903.

PUBLIC OUTREACH — Ruby Lewis rbylewis77515@ymail.com

VOLUNTEER HOURS, CERTIFICATIONS & MILESTONES - John Boettiger

Initial Certifications

Liesa Glover
Donna Gregurek
Brian Hanson



Pictured: Liesa Glover received her certification from Melanie Hollenshead

Recertifications

Hannah Beckett	John Boettiger	Dennis Charleton
David Dungan	Jim Nance	Marlon Nation
Kathy Pittman	Jimmy Salinas	Luanne Salinas
Andy Smith	Sherry Summers	Barbara Yoder

Photos by Dick Schaffhausen



Pictured L to Right (back): Kathy Pittman, Jim Nance, Hannah Beckett, John Boettiger, Mel McKey, Jimmy Salinas, David Dungan (front) Luanne Salinas & Barbara Yoder

Milestones
Paula Hanson Mel McKey
1,000 Hours!!



Pictured L to Right: Kathy Pittman, Mel McKey & John Boettiger

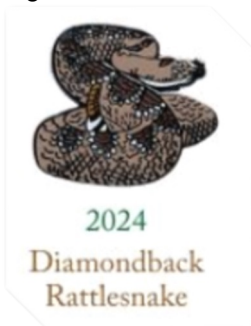
IMPACT DATA REPORT - MAY 2024 *

- Dave Brandes, Data Manager

	May	YTD
Hours:		
VT	1,247	7,532
AT	<u>118</u>	<u>975</u>
Total	1,365	8,507

Impact Data		
Adults	283	4,640
Youth	<u>1,791</u>	<u>14,950</u>
Total	2,074	19,590

* data not considered final until mid-July



Where are you in your TMN journey?

by Barbara Whaley

Current Intern – Do you have the excitement of embarking on a new journey? You have so much to learn and so many new people to meet. Like-minded people like you, excited about the world around you and how you can make a difference. It is an intriguing adventure that can last for your lifetime.

Recent Graduate – You are already on this great adventure. You are still experiencing the excitement of all there is to learn, and you've met so many great people already and have connected with a few. Now, to continue what you have started: receive your certification and continue for many years to come!

2023 Graduate – Have you completed your original certification? Recertified for this year? Are you still involved – attending meetings, receiving AT hours, reading the newsletter, volunteering, sharing your knowledge? Or have you had a few roadblocks continuing your journey?

Past Graduate – Pre COVID – Are you still enjoying your adventure and continuing to be active? Or have you had a few roadblocks continuing your journey? Did COVID sideline you and you're having trouble getting motivated?

For those of you who are active and involved, great job! You already know how much this has changed your life, for the better, of course. A lot of you have been active for many years and some just a few, so far. You have the spirit of volunteering in your blood, and it keeps you energized and wanting to do more. It's a great feeling to do for others, which, in turn, is self-rewarding.

Those of you who have hit a roadblock – think back to those days when you were excited about this journey and how much you looked forward to the meetings and trainings and how you left a volunteer event feeling like you had made a difference. And you did! Every one of us makes a difference in someone's life or in the life of our planet when we share our knowledge and energy to make change. Now is the time to get reconnected. Our most recent intern graduates are an amazing group, and our next intern class is getting ready to begin their journey. Come and visit the training classes - get refreshed, attend a chapter meeting and revisit with your fellow Master Naturalists, meet the new members and get excited again!

Does this sound daunting to you, or maybe you don't know where to start? I am inviting you to start with me! Contact me and let me know how you would like to rekindle your mind and re-energize your body. I will get you back on track, if you are willing, and get you reconnected. Need a ride? I can work on that, too. Just reach out to me and I will do my very best to get you back on track.

I hope this little chat has made an impact on a few of you and I hope to hear from you!

Barbara Whaley

babswhaley@gmail.com

(281) 731-4844



Water Wednesday
July Topic –
Green Infrastructure



Welcome to our fine Summer Intern Crew!!



Photos by Dick Schaffhausen

June Beach Sweep at Quintana Jetties



Ocean Conservancy



Thank you for cleaning up with **Clean Swell!**

Here's a summary of your recent cleanup:

Date	03/06/2024
Duration	1 hours 55 minutes
Number of People	7
Weight of Trash Picked Up	445.142 lbs
Group Name	Team Q
Distance Covered	1.2445 Miles
Comments	




Photos of Clean Swell app data & participants courtesy of Jimmy & Luanne Salinas



Camp Mohawk
Day Camp



Photos by Dick Schaffhausen, Kathy Pittman & Janet Townsend, courtesy of Facebook 

Cradle of Texas Chapter Board

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Vice President/Programs	Jimmy Salinas, Freeport
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Volunteer Service Director	Oron Atkins, Lake Jackson
Outreach Director	Ruby Lewis, Angleton
Hospitality Director	Rose Wagner, Sweeny
Communications Director	Larry Peterson, Manvel
Training Class Representative 2023	Marlon Nation, Pearland

Non-voting positions:	Debbie Nance, Alvin
Chapter Librarian	Dave Brandes, Lake Jackson
Data Manager	John O’Connell, AgriLIFE Extension Service
Chapter Advisors	Jordan Kieffer, TPWD Sea Center Texas

Newsletter Editor	Kathy Purvis, Richwood
Newsletter Contributors	Dave Brandes, Kathy Pittman, John Boettiger, Oron Atkins, Dick Schaffhausen, Jimmy Salinas, Janet Townsend, Melanie Hollenshead & Barbara Whaley

Website	https://txmn.org/tmncot/ http://facebook.com/TMN-COT
Facebook	
Twitter	https://twitter.com/tmncot
E-mail Listserv	http://tinyurl.com/TMN-COT-Mail



Master Naturalist Email Lists

TMN-COT Chapter list

- Instructions <https://txmn.org/tmncot/organization/email-lists/>
- Send messages to TMN-COT@googlegroups.com
- Message Archive <http://tinyurl.com/TMN-COT-Mail>
- All messages are sent immediately.

State Master Naturalist list

- Instructions <http://txmn.org/staying-connected/sign-up-for-tmn-listserv/>
- Subscribe listserv@listserv.tamu.edu
- All messages are held for moderation by the TMN State Coordinator.

Chapter News is published monthly on or before the first day of the month by the Texas Master Naturalist Cradle of Texas Chapter. Submissions are welcome; submission deadline is the 20th day of the month preceding issue. Send submissions by e-mail to *Chapter News* Editor at news@tmn-cot.org. Submissions may be edited for clarity and spacing.