



Texas Master Naturalist™ - Cradle of Texas Chapter
Minutes of the General Meeting
Wednesday, August 14, 2024, 9:21 a.m. – 11:44 a.m. (HYBRID)
at Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service, Angleton TX

9:21 a.m. Call to Order

Kathy Pittman

K. Pittman welcomed everyone attending or participating online after technical difficulties caused a delay. She recognized our guests, Ed Stiles (Sea Center Volunteer), Ray Calvert (brother of Jim Calvert), Master Gardener Georgette Shepherd and Interns Eric and Donna. She also recognized our speaker and fellow member, Chris Kneupper.

Kathy asked board members to stand and recognized each by position, noting some had held positions for a few years. She invited all members to attend our open board meetings and encouraged them to consider a board position or helping in another way. Kathy noted the meeting time for board meetings could be moved if necessary so others could participate. Members of the Nominating Committee include Jimmy and Luanne Salinas, Tara Lawrence, Barbara Whaley and Mickey Dufilho. Contact Mickey at dufilhos@hotmail.com if interested.

Approval of the General Meeting Minutes

Kathy Pittman

The draft copy of the minutes of the June 12, 2024, General Meeting was sent via e-mail to the TMN-COT member distribution list for review prior to the meeting. No additions or corrections were reported. Members voted approval of the minutes upon the motions of Rose Wagner and Kristine Rivers.

Membership

John Boettiger

Initial Certifications:	Barbara Adelsperger	Tina Crawford	
Recertifications:	Barbara Adelsperger	Rainbo Johnson	Pam Peltier
	Susan Conaty	Larry Kirby	Kathy Purvis
	Marty Cornell	Vicki Kirby	Kristine Rivers
	Tina Crawford	Brenda Martin	Luanne Salinas
	Liesa Glover	Georgia Monnerat	Dick Schaffhausen
	Cynthia Grandjean	Tom Morris	Cris Tobola
	Kate Harris	Mike Mullins	George Valadez
	Jackie Hicks	Jo Myers	Cindy Vincent
	Phil Huxford	Herb Myers	

Milestones:	Cindy Vincent (250 Hours)
	Patty Brinkmeyer (500 Hours)
	Cris Tobola (500 Hours)
	Barbara Bruyere (1,000 HOURS!)

CONGRATULATIONS TO THEM ALL!



IMPACT DATA - June & July 2024 *

		June	July	Year to Date
Hours*	VT	1,618	333	9,755
	AT	<u>538</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>1,586</u>
	Total	2,156	377	11,341
Impact Data*	Adults	1,120	20	5,839
	Youth	<u>4,759</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>20,049</u>
	Total	<u>5,879</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>25,888</u>

* Data will not be considered final until mid-September 2024

AT Presentation: “Old Velasco: Recent Historical Interpretation”

Jimmy Salinas briefly introduced Chris Kneupper, fellow Master Naturalist member, avocational archaeologist and retired engineer. Chris gave a follow-up and post-storm update on the Texas Live Oak before his featured presentation.

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

Training

Melanie Hollenshead

As requested by M. Hollenshead (absent), Angela Griffin announced the Critter Hunt would take place this Thursday (August 15) at the Chocolate Bayou boat ramp.

Brazoria County Acoustic Bat Monitoring Project

Mickey Dufilho

M. Dufilho gave a slide presentation with comprehensive overview of this statewide project, with 40 of 49 Chapters participating. Our volunteer team deployed three (3) acoustic monitors at 13 locations throughout the county to monitor activity from April 29 – June 28. Preliminary auto-ID analysis of the data found 18 bat species, nine (9) of which are not normally found in our county. Data verification is pending, with a report expected later this year. Mickey recognized the team members and noted they are already looking toward plans for this project next year.

She also discussed the need for additional equipment. M. Cornell clarified J. Hicks' motion to purchase the equipment, adding a \$1,000 limit. P. Huxtable seconded the revised motion to purchase, which carried by member vote.

Treasurer

Don Sabathier

D. Sabathier presented the summary reports for June and July. Refer to appended Item 2 for the Full Income Statement.

June 2024	
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$16,190.21
Revenue Summary	501.08
Expense Summary	<u>3,123.72</u>
ENDING BALANCE	\$13,567.57



July 2024

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$13,567.57
Revenue Summary	324.42
Expense Summary	<u>505.69</u>
ENDING BALANCE	\$13,386.30

COT MASTER NATURALIST INCOME STATEMENT for 2024

	2024								Totals	Budget Delta	
	Budget	January	February	March	April	May	June	July			
Opening Balance		\$10,700.59	\$13,306.01	\$14,822.02	\$15,334.50	\$15,361.67	\$16,190.21	13,567.57			
INCOME ITEMS											
Membership Dues	2,900	1,126.29	937.72	274.65	595.65	149.75	25.00			3,109.06	-209.06
Interest Income	10.00	0.22	0.23	0.26	0.25	0.27	0.26	0.23		1.72	8.28
Member Donations	300	23.79		62.58	23.79	23.79	23.79	23.79		181.53	118.47
Sponsor/Non-member Donations			75.00	24.99						99.99	-99.99
Member Payments for New Shirts	40									0.00	0.00
Special AT event- Non Member fees	100						172.08			172.08	-72.08
Reimbursements				331.40			129.75			461.15	-461.15
Sub Total	3,350	1,150.30	1,012.95	362.48	951.09	173.81	350.88	24.02		4,025.53	-675.53
New Intern Class Receipts	4,500	\$1,550.00	830.00	225.20	475.00	1,051.71	150.20	300.40		4,582.51	-82.51
INCOME TOTALS	7,850	\$2,700.30	1,842.95	587.68	1,426.09	1,225.52	501.08	324.42		## 8,608.04	-758.04

COT MASTER NATURALIST INCOME STATEMENT for 2024

	2024								Totals	Budget Delta	
	Budget	January	February	March	April	May	June	July			
EXPENSE ITEMS											
Approved Donations	300					104.42		150.00		254.42	45.58
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						6.80		13.92	16.08
Special Annual AT Event/Fall Field Day	1,750						1206.29	150.00		1,356.29	393.71
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		176.95							176.95	23.05
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				300.00					300.00	450.00
Materials	500					103.90				103.90	396.10
EcoFund Projects	500							198.89		198.89	301.11
Unbudgeted Field Research Bat Project					108.16	185.41	32.46			326.03	-326.03
Chapter Host-Meeting/Party Supplies	400	12.76	24.99	40.21		3.25				81.21	318.79
Chapter Host- Recognition Party/Cake	175			34.99	40.99					75.98	99.02
Sub Total	6635	19.88	201.94	75.2	449.15	396.98	1,238.75	505.69	## 0 ## # ##	2,887.59	3,747.41

(Income Statement continued, next page)



COT MASTER NATURALIST INCOME STATEMENT for 2024

	2024								Totals	Budget Delta
	Budget	January	February	March	April	May	June	July		
TMN Text Book Order	1500						1786.00		1,786.00	-286.00
Zeiglers-Intern T-Shirts	1200				811.80				811.80	388.20
Intern Name Tags	150				95.00				95.00	55.00
Intern Class Marketing	100		50.00						50.00	50.00
Intern Class - Zoom Annual fees	250								0.00	250.00
Intern Class Supplies	200				42.97		98.97		141.94	58.06
Intern Class Scholarships-2	150								0.00	150.00
Intern Registration Reimbursement		75.00	75.00						150.00	-150.00
Sub Total	3550	75.00	125.00	0.00	949.77	0	1884.97	0	3,034.74	515.26
EXPENSE TOTALS	10,185.00	94.88	326.94	75.20	1,398.92	396.98	3123.72	505.69	5,922.33	4,262.67
	(2,335)									
Ending Balance		13,306.01	14,822.02	15,334.50	15,361.67	16,190.21	13,567.57	13,386.30		
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										

Outreach

Ruby Lewis

R. Lewis opened by reporting attendance at the Summer Reading program fell this year, with approximately 100 - 1000 fewer participants than the previous two (2) years. She attributed this to the storms we had. She noted the Sea Center program saw heavier attendance and noted the center was "really crowded". Other events include:

- Hummingbird Extravaganza (XHX) – Saturday, September 14 & 21, 2024, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon; contact Ruby Lewis @ rbyewis77515@gmail.com to volunteer at one of our booths; contact Celeste Silling (GCBO) at csilling@gcbo.org to volunteer in other areas.
- Sea Center Texas Bull Red Run-A-Palooza and Youth Fishing – Saturday, September 28, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.; contact Jordan Kieffer at jordan.kieffer@tpwd.texas.gov.
- KBR Kids Day at Tony Marron Park (808 North York, Houston, TX 77003) – Saturday, October 19, 2024, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Ruby mentioned this event needs a lot of volunteers, and depends upon us.
- Sea Center Texas Spooktacular – Sunday, October 20, 2024, 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC OUTREACH — Text, phone, or email Ruby at rubylewis77515@gmail.com; phone 979.583.7903.

Volunteer Opportunities – August/September 2024

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.
- Nurdle Beach Patrol – self-directed; contact Jace Turnell.
- Beach Sweep, Quintana Fishing Pier – September 9, 2024 (weather permitting), 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.; contact Jimmy or Luanne Salinas.
- Brazoria County Comprehensive Spider Survey – self-directed, contact Melanie Hollenshead.



- Adopt-a-Loop for TMN – self-directed, contact Debbie Nance.
- NEW OPPORTUNITY: Joint Project with Brazoria County Master Gardeners and Delores Fenwick Nature Center (City of Pearland) – Thursday, August 29, Saturday, August 31 and Saturday, September 7, 2024, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon. Revitalization of Wildscape area – CHECK your e-mails for more details. Contact Kathy Pittman (713.569.1665 or e-mail, pittmankw4@aol.com).
- iNaturalist – Pollinator Bioblitz, October 11 – 27, 2024 - self directed. See email from Kathy Pittman and LISTserv, “Texas Pollinator BioBlitz” on FB or at tpwd.texas.gov.

Fall Field Day

Kristine Rivers

Fall Field Day will be held on Wednesday, October 9, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at San Luis Pass County Park. This year's topic is "Open to Interpretation" and will include a group breakout for scavenger hunts (3.5 hours AT). Lunch will be provided. Registration will open September 3, 2024.

Water Wednesdays

John O'Connell

The program scheduled for 6:30 p.m. later that day was "Xeriscape", to be presented at no charge to participants. J. O'Connell stated he had already sent out the handouts and that participants only needed to register for the program.

Other Items

- K. Pittman announced John O'Connell had recently been promoted.
- The Texas Master Naturalist 2024 Annual Meeting will be held October 24 - 27, 2024, in San Marcos, Texas. The hotel link and conference registration are open. All meeting information, including the agenda, has been posted to the State website.
- The next Intern Class is scheduled to start Saturday, September 7, 2024. Tell you friends!

Meeting AT and VT hours

- AT - 1.5 hours
- VT - 1.25 hours

Attendance:	In-person	57
	Virtual	<u>6</u>
	Total	63

President: Kathy Pittman adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Purvis, Secretary

cc: Board Members
 Clara Tyler, AgriLIFE Secretary (Clara.tyler@ag.tamu.edu)